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NEWSLETTER OF THE BIRDWATCHERS' SOCIETY OF ANDHRA PRADESH

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A PLURALITY OF BIRDS

Over the years men have coined a host of special terms to describe birds in groups. Here are some that still survive in the English language.

a siege of herons or bitterns
a plump of wildfowl
a gaggle of geese
a skein of geese (flying)
a herd of swans, cranes or curlews
a badelyng of ducks
a dozd (or sute) of mallards
a spring of teal
a company of widgeon
a cast of hawks
a bevy of quail
a covey of partridges
a muster of peacocks
a nye of pheasants
a brood of chickens
a covert of coots
a congregation of plovers
a desert of lapwings
a wisp of (or walk) snipe
a fall of woodcock
a bezar of murrets (guillemots)
a flight of doves or swallows
a murmuration of starlings
an exaltation of larks
a watch of nightingales
a building of rooks
a chattering of choughs
a host of sparrows

From THE BIRDS, Time-Life Nature Library.