

| Name of Breed. | Weight of entire Skeleton. (N.B. One Metatarsus and Foot was removed from each skeleton, as it had been accidentally lost in two cases.) | Weight of Femur, Tibia, and Metatarsus. | Or as |
|-------------------------------|---|---|------------|
| | Grains. | Grains. | |
| Wild mallard | 839 | 54 | 1000 : 64 |
| Aylesbury | 1925 | 164 | 1000 : 85 |
| Tufted (Dutch) | 1404 | 111 | 1000 : 79 |
| Penguin | 871 | 75 | 1000 : 86 |
| Call (from Mr. Fox) | 717 | 57 | 1000 : 79 |
| | Weight of Skeleton as above. | Weight of Humerus, Radius and Metacarpus. | |
| | Grains. | Grains. | |
| Wild mallard | 839 | 97 | 1000 : 115 |
| Aylesbury | 1925 | 204 | 1000 : 105 |
| Tufted (Dutch) | 1404 | 148 | 1000 : 105 |
| Penguin | 871 | 90 | 1000 : 103 |
| Call (from Mr. Baker) | 914 | 100 | 1000 : 109 |
| Call (from Mr. Fox) | 717 | 92 | 1000 : 129 |

namely, in one of the Call ducks, is in truth no exception, for this bird was constantly in the habit of flying about; and I have seen it day after day rise from my grounds, and fly for a long time in circles of more than a mile in diameter. In this Call duck there is not only no decrease, but an actual increase in the weight of the wing-bones relatively to those of the wild-duck; and this probably is consequent on the remarkable lightness and thinness of all the bones of the skeleton.

Lastly, I weighed the furculum, coracoids, and scapula of a wild duck and of a common domestic duck, and I found that their weight, relatively to that of the whole skeleton, was as one hundred in the former to eighty-nine in the latter; this shows that these bones in the domestic duck have been reduced eleven per cent. of their due proportional weight. The prominence of the crest of the sternum, relatively to its length, is also much reduced in all the domestic breeds. These changes have evidently been caused by the lessened use of the wings.

It is well known that several birds, belonging to different Orders, and inhabiting oceanic islands, have their wings greatly reduced in size and are incapable of flight. I suggested in my 'Origin of Species' that, as these birds are not