

Note on additional Species of Birds from Aveline's Hole.

BY E. T. NEWTON, F.R.S.

Further work in Aveline's Hole has brought to light a number of birds' bones from three horizons. 1. Floor deposit. 2. A Stalagmite shelf. 3. Associated with a Burial. The species represented by these bones are for the most part the same as those in the lists already published (Proc., Vol. 1, No. 3, p. 119), but there are four species (very doubtfully identified) which are not in the previous list, *viz.*, Sedge Warbler? from the Stalagmite Shelf, Rock Pipit? Raven? and Teal? from the Floor deposit.

Besides these four species there is among the remains associated with a Burial a large metacarpal bone (90 mm. in length) which at first sight appeared so like the metacarpal bone of the golden Eagle, already recorded from the first foot of deposit in this cave (Aveline's Hole) that it seemed possible it might belong to the same species. A closer examination, showed this was not the case. Unfortunately the bone is somewhat denuded and the slender 3rd metacarpal is broken away. However, the specimen is sufficiently preserved to allow of comparison with recent skeletons, and by the courtesy of Sir Arthur Keith of the Hunterian Museum, Royal College of Surgeons, and of Mr. W. P. Pycraft of the Natural History Museum, S. Kensington, I have been able to do this and feel justified in referring this metacarpal to the Great Bustard (*Otis tarda*). Although the Great Bustard was still living in England during the early part of the last century, and has visited this country within the last 50 years, no record of its being found as a fossil in Britain is known to me, except the mention of it by Mr. A. Bell, in his list of "Pleistocene and Later Bird Fauna" as "a doubtful find in Norfolk Peat," (*Zoologist*, No. 893, Nov. 15th, 1915, p. 409).