

THE Secretary of the Scottish Society for the Protection of Wild Birds drew attention last October to the fact that an osprey had been killed near Grantown-on-Spey by a stone thrown by "a worker." Two months later the Secretary of State for Scotland was asked in the House of Commons "if his attention has been called to the recent destruction of an osprey at Grantown-on-Spey, notwithstanding that the osprey is protected under the Bird Protection Order for the county of Moray; and whether any steps are being taken to prosecute the offender, so that the osprey, now extinct in Scotland, may be assured of protection and have an opportunity of being re-established." The Lord Advocate, who replied, said—"On September 26 last an osprey was found on the roadside in a wounded condition, and was killed by a carter with a stone. On examination it was found that it had been suffering from a broken wing and that the wound was gangrenous. Assuming that there was a breach of the law—which is far from clear—the case was obviously one which did not call for criminal prosecution." At the same time it is to be regretted that there are still people who, as Mr. Crosthwaite puts it, "can think of nothing better when they see a beautiful and striking bird than to kill it." The osprey had become extinct in Scotland for several years until Captain Knight introduced two pairs two years ago. The Grantown bird was no doubt one of these, or a descendant. It is to be hoped there are survivors who will get a chance to re-establish the breed.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LOST AND FOUND.

[To the Editor of *The Cairngorm Club Journal*.]

SIR,—If the climber who on or shortly before September 11, 1929, left an old friend, viz., an "Eversharp" pencil, lying on the water-worn rocks of the Garbh Uisge Burn where it falls over the cliffs to Loch Avon, will apply to the writer, the pencil will be returned, if properly described, e.g., gold, silver, platinum, short, long, plain or chased. The finder is not an Aberdonian, merely a Scot!

Yours, etc.,

J. P. W.

c/o EDITOR,
The Cairngorm Club Journal,
 ABERDEEN, March 6, 1930.