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THE OOLOGIST
FOR THE
STUDENT OF BIRDS
THEIR NESTS AND EGGS
VOLUME XXVII

ALBION, N. Y., and LACON, ILL.

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ERRATA.

- Vol. 26, Page 237—reads Female Rose-breasted Grosbeak, in lieu of Cedar Waxwing; See Vol. 27, 83.
- “ 26, Page 188—Credit article on Dusky Warbler to A. K. Snyder.
- “ 26, No. 9—For Isle of Pines Tanager, read “*Spindallis piriter*” pinus.
- “ 27, Page 62—For “Nest and Eggs of Kentucky Warbler in Pennsylvania Photo May 28, 1905 by Thomas H. Jackson; read “Nest Egg and young of Mourning Dove.” The photo that should have appeared here will be found on page 73; see page 74.
- “ 27, Page 71—Credit article on D. V. O. C. to Wm. Strong.
- “ 27, Page 89—For “Nest and eggs of Swamp Sparrow,” read “Nest and Eggs of Meadowlark,” see pages 74 and 100.
- “ 27, Page 47—For “*Spindalis Piretrea*,” read “*Priotelus tenuis*,” See page 152.
- “ 27, Page 108—For “Galapagos Islands,” read “Galapagos Islands.”

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THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS TAXIDERMISTRY

VOL. XXVII. No. 1. ALBION, N. Y., JAN. 15, 1910. WHOLE No. 270

BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc., inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

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FOR SALE:—A collection of Mexican birdskins, containing several hundreds of species; perfect skins with careful data. This collection includes a variety of Raptors and Gamebirds. Will dispose of same, individually, or as a whole. No exchange. AUSTIN PAUL SMITH, Box 141, Brownsville, Texas.

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WANTED.—To buy first class skins of the Hawks and Owls, or will give good exchange in books. Write S. V. WHARRAM, Geneva, Ohio.

WANTED.—To exchange bird skins of Northern Illinois with somebody for birds from his locality, including western varieties of our common birds if possible. CHAS. K. CARPENTER, 183 Fox St., Aurora, Illinois.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office, at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "THE OOLOGIST," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

WANTED.—Skins of all the quails, partridges, grouse and pheasants of Mexico, Central and South America, Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia (all over the world), cash or exchange. Write what you have and what you want. J. F. FRAZIER, Audubon, Iowa.

WANTED.—First class skins of Murrelets, Gulls, Shearwaters, Rails, Shore Birds, Grouse, Hawks, Owls, particularly Snowy and Great Gray, and certain small land birds. Offer representative Southern California species, also fine sets of personally taken Heermann's Gulls and Blue-footed Boobies. All reliable collectors send lists. PINGREY I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Calif.

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A 1 mounted birds of rare eggs in sets to exchange for game head, fur rugs. Address GEORGE SWEZEY, 61071 Polk St., Newark, N. J.

BIRDS—Continued

WANTED.—A few good skins of the Aleutian Tern (*Sterna aleutica*) Thayer Museum, Lancaster, Mass.

WANTED.—The following first class skins: one pair Tree Sparrow, one pair Western Tree Sparrow, one pair Chipping Sparrow, one female Clay Colored Sparrow, one pair Western Chipping Sparrow, one pair Brewer's Sparrow, one pair Field Sparrow, and one pair Western Field Sparrow, all extra A. I. suitable for mounting. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ills.

WANTED.—All mounted specimens of Woodcock, Wood Duck, Great Blue Heron, all Quails and Grouse, for cash. L. MILLER, 1129 E. Market St., Indianapolis, Ind.

WANTED.—Male and female of Wood Duck, Great Horned Owl, Screech Owl, Sparrow Hawk, Flicker, Baltimore Oriole, Blue Jay and Scarlet Tanager. The first five with nests in section of hollow tree and the latter three with nests and eggs in section of original branches. For further particulars address J. FRIESSER, 5620 Lake Ave., Chicago, Ill.

EGGS

EGGS IN FINE SETS.—I can supply following species: 121, 207, 293a, 29, 295, 301, 302, 313, 318, 319, 321, 327, 328, 353, 354, 354a, 359, 360c, 370a, 376, 417, 419, 421, 420b, 459, 475, 487, 490, 490.2, 513a, 518, 533, 534, 536, 551, 567b, 581j, 586, 593b, 607, 641, 637, 654a, 683a, 697, 702, 708, 706, 730, 735b, 736a, 738, 749, 754, 763. Exchange lists invited. THOMAS H. JACKSON, West Chester, Pa., 304 N. Franklin St.

WANTED.—Sets of eggs not in my collection, including many ordinary varieties, and especially western and northerly species. Send list to B. W. ARNOLD, Albany, N. Y.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine sets of Least Tern, Black Skimmer, Louisiana Heron, Wayne's Clapper Rail, Florida Burrowing Owl, and others. For particulars address W. W. WORTHINGTON, Shelter Island Heights, New York.

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FOR EXCHANGE.—First class Eggs in sets. C. S. RUTHERFORD, Revere, Mo.

FOR SALE.—Some rare single eggs from Iceland, Loons, Sjaa, Glaucous Gull, Oldsquaw, Northern Eider, Bean Goose, Whooping Swan, Golden Plover, Dunlin, Godwit, Ruff, Snowflake, Iceland Falcon, and others. Send for full list to H. WARREN, Room 215 St. James Chambers, Adelaide St., E., Toronto, Ont.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in fine sets, beautiful minerals, butterfly and moth in dust and insect proof cases, and other natural history specimens. Want all the above. Send lists and receive mine. LEWIS C. SNYDER, Lacona, New York.

WANTED.—Sets of 351, 352, 352a, 206, and many common sets; have to offer choice sets 679 1-4, 417 1-2, 419 1-2, 337, 339, 375, 263, 261, 273 and many other choice sets; send list and receive mine. RAY DINSMORE, Perry, Ohio

"I have perfect sets of Mourning, Cerulean Black throated, Blue and Black throated Green Warbler, American Woodcock, Bartramian Sandpiper, King Rail, Canadian Spruce, Grouse and Sharp Shinned Hawk for exchange. I desire sets of American Flamingo, Long-billed Curlew, Semipalmated Plover, Franklin's Grouse, Bonaparte's Gull, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Red Cockaded Woodpecker, Pink-sided Junco, Hutton's and Black Capped Vireo, Sennett's Orange-crowned and Connecticut Warbler and Canada Jay. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, 945 Marquette Bldg., Chicago.

FOR EXCHANGE.—First-class sets; have a series of Bartramian Sandpiper, American Bittern, Chestnut-collared Longspur, American Herring, and Ring-billed Gulls. Also some good singles and slightly imperfect sets, personally collected in North Dakota. I want Cones "Key" last edition; taxidermist instruments, campers, sets of Whip-poor-will and others. FRED MALTBY, 1667 Jefferson St., Kansas City, Mo.

Volumes and odd numbers of ornithological publications. If you want the lot at your own price send for list and make offer. B. S. BOWDISH, 141 Broadway, New York City.

I offer 1-3, 2-4 Fish Crow, 1-5 201, 1-5 194; all for a set of Bartman's Sandpiper 4 or 5 eggs. W. B. CRISPIN, Salem, N. J.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs 61-7, 37 1-1; 49 1-3, 58 20-2-3, 62 1-3, 61 1-4, 65 9-1-2, 80 7-2 1-4 7-3, 114 1-1-2, 122 1-4, 123b 1-4, 141 1 10, 127 1-3, 187 1-4, 190 1-3, 191 1-4, 191 4-3, 199 4-3, 201 3-4, 211 1-4, 211-2 1-9, 219 1-3, 221 1-1-1-11, 226 1-2-2-3, 229 1-4, 280 1-3, 321 19-2, 326 8-2, 333 15, 337b 1-2-3, 339 2-4, 339b 2-2, 345 1-1, 346 30-2 (810 set) 349 1-2, 355 1-4, 359 1-2, 1-4, 365 1-3, 368a 1-3 (one broken), 373c 1-3, 374 4-4, 378 1-7, 380 1-3 (one missing), 381 1-4-2-6, 385 4-5, 387 2-4, 389 3-4 1-8, (one gone), 391 7-5, 410 1-4 3-5-2-6, 413 1-6, 419 21-2, 420a 1 1, 453 1-4 1-6, 456 2-4, 471 1-3, 475 1-5, 483 1-3, 496 2-2, 500 1-4, 577 1-4, 593a 1-3 19-4, 594a 3-4, 652 1-5, 713 2-4, 3-5 7-6, 719 1-5, 746 1-4, 766 1-5, Gray-tailed Hawk, 1-2 2-3 1-4 \$1.25, per egg; White-throated Falcon 1-2, \$4.50 per egg; Green Woodpecker 1-4, 75c, per egg; Brown Jay 1-4 1-5 75c, per egg; Mexican Crow 1-4 1-5 75c, per egg; Lesson's Oriole 1-5 50c per egg; skins for exchange, 51 5, 54-4, 60-4 64 1, 65-5, 137-8, 142 5, 143-7, 146-11, 149-2, 258a-7, 289b 4, 264-2. Many eggs in broken sets, full data, 1-3 off. Would buy or exchange for, it at a bargain, any kind of museum specimens, such as relics, fossils, shells, minerals, corals, etc., etc. J. M. CARROLL, San Marcos, Texas.

BOOKS

FOR EXCHANGE.—Nicely bound vols. of Bird Lore, a partially complete file of Oologist from No. 1 to date, many vols. and odd numbers of bird magazines, also a few nice sets to exchange. I want especially No. 6 Vol. V the Oologist and No. 6 Vol. 1 the Nidologist. H. J. KOFAHL, 911 Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas.

WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

BOOKS—Continued

FOR SALE.—The following books: Birds of North and Middle America by Ridgway, Parts I, II, III, and IV. Birds of Wyoming 1902, by Knight, Our Northern and Eastern Birds, by E. A. Samuels, Nuttall's Ornithology, two volumes, The Auk, Vols. 16, 21, 22, 23 and 24. All in excellent condition. Will sell cheap. F. C. HUBEL, Clarkston, Mich.

WANTED.—A copy of Goss "Birds of Kansas." Will give good exchange in sets or cash. DR. W. I. MITCHELL, 321 Barnes Bldg., Wichita, Kan.

WANTED.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion, N. Y.

Will sell for best offer: Ridgway's "Mammal," 4th edition; Reine's "Bird Nesting in Northwest Canada, and Vols. I, IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X, XI, XII, XIII, XIV," of "Oologist." Clean and in good condition. Also Davie's "Nests and Eggs," cloth bound, 5th edition, in fair condition, and several good books on chess. FRED MALBY, 1667 Jefferson, St., Kansas City, Mo.

FOR SALE.—In perfect condition, "The North American Birds" by Henry Nehrling, German text, cloth bound, gilt edge, 668 pages and 36 plates, showing 137 species in natural color. Original price \$15. Sells for \$7. ERICH DIETRICH, Canby, Oregon.

WANTED.—The Auk, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. VI, Nos. 1, 3. For cash or exchange. LOUIS A. FUERTES, Ithaca, N. Y.

BIRD LORE.—Will pay cash for Bird-Lore, Vol. II, No. 2, Vol. 3, No. 1, Vol. VII, No. 1. If you can furnish any or all, write stating price. FRANK H. LATTIN, M. D. Albion, N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS

EXCHANGE.—Send stamp for list of articles to exchange or sell. DAVID PRATT, Box 538 Freeport, Maine.

High grade cameras, lenses, field glasses, etc. for natural history work. I import them and can save you money. Correspondence invited. C. E. WEBSTER, No. Yakima, Wash.

WANTED.—Good photographs of nests and eggs of Mississippi Valley Migrants breeding in north j. e., Warblers, Sparrows, etc. J. F. FERRY, Chicago, Ill., Care of Field Museum of Natural History.

FOR SALE.—Basket work, of all shapes and patterns, mats, bows, pappoose baskets and other works of art of the "Northern California Indian." Price list free and your money back, if goods bought are not as represented. Address C. IRVIN CLAY, Box 353, Eureka, Cal.

FOR SALE.—1 large black bear skin with skull, claws and leg bones, well salted. Also 1 bull moose with nice pair of Antlers. These skins are first class with full measurements. WM. SIMPSON, Box 484 Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Scientific shells and books, fossils and stone relics. I want good United States and foreign stamps. T. S. HILL, Moodys, Okla.

FOR SALE.—2 black bear cubs, tame and healthy, about 6 months old, \$40.00. 23 live Canada Geese, 1 gander, a fine breeding pen, \$20.00. WM. SIMPSON, Box 484, Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

Leon L. Pray, Specialist in small bird and small mammal taxidermy. Specimens from smallest size to size of Raccoon and Horned Owl mounted. First class work only. Address correspondence to 5630 Ingleside Ave., Chicago, Ill.

If you wish to purchase books on Natural History, Science, Travels, etc., write to The Bulletin. If not in stock, they may be obtained for you as the proprietors have exceptional opportunities of buying scarce works. "THE BULLETIN," 4 Duke St., Adelphi, London, England.

FOR EXCHANGE.—A representative collection of Ohio Indian relics, consisting of over 400 arrow heads, 29 celts, 14 grooved axes, spear heads, drills, hammer stones, plummets, chisels, gorget, pipe, stone beads, pestles, flint knives, etc. Want first class eggs in complete sets with full and complete data. Send lists and receive tracings of specimens. B. R. BALES, Circleville, Ohio.

WANTED.—Mounting condition, otter fisher, marten, wolverine, grey timber wolf, white blazed face, badger, all skulls. Address E. W. CAMPBELL, Taxidermist, 323 Wyoming Ave, Pottston, Pa.

EXCHANGE.—200 mounted Microscopical specimens of animal tissues. (Pathological, Histological and Bacteriological) to exchange for stamps, coins or Indian relics, etc. Also specimens of Fossil Coral (Lithothroton canadense) to exchange. J. M. BROOKS, M. D., Golden City, Mo.

FOR SALE.—Large Flint Lock Pistol, 16 inches in length, \$6.00; Puritan foot stove tin, with wood frame, \$1.50; pair of iron spectacles 75c. JAMES O. JOHNSON, Southington, Conn.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Four by five Premo Film-plate Camera outfit, Stevens' Offhand pistol, 32 calibre Colts repeating rifle; of nature and sporting goods and books. OWEN M. GATES, Box 54 Mansfield, Ohio.

He has achieved a large measure of success as a citizen and man who has been thoughtful and considerate in his own home and a kind neighbor.

Dairy Policy.

It's one thing to find the poor cows and mistakes in your dairy policy, but it's another thing to correct these. What would you think of a doctor who was good at diagnosis and a failure at curing?

THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. 1. ALBION, N. Y. JANUARY 15, 1910. WHOLE No. 270

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Illinois.

PERSONAL

The well known bird student, P. G. Howes, of Stamford, Connecticut, is now in Europe, our last communication from him being from Paris. He expects to remain abroad until sometime in April and has promised us a number of interesting notes on European birds, and particularly of American birds which have been transplanted to that territory. We are sure they will be appreciated by our readers.

We have just received a letter from our old friend, S. B. Ladd, now of Reading, Pennsylvania. In years past Mr. Ladd was well known as a leading Oologist and an active collector, and exchanged much with collectors throughout the country. Of late Mr. Ladd has done little in oology and our letter was the first communication we have had from him for more than fifteen years. As usual with the older boys, he accompanies the letter with a request for a sample copy of THE OOLOGIST.

We attended a meeting of the Southern Division of this flourishing California Bird organization at Los Angeles, December 30th 1909, and there had the the pleasure of meeting seventeen or eighteen members of the club, which was truly a gratification to us. The live interest evidenced by the attendance, by the splendid papers and discussions was

indeed a revelation to one who lives where there is no person with whom to exchange similar ideas.

Would that a Cooper Club, a Wilson Club or some other bird club existed in every state in the Union in as flourishing a condition as our California friends maintain their splendid organization.

While in California we had the pleasure of meeting A. M. Ingersoll, a well known bird student of San Diego, who with his wife was stopping at one of the leading Los Angeles hotels for the winter. Mr. Ingersoll is the second person with whom the editor of this publication ever arranged an exchange of eggs. That was in the long, long ago. Until this meeting in California, we had never seen Mr. Ingersoll, though had kept up a correspondence acquaintance with him for many years. It is a pleasure now to know that he is not only one of the leading oologists of the coast, and that he has perhaps the most complete collection of North American eggs existing on the coast, but also that he has by strict attention to business and legitimate means, accumulated a competence. He has now retired to enjoy the fruits of his industry and declining years. No doubt he will spend a large portion of his time in his favorite pursuit, the study of birds.



16. Series of Golden Eagle's Eggs in collection of W. Raine of Toronto, Canada. Photo by Raine.

THE OOLOGIST

TRAPPING A GOLDEN EAGLE.

A few years ago I spent the fall months in Kansas on an uncle's ranch. The country was rough rolling prairie. Nearby was a large creek and along this stream was considerable timber. Squirrels (gray and fox) were abundant. Quail very plentiful. Rabbits (both common and jack) were plenty. On the creek several varieties of ducks were found. I was out about every day and game dinners were of regular occurrence. Immense flocks of larks, longspurs and blackbirds were about, but about all the summer residents and small land migrants had gone. Raptors were abundant and I shot quite a number.

Along early in November the Golden Eagles appeared. Some days four or five were about. Of course I wanted one but they didn't stay about the timber much, but kept to the prairie where it was impossible to stalk them.

Near the house was quite a hill about which eagles as well as other raptors circled. At one place near the base of this hill a gully started and eventually found its way to the big creek. Close to the head of this gully near the base of the hill there had been an old stack of hay or alfalfa and several small stakes were still sticking in the ground. I found that I could slip up the gully to within one hundred feet of this spot so I went over on the prairie, kicked out a big jack rabbit, handed him a charge of sixes and took him over and tied him to one of the little stakes. Nothing happened until the second morning, when I found the whole bait gone. I went after another jack rabbit and tied him to the stake. I watched quite sharp that day, but nothing appeared near the bait. Next morning I again found my bait gone. I now concluded I had a coyote to deal with, so I went

to a nearby ranch and borrowed a heavy steel trap.

A good many pieces and chunks of flint rocks lay around about the hills and within two feet of the bait, lay a chunk that weighed about fifteen pounds. To avoid too much tramping about, I took along a little board on which I stood. I dug out a place for the trap and carefully set and covered it. I wired the chain to the end of the rock and buried that end. All dirt I put in a basket and what was left, I carried away. It was a good job and the brisk wind that blew all day helped to carry off any scent; also to smooth things over.

After quartering about over the prairie, I shot another jack which I tied to the usual stake. Next morning I found trap, stone and all gone. I soon located it in a nearby cornfield and in it was a big coyote with the handcuffs on a front foot. He had eaten at the bait a little and mutilated it, and I concluded to leave it as it was and reset the trap. Before night I had taken two crows out.

Next morning returning from the creek with a bunch of nice fat mallards I saw an excited flock of crows flying about over my trap. Pretty soon I saw a big black bird at the bait. I hadn't seen a buzzard for some time, so I concluded I had old goldie fast. I noticed however that it appeared to be eating and did not flop about as a trapped bird should. So I got into the gully and sneaked up. Crawling carefully up I peered over and there not one hundred feet away was a big golden eagle sitting broadside on. I had only one shell of BB and this I sent into his shoulders expecting him to roll over. To my surprise he sprang into the air instead. In my second barrel I had a shell of good old reliable sixes with which size I have had most success killing things

both big and little. Before he was fairly started, I sent the sixes at his big head and he was mine without a kick.

It was a nice specimen and in fine plumage and measured six feet eleven inches in expanse. The BB's I found on skinning had probably fatally hurt the bird, but it would probably have escaped me entirely if the sixes had not done the work. The strange part of it was that a crow had got caught and the eagle going to the bait had killed the crow and when I shot was eating it. The body was about half eaten and quite warm.

Next day I saw a large bird flopping about in the trap so I went over and found a big black hawk that proved to be a Harlan's. The next day I had to take up my trap as I was getting ready to leave for home. Before taking it up a big Red-tail got in. This red-tail was an adult; quite light-colored underneath with hardly any markings. Its mate I flushed and shot from a bend in the gully. This one had killed a rabbit on which it was feasting when shot.

From this experience I concluded that if I could have staid a little longer and put out six or eight baits, more than one eagle would have come back with me.

While there the last week in September there was a flight of Swainson's Hawks. I saw as many as fifty three in one flock. They were not very shy and I shot a number in different plumage. They fed entirely on grasshoppers. I never saw such numbers of hawks as during the week they were about.

R. B. SIMPSON.

The Migrant Shrike?

The reading of Mr. Leach's letter in the December Oologist set me to

thinking about the old puzzle "Which shrike is it?"

For several years past I have seen and collected the eggs of our common shrike, calling it *Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides*; sets of six being almost always found here in first sets. On looking over back files of the Oologist I have found that there is some confusion on the shrike question.

In the December, 1904, Oologist, Mr. C. P. Alexander writes a rather long and interesting article on the White-rumped Shrike, telling of finding several nests near Gloversville, N. Y. All the notes he makes tally with my experience of the common shrike. He closes thanking "Mr. Benjamin Hoag for identifying properly these birds from descriptions I sent him."

In the Oologist for December, 1906, Editor Short says, in answer to R. F. M. who asks whether it is the White-rumped Shrike or the Loggerhead in Hennepin County, Minnesota: "The two forms unquestionably intergrade in Southern New York, Northern Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Illinois and Nebraska." Short further says, "We draw a line (to divide the species) from Connecticut westerly through Southern New York, Northern Pennsylvania and Northern Ohio straight to the Rockies."

In the December, 1907, Oologist, I find this from Mr. Alexander again: "On May 5, near Gloversville, I found a nest of Migrant Shrike in a thorn apple tree, ten feet up, containing six eggs." In parenthesis Editor Short asks, "Was this bird not *Excubitorides*?" (White-rumped Shrike.)

Now Editor Barnes briefly tells Mr. Leach that his birds are Migrant Shrikes, thereby endorsing what L. A. Fuertes had previously told Leach.

Is there not someone who can speak as one having authority about these birds, this newly-made variety? I think many would like to have this question settled for good.

R. T. FULLER, Lacona, New York.



10. Series of Solitary Sandpiper eggs in collection of Walter Raine of Toronto, Canada. Photo by W. Raine.

A Paddle Down The Nuevas River, November 20, 1909.

The Nuevas river is a small but winding river which flows through McKinley, Isle of Pines, Cuba. One Saturday, three of us decided to take the boat and paddle down the river a ways to see what birds we could. So we put some extra rope, a small hatchet, and a heavy hunting knife together with something to eat and the shot gun. We finally got started about 9.00 a. m., rather late for the best observation. Every turn in the river disclosed some new beauties.

The river is lined on both sides with heavy jungles and royal palms. Several small rapids and log jams furnished excitement as well as novelty to the trip. We paddled down the river for about five miles, rested a half hour and started back about twelve. We had to pole most of the way back because of the swift current.

Southern, Green Herons, Cuban Orioles, Red-legged Thrushes, Cuban Wood Pewees, Anís, and Blackbirds (*Ptiloxena atrovolacea* 3-4) were common. Cuban Ground Doves, Southern Turkey Buzards, Water-thrushes, and Cuban Grackles were abundant. Three or four Least Bittern, West Indian Mourning Doves, Palm Warblers and Cuban Kingbirds, West Indian Mourning Doves, Palm Warblers and Cuban Kingbirds were also seen. Several Cuban Green Woodpeckers, Louisiana Water-thrushes, together with Cuban (Great) White Heron (1), Little Blue Heron (1), Belted Kingfishers (2), Pigeon (*Columba inornata* 8-10), White head Pigeon (2), Cuban Meadowlark (2), Cuban Pigmy Owl (2), Simpkin (1), Parula Warbler (2-3), American Redstart (1), Cuban Parrot (2), Maryland Yellow-throat (1), Isle of Pines Trogon (1), and Palm Swift (2).

An alligator was also shot. We re-

turned home tired, but more than repaid for our work for we had seen thirty species which was not so bad for the late start.

A. C. READ.

The Towhee in New York.

On July 4th last I found a Towhee's nest in a rather unusual position. It was placed about eighteen inches from the ground on, rather than in a low thick sloping bush. I was going through a thick piece of undergrowth and came out into an old abandoned vineyard which was then overgrown with sumac, weeds and scrubby bushes. I saw a nest ahead of me and a bird on it, which at first glance I took to be a Wilson's Thrush, as the nest was placed up from the ground as this Thrush sometimes places hers. But I saw at once that it was a female Towhee. I tried to get a picture of the bird on the nest, but she slipped away before I could get my camera ready, and began to scold me. I did two nice views of the nest, one showing just the nest and eggs taken from the side, and the other showing more of the bush, was taken from above.

The nest was on a steep side hill about 125 feet elevation above the lake in the valley below.

Verdi Burtch, Branchport, N. Y.

Bird Accidents.

I have noticed with interest the accounts of bird accidents in the last two issues of the *The Oologist*. I too have noticed two bird accidents the past year. One accident is identical with the one described by Mr. DuBois in the December issue. A robin endeavoring to take a string, that was wound around a limb, to her nest had hopelessly entangled its feet. In this instance, how-

ever, the bird was released before it was too late.

The other accident is a more peculiar one. Early one morning during March, 1909, one of my friends was awakened by a thumping on the roof outside. The noise continued some time and finally he arose to investigate and found that an English Sparrow was fast in the eve trough. A ladder was procured and the bird was taken down but not before the bird had succumbed. It was found that the birds feet were frozen fast in the ice in the trough and the bird was unable to extricate itself. The water which remained in the trough was sufficient to cover the bird's feet and this having frozen during the night held the bird fast to its roost. It hardly seems possibly that a bird could sleep with water freezing about its feet but such was apparently the case.

H. E. BISHOP.

Sad Result.

While reading the December OOLOGIST, 1909, I noticed an accident which befel some birds which reminds me of one incident familiar to me which happened at my former residence in Boulder, Colorado. Where a mountain stream threads its way through the city and along its bank there is a grove which contains a great many kinds of small birds such as Nuthatches, Robbins, etc.

Among the numbers, my sister found a Western Kingbird swinging from a string and on examining it, the bird was found with the string which formerly hung in a loop, twisted around the bird's neck, which evidently choked it, and death resulted.

This happened during the nesting season and it is very reasonable how it happened to meet the unusual death.

PERRY L. JUDD, Rathdrum, Idaho.

Unusual Eggs.

In THE OOLOGIST for May, I see that in the article "The Red Tail Hawks," the author refers to an egg of the Eastern Redtail, measuring 2.23 x1.66 inches as being unusually small. This egg is the smallest in width of any of which I have heard, but there is an egg of this species in my collection which is much shorter. It is one of a set of three from Michigan, and the eggs measure 2.16x1.90, 2.18x1.88, and 2.20x1.84. This is .20 of an inch shorter than the average given by Mr. Davie.

I also have a set of Western Mockingbird's eggs, collected by myself near Pasadena, California, the largest egg of which is .18 of an inch above the average length. They measure respectively 1.12x.75, 1.09x.76 and 1.09x .75.

Later, I collected a second set from this pair, and it is interesting to note that these were still above average size, measuring 1.01x.74, .99x.74, and .97x.73.

A. B. HOWELL.

Special Notice.

All subscribers whose numbers are below No. 257 are dropped from our mailing lists with this issue. We cannot send our publication to those who do not pay.

R. M. BARNES.

The Dusky Warbler.

Through an oversight of the printer, the article appearing on page 188 of Volume 26, (November, 1909.) of THE OOLOGIST relating to the Dusky Warbler was not credited to Mr. A. K. Snyder who is the author thereof. This is due Mr. Snyder as the article was not only readable, but related to a species concerning which there is but little ornithological literature.

The Poor Cowbird.

In attendance upon a meeting of the Cooper Club at Los Angeles, a few days ago, the Editor listened to a very readable paper on the alleged discovery of a new sub-species of the Cowbird inhabiting the arid lands of Utah and Nevada; presumably also substantially all the lands lying between Sierra Nevada and Rocky Mountains.

The January issue of the Auk contains another article upon the alleged discovery of another sub-species of Cowbird inhabiting Northwest Canada. We extend our sympathy to the Cowbird. We presume many alleged sub-species will now be discovered inhabiting various portions of the United States. The unfortunate Cowbird will now be torn, rent, cut chopped and split into infinitesimal fragments of sub-species with which proceeding we have absolutely no sympathy whatever, as it is now carried on in American ornithology. Witness the fate of the Song Sparrow, Redwing Blackbird, Horned Lark, etc., most of which have been sub-divided and refined and re-refined until even the great bird doctors often are unable to tell which is which, nor from whence the specimen came; and frequently wind up as an excuse for their lack of knowledge of the alleged knowledge necessary to differentiate the various sub-species with this statement —“intermediate between” so and so.

See to it that your name is on our subscription list for 1910.

Collections.

We have just recently examined and estimated the value of the collection of eggs of Mr. Thomas H. Jackson of Westchester, Pennsylvania, and learn it to be among the most complete in the country, containing as it does, 737 species and sub-species, mostly in single sets; though in many of the rarer varieties, and in some of the exceedingly rare species, goodly series are represented. It is remarkable for a number of unusually rare specimens in proportion to the size of the collection.

Our old friend Professor W. Otto Emerson of Hayards, California, kindly forwarded us a list of his collection of nests and eggs. It was a pleasure to peruse the same and to learn that it represented 469 species and sub-species of North American birds, mostly in single sets, through a considerable proportion are represented by series. Professor Emerson's well known accuracy and care is reflected in this accumulation, and he is to be congratulated upon the splendid representation that his collection contains.

Fred Truesdale of Shandon, California forwarded us the data accompanying the eggs in his collection for our inspection. Though a comparatively beginner in oology, Mr. Truesdale has accumulated 158 varieties, some of them exceedingly rare specimens, and in the course of years to come, we have no doubt it will become one of the leading collections on the coast.

Our Make Up.

With this issue we make a slight change in the make-up of THE OOLOGIST. Hereafter the advertising matter will be paged with Roman letters, and the reading matter numerically.

Just about as much can be expected of boys and girls as from a newly set orchard if both are started and then allowed to shift for themselves. The old Harry in the shape of weeds and ill manners, borers and bad habits is sure to get them. No slipshod or absentee oversight will give satisfactory results.

It pays an owner ten dollars to give his buildings a good coat of paint and make the premises shipshape if he is contemplating selling. It will give just as large a return in chunks of solid satisfaction for himself and family if he isn't thinking of selling. Especially is such improvement of the place to be commended from the standpoint of the passerby.

In most states the law as to fences requires a railroad to provide its right of way with a fence of the kind which the farmer has or may want to erect adjacent thereto. To illustrate, if a landowner wishes to fence hog tight a tract of land bordering on the right of way, the railroad would have to erect a fence of this description on the line bordering such tract.

Following one line means success in a majority of cases, but did not with the Illinois farmer who got five homestead land at \$1.25 per acre sixty years ago, has grown nothing but wheat and corn on it since and today gets but two bushels of wheat and ten of corn per acre, and even to get this paltry return has to let his land rest part of the time at that to get its breath. He was one of your practical fellows who followed in the agricultural ruts of his forefathers and had no time for lead pencil farmers or experiment station bulletins.

The pasture should be one of the best assets on a well managed farm and if properly handled should give as large a return with as little outlay of work as any other acres on the place. One way in which its efficiency may be increased is to give it a light

top dressing of fertilizer with the spreader, paying special attention to the spots where the soil seems to be the thinnest. In this way an effective disposal can be made of much of the manure which accumulates about the stables during the summer months, which if not carried out would lose about half of its fertilizing value from exposure to rain and weather.

A discerning contributor to a well known dairy paper in accounting for the financially strapped condition of so many dairymen in sections of New York which he visited finds the chief reasons for their unenviable condition to be poor cows, the buying of much feed that ought to be raised on the farm, failure to utilize to their full value the crops that are produced, especially corn, and waste of money in extravagant personal habits when it ought to be spent for supplies for the home and feed for the dairy cows. The causes cited by this investigator would seem to be sufficient to account for a good deal of low ebb dairying and farming.

It is a fact conceded by all dairymen and feeders that pasture grass is as nearly a perfect feed as it is possible to have. There are several reasons for this. One is that it is juicy and succulent and, entirely apart from its nutritive properties, is eaten with keen relish by all domestic animals. Added to this is the fact that it contains in nicely balanced proportions the several nutritive elements required for meat and milk production. Another point is that it is not eaten in stuffy, ill ventilated and poorly lighted barns, but in the open, where with every mouthful of grass taken into the stomach a breath of sweet fresh air is taken into the lungs, purifying the blood, aiding the heart action and increasing to a maximum the animal's power of assimilation, which in turn makes possible the consumption of still larger quantities of food and an increased production of milk and meat.

By way of showing that the west does not have a monopoly in the opportunities it offers for home seekers may be cited the case of a colony of Italians who a short time ago settled in Chautauqua county, N. Y. There were 400 men in the colony, which numbered 2,000 with women and children. They bought up 1,758 acres of land at \$35 an acre and put it into vineyards, and the same land is today valued at \$150 an acre, an increase in value of more than 400 per cent. The same thing on a smaller scale is being done by other foreigners in this and other New England states, the land being used for the production of a great variety of early vegetables and other staple food crops. Bred to an almost painful thrift in the old countries, they have come to the new and by applying the same methods in the sections mentioned are becoming well to do, where the less thrifty American is scarcely able to eke out a living.

The Awakening.

Two weeks after he had faced the parson with the only girl in the world he chanced upon Jones, one of his old bachelor friends.

"Well, old man," remarked the latter, grinning. "I can't say you look the part of a happy benedict. What's the trouble? Have you suffered a disappointment?"

"I have," answered the other grimly. "My wife can't sing!"

"Can't sing?" echoed Jones cheerily. "But in that case I should have said you were to be congratulated."

"That's not the trouble," responded the young husband. "The trouble is she thinks she can!"

His Authority.

Browning—I hear you are engaged to that young widow who is visiting relatives here. Is it true? Greening—Yes. Browning—How did you discover that she was the one woman in the world for an old bachelor like you? Greening—Why, she—er—told me so—Chicago News.

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Have ten pairs Buffalo Horns, five polished, five in rough; 2 large Snake Skins, 12 feet and 18 feet with heads. 2 Mammoth Monkeys, mounted, no stands. Any reasonable offers; cash preferred. B. HARTLEY, 97 Smith St., New Haven, Conn. [2]

TO EXCHANGE.—Collection of over 200 scientific cabinet shells (40 species Cyprae) for Warblers in sets with nests or Indian relics, arrowpoints, spearpoints and ceremonial axes preferred. First fair offer takes the list. List sent if stamp is enclosed. L. B. HOWSLEY, Mullan, Idaho. [1]

FOR SALE.—1 black bear skin showing following measurements: Length, 6 feet, 6 1/2 inches; height at shoulder, 34 1/2 in.; at hip, 36 in. Girth center of body, 4 feet 6 1/2 in. Large and perfect teeth and claws with skull and leg bones. Prepaid, \$25.00. One unmounted moosehead; spreads 54 in., length of palm 27 in., width 9 1/2 in. 24 points; A 1 scalp. Prepaid \$35.00. One elk head, spread 42 in., beam 5 1/2, 6 and 7 points; very fine even head. A 1 scalp. Prepaid \$35.00. WILLIAM SIMPSON, Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, Box 484. [1]

EXCHANGE.—200 mounted Microscopical specimens of animal tissues, (Pathological, Histological and Bacteriological) to exchange for stamps, coins or Indian relics, etc. Also specimens of Fossil Coral (Lithothroton canadense) to exchange. J. M. BROOKS, M. D., Golden City, Mo. [1]

MISCELLANEOUS—Continued.

Exchange of butterflies wanted. Will collect other lines of Natural history for butterflies. GEO. ROSSITER, 312 13th Av. East; Calgary, Alta. [1]

EXCHANGE.—Send stamp for list of articles to exchange or sell. DAVID PRATT, Box 538 Freeport, Maine. [1]

WANTED.—Good photographs of nests and eggs of Mississippi Valley Migrants breeding in north i e., Warblers, Sparrows, etc. J. F. FERRY, Chicago, Ill., Care of Field Museum of Natural History. [1]

FOR SALE.—Basket work, of all shapes and patterns, mats, bows, pappoose baskets and other works of art of the "Northern California Indian." Price list free and your money back, if goods bought are not as represented. Address C. IRVIN CLAY, Box 353, Eureka, Cal. [1]

FOR SALE.—1 large black bear skin with skull, claws and leg bones, well salted. Also 1 bull moose with nice pair of Antlers. These skins are first class with full measurements. WM. SIMPSON, Box 484 Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. [1]

FOR EXCHANGE.—Scientific shells and books, fossils and stone relics. I want good United States and foreign stamps. T. S. HILL, Moodys, Okla. [1]

FOR SALE.—2 black bear cubs, tame and healthy, about 6 months old. \$40.00. 23 live Canada Geese, 1 gander, a fine breeding pen, \$20.00. WM. SIMPSON, Box 484, Portage La Prairie, Manitoba. [1]

If you wish to purchase books on Natural History, Science, Travels, etc., write to The Bulletin. If not in stock, they may be obtained for you as the proprietors have exceptional opportunities of buying scarce works. "THE BULLETIN," 4 Duke St., Adelphi, London, England. [1]

FOR EXCHANGE.—A representative collection of Ohio Indian relics, consisting of over 400 arrow heads, 29 celts, 14 grooved axes, spear heads, drills, hammer stones, plummets, chisels, gorget, pipe, stone beads, pestles, flint knives, etc. Want first class eggs in complete sets with full and complete data. Send lists and receive tracings of specimens. B. R. BALES, Circleville, Ohio. [1]

WANTED.—Mounting condition, otter fisher, marten, wolverine, grey timber wolf, white blazed face, badger, all skulls. Address E. W. CAMPBELL, Taxidermist, 323 Wyoming Ave, Pottston, Pa. [1]

FOR SALE.—Large Flint Lock Pistol, 16 inches in length, \$6.00; Puritan foot stove tin, with wood frame, \$1.50; pair of iron spectacles 75c. JAMES O. JOHNSON, Southington, Conn. [1]

FOR EXCHANGE.—Four by five Premo Film-plate Camera outfit, Stevens' Offhand pistol, 32 calibre Colts repeating rifle; for nature and sporting goods and books. OWEN M. GATES, Box 54 Mansfield, Ohio. [1]

The Migrant Shrike.

J. Claire Wood.

In THE OOLOGIST for January, 1910, Mr. R. T. Fuller of Lacona, New York, desires to know which variety of *Lanius ludovicianus* inhabits his state. Beyond a doubt, migrans is the only breeding form and if either *excubitorides* or true *ludovicianus* should occur at all it could be only as a very rare straggler. Probably the latest and generally accepted authority on geographical distribution is Prof. Ridgway's "Birds of North and Middle America," and according to this great work, *excubitorides* is not found East of the Great Plains while the range of *migrans* is given as the greater part of United States East of the Great Plains; breeding North to New Brunswick, Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Northern New York, Quebec, Ontario, Michigan, Wisconsin and Minnesota and Southward to midland Virginia and western Carolina, Kentucky and eastern Kasas; in winter, southward to Mississippi, Louisiana and Texas. The range of true *ludovicianus* is given as "Coast district of South Carolina and Georgia to southern Florida, and westward over the coastal plain of the Gulf States to Louisiana."

Excepting *borealis*, all the shrikes I have collected here are typical *migrans*. My first were taken August 10, 1890, and last April, 25, 1909. I have found them in every month of the year except January.

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"Notice No. 259."

THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. NO. 2. ALBION, N. Y. FEBRUARY 15, 1910. WHOLE NO. 271

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Illinois.



Plate 3. Female Woodcock brooding eggs, Cook County, Illinois.
Photo by George A. Abbott.

Where the Woodcock Lurks.

"Meet me at six to-morrow morning near Crow Creek. When you reach a clump of Sumach follow up the ridge to some heavy undergrowth, known as Hazel Top. This drizzle has practically taken the frost out of the ground, and the Woodcock will be probing the mellow soil along the brook bottom. Last year while scouting among this undergrowth, I chanced up on an old hen with four little Bog-suckers. They were the prettiest creatures I ever saw; probably out of the shell about three days, and covered with markings of hazel brown and chestnut. Many of our birds emerge from the shell naked and blind. Often they are awkward and ungainly after leaving the nest. I held these chicks in my hand and studied them carefully for half an hour, much to the discomforture of the parent. She circled about dropping into the leaves, strutting like a Turkey Cock, wings drooped and bill slightly open. I'm sure this pair have taken up their abode in the same tract this Spring, because I heard the male "Circling."

"Up the Creek where the stream broadens into a slough I shot several Mallard. At dusk when I reached Hazel Top, the moon was rising and I listened for that nasal note so suggestive of the Night-hawk's call. Presently I heard the old cock who was quite a ventriloquist. After locating the bush under which I heard him "queeking," a rustle of wings predicted an aerial flight. I walked around in the soft ooze, tempted to look for the mate, feeling positive she was covering four yellow-brown eggs on some one of the many knolls. If we go there tomorrow I hope to show you what appears to be a ball of animated leaves. Do not be surprised if I stop or pause abruptly, as I'm apt to walk

within two feet of the nest before her black beads lend to that somber bed of leaves a most vital appearance."

Ralph appeared at the appointed time next morning, and with a strong west wind blowing against our faces, we headed up the rivulet. The first brush we entered, near the foot of Hazel Top, had been burned since the shedding of the leaves last Fall and before the Catkins had burst forth this month. Three or four chalky patches on the leaves announced the presence of a Woodcock, and closer scrutinizing revealed honey-combed patches in the earth, showing where the birds had been probing within the last twenty-four hours. "Did you hear that whistle? Sounded like the notes of a Cow Bird? That was the Woodcock, his short, broad wings with their outer primaries turned, produces that quivering whistle when rising perpendicular to a height of ten feet before taking a horizontal course and dropping zig-zag into another cover. The hen is sitting further westward in the unburned portion; the bushes here are too exposed around the base."

I crawled through the fence to examine a clump of poplars and saw the female, her back toward me, with head and bill turned at right angles to her body. She was five feet from the fence post and sitting with a south exposure. Never before had I "caught" one on the nest, sitting at "right angles." If this madam had turned her head to look, it was before I saw her, and she remained in what appeared to be a very cramped position for fifteen minutes. Ralph stooped to stroke that velvet like back before she vacated her nest. I never saw such an irregularly marked clutch. If I were to send them to some correspondent he might accuse me of "making up a

set." There are three distinct types in that set of four.

"There is another place just over the shore line of Lake Michigan where the Philohela Minor lurks from middle March to early August. We will go out there to-morrow. The place is grown up with pucker bush, roses and alders. An ideal place and harboring at least three pair of Owl Snipe. Old hunters tell me, prior to 1900, no less than fifteen pairs arrived there in early Spring and on July 4th, when the season opened for Woodcock shooting, some hunters secured fifteen birds in a day. Only two fellows had access to the place, and they kept it "under their hat," realizing the possible destruction of the entire Woodcock tribe if the place we frequented by indiscreet hunters. These two men were true sportsmen and they never visited the place but once a year."

Ralph, interested in taking migration notes, did not meet me as agreed, so I hoofed it alone. Making a beeline for one of the choicest spots in the brush, I stopped to survey the black soil. The two handsome males were sitting side by side under a little popular; one jerked up his tail and strutted over the ridge, the other took flight in the same direction.

Beating back and forth in the copse, I detected an egg under the leaves at the base of a grape vine. The bird had cunningly covered her product and only a tenth of the shell was visible through the dead leaves. Five days later I returned with my camera friend, and we made four successful exposures, three of parent on nest, and one of the eggs. Thinking she would lay a second set the place was revisited and two weeks later I found her squatting in the midst of a few briars near a wooded path fifty yards from the first nest. She jumped from her domain revealing a most unique

clutch of three eggs, two normal in size and the third decidedly a runt, not larger than a Tow-hee's egg.

I went to Poplar Lake on May 1st, 1909. It was a typical March day. A heavy, wet snow had been falling and the wind was blowing forty miles an hour. A ridge extends along the shore of the Lake and this is sheltered by elms and hazel sprouts. Peabody Birds and Juncos were dodging in and out among the brush piles and occasionally a little Winter Wren darted out almost beneath my feet. Under a fallen limb and surrounded by snow flakes, (not Snow Buntings) was a large Woodcock covering a well formed, deeply cupped nest in a soft bed of leaves and grass. She winked occasionally and I was sure this was not in keeping with an incubating bird. Undoubtedly she was covering an incomplete set, only to protect them from the inclement weather. To disturb a Woodcock while laying, or covering an incomplete set, often causes her to abandon the nest entirely, so I withdrew without intruding further.

A few days later after a warm thaw, she was visited by myself and camera friend. The madam had settled down very complacently and permitted us to make several exposures with the lens only one and one-half feet from her. The rest held four very richly marked eggs, evenly spotted with chestnut brown, one of the prevailing shades in a Woodcock's plumage.

GERALD ALAN ABBOTT.

Notice No. 259.

With this issue of The OOLOGIST we drop all subscribers from our books whose numbers are below 259. This we hate to do but the post office regulations are imperative. Better renew at once and keep in the game as we will give you a better magazine for the price than any other in America. We hope each one of our subscribers will send us a new subscription before April 1st. Try and see what you can do for The OOLOGIST.

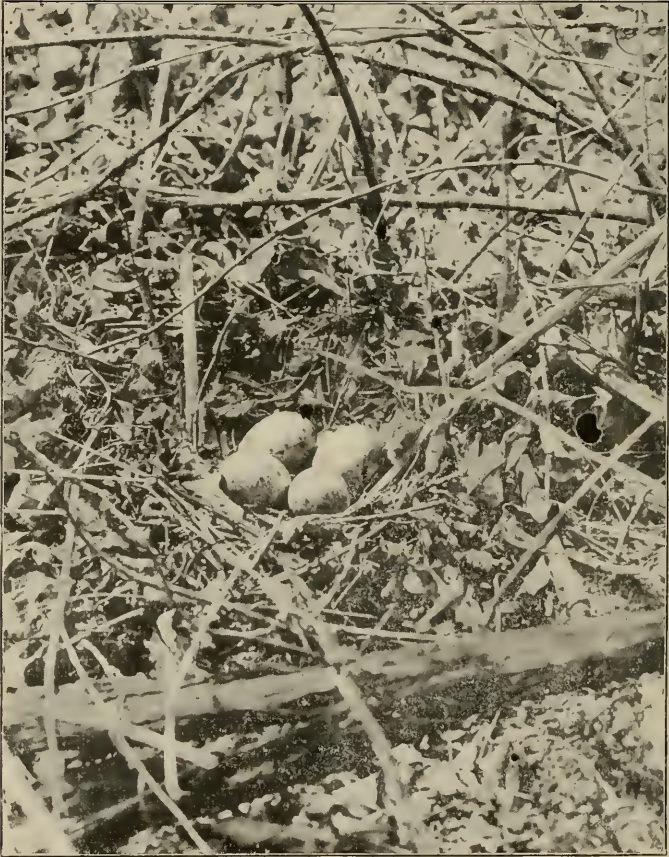


Plate 4. Nest and eggs of American Woodcock, Cook County, Illinois.
Photo by George A. Abbott.

Some Fulton County, (N. Y.) Birds.

During the past two years a few interesting birds have been added to the Avi-fauna of Fulton County, New York. These are as follows:

Uria lomvia, Linn. **Brunnich's Murre.**

A single specimen was shot December 20, 1908, at Red Bunch, near Munsonville. It was sitting on a snow bank, and as the hunters approached, flew directly toward them, when they shot it.

Larus philadelphia, Ord. **Bonaparte's Gull.**

A young mounted specimen of this gull is in the Fulton House at Canada Lake. It was shot on West Lake, in the fall of 1900.

Totanus melanoleucus, Gmel. **Greater Yellow-legs.**

A mounted specimen is in the Fulton House at Canada Lake. It was shot in front of the hotel, in October, 1897.

Bartramia longicauda, Bechst. **Bartramian Sandpiper.**

On May 6, 1909, and June 23, 1909, single specimens were observed. On June 27, 1909, I noted four specimens in a grassy field, one mile East of Johnston. Three were noted in the air at one time. On June 28, 1909, I went over and secured a specimen. There is scarcely a doubt but that the bird was breeding, but careful search failed to reveal the nest.

Picoides arcticus, Swains. **Arctic three-toed Woodpecker.**

A male was secured in Cold Spring Woods, Southeast of Gloversville, New York, on October 30, 1907, by Carver Pruyt.

Nuttallornis borealis, Swains. **Olive sided Flycatcher.**

A specimen was taken in the Johnstown Cemetery, May 30, 1909. This

specimen and the next are in the Cornell University collection.

Empidonax flaviventris, Baird. **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.**

A beautiful specimen was secured May 22, 1909, in Mosher's Woods, Northeast of Johnstown. It was sitting low down on a brush-pile, in company with male Indigo Buntings. The only other record for the county that I have is September 26, 1903, in the chestnut woods, three miles west of Gloversville, New York.

Dendroica tigrina, Gmelix. **Cape May Warbler.**

Two males in Johnstown on May 18, 1909. The first record for the county.

CHARLES P. ALEXANDER.

Increase.

The year 1908 there was a pair of Western House Wrens which built behind a board so placed as to form a miniature tunnel between the logs of a log house, near Rathdrum, Idaho. They raised two flocks and the next year I placed three bird boxes up and they were occupied during the summer of 1909 and one pair still nested behind the board.

The results from the three boxes were twenty-one offspring who lived principally on plant lice and small bugs, which is certainly a great item to the orchardists.

In all, four pairs produced twenty-eight young, which required a great many plant parasites.

A Western Blue Bird nested in one of the boxes after the Wrens left it to tend their young.

PERCY J. JUDD.

What do you think of the OOLOGIST this month? We are now hook in the harness and will give you the best OOLOGIST ever published during 1910. Just see if we do not.

The American Robin in England.

P. G. Howes.

In the early part of 1908, at just what time I cannot say, a dozen American Robins were taken to England and kept in a large aviary in a country garden. When breeding time came, the birds nested readily in the aviary but as as congregation is not congenial with the family Turdidae, many of the clutches were broken and none were likely to be hatched. When this was discovered, the remaining eggs were carefully removed and deposited in the nests of various English birds of the Thrush family. The experiment worked wonderfully, and at the end of the summer, the dozen American birds were greatly increased in numbers.

So far, so good. The English summer as breathed in the shade of a beautiful garden proved thoroughly sympathetic with the robins. They fed and bred and flourished without disturbance from their neighbors or surroundings. If they remain, the robins will be a real addition to England and the British will look upon them with even more pleasure than they mark the coming of the first gentle green of their alien tree, the larch.

The pleasing fact is now to be chronicled that up to December 10th, 1908, they have remained. One migrating period is over. Many Blackbirds (*Turdus merula*) and thrushes have migrated to France and flocks of other birds have launched themselves from the shores of Kent southwards and eastwards. With almost all birds, congregation precedes migration. The safety of numbers arms them against the peril of the long journey. "The storm of wings". The American birds however have not congregated, and they still remain in the garden in twos and threes as if waiting for another summer in this new

nesting haunt, a place of quiet and beauty.

There is a certain English thrush called the Field-fare (*Turdus pilaris*), and it is thought by English ornithologists that the robins may migrate with their cousins in the Spring. I do not believe this, for the strongest instincts drive the birds at nesting time to the nesting home of their parents. The rigour of the English winter is another danger but having seen these birds pass through all kinds of weather in America I am confident that the English winters will not affect the success of the experiment. It is a strong likelihood that the American robin has now been naturalized into England.

It was published in an English newspaper not long ago, that as a return experiment, a number of Wood Pigeons (*Columba palumbus*), a very common bird in France and England, would soon be sent to America. The Wood Pigeons are shot by the thousands in England around Christmas time. It is a favorite sport of the farmers to shoot the birds from "caches" within reach of the ground, well baited during the previous week. By the latter part of December, as a rule, a great horde of the Pigeons have migrated from Scandinavia to the midland counties, and in some years, three or four farmers will kill as many as three hundred in a day. It is truly like the old days of the Passenger Pigeon in America.

Such slaughter is an outrage and disgusting to all the better nature of mankind.—Editor.

From Isle of Pines.

Some Fall Migration Notes made on the Isle of Pines, Cuba, 1909.

Aug. 20, First Water-thrushes of the season (3-4).

Aug. 22, Water-thrushes fairly common.

Aug. 23, Black and White Warbler (1), Aug. 30, (1).

Aug. 24, Louisiana Water-thrush (1), Sept. 18, Yellow-throated Warbler (1), Oct. 8, (1). Greater Yellow-legs (4).

Sept. 21, Spotted Sandpiper (1).

Sept. 25, Palm Warbler (1), Sept. 29, common, Oct. 4, abundant.

Oct. 3, Maryland Yellow-throat (1).

Oct. 4, Least Bittern (1), Oct. 9, (3).

Oct. 6, Parula Warbler (4-6), Oct. 24, common. Prairie Warbler, (2) Oct. 24, Common for them. Yellow Palm Warbler (1) very rare.

Oct. 16, American Redstart (4-6). Oct. 20, common. Catbird (1).

Oct. 12, Marsh Hawk (1), also on Oct. 13, 14, 15, 18, 19. White-crowned Pigeon (1) last seen, also on Oct. 11 (1), and Sept. 24 (2).

Oct. 21, Black-throated Green Warbler (1), Oct. 26, (1), Wilson's Snipe (1).

Oct. 24, Oven-bird (1).

Oct. 28, Black-throated Green Warbler (1 shot.)

Oct. 26, Myrtle Warbler (2), Nov. 26, (1).

Oct. 27, Solitary Sandpiper (2).

Nov. 16, Catbird (2), Nov. 19, common.

Nov. 4, Tennessee Warbler, (1).

Dec. 25, Least Grebe (2).

For some unknown reason no Black-throated Blue Warblers have been seen this winter although in December, 1908, it was the most common warbler here.

A. C. READ.

A-Correction.

Mr. A. C. Read of the Isle of Pines writes us as follows:

"I wish to make a correction in the scientific name of the Isle of Pines

Tanager published in the Nov., 1909. OOLOGIST. The name should be *Spindalis pretrei pinus*. In the July 1909 OOLOGIST, I had some notes on the Florida Grackle, *Quiscalus quiscula aglaeus*, which was a case of mistaken identity. It should have been Cuban Grackle, *Holoquiscalus gundlachi*.

Keep Up the Campaign Mr. Herron.

No more English Sparrows frequent San Bernardino County. R. B. Herron, county bird man has just returned from a thorough investigation, after pursuing a most strenuous campaign against the foreign pest, and brings news that the birds have either all been killed or have given this county the farewell.

During the early spring there was much complaint, it being declared that the aliens were nipping off fruit buds, also that they were driving native song birds from the state, or slaughtering them, and Mr. Herron commenced a campaign, which has resulted in entirely exterminating the pest.—San Bernardino Sun.

The Great Blue Heron.

(*Ardea herodias*).

The group of this splendid bird illustrated on the opposite page has been presented to the Buffalo Society of Natural Sciences by me. It took several years of hard work, aided by my son, Edward, to get the material for the same. The Heronry is about fifty miles north of Buffalo, located near the Tonawanda Swamp and only a fearless climber could get to the nests, which are located on elms from one hundred to one hundred twenty feet up; a hard task when higher than the nests to haul up the kodak and take the pictures of the nests containing eggs in sets from four to six, and



Plate 5. Nest of Heron Groups in Buffalo Society of Natural Science.

two months later of the young. The Herons arrive here from the South in the first days of April and start at once to look over their previous nests, repairing and strengthening them for their occupancy. In the middle of April they start laying eggs. About a month later, the young appear and now the work of getting nourishment for them is no easy matter. They have to fly as far as fifty miles, and can be seen near Grand Island and Navy Island standing in Niagara River, watching for fish, with which they return to the young to satisfy their ravenous appetites. The long flight is necessary because it is impossible for them to get down to the ground in the heronry on account of the dense shrubbery.

A continuous croaking of the old birds is heard. It takes fully from two to two and a half months until the young can take care of themselves, and to bring them down out of their nests is no easy problem.

The bark of these elms is from one to one and a quarter inches thick, making it necessary to plant the spurs very deep to sustain the weight of the body. During the time we were up to the nests, the Herons circled above us with loud croaking, alighting occasionally on some high point to watch our maneuvers. Great care is necessary for approaching the nest from below, as the slightest disturbance of the nest brings down a shower of the dry white droppings of the birds, which is extremely irritating in case it reaches an eye. As we approach home, the female leaves the nest and files in wide circles over our heads, croaking defiance to the intruder.

To get the young Herons out of the nest is extremely difficult, as they are large and awkward birds, and cling tenaciously to every branch within reach.

Nearly all the Zoos in the United States have in the past been provided with birds from this Heronry, and when properly treated their existence can be maintained in captivity for a number of years.

The Herons of this section only raise one brood a year.

It is hoped that every reader of this articles will use every effort to preserve this nesting site of these stately birds.

OTTOMAR REINECKE.

Books Received.

Birds of the Leeward Islands, by Prof. Charles B. Corey, 1909.

This is a pamphlet review of the work of Mr. John F. Ferry upon these islands and contains lists relating to the various islands visited aggregating 161 species. It is issued by the Field Museum of Natural History. It is gotten up with the usual evidence of care-taking accuracy which characterizes all of Professor Corey's work, and will be a reference manual relating to the ornithology of these islands for years to come.

Catalogue of Canadian Birds, by John Macown and James M. Macown; Government Printing Office, Ottawa, Canada, 1909—issued by the Department of Mines, Geological Survey Branch.

This splendid work is a re-issuance of the catalogue of Canadian Birds originally issued in parts as follows:

Part 1, 1900; Part 2, 1903; Part 3, 1904, by Prof. John Macown. Though much of it is re-written and all of it is brought down to date, containing as it does 761 pages, is a monumental work upon the subject of Canadian Birds, by far the most complete now in existence. It is a splendid production and indeed a highly valuable addition to the literature of that subject:

and will remain for years a standard work of reference relating to the ornithology of the Dominion. The mechanical make up of the work is a credit to the public printing of Canada.

The Warbler, Vol. V., 1909. Bulletin of the Childs Museum of North American Ornithology.

This number of the Warbler consisting of thirty-one pages and three half tones, is at hand, containing the following entitled articles.

Breeding of the Sharp-shinned Hawk on Long Island.

Last record of the Breeding of the Bartramian Sandpiper in Maine.

The Bleating and Breeding of the Snipe.

Long Island Bird Notes.

The Chat.

Authentic eggs of Corey's Least Bittern.

Brewer's Blackbird.

The Starling.

Collecting in Northeastern Siberia.

And a Supplementary catalogue of the Natural History Books of Childs Museum and Library.

It is well gotten up and full of interesting bird matter.

Would that Brother Childs would again resume the publication of the Warbler as of yore. We have always regretted its discontinuance as a bi-monthly magazines.

The Passenger Pigeon.

A final effort is now being made to definitely determine whether the Passenger Pigeon is extinct. The following rewards will be paid in connection with the plan:

\$300.00 for the first nest or nesting colony on the North American continent; \$100.00 for the first nest in Massachusetts; \$100.00 for the first nest in

Connecticut; \$100.00 for the first in Illinois.

The nests must be undisturbed and reported in confidence to C. F. Hodge, at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts, and they will be by him confirmed at the expense of the donors of the fund and not at the expense of the discoverers; which will leave the reward complete for the person or persons making these finds.

All previous rewards for freshly killed specimens of this bird are cancelled and all persons killing or destroying the bird or its nest will be prosecuted.

It is hoped that bird lovers throughout the land will give special attention to this matter this season, and they need have no fear of the final disposition of such nest or nests as may be discovered. They will not be disturbed, collected nor injured in any way, even if to prevent which, it should be necessary to place an armed guard over the nest or nests until the young leave.

We trust some of the readers of THE OOLOGIST will be successful in securing some of these large rewards.

FRAUD.

One of our subscribers writes us as follows:

"There are a lot of bogus eggs floating around and the only way they can be discovered is by comparing the suspected eggs with a series of genuine ones. In making my collection I have thrown out as bogus, probably a dozen sets, and I have refused to accept many that I believed were frauds. A common case of substitution is to palm off fifteen cent English Sparrow Hawk eggs for those of our Sharp Shinned Hawks, worth a dollar each. Some time ago there were a lot of fraud Goshawk eggs floating around, of which I have a set or two. I was also

offered a set of six. There are said to be quite a number of Mute Swan eggs, in collections that are labeled California Vulture, and nobody can tell the difference unless he knows how to do it."

If any such practices as these come to the notice of any of our readers, it will be a pleasure to the publisher of this magazine to bulletin the guilty parties in our columns, and let the world know who it is that is engaged in swindling, and if possible to follow it up with criminal proceedings for use of the mails for fraudulent purposes. A year or two in a federal penitentiary for some of those engaged in this sort of work would go a long way towards clarifying the oological atmosphere. Keep your eye on the frauds and when you get one of them dead to rights, send us the proof and then sit up and take notice as to what happens.

The New A. O. U. Check List.

We are advised, we have been advised, we expect to be further advised that in the "near future" the new A. O. U. Check list for 1910 will be issued soon. The delay in this matter, inconveniencing as it does, hundreds of ornithologists throughout the United States is to say the least, not to the credit of the A. O. U. organization, of which the Editor is one; though we are thankful to say we are in no way responsible for this delay.

Any person who has endeavored to keep track of the naming and re-naming and changing the names of, and substituting the names for, and originating names designating North American Birds during the last few years, will appreciate what we have to say upon this subject.

It has been our intention to take up this matter of delay in regard to the

A. O. U. Check List and set the whole matter before our readers this month, citing as our authority, the published proceedings of the A. O. U. in the Auk, but we refrain from so doing at present; though this would make interesting reading; particularly so to those who are able to read between the lines, especially if reading between the lines were confined to such quotations as we could make and may yet make from the Auk in regard to this subject.

We are heartily tired of waiting. Are you tired also, Mr. Reader?

Our Need For Greater Care.

Recently in an exchange I received a specimen of Rose-breasted Grosbeak and one of Black-billed Cuckoo; they were both tagged but the tags were exchanged; i. e., the one for the Grosbeak being on the Cuckoo and that for the Cuckoo on the Grosbeak, so it would seem that they were not tagged until the person was getting my wants together, which he listed as having on hand.

How do I know that the sex of the Cuckoo was as he has it on the tag? He could have easily made a mistake on that the same as he did on the tags.

Another instance was one where two sets of one egg each of Cassin's Auklet were sent to me. When I tried to find which data belonged to which egg I found it impossible to tell as they both had the same set mark. Also both datas read "Nest at end of burrow from three to five feet long." It looks as if he had collected quite a number and made one wording of data do for all.

Let us use the greatest care in all our work!

E. P. WALKER.

The triteness of the foregoing observation is deeply impressed upon the

editorial mind at this time. Many weary hours have we spent recently in trying to unravel the arrangement of large collection of eggs that recently came into our possession, all because of the lack of proper care in originally marking the specimens. To make the markings on the eggs gibe with the datas is something of a chore when several sets of "a-5" or "1-4" appear in the same series. Also a lamentable lack of fullness of details is noticeable in many instances in the datas, all of which is both mystifying and annoying.

"March-ing."

Howard W. McMillen.

One Saturday last March, I was indulging in one of my frequent tramps through the woods, then bare and covered with snow, when my attention was arrested by a group of blue jays holding a noisy consultation over a knot hole about twenty feet from the ground in an ash tree. At my approach they hastily adjourned to another locality (I had not presumed it was a private affair, judging from the racket), while I solved the problem which had been the topic of their discussion. It was a few minutes work to climb to the hole which was large enough to admit my arm. By stretching this member (which, in my case, is more useful than ornamental), I succeeded in reaching and bringing to light the object of the blue jays' concern and my curiosity, a fine gray screech owl. But he presented himself rather in the light of a dilemma, for two able arms were required for the descent, and at least a hand to handle the bird. Little things like this, however, never trouble an ornithologist. I took off a glove, and into it inverted the bird; if he resented it at all, his stoicism did not suffer him to dis-

play his resentment. By holding the glove in my teeth, the decent was easy. I carried the solemn bird home, exhibited him to the family then put him in a cage for a little observation and experiment. None of these things disturbed the profundity of his meditations, or melted the iciness of his frigid reserve.

As soon as it was dark, I went out to the straw stack and caught a passer domesticus, a few of which we suffer to remain about the place, and put it in the cage with the owl. For the first time was his serene majesty disturbed. It was hard to distinguish whether owl or sparrow was more frightened. After a while the violent agitation of each began to subside, the owl began to resume his hereditary semblance of dignity, and the sparrow his hereditary reality of impudence, which it manifested by pecking megascops in the face. From this front view it seemed to recognize an old enemy, and sought safety, not in one of the opposite corners of the cage, but on the owl's head, where he could not be easily reached. This perch soon began to manifest its instability, and the sparrow took up another quarter of the cage. When I left them, the owl wore an expression of offended dignity, and the sparrow was vigilantly watching his bunkmate, least he should undertake some violence.

In the morning the sparrow was dead. It might have died through fear, but, considering its proximity to a healthy megascops asio, a more natural explanation presents itself. I was compelled to be away during the day, but at night I found that the body of the passer domesticus had been decapitated. Where the head goes, so generally goes the body, and I presume that it would have been thus here; but my purposes had been satisfied, and each were disposed of as they merited. I gave the sparrow to the cat and the owl to the darkness.

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- The Ornithologist and Oologist Semi-Annual, Published in 1889-90-91 by Wm. H. Foote of Pittsfield, Mass., and by C. C. Maxfield of Danbury, Conn, in 1891. No. Vol. 1.

- The Wilson Quarterly, Vol. 3.
- The Wilson Journal, Vol 1, Jan., 1893 and Vol. 2, June, 1893.

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WANTED.—Mounting condition, otter, fisher, marten, wolverine, grey timber wolf, white blazed face, badger, all skulls. Address E. W. CAMPBELL, Taxidermist, 323 Wyoming Ave., Pittston, Pa. [1]

Arickara Indian collection for sale. Personally collected. Bone implements, arrow heads, stone hammers, etc. Send stamp for photo and price. H. E. Lee, Pierre, S. D. [1]

Have ten pairs Buffalo Horns, five polished, five in rough; 2 large Snake Skins, 12 feet and 18 feet with heads. 2 Mamoseet Monkeys, mounted, no stands. Any reasonable offers: cash preferred. B. HARTLEY, 97 Smith St., New Haven, Conn. [2]

TO EXCHANGE.—Collection of over 200 scientific cabinet shells (40 species Cyprae) for Warblers in sets with nests or Indian relics, arrowpoints, spearpoints and ceremonial axes preferred. First fair offer takes the list. List sent if stamp is enclosed. L. B. HOWSLEY, Mullan, Idaho. [1]

EXCHANGE.—200 mounted Microscopical specimens of animal tissues. (Pathological, Histological and Bacteriological) to exchange for stamps, coins or Indian relics, etc. Also specimens of Fossil Coral (Lithotriton canadense) to exchange. J. M. BROOKS, M. D., Golden City, Mo. [1]

If you wish to purchase books on Natural History, Science, Travels, etc., write to The Bulletin. If not in stock, they may be obtained for you as the proprietors have exceptional opportunities of buying scarce works. "THE BULLETIN," 4 Duke St., Adelphi, London, England. [1]

FOR EXCHANGE.—A representative collection of Ohio Indian relics, consisting of over 400 arrow heads, 29 celts, 14 grooved axes, spear heads, drills, hammer stones, plummets, chisels, gorget, pipe, stone beads, pestles, flint knives, etc. Want first class eggs in complete sets with full and complete data. Send lists and receive tracings of specimens. B. R. BALES, Circleville, Ohio. [1]

WANTED.—Mounting condition, otter fisher, marten, wolverine, grey timber wolf, white blazed face, badger, all skulls. Address E. W. CAMPBELL, Taxidermist, 323 Wyoming Ave., Pittston, Pa. [1]

FOR SALE.—Large Flint Lock Pistol, 16 inches in length, \$6.00; Puritan foot stove tin, with wood frame, \$1.50; pair of iron spectacles 75c. JAMES O. JOHNSON, Southington, Conn. [1]

FOR EXCHANGE.—Four by five Premo Film-plate Camera outfit, Stevens' Offhand pistol, 32 calibre Colts repeating rifle; for nature and sporting goods and books. OWEN M. GATES, Box 54 Mansfield, Ohio. [1]

FOR EXCHANGE.—32 Steven's smooth bore rifle for a 22 or 32 caliber pistol, long barrel, also "Oregon Naturalist, 1896" complete at \$1.00 per volume. STANLEY G. JEWETT, 582 Bidwell Ave., Portland, Ore. (1)

WANTED.—Some first class pieces of clean stretched birch bark, in strips of not less than 12 inches x 18 inches. Suitable for mounting photos. Send me your prices at once. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

I WANT THE FOLLOWING.

Please look this list over carefully and if you have any of them write me.

The Wilson Billitin, Nos 6, 7, 8.

The Curlew, Published by O. P. Hauger of Orleans, Ind., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7.

The Ornithologist and Oologist Semi-Annual, Published in 1889-90-91 by Wm. H. Foote of Pittsfield, Mass., and by C. C. Maxfield of Danbury, Conn. in 1891. No. Vol. 1.

The Wilson Quarterly, Vol. 3.

The Wilson Journal, Vol 1, Jany., 1893 and Vol. 2, June, 1893.

Notes on Rhode Island Ornithology, Published by Reginald Heber Howe, Jr., 1890.

The Oologist, of Utica, N. Y., Vols. 1-5 inclusive, for 1875 to 1881, any numbers.

Journal of the Maine Ornithological Club. Vol. 2, Vol. 3, No. 1, 2, 3, Vol. 4, No. 1, 2, 3, Vol. 5, No. 3, 4, Vol. 6, No. 3, 4.

Birds of California, In relation to the fruit industry—Beal, Part II.

The Oologist—This magazine—Vol. III, No. 4; Vol. IV, Nos. 1, 3, 4; Vol. V, No. 6; Vol. VII, Nos. 3 and 10.

Catalogue of Canadian Birds, by Prof. McCoun, Part I, 1st Ed.

I will pay the very highest market price for all or any part of the above in case

R. M. Barnes,
Albion, N. Y. and Lacon, Ills.

THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. NO. 3. ALBION, N. Y. MARCH 15, 1910. WHOLE NO. 272

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.



JOHN FARWELL FERRY

Born October 12th, 1877—Died February 11th, 1910.

THE OOLOGIST

John Farwell Ferry.

"Good afternoon; are you connected with this Institution?"

"Yes sir; is there anything I can do for you?"

A number of years ago in August, the writer was leaning over the display case of North American birds eggs in the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, when a tall athletic appearing young man of studious mein passed. Addressing the above words to him, a kind voice replied as above. That was the commencement of the friendship long existing between Mr. Ferry and the present editor of THE OOLOGIST.

Mr. Ferry died in Chicago at St. Luke's Hospital on the 11th day of February, 1910, of acute pneumonia, after but a few days illness. He was born October 12, 1877 and graduated from Yale in 1901, ranking well toward the top of his class.

At different periods of his life, he was connected with the Smithsonian Institution at Washington, the Field Museum of Natural History at Chicago, and the United States Biological Survey at Washington; doing field work for these institutions as a matter of choice. This he chose in lieu of a life of trade. He sought the green fields and bubbling brooks, for every day associates, rather than the huge ledgers and bustle of the office of a great commercial institution.

He was a grandson of the late John V. Farwell, one of the merchant princes of Chicago, and in him flowed the same sturdy Scotch blood that made for success in his grandfather, in every undertaking in which he engaged.

Mr. Ferry was religious by instinct, and always championed the side of right regardless of popular opinion, or present policy. During his experience in the field, he visited the moun-

tains of California, the deserts of Arizona, the Island of Porto Rica, the Isthmus of Panama, the Saskatchewan Country of Canada, and the islands of the Carribean Sea, lying off the Northeast coast of South America. In the latter islands visiting places never before visited by white man, and discovering birds never before scientifically described by man, and thereby added to the known list of birds of that vicinity and materially.

The writer was with Mr. Ferry for thirty days in the Saskatchewan country in Canada in the Spring of 1909. The close association of camp life revealed to me the many lovable characteristics with which he was endowed. A more ardent scientist could not be found. A more careful or accurate collector and observer is seldom seen. A more energetic person would indeed be a novelty. Many times while resting myself, after a hard days work in Canada and noting that my friend Ferry was still busy at something, perhaps way into the night—and sometimes he worked until two o'clock—I would chide him for attempting to do too much, or working too long.

Another thing that impressed me much was the great regard that Mr. Ferry had for his mother, and the great amount of credit he gave his mother for his scientific success. Many, many times he told me of the interest his mother took in his work, and of the assistance she had been to him therein; more than once announcing with almost boyish pride, "Mother can make as good a bird skin as I can."

The family has lost, American Ornithology has lost, and we have all lost one who deserved the highest respect and sincere admiration as a citizen, a scientist and a friend.

Editor.

NEWS ITEMS.

Two Snowy Owls were shot January 3, 1910, at Holley, New York.

One almost perfect Albino Ruff Grouse was seen by Harry R. Warren early in January, 1910, at Holley, New York.

We are in receipt of an invitation to attend an International Ornithological Congress to be held in the City of Berlin, Germany from May 30th to June 4th, 1910. Stress of other business will prevent our attendance?

The first Bluebird arrived at the home of THE OOLOGIST at Lacon, Illinois, March 5th, 1910. And the first Robin, March 8th. Both species being from one to two weeks late, possibly owing to the extreme winter; though the weather has been unusually mild for ten days before their arrival for this time of year.

During the spring of 1909, near Rowan Station, on the route of the Butler, Harmony and Newcastle car line, I found a nest of the American Robin (*Planesticus migratorius*) placed on one of the railroad ties on a trestle, the top of the nest being only about three inches from the bottom of the rail! One of those heavy electric cars thundered over that trestle every half-hour, but, strange to say, it didn't seem to bother the old bird at all, for she never left the nest. The nest contained four well incubated eggs.

Wm. G. Pitcairn.

I have in my collection a set of three eggs of the Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*) which merits a writing up. To begin with, the eggs are usually large for the species in this section, measuring as follows: 1.27x.93; 1.26x.94; 1.28x.93 inches. The ground color of the eggs is pale green, and they are very sparsely speckled instead of being heavily peppered as in the case with the normal egg of

the species. The nest was on the ground under a log, and after the three eggs had been laid, the birds deserted the nest. When collected, all the eggs were out of the nest, one being at least two feet away.

Wm. G. Pitcairn.

We have recently had the privilege of inspecting a catalogue of the collection of North American Birds eggs owned by the late Charles K. Worthen of Warsaw, Illinois, at the time of his decease.

As Mr. Worthen was a scientist well known to all ornithologists and oologists not only in America, but in Europe, one whose standing for absolute integrity was beyond question, it may be of interest to our readers to know that at the time of his death, Mr. Worthen's private collection of North American Birds consisted of 333 species, comprising 650 sets and 1406 eggs.

It may be of interest to some of the readers of THE OOLOGIST to know of the measures taken by the Department of Commerce and Labor, for the protection of our native birds on the Reservations of the Lighthouse Establishments. No one is allowed to destroy a bird or its nest, or nesting place, and must protect the same as far as possible. This was brought about through the doings of the Audumon Society.

The undersigned spent some time on a Reservation on the North side of the Golden Gate Channel. Every evening as soon as the light was started, every gull in the neighborhood would begin flying around the lantern, along up the shore aways, up over the rocks of the coast, out over the bay, and back by way of the channel, around the lantern again. They would keep this up for perhaps an hour or more. Among the most delightful trips I ever had, were the ones in interest of Botany of Oology, taken in the wild rough region, along the Pacific, in California.

Geo. W. H. Vos Burgh.



Egyptian, Chinese, Toulouse, Emden Geese and Mallard, Crested, Indian Runner and Cranes and Brant.

The Domestication of American Wild Fowl.

Upon the discovery of America, vast uncounted herds of bison roamed at will over the middle parts of the continent. The Great Auk, the Labrador Duck, and the Eskimo Curlew were in multitudes along the East shore of our continent. The California Condor soared in majestic circles and in great numbers over the mountains of the Pacific slope and unnumbered millions of Passenger Pigeons migrated in flocks, darkening the sun for days at a time; and the beautiful colors of the Carolina Parakeet were an everyday sight throughout most of the Eastern half of what is now the United States. **But they are gone.**

The Great Auk and the Labrador Duck are known only from a few, very few specimens preserved in Museums; the Eskimo Curlew and the Condor are on the verge of extinction; and a last effort is now being made to discover whether or not the Passenger Pigeon is or is not, and the Carolina Parakeet is not.

One of the wonders of the early day was the enormous flocks of wild fowl frequenting all the known waters of North America. Vast countless multitudes winged their way from the South to the North and back to the South again annually. Ducks, geese, and swan were a staple source of meat supply. Their nests were everywhere. The din of their vast congregations in the Spring and Fall at places could be heard for miles. The thunder of their wings as they rose from marsh, lake and river was like the roar of a distant train. **They too are rapidly going.**

The Illinois River, one of the very great migration highways in an early time, was noted for the vast numbers

of wild fowl passing along during Spring and Fall migration. In one day long years ago the writer counted flocks of wild fowl flying along the Easterly side of the Illinois valley more than two miles from the river, which were estimated to contain \$15,000 birds passing a given point in ten hours. Today, these flocks are nearly gone. Where formerly there were a thousand ducks, today there are not over a hundred. Where formerly there were a thousand swan, today there is perhaps one. Where formerly there was a flock of geese, now there is occasionally a pair. The ultimate result is not far to see. Unless something is done to preserve the wild fowl of North American continent, they too will soon be a thing of the past. **What is to be done?**

Protection will not do it; it will help; it will postpone the inevitable, but the inevitable will come; that inevitable when there is no wild fowl, unless something is done; something beside protection. Game protection as now practiced is more or less of a farce. To preserve a duck or a goose or any other bird for six months in order that you may kill it at the end of the six months, does not tend to permanently increase the supply. Yet it is far better than nothing. The longer the ultimate destruction of our wild fowl is postponed, the better it will be for us.

Realizing this fact, the writer for many years has been experimenting in the domestication of our native wild fowl, both ducks and geese. It has now got to where it is a fad; particularly in the eastern part of the country where the wild fowl are now all but extinct, for the wealthier to lay out their places with landscape gardeners, build pools and ponds, miniature lakes and brooks, and stock them with North American ducks and geese for



Australian, Black, European, Mute and American Whistling Swans

purely ornamental purposes. Our theory of it is that if we can domesticate the various North American wild fowl, they will last forever; they will become a source of national wealth and of added meat supply; they will be ornamental and will be preserved from utter extinction.

Thinking perhaps some of our experiments along this line would be of interest, we have given over this number of THE OOLOGIST largely to the proposition of North American Wild Fowl in confinement.

In order to keep such birds in confinement, it is proper and in some places necessary to get the consent of the local game warden. Then prepare a place where there is plenty of shade and plenty of room and some water. The small quantity of water with which a duck or goose can get along is surprising, and nearly all species, with proper surroundings will nest in confinement.

In the winter it is necessary, whenever the mercury goes below zero, to keep your birds dry; give them nothing but drinking water, and do not allow them to get wet or even damp. Furnish them with a little artificial heat; in fact we turn on heat whenever the mercury reaches ten degrees above zero; though this is not necessary. Supply the pond ducks, mallards, teal, gadwalls, widgeons and the like with a wide grassy slough if possible and shallow water in summer, the deep water ducks, canvas back, red heads, blue bills and allied races with a pool or tank sunk into the ground at least two feet deep. Give the wood ducks if a small running stream with one or two pools in it a couple of feet deep.

In summer the geese must all have water at least two feet deep. One of the main reasons why it has been nearly impossible heretofore to raise wild fowl in confinement is that those

who have undertaken it did not understand that our North American wild ducks and geese with but few exceptions will not breed unless it is in the water. They must have water deep enough for this purpose. It is common practise to take the eggs from the old birds and set them under a chicken hen. This is all well enough if you keep your birds where they are not secluded; but if they have a place which is secluded, leave them alone; they will hatch their own eggs. But do not forget the more seclusion they have, the longer it will take you to get rid of their wild nature; this can only be gotten rid of by continuous contact with man, and by kindness and selective breeding; selecting out of each brood annually the quietest and tamest birds, and putting them by themselves.

We are presenting herewith a number of half tones showing the general manner of keeping wild fowl in confinement, and the pleasure to be derived therefrom. Certainly they are among the most decorative birds that can be found upon a country place.

As to feed, if you have a natural marsh which is large enough, they require but little feed in the summer; otherwise they must have ground feed, mixed grains, some charcoal, and some dried beef scraps or dried blood in about the same proportion, that the same is fed to pheasants, besides plenty of green feed clover, grass, cabbage, etc.

Notice to Subscribers.

With this issue we cease mailing THE OOLOGIST to our subscribers whose number appears on the wrapper in which this issue is mailed, below 260. THE OOLOGIST will be better than ever; the subscription list is growing all the time, so if you desire not only the best bird magazine but the best advertising medium for everything relating to birds and bird study, you should remain on the books of THE OOLOGIST. In order to do so, you must remit promptly. Better look at your number, and DO IT NOW.



Wood, Mandarin, Black, Redhead, Pintail Baldpate, Gray Call, White Call and Marked Ducks

Domestication of North American Wild Fowl Continued.

The writer has now in his enclosures, seven different varieties of wild geese, and fourteen of wild ducks, confined to those represented in the A. O. U. list, and finds the Mallard, the Wood Duck, the Dusky Duck and the Red Head to be the most tractable; and the Baldpate, the Sprig, and Teal to be the wildest.

Among the geese the Canada Goose is by far the easiest bird tamed. It is no special trouble to domesticate Canada Geese until they remain on your place and rear their young, in practically the same manner that tame geese will.

In commencing experiments of this character, it is always best to pinion your birds; that is, tie a string around the outer joint of the wing just outside of the joint proper, but not so as to encircle the thumb joint or bastard wing. Draw this string as tight as you can; then take a pair of very sharp shears or tree pruners and clip off the outer joint of the wing just outside of the string. Hold your bird in your hand until you are certain that the string has compressed the muscles, arteries and veins to such an extent that your bird is not bleeding. If you find this to be the case, place him on the ground, and let him go. From that time on he will take care of himself. Do not attempt to pinion a freshly trapped or caught bird. Do not pinion him until after he has been in confinement a considerable period of time; that is, long enough for him to learn to eat and to be satisfied with the food he gets in confinement. This is imperative; otherwise your bird will not eat and will die. Until such times as he is ready to be pinioned, keep him from flying by clipping the feathers closely from

one wing, and do not pinion your birds when it is extremely cold nor when it is very warm, nor when they are moulting, or you will lose them.

The best way to get along this line is to procure from the hunters of your vicinity, such wounded or wing tipped birds as they may come into possession of.

Messrs. Wenz & Mackensen of Yardley, Pennsylvania have kindly loaned to us for the purpose of this issue, six of the plates herewith presented, viz: The plate showing the Australian, Black, European, Mute and American Whistling Swans; the plate showing the Egyptian, Chinese, Toulouse, Emden Geese, and the Mallard, Crested, Indian Runner, Ducks, and Cranes, the plate showing the drove of Canada Geese; the plate showing the Wood, Mandarin, Black, Redhead, Pintail, Baldpate, Gray Call, White Call and Mallard Ducks, as well as the two small plates showing the Chinese Mandarin and the Wood Duck.

The half tones herewith numbered Plates 13 and 14 are from views taken in our own duck yard at Lacon, Illinois.

We should like very much to see our readers encourage the propagation of North American Wild Fowl, believing that that is the ultimate solution of the question of preventing our vast flocks of wild fowl from ultimately becoming totally extinct.

Wanted.

One pair each of the following live birds in good condition. (Wing tipped birds would be satisfactory):

Florida, Mottled Cinnamon Teal, Shoveller, Canvas Back, American Scaup, Lesser Scaup, Ring-necked American Golden Eye, Barrow's Golden Eye, Bufflehead, Old Squaw, Harlequin, Ruddy, and Masked Ducks. Also Lesser Snow, Blue, Ross's Snow, American White-fronted, Bean, White-cheeked, Cackling, and Emperor Geese.

For which I will pay the highest market price.

R. M. Barnes, Lacon, Ill.



View in Duck Yard of the Oologist's Proprietor at Lacon, Ill., Sept. 2, 1908. 2 Varieties of Wild Geese, 1 of Brant and 7 of Ducks.



View in Duck Yard—Some Species Shown on Page 30.

Fall Notes from Warren, Pa.

This past Fall was dry, but not so bad as last Fall. East of us they had bad fires, but we got a little rain from time to time when most needed and escaped the dense pall of smoke that enveloped us last fall.

September and November were unusually nice months, while October was cold and stormy. At present winter seems to be setting in in earnest. The small bird migration was not extra good. Fox Sparrows were unusually plentiful but warblers rather scarce.

One Sunday I saw what I think was an Orange-crowned, but as I didn't have my gun I couldn't make sure. I have taken several here however.

There were a few shore birds and I shot specimens of Killdeer and Semipalmated Plover Least and Semipalmated Sandpipers. Waterfowl were very scarce. I more than made up for the scarcity of interesting birds by taking several good mammals for my collection.

The first was an old dog Cross Fox that has eluded the hunters for four or five winters. It is a fine dark one and just what I needed. The other was a very large Wildcat (Bay Lynx) that has ranged over a certain section for seven or eight years, and was too much for hounds and too cute for traps. I had an idea of my own about him so set a heavy trap and made some dope to use instead of bait. It worked, and a couple of weeks ago on a Sunday morning, I found him fast. He climbed forty feet up a hemlock tree carrying trap and a twenty-five pound clog along up. I didn't want an encounter up in the tree so went three miles to a camp and borrowed a rifle. It is one of the largest I ever saw and in fine shape. It is quite red. Legs, sides and head well

spotted and mottled with black. Its head is large as a man's with an unusually luxuriant crop of sideburns.

R. B. Simpson.

A Golden Crowned Kinglet's Nest.

While in New Brunswick, Canada, during the nesting season I secured a nest and eight eggs of the Golden-crowned Kinglet.

The spruce tree in which the nest was placed was about one hundred yards from a field on the edge of a heavy wood. The chief varieties of trees are spruce, hemlock and cedar.

The nest was eight feet from the ground, six feet out on a limb overhanging a small clear space in the woods. It is cup shaped showing the following measurements: Depth outside 4 1-2 inches; depth inside 3 3-4 inches; diameter outside 4 inches; diameter inside 3 inches. Composed of green moss externally and lined with feathers of the Oven-bird, Canada Jay and Ruffed Grouse, with the quills pointing downward, almost forming an arch over the eggs with the shafts.

The nest contained eight nearly round rich creamy eggs on June 10th, 1909.

Other birds nesting in the same locality were Saw-whet, Owl, Pileated Woodpecker, Canadian Spruce Grouse, Bay-breasted and Blackburnian Warbler and American Woodcock.

Stanley G. Jewett.

Notice No. 260.

With this issue of THE OOLOGIST we drop all subscribers from our books whose numbers are below 260. This we hate to do but the post office regulations are imperative. Better renew at once and keep in the game as we will give you a better magazine for the price than any other in America. We hope each one of our subscribers will send us a new subscription before April 1st. Try and see what you can do for THE OOLOGIST.



Breeding Flock of Canada Geese.

The Carolina Wren in Philadelphia.

The Great Carolina Wren is assuredly again on the increase throughout North Philadelphia, where it used to be a common bird. Previous to the year 1900 it was not at all rare, though I could not regard it then as common as my records will attest, but for some reason, it practically disappeared and my note books contain no record of its occurrence from the above year till May 30, 1907, when one was seen at Cheltenham, Montgomery County, Pennsylvania, just across the Philadelphia County line. It is such a noisy bird that I could not have overlooked its occurrence if it was here during those seven years.

During 1908 and 1909 I have seen enough of these birds as to warrant a belief that they are becoming common again, and as such I so regard them now, and sincerely hope that they will continue to increase.

I cannot offer any explanation as to their disappearance during the seven years, but am glad that they are here to enliven the winter, for they are one of the few of our winter bird songsters, and whose cheery song and whistle are ever welcome to the weary strolling bird-lover.

I have said that I am glad the Carolina Wren has come back to me, but I wish I could say the same thing for the Winter Wren, whose occurrence here every winter is becoming less and less. It is true as yet they have not entirely disappeared, but they seem likely to, as only one bird was seen during the winter of 1907-08 after December. But I shall have something to say concerning its disappearance at another time, when I have studied my records and arranged them for annual comparison of its occurrence here now as compared with former years.

Richard F. Miller.

The Cormorant in Western Pennsylvania.

Along the lake shore and "Peninsula" at Erie, Pennsylvania, the Cormorant is of occasional occurrence, but inland it is very rare. One was shot here on the river in October about twenty years ago and was mounted and is in possession of a party living here.

April 30th, 1903, was hot and sultry and the thermometer reaching 80 degrees right after dinner. Toward evening a high northwest wind sprang up and then a rain set in. All night it blew hard and at day light on the morning of May 1st it was 28 degrees, a drop of 52 degrees in less than twenty-four hours. The high wind still continued and there was frequent blinding snow-squalls.

I took my gun and went down the river to see if the storm had brought anything of interest. The river was very rough and in the big eddy close to the shore I saw as I peered carefully down a big dark bird that I took to be a loon. As I had killed three fine adults within a week I concluded not to sneak on it but to let it go.

I kept on down and seeing me, the bird swam out into the river. Too late I saw I had made a mistake. It sat and looked altogether different and is bobbed about on the waves I saw it was black all over. I could also plainly see the pouch and knew I was looking at an adult Cormorant. I withdrew from sight but was too late as the alarmed bird arose and flew down. The best part of the day was spent in a vain attempt to again find it. I consider this a very good record especially so, as it is a spring record. It is unknown to old hunters and residents along the river.

The same storm brought in a number of long-tailed ducks in full black and brown breeding dress. A free scaup also appeared. I noted thirteen new arrivals, including Nashville and Cape May Warblers, but have always felt sore over the easy way I lost such a prize.

R. B. Simpson.

A Strange Experience.

On November 6th, when some friends and myself were on an outing we noticed from the top of a hill, a pair of birds flying low over a very thick wood of about five acres in extent. After watching them through our field glasses we decided on their being either Red-tailed or Marsh Hawks, as they were of about the same size, and had on conspicuously white breasts.

We decided to investigate matters more thoroughly so after stationing one of our party there to watch their movements we advanced upon the thicket. As we approached, we saw that it was impossible to force our way through the thick undergrowth but as there were several paths near by we took the nearest and soon reached the middle of the wood. When suddenly from fifteen feet ahead of us, just where the path turned, there shot across our path, a dark object about as large as a good sized hawk. It flew on the average about four or five feet from the ground and went smashing into low branches and bushes in a very unhawklike manner, which made us suspect they were owls.

Suddenly from all over the wood there was a great commotion, as other birds went crashing into the underbush. We ran on down the path to try to get a glimpse of them, but the birds dashed off just a fraction of a second too quick for us to identify them.

Our friend who had been stationed on the hill said that at least twenty birds rose a little above the trees, and after flying slowly for a short distance settled down again.

To us in the center of the wood, it seemed as if there were many times that number.

Now all of you wise ones, scratch your heads and get down your old note-books and answer the following questions: What were they? Were they owls? If so, what kind? Have you ever had similar experiences? And let me hear from you in the next issue of THE OOLOGIST.

K. H. ROCKEY.

The Cuban Pigmy Owl.

(*Glaucidium siju*) L. 7.2 in., W. 3.8 in., t. 3.5 in.

Upper parts fuscous, finely spotted and streaked with white on the head; bank of light rufous across back of neck; back barred with white; tail barred with white tinged with rufous. Under parts white, heavily barred and streaked with fuscous and rufous; feet and iris yellow; legs feathered to base of toes.

This is the smallest and most common of our three owls. It is very tame and most generally permits of close inspection all the time keeping up a nervous twitching of its tail, wren fashion, sometimes holding it erect. It feeds some during the day and flies well in the brightest light. Its food according to my observations, consists largely of grasshoppers and chameleons. All the birds seem to dislike this owl very much, and make the familiar fuss when one is near, even though it is so small.

A. C. Read.

Turkey Vulture in Pennsylvania.

I have a very nice adult male vulture in my collection that was taken at Warren, Pennsylvania, and don't believe I ever recorded it in any bird magazine.

Warren County is entirely out of their range and I never saw one here myself. My specimen was captured in late July by a farmer living about nine miles from here. A calf had died and was taken off some distance and left lay a day or so. On going to bury it, the farmer saw four vultures feeding on the carcass. He went back, and returning with a steel trap, set it at the body. The next day he found a fine old male buzzard fast.

It was taken alive and kept for several weeks in a large shed where it was viewed by everyone in the vicinity and was looked upon as a curiosity.

I finally heard of the catch and secured it for my collection.

R. B. Simpson.



The Chinese Mandarin Duck.

The common decorative Chinese wild fowl. The nearest rival to the Wood duck in beauty.



The North American Summer or Wood Duck.

The most beautiful of all known water fowl. Now supposed to be gradually approaching extinction, and the easiest of all wild ducks excepting the Mallard to rear in confinement. Under proper conditions and treatment, they become very tame.

"The Condor"

A Magazine of Western Ornithology
 Edited by J. Grinnell.

Associate Editors:

Wm. L. Finley, Robert B. Rockwell
 "Official Organ of the Cooper Ornithological Club."

Vol. XI, 1909

will contain the usual interesting articles by live active ornithologists and will be illustrated by the highest class of half tones. You cannot afford to miss a number.

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EXCHANGE.—200 mounted Microscopical specimens of animal tissues, (Pathological, Histological and Bacteriological) to exchange for stamps, coins or Indian relics, etc. Also specimens of Fossil Coral (Lithortrotion canadense) to exchange. J. M. BROOKS, M. D., Golden City, Mo. (1)

TO EXCHANGE.—Collection of over 200 scientific cabinet shells (40 species Cyprae) for Warblers in sets with nests or Indian relics, arrowpoints, spearpoints and ceremonial axes preferred. First fair offer takes the list. List sent if stamp is enclosed. L. B. HOWSLEY, Mullan, Idaho. (1)

FOR EXCHANGE.—Bird eggs, young red foxes, raccoons, gray and fox squirrels, or anything found in Central Indiana; golden seal for transplanting, 1 year old, 2 cents; over, 3 cents; ginsing 1 year old, 2 cents; over, 3 cents. Write for what you want and what you have. WINFIELD CATLIN, Rockville, Ind. (1)

FOR SALE.—Guaranteed Moose, Elk, Caribou and Deer scalps and horns, all correctly handled to mount up satisfactorily. Duty free. Reasonable prices. I can supply any wish in my line; write me. EDWIN DIXON, Ontario's Leading Taxidermist, Main St., Unionville, Ontario. (1)

Cameras, Mandolin, Telegraph outfit, Pyrography outfit, Books, Medical books, Human Skeleton, Double Wall Maps, Swiss Army Rifle, Minerals, Small Self-inking Press, New Framed and Unframed Pictures, Universal Bread Maker, Fish Berries, etc. Want Skins for mounting, Curios or Cash. J. J. WERZ, 501 Ellis St., Augusta, Ga.

FOR EXCHANGE.—A representative collection of Ohio Indian relics, consisting of over 400 arrow heads, 29 celts, 14 grooved axes, spear heads, drills, hammer stones, plummets, chisels, gorget, pipe, stone beads, pestles, flint knives, etc. Want first class eggs in complete sets with full and complete data. Send lists and receive tracings of specimens. B. R. BALES, Circleville, Ohio. (1)

Birds Eggs

I have for exchange for species

desired by me to complete series

of many very common kinds; a

very large list of duplicates.

Send me your exchange list.

R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

THE OÖLOGIST.

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WHOLE NO. 273

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SOME ADVICE

As the result of more than thirty years experience in North American Oology extending through boyhood, youth and middle age, and at the risk of being somewhat criticised therefor, we desire to suggest the following to the oologists on our subscription list for their guidance at least in part during the season of 1910, which is just opening.

A collection of eggs should represent not merely an accumulation of specimens, but more than all else, it should reflect the methods, habits and character of the collector and the associations connected with its taking as well as the scientific knowledge acquired in forming it.

Too little attention has been paid for many years to the preparation of specimens, and too much attention to the accumulation of a large amount of material without regard to its preparation. It is far better to take few specimens and prepare them neatly, accompanying them with full notes of the observations made at the time, rather than to gather a large amount of heterogeneous material in unscientific ways. Too little attention has been paid in the past to the study and observation of our common species, and too much attention to gathering large series of their skins, nests and eggs. It is far better to take a half dozen sets with nests and full data and observations of any one of the more rare species than to accumulate large series of our more common species. And it is much better to take a few well prepared sets of the more common species and splendidly made skins, accompanied with scientifically correct data and information with relation thereto than to collect specimens by the basket full.

There is no market for birds eggs; the exchange demand for the common species is long since over-supplied, both for eggs and skins. We would suggest particularly to the younger oologists to take no specimens of birds eggs for exchange purposes except those that are rare; for if you do, you will find you have a lot of useless material and have causelessly sacrificed many of the common birds.

The Editor.

Notes on the American Woodcock.

Phiolela Minor.

My recollections of the Woodcock, the pride of every true sportsman date way back. In the '50's and '60's our laws allowed the shooting of the Woodcock from the 4th of July, and many a good bag was brought to town. It is really a wonder that this game bird has not been entirely exterminated. My first find of those beautiful eggs was accidental. Being out on a tramp

having been subjected to the rays of the sun, look as bright as if they had been taken last year.

The Woodcock is a fairly common summer resident near Buffalo, arrives from the south the third or fourth week of March, and is next to the Horned Lark, Great Horned Owl and Migrant Shrike, one of the early breeders. The nesting site is frequently chosen among bushes and second growth in pastures or along the edge



Woodcock on Nest

for beetles, I stumbled, I might say, on a deserted nest of Woodcock with three eggs on the edge of a snowbank in the present Forest Lawn Cemetery. The feathers of the Woodcock were strewn along the ground near the nest, suggesting the idea that the parent bird had been the victim of an Owl. This was the 16th of April 1864. I harbor this end blown set in my collection as a treasure. The eggs not

of the woods. It is often placed at the root of a bush or beside a log and is a mere depression in the ground, lined with a few dry leaves and grasses. The compliment of eggs were four. I have in my collection a set of five, found the second week in April. The eggs vary greatly in size and coloring. I have them from 1.47 x 1.12 to 1.65 x 1.33. The color a brownish clay to buff, or more gray-

ish, with numberless chocolate brown surface markings and stone-gray shell spots. (Cones).

During the breeding season, the soaring flight of the male bird is an interesting sight and one that comparatively few observers have been privileged to witness. Loitering in their favorite haunts at dusk one's attention is first attracted by a rather harsh call note,—a sort of a squawk, uttered by the bird, while on the wing. By

denly drops down in a zigzag course to the spot from which it started. It then struts for a few minutes and is off again on another flight.

It requires an experienced eye to detect the brooding bird as its plumage blends so naturally with the surroundings.

Sometimes the weather is very unfavorable for them as in the Spring of 1904, when we found the Woodcock in hard luck. In our locality from



Woodcock on Nest

going cautiously in the direction of the call, making advances only when the bird is in the air, it is possible to approach within a few feet of the spot from which it started and to which it will return after each flight. After sweeping along the ground for about forty yards, it ascends spirally into the air, until almost out of sight in the increasing darkness. It continues to soar for a short time and then sud-

denly drops down in a zigzag course to the spot from which it started. It then struts for a few minutes and is off again on another flight. It requires an experienced eye to detect the brooding bird as its plumage blends so naturally with the surroundings. Sometimes the weather is very unfavorable for them as in the Spring of 1904, when we found the Woodcock in hard luck. In our locality from

The next morning found us on the ground, which is an ideal locality for the nesting of this bird. The ground was then completely covered, with about five inches of crusted snow.

In company with our friends, we immediately began the search for the Woodcock. We soon found the tracks of a pair where they had been feeding or trying to find food around partly frozen water holes. We flushed the birds and began looking the snow

We were beginning to think that the bird had used this place, in a small clump of bushes as a refuge from the snow storms, when it was suggested that perhaps after all, the nest might be under the hard frozen snow. This was no sooner suggested than we were down on our knees, taking turns at melting the snow with our breath. After a few minutes we were rewarded by the sight of one egg, and continuing our efforts we found



Woodcock on Nest

covered ground over carefully for the nest, but found none in that vicinity; but following the back tracks of a single bird, which evidently were made the previous day, we came to the spot almost a quarter of a mile distant, where the bird had started on its walk to the water holes. On examining the place nothing but a slight depression was found appearing somewhat dirtier than the otherwise clean snow.

a fine set of four eggs, the first lying directly in the middle and on top of the three other eggs, and being separated from them by a layer of at least one inch of snow. From this I take it that when the first snow storm came, the bird had laid three eggs and had found difficulty in keeping on them for any great length of time. The Woodcock lives on worms from the soft marshy ground, and consequently could not remain a long time

on the eggs; or possibly the large amount of falling snow made the bird shift her position until by the constant moving the eggs were covered with snow; then the next day the other egg was deposited as before mentioned. Then the second snow fall occurred which the bird could not withstand and so finally deserted the nest and eggs.

We found several more nests in the same way on that day, and in each

roundings. Plate No. 3. Then my son Ed, crept up towards the nest and by cutting away some twigs, dry grass and herbage showed the bird more clearly. Plate No. 1.

He now crept nearer and with a slender twig three feet long raised the bill up and down as shown on Plate 2, finally getting closer he took ahold of the bill with his fingers when the Woodcock flushed from the nest, exposing a fine set of four eggs. Plate No. 4.



Woodcock, Nest and Eggs

case the eggs were found as described.

In the Spring of 1908 we were fortunate in securing good photographs of the Woodcock, for in its breeding time this wary bird loses much of its shyness, as will be shown by the illustrations.

Having located a bird on the nest, we first took the picture, which shows how its colors blend with the sur-

roundings. During all this time, the Male bird was close at hand, sometimes within five or six feet.

Close by we found to our astonishment a pair of Woodcock strutting around us, not more than five or six feet away. They reminded us of a turkey cock as they went along with heads erect and bills pointing downward close to their breasts. We used every effort to find their nest without

success. What a difference in the fall of the year, when the sportsman is after them.

Now that the sale of the birds is prohibited, the shooting season restricted to October and November, and a bag limit fixed at six birds per gun each day, conditions hereabouts are likely to improve somewhat. Something ought to be done to afford protection to the birds when wintering in the Southern States, and it is to be hoped that success will soon crown the efforts now being made to secure better protection and some uniformity in the provisions of the game laws of the several states.

Ottomar Reinecke,

A Few Isle of Pines Nesting Records
For 1909.

Jan. 20.	Nest of West Indian Ground Dove, two eggs.
Jan. 22.	Nest of W. I. Ground Dove, 2 eggs.
Jan. 25.	Nest of W. I. Ground Dove, 2 eggs.
Feb. 3.	Nest of W. I. Ground Dove, 2 eggs.
Mar. 28.	Nest of Red-legged Thrush (Cuban Robin) begun.
Mar. 29.	Nest of Gray Kingbird begun.
Apr. 17.	Nest of Red-legged Thrush.
Apr. 22.	Nest of W. I. Ground Dove; 2 young.
Apr. 24.	Nest of Black-whiskered Vireo.
Apr. 27.	Nest of Gray Kingbird.
May 6.	Nest of Cuban Grackle.
May 28.	Nest of Cuban Meadowlark; 2 eggs.
May 30.	Nest of Red-legged Thrush.
Aug. 30.	Nest of Ground Dove, 2 eggs.

The records are very incomplete because no time was taken to make records, and these were purely accidentally stumbled upon.

A. C. REED.

Ancient Oology.

There has lately come to our hand the correspondence connected with the transaction relating to birds eggs that occurred in 1868, involving the purchase by one person of the eggs named in the following list at the prices therein named. We have deemed this of sufficient general interest as showing the wide variation existing between the prices then prevailing and those now asked for similar specimens to justify our publishing this list in full. Forty-two years ago is a long time, and we doubt if there are many more authentic lists of similar transactions to be found.

How would you like to add a series of the eggs of the Hooded Merganser and of the Wood duck to your collection on the basis of 20 and 10 cents apiece respectively? Here follows the list exactly as set forth in the correspondence?

Aug. 19th, 1868.

LIST OF PECK'S EGGS WITH PRICES.

	2 Eggs at	\$.50	\$ 1.00
Turkey Buzzard	2	.50	1.00
Red Tailed Hawk	2	1.00	2.00
Swallow Tailed Hawk	2	..25	1.00
Marsh Hawk	4	..25	6.50
Cooper's "	26	..25	5.00
Sparrow "	20	..50	..50
Duck	1	..50	2.00
Gt. Horned Owl	4	..50	8.00
Barred Owl	16	..10	..90
Virginia Rail	9	..03	..50
Prairie Hen	16	..05	..20
Kill Deer	4	..20	2.40
Am. Woodcock	30	..15	..60
Green Heron	4	..05	1.20
Least Bittern	24	..05	..90
Black-billed Cuckoo	18	..10	1.20
Yellow	12	..07	..70
Gt. Northern Shrike	7	..05	1.15
Red-br'sted Grosebeak	6	..08	..48
Sky Lark	7	..03	..21
Lark Finch	12	..05	..60
Scarlet Tanager	14	..07	..98
Red-headed W. pecker	13	..05	..65
Yellow-bellied "	1	..10	..10
Gardners "	27	..06	2.22
Downy "	6	..10	..60
Red-bellied "	9	..07	..27
Oriole	8	..03	..64
Gt. Crested Flycatcher	6	..08	1.68
Red-eyed Flycatcher	18	..05	..90
Trail's	21	..05	..90
White bel. Swallow	18	..05	1.35
Blk. Throated Bunting	27	..05	..25
Red Start	5	..05	..20
Yellow-breasted Chat	4	..10	..80
Yellow Warbler	21	..05	1.05
Yellow W. Sparrow	8	..10	2.10
Maryland Yel. throat	2	..05	..55
White bel. Nuthatch	11	..20	..80
Black Cap. Titmouse	4	..20	8.80
Wrens	336	..10	33.60
Humming bird			
Hooded Merganser			
Summer Duck			

\$96.96

Golden Eagles.

In the hot, foot hill valleys, of the southern portion of Santa Clara County, California, the Golden Eagles are said to have been numerous a few years ago. This may be true today, though such has not been my experience this season.

I did, however, find a single nest of this species, which on March 13th was apparently finished, but as yet unoccupied. In passing, it might be mentioned that though this nest was of the usual type, and in an oak, it was only fifteen feet from the ground.

On March 31st, I again visited this region, and about noon entered the little grove of oaks in which the nest tree grew. I noticed that the California Jays were making considerable noise, but thought nothing of it until I had climbed to the nest. It contained one perfectly fresh egg, probably just laid. About one-fourth of the shell had been broken away, and the chips, which were about the size of a dime, were scattered about the nest. The shell was nearly emptied of its contents, some spilled and the rest eaten. This was evidently the work of the Jays.

This seems very strange to me, where were these supposedly fierce, strong eagles that they let these Jays rob them as soon as their first egg was laid? They certainly kept out of sight while I was around. Of course Jays are unquestionably bold, but what is the explanation of the eagle's conduct? They certainly were not afraid—was it that they did not care, or was it that the jays were more clever than they, and caught them off guard? Again, is it a usual thing for these ever thieving Jays to select such large birds for their victims? Certainly a number of Hawks nests in the vicinity showed no such goings on.

Perhaps some one with more experience can answer some of these things. If so, I would like to hear from them.

C. K. SNYDER.

Bald Eagle.

The Bald Eagle commences nest building in the middle Atlantic States in the Fall and Winter and deposits its eggs from February 21st to March 5th, and lays from one to three eggs to a set, a blue white in color. The nests I have climbed to have ranged in height from forty feet to one hundred twenty feet, and placed in the largest trees in each vicinity. Chestnut Pin Oak, White Oak, Pine and gum trees are the prevailing trees for sites. Have never known an eagle to attack anyone, but in taking a set on March 6, 1910 from a Chestnut tree seventy feet up, the female made several swoops and dives near me, and made the air sing on her upward turn. She also made many acrobatic movements in the air while I was investigating near and about the tree.

I never climb up to an eagle's nest until I am positive she is sitting. If you climb before the bird has completed the set, she will return and break the egg or eggs, and if she has not deposited any at all, she will not do so that year. On two occasions I have known them to desert the nest for good. I even knew of one nest being deserted when I climbed a tree near by and peeped into the nest. Those birds never did come back. Once I knew them to come back to a tree after an absence of four years.

Once I was completely bewildered when on February 27th or 28th, 1906, I climbed to a nest that contained one egg. I left it for a complete set of course, but I will never leave another. I went back in about five days only to find a broken shell in the nest. The

incident was repeated this year, when a collector of a friend of mine went to a nest that contained one egg. But alas, when he returned for the set, the egg was broken. At first I laid it to the crows, but now I am thoroughly convinced that the parent eagles are the guilty ones.

My version of the affair is that their scent is very keen and they object to intruders. The nest when the egg was broken in 1906, was never touched by me.

I never knew of any bird of prey whatever outside of the Bald Eagle that cared the least bit how you looked, felt, or pried around their nests.

W. B. CRISPIN.

A Virginia Rail Nesting.

The Virginia Rail, although not generally distributed throughout eastern Massachusetts, is found plentifully in several localities. They arrive from the south about the first of May, sometimes earlier, and seem to prefer swamps containing thickets of low bushes overgrown with vines and briars, rather than more open grassy marshes. By May 15th they have nests, and toward the last of the month broods of newly hatched young may be found.

On May 27, 1909 while collecting in the Fresh Pond Marshes of Cambridge, I came upon a pair of birds with a brood of young not much over twenty-four hours old. A wandering dog had already located the brood and had driven one of the young into a narrow runway. This runway was about six or seven feet long, was banked up strongly on each side with dense clumps of Cat-tails, and was too narrow for the dog to enter.

I took up my position at one end of the runway and waited. The dog would chase the young bird along in my di-

rection, and as I reached over to pick it up, it would suddenly vanish. In a few moments it would re-appear, making its way back towards the dog. This was repeated a number of times. Frequently the bird approached within a few inches of my hand when it would stop and crouch close to the ground, immediately becoming invisible. Had he remained quiet, he might easily have escaped, but at no time did he stay in one place longer than a few seconds.

All this time the parents were traveling back and forth through the cat-tails, now on one side, now on the other, but keeping well concealed, their constantly uttered "kiu"—a note resembling a similar one of the Flicker, but less loud—only betraying their constantly changing position.

At last the dog withdrew and I lost sight of the young bird. He soon re-appeared twenty feet away, and I saw that if I was to procure him for a specimen, which I desired to do, I would be obliged to shoot him, so when he next appeared momentarily, between an opening in the cat-tails I fired. A careful search failed to locate the bird, although it did not seem possible I had missed him. After some ten minutes fruitless search I directed my attention to a small black lump about the size of my thumb, which lay half submerged in a puddle and which I had passed in my search, supposing it to be a lump of mud. This was my bird, but in the dim light of the swamp, close to the ground, among roots, mud, water and decaying vegetation, it appeared as part of its surroundings and was easily overlooked.

In size the young Rail was about as large as a mouse, and was covered with soft down as dense as the fur of any aquatic animal; the color black, dull below, but of a glossy greenish on the head and back. Although the bird

had been pushing his way through wet vegetation and had several times crossed puddles of a depth that have compelled him to swim, I found when I picked him up that the down was almost entirely dry.

At no time did the young bird utter a sound, this being in marked contrast to the young of the Ruffed Grouse, which keep up a continual chirping, which often helps to reveal their hiding place.

F. SEYMOUR HERSEY.

The Oologist's Illustrations.

We have recently had bound up a complete file of THE OOLOGIST beginning with the first issue of the YOUNG OOLOGIST and down to date. In running through the same, it filtered through our mind that perhaps a classified index to all of the illustrations that have appeared in THE OOLOGIST prior to the transfer of the same to the present owner in April, 1909, would be of interest.

During its long career, one hundred eighteen illustrations appeared on its pages before we took it over, which we have classified and indexed under the following headings in order that they may be readily found by any of our subscribers who may need them for reference, viz.:

Birds	Vol	Page
Bird Diagram	15	7
California Condor	22	118
Heron, Great Blue, Young	23	184
“ “ “ “	23	185
“ “ “ “	23	186
Red Start, American	20	13
“ “ Painted	20	13
Road Runner	22	54
Screech Owl	9	62
Swan Injured	25	102
Waterauzel, American	3	2
Woodcock, American	21	136
Woodpecker, Picolated	25	70
“ “	25	72

Birds' Eggs	Vol	Page
California Murre	9	255
North American (Colored)	16	177-8
Western Red-tailed Hawk	18	69
Birds Mounted.		
Condor, California	15	66
Hawk, Duck	16	181
Hawk, Sharp-shinned	9	96
Owl, Snowy	23	54
Partridge, Bob White	11	136
Birds Nests.		
American Waterauzel	3	2
Arizona, Some nests	25	87-8
Blackbird, Yellowhead	9	4
Brown Creeper	24	56
California Bushtit	21	151
Cat Bird, Double	25	90
Cormorant, Double Crested	12	2
Crow	23	7
Dickcissel, Double nest	23	38
Duck, Canvass back	9	4
Eagle, Bald	21	86
Eagle, Bald, Florida	22	4
Heron, Green	22	23
Heron, Great Blue	23	184
Oriole, Baltimore, Unusual nest	11	262
Phoebe, An unusual nest	12	40
Puffin, Tufted	11	353
Vireo, Cassin's	15	30
Warbler, Black-throated Blue	23	6
Warbler, Parula	15	57
Warbler, Yellow	7	195
White Pelican	12	2
Wren, Long billed	23	118
Wren, Parkman's	12	12
“ “	21	150
Nests and Eggs.		
Bobolink	23	166
Brewer's Blackbird	24	54
Cormorant	23	70
Dove, Turtle	24	8
Duck, Red Head	7	196
Least Flycatcher	22	70
Hawk, Marsh	7	197
Hawk, Cooper	21	71
Heron, Great Blue	23	183
“ Green	21	169
“ “	22	122
“ “	23	163

Cassinia is too well known to need any extended reference by us. It is sufficient to say that the present number is fully up to the standard of former numbers, and is a credit to the Club.

Volume 5, Numbers 11 and 12, University of California publication in Zoology.

These papers relate to the mammals of 1908, Alexander Exploring Expedition by Edmund Heller, and to the birds of the same expedition by Professor Joseph Grinnell; the latter giving a list of eighty-nine birds discovered by the explorers on the islands and main land visited between May 27th and September 21st. The territory visited was all in the vicinity of Prince William's Sound and the Archipelago of that region, the party ascending as far North as Valdez, camp being made at the head of Cordova Bay and on the following islands:

Hawkins, Hinchinbrock, Green, Latouche, Montague, Hoodoo, Port, Nelson, Grafton, Night, Chenega, Disk, Eleanor, Naked and Elemar.

A very readable description of all the places visited by the expedition prefaces the lists of animals and birds, and there are a number of good half tones accompanying and showing new subspecies of birds there described:—Valdez Spruce Grouse, Montague, Rock Ptarmigan, Northwestern Belted Kingfisher, Valdez Downy Woodpecker, Valdez Fox Sparrow, Valdez Chestnut-sided Chickadee, resting upon more or less substantial alleged differences from other known birds. Concluding with a note on the avifaunal relationships of Prince William's Sound District where the Hudsonian and Alpine Arctic Zones overlap to a large degree.

Volume 5 of the University of California publications in Zoology; the first describing a new sub-species of the Cow Bird supposed to inhabit the Great Basin between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

The second describing two heretofore unnamed Wrens, *Thryomanes bewicki marinensis*, a new sub-species of the Bewick's Wren supposed to inhabit the humid coast belt North of the Golden Gate in Marin and Sonoma Counties, California. The second, *Thryomanes bewicki catalinae*, another new sub-species of the Bewick Wren inhabiting the Santa Catalina Island and Southern California.

Also describing a new sub-species of the Savanna Sparrow, *Passerculus sandwichensis nevadensis*, supposed to inhabit the Great Basin country between the Rocky Mountains and the Sierra Nevada Mountains. All descriptions being by the well known ornithologist, Professor Joseph Grinnell.

Cuban Trogon.

On July 20, 1909, during a very severe rainy season I found a nest of the *Spindalis petrei* referred to by Mr. Read in his notes as the Isle of Pines Trogon, but which I prefer to call the Cuban Trogon in Eastern Cuba. It contained three young about a week old. The nest was twenty-five feet from the ground in a hole in a live tree where a branch had rotted, forming a hole two feet deep at the bottom of which and without any soft lining, were the three young. The parent bird (I only saw one upon each of my visits), would fly into the hole and out again everytime carrying food. This action was what first called by attention to the nest. By throwing sticks at the bird I managed to make it drop the food it was carrying, and

We are in receipt of two parts of

was very much surprised to find it was a lizard about six inches long. How the parent bird managed to feed this lizard to the young I do not know, unless she tore it into bits with her strong beak. The Trogon usually feeds on berries and insects, preferring the former which it takes on the wing flying to a perch to eat them; so it is curious to find it feeding its young on lizards.

The parent was fierce while I was at the nest, attacking me with her bill, drawing blood from my hand.

I visited the nest ten days later, finding one of the young alive; the other two were eaten by magots. The Trogon is one of the most difficult birds of Cuba, if not the most difficult to procure in perfect condition as its feathers fall out very easily while handling, or touching any branches or limbs while falling upon being shot. In this it is even more delicate than the Quail Dove, which are extremely so.

This Trogon, as well as the bird referred to by Mr. Read as the Isle of Pines Tanager and the Ruddy Quail Dove, are found in Cuba; the latter is known to the natives as "perdiz" pronounced "perdeeth," meaning Partridge, and is known in our end of Cuba (the east end) as Torito, while in the Western end of the island it is commonly called "Boneys." The name Torito meaning a small bull, is given the bird by the natives here because its note which resembles somewhat the bellowing of a bull when heard from a distance, but of course much lower. This note is very deceiving as one may be very close to the bird and nevertheless be unable to locate the exact place the sound comes from.

The bird we call Perdiz is the Blue-headed Quail dove.

CHARLES T. RAMSDEN.

Prairie Horned Lark.

The first nest of the Prairie Horned Lark that I ever saw was found March 24, 1907. A friend and I were out for a walk on a high ridge, one mile Southwest of Waynesburg, Pennsylvania. As we came near to a knob on the ridge I mentioned it as a likely place for a Lark's nest. I had always seen them in such places. When we were a short distance below the top of the knob, I saw a Lark fly up not far away. Hurrying to the place I found a nest containing three eggs. The nest was composed of dry grass and wool, placed in a depression flush with the surface, and was beside a short tuft of grass.

Two days later, March 26th, I found a second nest, on a ridge two miles North of town. It was on a level, below a high knob, and on the East side of the hill. It contained four eggs, heavily incubated and larger than the first eggs found.

April 1st I found a nest just being built on a high ridge, and as in the others, a short distance below a knob. I returned April 7th and it contained five fresh eggs.

April 4th I found a nest containing three small young, two miles West of town, on a hillside a short distance below a knob. It was built beside a short tuft of grass.

March 21st, 1908, I found a nest containing three eggs on the same ridge as 1-5 was found last year. I left it and on returning two days later found only two eggs in it. They were heavily incubated.

On my way home I found another nest containing two heavily incubated eggs, near the top of a high knob and about one-half mile from the first. The bird was flushed.

March 30, 1908, while I was walking on a high hillside below a knob I flush-

ed a Lark from a nest containing four slightly incubated eggs. This was about eight miles Northwest of town. This nest was built much like the first nest, being at the base of a short tuft of grass.

March 29, 1909 I found a nest near the top of the same ridge as three young were found April 4, 1907. It contained three young birds well grown.

All of the nests which I have found were in high ridges, and in most cases, were found by watching the birds go to the nests. SAM DICKEY.

An English Sparrow Tragedy.

It is well known that the Bronzed Grackle occasionally varies his diet by the addition of eggs and nestlings, to the bill of fare, but I had never heard of their attacking larger birds. Therefore the following incident which came under my observation last Spring, was somewhat of a surprise. Several of these birds spend the summer in the Boston Public Gardens and may be seen walking about upon the lawn.

While passing through the garden May 29th I noticed several English Sparrows on the ground under a tree. Among them was a young bird well grown and practically fully feathered. He was, in fact, as large as any of the adults, but showed his age by his constant crying for food accompanied by a fluttering of the wings. Just at this moment a Grackle flew down beside this group. He caught the young sparrow roughly by the neck, bit sharply two or three times, then dropped it to the ground and hammered it fiercely on the head.

By this time he was besieged by a screaming mob of adult Sparrows. When the young bird was dead, he took it by the neck and flew to a near-by tree. It is against the rules to

walk across the lawns and flower beds, so I was obliged to follow the paths to reach the tree where the Grackle had perched—a roundabout way which took sometime.

As I drew near the tree, the Grackle flew out and I saw that the young bird had disappeared. I searched carefully on the lawn under the tree, without finding any trace of the sparrow, and as the Grackle was not carrying it when he left the tree, it seems probable that he had eaten it entire.

F. SEYMOUR HERSEY.

Finding White Throated Swifts' Nests.

During the latter part of March, 1909, in the cliffs that are a mile East of Shandon, California, I noticed about a dozen of the rare White-throated Swifts, flying around the cliffs. They would dart around a while, and then fly into a crevice or hole in the cliff.

These Swifts are very active and fly with extreme rapidity. They fly high; then when coming down, make the air "hum." Their vocalism is a loud shrill twitter uttered chiefly while on the wing.

I had good luck in watching these graceful birds during March, April and May, and made some study of their habits in the cliffs near my home, but owing to the size of the cliffs, it was almost impossible to get up to some of the crevices and holes they made their nests in.

But one crevice could be easily reached by driving in four narrow teeth, which I had done in March in pulling out an old nest. Again in May I went up to the crevice, and to my surprise when I put my hand in the crevice, out came the two Swifts. I made a search then to find the nest, only to find a nest about half done. I then watched the birds and one other flew into a hole about thirty feet above, which could be reached with a

rope twenty feet long and ten steps of my ladder. I then went up to the top of the cliff and fixed my outfit and went to look down into the hole, but the hole was very small and went in about six feet, as near as I could tell.

In the same cliff remained another place they had made frequent trips to about thirty feet up and I again fixed my outfit there, and the following day, climbed up to it. It was a small hole also, but luckily, only went in twelve inches. So I reached my hand in and pulled the nest out. To my surprise I looked into it to find three eggs about one-third incubated. I give data here.

Nest made of grass, cemented together with saliva and lined with feathers. Three eggs measure about .87 x .52 inches, eggs white.

There still remained one more cliff that was about a mile West of these two cliffs, where I had seen four of the Swifts flying around at different times, and on the 24th of May I started for there with my outfit. I had the good luck to find one nest and secure the four fresh eggs inside of three hours after I reached there. The female called out in the crevice and the male flew in making four trips into the hole inside of twenty minutes. This was a much harder nest to reach than I had supposed it to be, it taking one hundred and fifty feet of rope. But as I had a hundred foot throw line for my ladder, I had plenty of rope. I set my outfit and let the nest go for a few minutes, thinking I could find the other nest, and I watched about five minutes and saw a Swift fly in a crevice about ten feet to one side of the one I had found before.

Then I went down and found the nest in a small crevice, and as the bird came out I could easily have

caught her. I looked in and pulled the nest out, which contained four fresh eggs; the nest the same kind as the other nest I described.

As far as I am aware there have been but few sets of these Swifts that have found their way into smaller collections.

The next place I examined for Swifts was a large cliff in June, at which I had seen fourteen Swifts. I located two nests and could hear the young ones call out, so I gave up the Swifts for the season 1909.

FRED TRUESDALE.

Unusual Red-Tailed Hawk Eggs.

Under the head of "Unusual Eggs" a writer in the January OOLOGIST speaks of small eggs of Red-tailed Hawk in which I was interested to the extent of carefully going over my own series and records of measurements for comparison.

There are four sets of eggs in my series deserving of special notice because they contain specimens representing extreme types in size in one or both measurements.

One is a set of two faintly marked specimens, one of which is a decided runt measuring 2.12 x 1.59 inches while its companion, measuring 2.28 x 1.73 inches is unusually small, but comes within the limits of normal specimens.

The second set was taken by E. B. Peck, Clifton Springs, New York, May 5, 1891. Size 2.12 x 1.62 and 2.38 x 1.79 inches.

The third was taken by the writer in March 30, 1898. They were globular in shape, the short diameter of the three eggs being near the average, while the length of one reaches the unusual minimum of 2.07 inches. The other two eggs measures 2.13 and 2.22 inches long.

The fourth set is very interesting in-

asmuch as the eggs greatly exceed the average length, while the width falls far below it. Their shape is much like Cormorants' eggs. They were collected by the writer on March 27, 1898 and are well marked specimens. Size, 2.47 x 1.74 and 2.74 x 1.75 inches; the last being clearly an abnormal specimen.

One can barely appreciate the great departure from normal characteristics by merely seeing the size of these eggs in writing. They must be viewed among the normal sets to appreciate the difference.

In my series are five specimens measuring over two inches in short axis,—one reaching 2.05 inches, which is nearly as broad as the length of the small eggs.

During the past twenty-five years I have measured and kept careful record of 223 normal eggs (97 sets) of this *Buteo*. This ought to be a good criterion for average measurement, which is 2.34 x 1.86 inches. Allowing a range of .40 inch for the length of normal specimens would make the minimum exhibit 2.14 and the maximum 2.54 inches; and a range of .30 inch for the width, would give a normal average measurement of from 1.71 to 2.01 inches. Beyond these maximum and minimum figures should be considered abnormally large or small as the case may be.

Of the 223 eggs measured, only thirteen were less than 2.18 inches and eleven over 2.50 inches in length. Eleven were less than 1.75 and eight over 1.95 inches in short diameter.

Two of the 97 sets contained four eggs each, and thirty-two sets contained three eggs each. All others, with two or three exceptions, contained two eggs each, or at the ratio of about two sets of two eggs to one of three or four eggs, the latter number rarely deposited.

J. WARREN JACOBS.

News Notes.

An adult male Baird's Sandpiper (*Actodromas bairdii*) was taken September 27, 1909 by E. W. Campbell at Pittston, Pennsylvania.

The well known scientist, Professor W. Otto Emerson is now engaged in setting up the bird collection in the new Oakland Public Museum.

A Brunnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia arra*) was shot December 4th by Mr. Art Davis Parsonage at Pittston, Pennsylvania. It is now in the collection of Mr. Fred Humphreys, and is a fine adult male bird.

We have a number of splendid articles for future issues of THE OOLOGIST, among others an illustrated one on Europe birds from our friend, P. G. Howes, who is now traveling in Europe.

C. B. Vandercook of Odin, Illinois, certainly has the record for an early nest of the Mourning Dove, March 27, 1910, two eggs, about one week advanced in incubation. This is by considerable the earliest record we know of for so far North.

The Editor enjoyed an over-night visit of the well-known Oologist G. A. Abbott of Chicago, a few days since. It is unnecessary to say that the "wee small hours" had arrived before we retired, spending most of the time investigating our accumulation of plunder.

Editor Oologist:—On June 22, 1909, while driving along a telephone line near Rathdrum, Id., my father noticed a Jack Snipe lying just beneath the wires and on picking it up, I noticed a deep cut across the breast which probably was caused by flying against the wires. I skinned it and it is now in my collection.—Percy L. Judd.

Our old friend, Ray Dinsmore formerly a well-known Oologist but who has done little in that line for a number of years, has recently disposed of his business and now purposes taking a

little recreation, and is again giving attention to Oology. He has recently come into the possession of the entire collection formerly belonging to Mr. E. A. Doolittle.

As May is the great migration month for Warblers and the month in which many of the rarer species nest in the middle and southern parts of the United States, we propose issuing a special Warbler number the coming month of May. No bird lover interested in this interesting family of birds can afford to do without this issue.

F. A. W. Dean of Alliance, Ohio, reports an Albino Bob-white which he has recently mounted. He likewise reports the rumor of an entire covey of these birds near Edna, Ohio. If so, it is truly to be hoped that they will be rigorously protected in the hopes of developing a race of this character of birds.

As this issue goes to press, the Editor is on his way to Moose Jaw, in Southern Saskatchewan on a business trip, but will not fail to observe any of the feathered tribe that fall under our vision during our absence, and only regret that we are unable to stay and experience an early Spring's collecting in Southern Saskatchewan as last season we experienced a late Spring's collecting season in Central Saskatchewan.

There Are Few of This Kind.

Malcolm W. Rix, 23 Vrant St., Utica, New York, is one of the few, very few who are built upon such a minute scale as to take THE OOLOGIST for a number of years, and then refuse to pay for it or further accept it. It is a pleasure to us and a benefit to oologists in general to be rid of such.

Prairie Falconing.

By Fred Truesdale.

The Prairie Falcon is more or less common in certain parts of California and extends to the Eastern border of the plains. Their length is 16.20, wing 12-14, tail 6-9, culmen 1 inch. They can easily be identified by the cackle, and the blackish patch on the sides of throat. Their food consists chiefly of small mammals, birds and occasionally chickens which they catch. The flight is very rapid, rap-

id enough to catch a pigeon on the wing.

I have seen this facon fly into a flock of chickens and strike one, and leave it lie on the ground, returning again and get another one in the same manner, until they have killed off nine chickens. They are very injurious to the chicken men. They are very shy and therefore, it is very hard to get a shot at one of them.

During the winter of 1909 there were a pair of them that stayed in a tree near the town of Shandon, California, but alas! someone killed them in the early spring, or they left in search of a place to nest.

One day in March last, I set out to find where these birds made their nests. After a three days trip I had located four pair of the birds in San Guis County, and four nests of the Ames Raven. The first being nearly complete; the other three just started. On the 18th of March I made another visit to the first nest. It then contained six fresh eggs, but was a very difficult nest to get to, and I had to make a trip home to get a better line of tools, getting more rope and some good pegs to put in the ground to tie to.

This nest was on a small shelf and the cliff seventy feet high. The nest twenty feet from the top. The cliff was a little overhanging, the dirt being very soft. I was afraid that, it might tumble into the nest on the eggs. I secured the eggs, but at a risk of getting them all smashed up; but two of them were dented up a little.

In April I made another trip and found a set of five eggs of Prairie Falcon. The cliff was 120 feet high and sixty feet straight up from the bottom was the nest in a sort of cup rounded out by the birds. I fixed my outfit and secured the set; all five of these eggs were of a purplish color, and were nearly fresh. Of all Falcon eggs I have seen, I never saw a set like it before.

I made still another trip in June and secured three more of these eggs, half incubated, of the same type. Most of the eggs I have seen were reddish buff, blotched with brown, or red and brown, being sometimes very heavily marked.

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TO EXCHANGE—Sets with data, North American and Foreign. Can use many common kinds of both. Dr. T. W. RICHARDS U. S. Navy, 1911 N. St., N. W., Washington D. C.

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Coues' 3d installment Bibliography.

Bonaparte's "American Ornithology"—4th Vol. edition Philadelphia 1825-1828.

CASH OR EXCHANGE.

THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. 5.

ALBION, N. Y. MAY 15, 1910.

WHOLE No. 274

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.

THE WARBLERS

The North American Warblers (Mniotiltidae) are among the most numerous family of the North American birds, occupying a place in our list beginning with (A. O. U. No. 636) Black & White Warbler and ending with (No. 693) Bell's Warbler, and representing some seventy-nine species and sub-species, all but three of which are stragglers, being properly members of this family and truly North American birds.

They range in size from slightly larger than our largest Humming bird to nearly the size of a Catbird, and include some of our brightest plumaged birds; though as a class they are perhaps as little known to the general public as any other of the larger families of birds. This owing to their diminutive size and more or less secretive habits. Yet few families of birds are of more general service and use to the public.

Being entirely migratory, they pass northward just at the time the small buds and leaves are opening under the smiles of Spring, and just at the time that the unnumbered multitudes of insects are hatching and scattering in millions over all of the young growth. The food of the warblers is infinitesimal and sometimes almost microscopic insects which are found on buds on the younger leaves of the trees, varied with occasional ground loving insects which are eaten by the ground warblers. The amount of good this family of birds does in the protection of the forests is beyond calculation and they should be rigidly protected.

With this issue we present a number of articles upon some of the rarer members of this highly interesting family.

Swainson's Warbler.*(Helinaia Swainsonii)*

By Troup D. Perry, Savannah, Ga. . .

Amongst the dark and dismal swamps that dot our beautiful South-land you will find the Summer home

new characteristics of this species has come under my observation, which sheds new light on its breeding. Come with me some morning in May, and we will go to its breeding ground and there you will find such bird life as would make glad the hearts of any



Plate No. 38—"Nest and Eggs of Swainson's Warbler in Palmetto Palm."

Photo by Troup D. Perry.

of this rare and interesting warbler. While not handsome, he has many striking features to give him a place amongst the birds of our Sunny South. I first discovered the eggs of this species in 1885 but since that time many

true lover of nature. Upon entering the swamp, keep still for a few moments and you will soon hear a low sweet song, ventriloquial, to a certain extent but so closely resembling that of the Hooded Warbler that it is

almost impossible to tell which is which, (how often have I listened to it standing entranced with every nerve strained and keeping on watch to see the bird when lo' the male Hooded would fly up on some nearby tree and break the spell.) The song is so penetrating that you can't tell where it comes from. You may think it is overhead when it is feeding on the ground (where most of its feeding it done) in

bird) the White-eyed Vireo, Maryland Yellow-throat and the chatter of the Carolina Chickadee and an occasional hoot of some Owl comes from the distance. Such are the sounds that greet you when you enter the haunts of the Swainson Warbler. But I am getting away from my subject. Now if you think you have a soft job before you, you are sadly mistaken, for the swamp is full of water, (and



Plate No. 3.—“Nest and Eggs of Swainson's Warbler in Canes.”

Photo by Troup D. Perry.

a few feet of where you stand. While you stand enraptured within the swamp, the whole scene changes, on the right you will hear the clear whistle of the Cardinal, and now and then see one of this gaudy specie fly by, overhead the melancholy song of the Wood Thrush is heard, and from a distance comes the song of the Carolina Wren (which can imitate most any

roots trip you up now and then) Palmetto Gall Cones and a growth of tangled vines, but one never thinks of trouble while after eggs. Now you commence to hunt. Look for any thing that looks like a bunch of dead leaves, for the nest is nothing more than a mass of dead leaves laid in layers to the depth of several inches, having a rather

rough look on the outside but very compact inside. It is lined with pine needles and dead moss, which closely resembles horse hair, and if luck is on your side you will see eggs resting in the nest, which will repay you for the hard time you have had wading through the water and fighting the mosquitoes that always infest the swamp. During the twenty years I have been collecting eggs of this specie and several other sets collected by the late Geo. Noble and Dr. Chas. Du Pont, making a total of 54 sets, only four had 4 eggs, so that 3 seems to be the usual number, and at times only two with incubation far advanced. I have never seen but one spotted set and that is now in my collection, presented to me by the late Dr. Du Pont. The spots are rather faint reddish in color and chiefly on the large ends. Thus leaving little doubt in my mind that white eggs are the true color. The female is a very close sitter, allowing you to almost take her from the nest, and at last when driven off it is with difficulty that you can shoot them, as they keep so close to the under-growth, and all the time in great distress, beating the ground with its wings and trying all the while to lead you away. Now, if you want to secure the bird for a specimen, it is right here that patience becomes a virtue, for it will be some time before you will see her lady-ship again, and then the only warning you will have is a slight chirp, repeated at intervals, and by close watching you will see her creeping back on the ground until directly under the nest before she flies to it. I remember on one occasion while standing in water knee deep to see a Swainson fly to a certain bush several times and becoming so interested in its movements that I soon forgot my surroundings but I was soon brought to my senses

by hearing a swish and looking down I saw a water moccasin. He missed me, but I was more fortunate as my collecting gun soon had him where he was out of the way or doing harm.

As I had remarked the bush where I had seen the Swainson going I went over expecting to find a nest being constructed, but instead I found a female sitting on three incubated eggs and the male had been feeding her. They are very sociable, as you will find several pair breeding together (and here let me say nine times out of ten that by close hunting you will find the nest of the Hooded Warbler as they are always near by) in quite a small space. They do not always breed in swamps or over running water, as some writers claim, as I have found them in Myrtle bushes fully a mile from any water. They seem to prefer canes to any other place, but you will find them in Gall bushes, Vines and Palmettos. The photo of the nest and eggs that accompany this article was taken this season (by W. J. Hoxie) it only contained two eggs, so far incubated that I left them, thinking I would go back and get a chance to photograph the young, but work prevented. It seems they get scarcer every year, as I only took two sets last season and one this, although conditions are still the same as in the years that have passed. They will often build a nest and then desert it as last season I saw several that were ready for eggs, but when I revisited the nest I found them in the same condition, still empty. Why they do this I am unable to say. They commence to build the latter part of April, as I have taken eggs by the 7th of May and as late as July 13th. So I think they must rear two broods during the season.

THE OOLOGIST

Very Unusual.

A golden eagle was caught alive and apparently in a perfectly healthy condition and uninjured at Lacon, Ill., April 20, 1910 under the following extraordinary circumstances:

A local fisherman was in a boat near the shore of the overflowed Illinois River bottoms when a "black eagle" which had been sitting in a tree on a nearby bluff flew suddenly down onto the ground into the brush very near the boat, in an apparent endeavor to catch a mouse or some similar object. The fisherman ran towards the eagle which immediately threw itself upon its back and commenced to strike out with its claws. He threw over it, some strong fish net webbing, which he had with him, and captured the bird, took it up home and kept it for some time in a box.

Extraordinary as it may seem, in a few days the eagle became perfectly tame and when seen by the editor, a couple of days after capture, permitted itself to be stroked and handled, and even lifted out of the box and held in its captor's arms. Repeatedly we saw him take it by the legs and lift its feet and claws from the bottom of the box, stroke the bird on its sides, head and back, and extend its wings one at a time. We ourselves repeatedly stroked the bird on the head with no resistance from the bird except a lowering of the head. As we would stroke it, the bird would gradually lower its head closer and closer to the bottom of the box in which it was kept, and it frequently uttered a plaintive low laugh-like gurgle, and acting throughout much like a young bird that had just left the nest; though there were no signs of down upon the plumage and no marks by which we could determine this fact for a certainty.

There is no nesting site of this bird

within the State of Illinois known to us, nor within several hundred miles of Lacon, and this is the first Golden Eagle that has come under our personal knowledge within the confines of the state.

* * *

Since writing the foregoing, the bird has been turned out and for several days stayed around the town in the trees and on the house and chimney tops, much to the fright of the local poultry and a few ladies and many small children; doing so far as we know absolutely no damage whatever to any living children. Where it finally went is unknown to us, but we trust it will not be molested wherever it may choose to go. EDITOR.

More of The American Robin in England.

In the northern suburbs of London and across the north-eastern counties a curious bird migration was to be seen today. One of the last of the winter visitors was leaving. The birds had begun to find England too warm, and the desire to nest in more congenial places was upon them.

In spite of an early spring, the departure is rather late, but fieldfares are the least regular of all the migrants. Today they were flying high and in a steady stream; but during the whole journey, at any rate across Hertfordshire, they were chattering in their complacent, unmistakable manner.

Many of the fieldfares have already landed in Scandinavia. Probably a good many will be left in England for some days yet, but this year the last of the winter visitors have conveniently left just as the host of summer visitors are arriving. The two streams will pass each other, though on the whole the fieldfares diverge to the north of most of our spring comers.

The migration is particularly interesting this year, as it is probable that these fieldfares, which are of the thrush tribe, have taken into their company some at any rate of the American robins, which also are migratory.

A dozen of these beautiful birds

Nesting of the Black-throated Green Warbler.

The Black-throated Green Warbler is a regular breeder around Branchport, N. Y. in the numerous gullies that cut into the hills rising from 600



Plate No. 33—"Nest and Eggs of the Black-throated Green Warbler."
Photo by Verdi Burtch.

were last year brought to England, and a quantity of eggs successfully hatched, some by wild thrushes and blackbirds, some by the robins themselves. The whole company flourished greatly, but it is to be feared that the migratory instinct and example has proved too strong for the majority.—English paper.

ft. to 800 ft. on both sides of Lake Keuka and its inlet. Nearly every gully has a fringe of hemlocks on its banks and it is in these gullies mostly above the 300 ft. contour above the lake that it makes its summer home.

Arriving here the first week in May

it mingles with the mixed bunch of migrating warblers for a week or more then repairs to its breeding grounds.

All the nests that I have ever seen were placed in hemlock trees usually on a horizontal limb over an opening, as a wood road or over the water in the gully but a few were in rather thick places and being placed among the thick leaves are easily overlooked.

The nest is compact, deeply cupped and is composed of fine dead hemlock twigs and strips of bark, lined with fine dead grass, rootlets, fine strips of bark, hair and sometimes a few feathers. Attached to the outside are little bunches of yellowish wooly substance and little fluffy bunches of spiders silk.

All of the following nests were found in these gullies:

Nest No. 1. The first nest that I ever found (June 1, 1903) was in a small, tall, spindling hemlock in a bunch of rudimentary limbs 30 ft from the ground against the body of the tree. It was in a rather dark place among a lot of large hemlocks and pines about 30 ft. back from the gully bank. I kicked the tree and the female left the nest sailing away to a distant tree but came back bringing the male while I was at the nest. There were four eggs, incubation just begun.

Nest No. 2. June 28, 1903. This was in the same gully as No. 1 and was in a medium sized hemlock 10 ft. up and 4 ft. from the body of the tree, in an open place or slanting. The female was on the nest but left it when I began to climb and hopped about near by while I was at the nest. There were four eggs which must have hatched in about four or five days. One of the eggs was abnormal, being very much elongated.

Nest No. 3. June 2, 1904. In a rather open place on the bank of Belknap Gully where a few tall spindling hemlocks (the large ones had been cut out) and in one of these which was about 3 in. in diameter I found a nest resting on a small bushy limb against the body of the tree about 16 ft. from the ground. While I was at the nest the female came so close that I could almost reach her. The nest was made of small hemlock twigs, lined with fine strips of inner bark, very fine dead grass and some horsehair. There were some bunches of the wooly substance and a strip of birch bark attached to the outside of the nest and it contained 5 fresh eggs.

Nest No. 4. June 5, 1904. This nest was at least 30 rods back from the gully bank, on level ground and a few rods from the edge of some woods in a small hemlock 15 ft. up and 3 ft. out on a horizontal limb and contained 4 eggs.

Nest No. 5. June 11, 1904. A deserted nest was 15 ft. up in a hemlock and 6 ft. out over a wood road. It contained one fresh egg, one egg with a hole in it and the shell of another egg.

Nest No. 6. June 19, 1904. This was 7 ft. out on a drooping branch of a good sized hemlock that grew out of the bank 15 ft. from the bottom of Chidsey Gully. It was 35 ft. above the gully bottom and contained 4 fresh eggs. The female remained on the nest until I touched her with a stick then slipped off and remained near and did not make a bit of fuss. The eggs are about the handsomest of any of this species that I have ever seen, having a creamy white ground thickly blotched, spotted and speckled around the larger end with dark chestnut and lavender shell markings, the specks and a few spots extending over the rest of the egg.

Nest No. 7, June 28, 1904. Was in a hemlock 15 ft. up and 7 ft. out over a wood road. It was not far from where I found No. 6, and it contained four fresh eggs which were marked almost exactly like those found in Nest 6. The female was on the nest and did not leave until I touched her when she dropped to the ground and then came back again real close. I am positive that this was the same bird that built nest No. 6 and she had just nine days in which to build the nest and lay four eggs.

Nest No. 8, May 29, 1905. Nest 20 ft. up and 12 ft. on a horizontal limb of a large hemlock and contained three fresh eggs and one egg of Cowbird. The female stuck to the nest until I jarred the limb when she dropped to the ground but soon came back and settled down on the nest when I reached the ground.

June 3, 1905, saw a male Black-throated Green singing E-ze-ze-ze-z as he hunted leisurely from branch to branch and finally went to a nest which I found to contain one egg. He sang regularly all of the time changing his tune to E-z when I was at the nest. No more eggs were ever layed in this nest.

Nest No. 9, June 14, 1905. A nest in a small hemlock that grew close beside a very large hemlock was 10 ft. up and 6 ft. out on a horizontal limb and contained four fresh eggs. The female was on the nest and after flushing stayed around close by and chipped.

Nest No. 10, June 18, 1905. Saw a female feeding and after a time she began to chip and work from branch to branch all around and then into a certain hemlock finally going onto a nest 40 ft. up on a small limb. There were five eggs which probably hatched in a day or two. While I was at the nest the female kept flying around

from branch to branch, sometimes coming quite close. The male appeared, was quiet and kept his distance, looking at me in an inquiring way. After I was on the ground again the female kept chipping and working towards the nest but when within a few inches would fly away again, finally went on the nest chipping continually, stayed but a moment and flew away. Soon she came back, went on the nest and was quiet. A pair of Ovenbirds came to the tree and were chased away by the male.

Nest No. 11, July 2, 1905. Nest 35 ft. up in a hemlock and 10 ft. out on a limb. The female was on the nest and did not leave until I could almost touch her. There were four eggs nearly ready to hatch. A large feather in the lining of the nest.

Nest No. 12, July 2, 1905. Nest was 40 ft. above the gully bottom in a small leaning hemlock growing out of the gully bank and was on a small limb 3 ft. out. The female was on the nest and left just before I reached her level. The nest contained five well incubated eggs. The female moved silently about through the tree seemingly ignoring my presence and picked a worm from a branch within 3 ft. of my hand and went on to the nest only five feet from me and in plain sight, cuddled down and did not move until I started to descend, when she started up but settled down again without leaving the nest. She did not utter a sound while I was there and the male did not appear at all. Visited this nest again July 9th, I had been watching it a few minutes when the female came and fed the young, which were now in the nest. She staid but a few seconds and dropped to the bottom of the gully, 15 minutes later the male came and fed them and dropped to the gully bottom. In 10 minutes the female came and stayed

at the nest one minute then dropped to the ground. Seven minutes later a male which I took to be a stranger, appeared in the lower branches, hunted leisurely up through the tree and when near the nest hopped up close and looked in but dodged back as though he was scared, hesitated a second then flew away. Eleven minutes later the male came and fed the young staying one minute. Then I left the vicinity.

Visited the nest again July 23d and found it empty and saw nothing of the young. There was a nest in the same tree in June, 1906, but it was not used.

Nest No. 13, June 7, 1907. Nest in same tree and on same branch as No. 12, making the third nest found in the same tree. The Cowbird's eggs were imbedded in the lining of this nest being nearly covered with the lining and there were four eggs of the warbler.

Another nest found June 7, had one egg of Cowbird in it and the Warbler never used it..

Nest No. 14, June 13, 1909, was in a hemlock a little back from a wood road. It was 12 ft. up and 6 ft. from the body of the tree and contained two eggs. Visited it again June 16th, and the female sat close until I reached her, when she dropped to the ground. I had my camera with me and exposed two plates. The first did not show the nest on account of the dense foliage. Before exposing the second one I cut away the leaves from over the nest and got the result here shown. The female was near all of the time that I was at the nest and after I reached the ground again she flew to it, looked in and dodged back then looked in again and flew away but was on the nest again two minutes after I had left the tree. Ten days later I visited this nest again hoping to

get a picture of the young, but it was empty and deserted.

Nest No. 15, June 23, 1909. Nest 7 ft. from the body of a small hemlock and 15 ft. from the ground. The tree was situated about half way up a gully bank. Nest contained four fresh eggs and the female was on the nest and after flushing remained close by and was quiet.

Of the fifteen nests, here described, nine contained four eggs each, three had five eggs each, one four and two of Cowbird, one three and one of Cowbird and one had three eggs partly broken and deserted. The latter probably an incomplete set.

Cowbirds eggs found in but three nests.

The male bird appeared at but two of the nests. The female seemed to do all the incubating and when flushed from the nest invariably dropped to the ground or sailed nearly to the ground but was soon back in the nearby branches and was usually quiet.

We find many empty nests every year that are never used and on the second visit we often find the lining torn out or the nest on the ground.

VERDI BURTCH,

From the Isle of Pines.

Ricord's Hummer (*Riccordia ricordi*)—1. 4 1-8 in., w. 2.6 in. Male, upper parts shining green; a white spot or small line behind eye; tail long and bronzy; under parts a metallic green; under tail coverts white. Female, similar but duller.

The Hummer is very common in the jungles along the arroyos and rivers and is very fond of feeding from the "Hahogwa" blossoms. It is often seen perching in the thicket just so that a ray of sunshine falls upon it, making a very pretty sight. Often when so occupied it will burst into a song, a very low but quite musical

and entirely different from what one would suspect from such a small bird.

Cuban Tody, (*Todus multicolor*) upper parts light yellowish green, lighter on cheeks; mustach white ending in a broad blue streak; throat scarlet; lore yellow; bend of wing blue edged with white; underparts white, sides of breast bluish ending in a pale scarlet streak; bill horn colored; upper mandible darker, feet horn color; under tail coverts yellow; outer tail feathers grayish. L. 3.5 in.

This little bird is also quite common in the jungles and is heard even more often than seen, although it is very tame. It is quite curious and seems to try to ask you who you are, what you are doing and what you are going to do at the same time.

A. C. READ.

Snakes Often Do This.

As I was coming home one afternoon from a tramp, I heard a Song Sparrow making a peculiar noise as if angry or frightened. Upon investigation in the marshy grasses, I found its nest and instead of containing eggs, it held a snake fourteen inches long. The snake had swallowed three eggs and was just swallowing the fourth one when I came upon the scene. The egg was so big for the snake that it had to dislocate its jaw to be able to put the egg in its mouth. I wondered how the snake could get any nourishment from the eggs without breaking them.

R. M. PEREZ.

Left the Eggs.

I had a desire to find a Buzzard's egg to add to my collection, so one Saturday morning, I took my lunch and set out.

I had noticed two Buzzards soaring over a little island before, so I walked in there. When the old mother

flew out, I went in and two little buzzards were on the ground (Feb. 27, 1909.)

Next year in 1910 I went the 4th of February and two eggs were there. On March 11th I found two more with a doll leg and several pieces of china. I decided not to take the other eggs if they nested.

Brown Kilpatrick.

The Kentucky Warbler.

If I were asked to name my favorite among the dozen species of the Warbler family that come to spend the summers with us here in Southern Pennsylvania, I would unhesitatingly revert to the Kentucky Warbler.

With his brilliant black and yellow coat as he moves alertly among the underbrush uttering his vigorous alarm note at your intrusion on his domain, he well merits your admiration. But when you have once heard his clear musical song, so loud and distinct you instinctively look for a much larger bird. I am wont to class him with the Cardinal, Carolina Wren, Winter Wren and Tufted Titmouse, all birds of strong characteristics, in song and action.

Very similar in volume and melody are some of the notes of the Mourning Warbler, which replace the Kentucky in the Northern counties of Pennsylvania.

The nesting of the Kentucky Warbler is not as strictly localized perhaps as with most of the other species. The Worm-eater here nearly always builds on a more or less steep hillside in the thick woods; the Blue-wing in a thicket or open space near, or in the woods.

But the Kentucky Warbler is equally at home in the deep, wooded swamp, the laurel covered hillside, or on the hill tops among the bunches of undergrowth that cover the ground.

In the low swampy woodlands near the running streams that flow from every ravine, you will find the most favored locality. I have found more perhaps at the foot of a clump of Spice-wood bushes than in any other one situation. Here a large mass of dry leaves is placed loosely on the ground, on which the nest, proper, is built; and the inner lining of fine, black root-

I did not see the female leave the nest, and at once supposed it to be the property of a Worm-eating Warbler; until a closer examination revealed the lining of black rootlets.

Both parents returned while I was getting my camera ready, and made full identification easy. It was placed in the same situation where the Worm-eater often build; on a steep hillside,



Plate No. 31—"Nest and eggs of the Kentucky Warbler in Pennsylvania."

Photo May 28, 1905 by Thomas H. Jackson.

lets, is perhaps as characteristic of the Kentucky Warbler construction as the Worm-eaters favorite and beautiful material—the red stems of the Hair Moss, used for the same purpose.

The nest here illustrated was one of the handsomest I have ever found; both in regard to its construction and its location.

under a Laurel bush. It was also well sunken into the dead leaves in the ground and perfectly concealed.

The Kentucky Warbler does its full share toward saving the Cowbird from extinction. I recollect one nest some years since, with four Cowbird's eggs, and two of the owners. It was a poorly concealed nest and an easy mark.

As consistent members of the "Au-

dobon Society" we felt it our duty to confiscate the entire outfit and allow the owners of the nest to make a fresh start, trusting to their having better success the next time. They, as with all our other warblers, are quick to forget their troubles, and I have known a new nest to be started within a week of the time the first was spoiled.

I think the Cowbird is largely responsible for the restricted increase in numbers of very many of our smaller birds:—far beyond all other destructive agencies combined—not excepting the most enthusiastic oologist.

The damages nature quickly and certainly repairs; but those of the Cowbird—never!

While the Audubon Society is trying to assist all our states in framing beneficial laws for the protection of the birds. Why do they not recognize the real character of the Cowbird and, at least remove from him the protection of the law? Instead, however here in Pennsylvania he is classed as a game bird, along with the Bobolink and Purple Grackle and any one who is reckless enough to kill a Cowbird "out of season" or take its eggs is open to trouble.

THOMAS H. JACKSON.

The Black-Throated Blue Warbler.

This pretty little warbler is a common migrant and arrives early in May. Records that I have kept for over fifteen years show that it has only varied from May 5th to 13th in date of its first arrival during that time.

About May 1st when the first of the warbler hosts begin to arrive vegetation in this region is not much advanced. In the river valley orchards, maple and thorn trees are just budding into leaf while the mountains are still brown and cold.

For this reason the small migrants,

especially warblers, at first migrate along the valley and find food about the buds and startling leaves and at the same time some protection.

The Black-throated Blue, is at first common in the valley with the other warblers. As the season advances and the mountains begin to take on their garb of green, the Black-throated Blue becomes much in evidence and when the migrations are over with, and summer sets in, the Black-throated is found as a quite common summer resident.

During September it is common when the migration south is taking place. By October 1st they have nearly all disappeared. I have seen one though as late as October 10th (1900), an unusually late date.

In summer they are at home in heavy timber; also regions that have been partly lumbered over where are found plenty of timber and underbrush. They are also found in second growth and slashings but seem to prefer the deep shady woods. On the fire-swept barren ridges where is found only rocks, huckleberry brush, sweet fern and stunted brush, it is absent.

The male spends most of his time well up in the trees and sings incessantly. They have at least two different songs during the breeding season, one of which greatly resembles the "zee, zee, zee" of the golden-winged warbler. The female is rather shy and keeps close to the ground in laurel brush.

Although a rather common breeder, the nests are hard to find. They are usually more or less concealed by foliage and being light colored, and close to the ground are easily overlooked. Almost every season I find a nest or two and in June, 1907, I was so fortunate as to find seven nests.

During the past fifteen years, I have examined quite a number. They are

always built close to the ground. Usually from ten to twenty-four inches up, rarely more, and I have seen several in brush hemlock that were but four to six inches off the ground.

Laurel beds seem to be their favorite nesting sites. Fully two-thirds of the nests I have found were in laurel. Next to laurel thickets and clumps of low hemlock, brush is preferred. Only rarely do I see one in green brush.

The nests are compact and cup-shaped and sometimes are beautiful structures. The handsomest warblers nests I have ever seen were of this species.

The favorite materials are grape vine bark, fine strips of yellow and white birch bark and rotten wood. Many nests are almost entirely built of fine shreds of white and yellow rotten wood and are very pretty. For lining, fine black rootlets and fine grasses are used. Four is the usual number of eggs, occasionally only three. Have not yet found a set of five. All sets I have found were well wreathed, but they vary greatly in extent of markings. Some are simply wreathed and some sets are heavily marked all over.

R. B. SIMPSON.

The Cerulean Warbler.

(*Dendroica cerulea*.)

A few years ago I spent several seasons in the mountains of Doddridge County, West Virginia in the employ of the Standard Oil Company.

The country there is rougher than at my home here. The mountains are steeper and run to peaks and ridges with none of the plateaus of my home hills.

The timber was big and tall, but in that region was entirely hardwood. An evergreen was a rare sight. I missed the fern and moss-covered

depths of the cool hemlock forests of Northern Pennsylvania, for here the ground in the woods was dry and along in the Fall, water was a scarce article.

Although I didn't like the country a little bit, I found a few birds common there, that at home were unknown, or occurred only as rare stragglers.

Of these new ones I was most interested in the warblers, and found several quite desirable species, such as the Cerulean, Kentucky, Worm-eating, and Golden-winged to be more or less common in summer. Of these I became much interested in the Cerulean.

In nearly twenty years collecting here at Warren, I have never met with it but twice.

I found they arrived there April 20th, 1896, April 22, 1897, and May 1, 1898. On the first day of their arrival several could be heard in almost any woods and in a few days they were common. I never saw them about orchards or farm houses. They seemed to prefer the woodland altogether, and whether open or heavy, the songs of the males could be heard overhead anywhere, as they spent most of their time singing.

After about August 1st they were quiet and soon seemed to have all disappeared.

Although so common, I found it a difficult matter to find nests. Most of my time I spent near the head of a little stream well up a mountain-side. This place was sloping and not very steep. There was also several benches or flats and it was heavily timbered with mostly oak, hickory and poplar.

By spending all spare time possible in watching the different female birds, especially when near the ground in old tree-tops or grape vines, I was enabled to catch a good many hunting

nesting material. It was then up to me to keep them in sight until they reached the nest.

By watching one place so much I discovered that a great many more birds nested in a favorable locality than I had any idea of.

Roaming about and looking at random I soon found produced no Cerulean nests, and with one exception, all that I found were discovered by watching the females. This one exception was on a limb two inches in diameter of a big oak. The nest was built amongst a couple of little sprigs that grew up and because of the leaves could be seen from only one spot on the ground. I passed this tree so often that once I happened to glance up while in just the right place.

The females built their nests alone, in no case did the male help, although often he accompanied her to and fro.

The nesting material was always procured on or near the ground. One female Cerulean that I saw gathering nesting material, I followed up and found to have just started a nest forty feet up and seven feet from the trunk in a big oak, on a limb two inches in diameter. This was on the morning of May 13th. On the 19th she finished the nest, taking seven days to do the work. On the 26th the female began to incubate a set of four. Altogether I found twelve nests, six in one season.

Six of these nests I have data for showing height and distance from the trunk. Of these six one was in a maple forty feet up and twelve feet out on a limb one and one-half inches in diameter. The other five were in oaks which is the tree preferred in that region. These five were as follows:

30 feet up, 5 feet out on a 2 in. limb
40 feet up, 10 feet out on a 2 in. limb

40 feet up, 7 feet out on a 2 in. limb
45 feet up, 6 feet out on a 3 in. limb
40 feet up, 9 feet out on a 1½ in. limb

They were always built on top of a horizontal limb at a point where a branch started out or where several sprigs put out to give the female a chance to fasten the nest securely. The nests are small and neat. A typical one measures three and one-fourth in diameter and one and one-half inches deep.

The material used is shreds and strips of inner bark, shreds of weeds, fine strips of grape vine bark, and vegetable material, and in one case a few small pieces of a newspaper that I had thrown away were used. The lining was fine shreds of bark, sometimes hair and frequently fine grasses.

The eggs greatly resemble the eggs of the Yellow warbler, being of a greenish ground color, and well spotted with browns and purple, principally in the form of a wreath about the larger end.

To collect the nest and eggs I cut two long light poles. At the small end of one I left a fork on which I fastened a paper shoe box filled with cotton. On the end of the other I fastened a little forked stick with the tip pointing back. By holding the box out under the nest and carefully pulling the nest over, I landed all safely. Also used the same outfit for Gnatcatchers and Hummers. Here at home I use the same rigging for warblers and others that are out of reach.

R. B. SIMPSON.

We are in receipt of a communication to the effect that one of our subscribers has "indisputable scientific proof enough at my command to down the combined efforts of all the authorities and ornithological societies of America." He must be well equipped with ammunition!

The Crange Crowned Warbler.

This is one of the rare members of the family, more common during migration in the Mississippi Valley, and one of whose nesting habits and home life but very little is known. It is supposed to breed casually in Wisconsin and once in a great while in eastern Canada, but the chief summer home of this species is from Manitoba northwest to Alaska. It is of a restless Kinglet like disposition, moving continually about the upper parts of the larger trees. The song is unusually strong for a bird of this size. The eggs are reported as "white or creamy white, finely checked, chiefly on the larger end with reddish or chestnut brown."

The view of the nest herewith presented on the following page, is taken from a photo given to the editor by an ornithologist, a number of years ago in Quebec, who claimed at that time that it was a photo of a nest that he had found the summer previously on the north side of the St. Lawrence river, opposite the City of Quebec. It is to be hoped that the next few years will unfold much of the life history of this little-known species.

Our Canadian readers are specially adjured to look it up and write us the result of their investigations.

The Myrtle Warbler

on Strange Ground.

The Myrtle Warbler is a true wood warbler, yet how often do we find it, in the migrations, in places very un-woodlike.

There is a locality at Frankford, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, near the Delaware River, where I have found it at these times and often wondered what inducement led the birds to frequent it as they passed through. It consists of a thick growth

of button and black alder bushes several acres in area, growing in shallow water and mud, and surrounded on all sides by marsh and cultivated lands, with not a tree within several hundred yards, and the nearest woods over a mile away and across the river in New Jersey.

It is here that the Myrtle Warbler will linger in the Spring until into May, and tarry in the Fall until later in November, seemingly contented in such an environment, which seems to me ill adapted to its habits, and one in which very few ornithologists would expect to find it.

In this thicket every day after April 20-25 to May 5-10 in the Spring and during October and till November 10th and later in the Fall, I can reasonably expect to find the Yellow-rumped Warbler in it. In fact, it is the only place in this locality at these times where I am absolutely certain to find it, and this I have proven several times when having an "All Day" with the birds.

That the birds find an abundance of food in the thicket is easily ascertained by watching them for an hour or two, by observing the host of insects in it, and by shooting a bird and noting its fat and excellent condition, together with its well filled stomach.

The majority of the birds shot and seen in the thicket have been immature (in fall) and females, but few adult males in nuptial plumage being seen or taken. I merely mention this as an interesting occurrence, for in woods the majority of the birds observed and shot have been males.

The thicket being situated along the river, one mile inland, and the only available resting place for birds until they reach the other side of the city (Philadelphia), a distance of about ten miles, migrate on their way South in the fall, following the course of the

Delaware, probably drop in, realizing the necessity of rest by perceiving the weary miles of city wilderness before them. This has been suggested to me by a friend as a probable cause of the birds occurrence in the thicket, but it seems like a poor suggestion, as a short flight would carry the tired wanderers across the river into Jersey woods. Nevertheless, it is the only ex-

impossible to obtain of them in the woods.

RICHARD F. MILLER.

Lost, Strayed or Stolen.

The long promised new edition of the A. O. U. Check list. Can any of our readers tell us when, where or how we can get a glimpse of this much advertised *ignis fatuus*?



Plate No. 40—"Nest and Eggs of Orange Crowned Warbler in Quebec, Providence, Canada."

planation that I can assign to the bird's occurrence in such a place. In the Spring they presumably drop in, accepting my friends' theory as the right cause of their occurrence, after a fatiguing flight across the city.

Anyhow, whatever the cause of their appearance here, I am glad of it, for they have afforded me many hours of interesting study that would have been

We have recently added to our collection of native wild fowl, seven specimens of the extremely rare Ross's goose, apparently in perfect condition, showing the warty growth about the base of the bill to perfection. They are but little larger than a Mallard duck, and have a low plaintive note like the subdued lowing of a cow at a distance, and not musical.

History of a Double Nest of the Yellow Warbler.

While climbing over a fence, one day in May 1899, I noticed in a Wild Rose bush at my feet a nest of the Yellow Warbler. It was placed about three feet from the ground and some ten or twelve feet from the shore of a small pond and appeared to be completed, but held no eggs.

Passing by the spot again at noon on the 17th I glanced into the nest and saw one egg of the Cowbird, but none of the rightful owners. Curious to see how the Warblers would treat this intrusion into their home I returned at 1:30, but the egg was nowhere in sight. Closer examination showed that a thin layer of plant fibres had been laid over the egg; in fact the beginning of a second nest. The birds must have worked very rapidly to have secured enough material to entirely conceal the egg in so short a time, but during the rest of the afternoon I watched them at their nest building and found they worked continuously without resting.

Procuring some soft cotton, I fastened it to the twigs of a nearby bush and retired to a tangle of Wild Grapevine to watch. Hardly had I concealed myself when the male appeared and sang from a sappling just over the nest. The female appeared a moment later and flew directly to the cotton, fluttering before it and tearing off little tufts which were woven, or rather matted into the nest. At no time did the female alight to tear off the cotton, but on each trip poised in the air before it, much as a Hummingbird does in front of a flower. Generally three or four strips were carried to the nest each visit.

Arriving at the nest with a beakful of cotton the female settled down into the nest, turning around and tucking in little bits here and there, shaping

the sides and rim with her breast and bill, and matting the whole into a solid feltlike substance. No time was wasted at the nest however, and in a few minutes she was back after more material.

While the female was thus busily employed, the male flitted from bush to bush, caught an insect here and there, sang, now in the trees overhead, now from the bushes near the nest, but only once or twice did he visit the nest. On these visits he did not appear to be carrying any material for the nest. It was probably simply a tour of inspection and as if satisfied with the way the work was progressing he finally disappeared and it was nearly an hour before he came back, announcing his return by singing in the trees overhead before descending to his mate in the bushes below.

By sunset the second nest was to all appearances completed, but when I visited it again next morning I found that the birds had worked in a quantity of buff colored vegetable fibres, not materially increasing the bulk of the nest, but toning down the whiteness of the cotton and rendering the structure much less conspicuous than it had been the night before. The nest was now complete and a vacation of several days followed before the eggs were laid. Had the birds been compelled to procure their nesting material in the regular way instead of having a supply so conveniently furnished them, the building of this second nest would doubtless have taken much longer.

The first egg was laid May 23d and one was deposited each succeeding day until four had been laid. Incubation began at once and lasted ten days, the young appearing on the 5th of June. For the first few days their growth was rather slow, but both parents fed them constantly, the fath-

er being fully as assiduous in supplying their demands as was his mate. On the fifth day their eyes opened and they began to grow and feather rapidly, and when ten days old they left the nest.

After the brood had flown I removed the nest. So firmly were the materials matted together that it was with some difficulty that I separated the two nests without damage to either. On some way the old birds or the young in the nest, had managed to break the Cowbird's egg, but its size and shape and the position it occupied in the nest were all plainly indicated by the deep mould left in the underside of the second nest.

F. SEYMOUR HERSEY.

Tennessee's Shame!

The following we clipped from a daily last winter. It tells a sickening tale. Do you wonder the birds are decreasing?

SLAUGHTER OF ROBINS

Thousands of Little Songsters Killed in Tennessee and Sold at Ten Cents Dozen.

Louisville, Ky.—Robins are numerous at Lofton, Tenn., and are "selling readily on the local market at ten cents a dozen," according to a Murfreesboro special. It should be explained that the robins are not so numerous as they used to be for the fact that they sell for ten cents a dozen has induced many men and boys to engage in the wholesale slaughter of the birds.

Thousands of robins, the special says, gather in the cedars to roost, and hunting parties go in the night and capture and kill them in large numbers. One party caught 2,600 birds in one night. One hunter caught 377 birds in one tree. It is estimated that 150,000 have been killed within the last three weeks. It is great sport—and the robins sell for ten cents a dozen. That is the way in which wild bird life is being protected in some parts of this great country.

The robin is a beautiful and harmless bird. He is an indefatigable destroyer of insect pests. Any one who has ever watched him on a lawn can testify to his industry in searching out bugs and worms and his capacity for putting them where they can do no harm. If there is a cherry tree handy he will visit it occasionally, but he much prefers to forage after living things. He is a cheerful, happy bird and rather likes to make himself handy around the premises, rearing a family the while in the boughs of the old apple tree. He is not much of a singer so far as the quality of his music goes, but he is always willing to give you a sample of the best he can do in that line, and the effect is not unpleasant to the human ear. In fact, the robin is an all round good fellow and is always ready to be friendly and serviceable if given half a chance.

It is to be regretted that our neighbors in Tennessee are not giving the robin even half a chance, but are murdering him in cold blood. There really seems to be no reason for it except that robins are worth ten cents a dozen. That also would seem to be about the proper market quotation for men who engage in such slaughter, either for pleasure or profit.

The D. V. O. C.

It is somewhat different to write fully of an organization such as the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia. Therefore, I shall confine myself to a short article, containing the essentials of its conception and life, for which I am indebted to Mr. Witmer Stone, who is perhaps in closer touch with the personal of our beloved clan than any other member.

Organized February 3, 1890, by William L. Bailey, George S. Morris, J. H. Reed, Samuel M. Rhoads, Charles A. Voelker, Dr. Spencer Trotter and Witmer Stone, the first meeting was held at the home of Mr. Bailey at 1624 Arch St. Later they were held at 16 N. 7th St., and finally through the efforts of Mr. Stone the club was granted the use of a room at the Academy of Natural Sciences; and March 3, 1891 is memorable as the first meeting held in the Academy

building which has since been the Club's home.

The object of this Society was, and is the study of birds, in the egg, the field and the cabinet. Any respectable male bird student was eligible to membership, whether—to quote from the club history—"He handled the subject with a gun, the opera-glass, the slap-jack, the pen, the scalpel, the paint brush, the drill or the camera", and naturally the same conditions hold good at the present time.

The founders figured largely as collectors for the first few years and formed the nucleus of the D. V. O. C. collection "of mounted birds, nests and eggs at the Academy of Natural Sciences. This collection is at present a most complete representation of the birds of the Delaware Valley, embracing the states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. It contains such local rarities as,—the nests and eggs of the White-throated Sparrow, Goshawk, Winter Wren, Brown Creeper, Florida Gallinule, etc.

Introduced to the A. O. U. in 1891 by Messrs. Bailey and Stone the club and its work have been endorsed by ornithologists throughout the country and are especially familiar to those of the Atlantic Coast.

From a total enrollment of 180, death has called twelve, among, them being Dr. Woodhouse and Edwin Sheppard, both of whom were noted and respected for their endeavors along the line of ornithological knowledge.

Among the noted literature published by the club are "The Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey," by Witmer Stone; "Abstracts of the Proceedings of the D. V. O. C." and "Cassinia," the club annual.

The meetings are held the first and third Thursday evenings of each month from October to May inclusive. At such times the "adults" and "immatures" gather and wax enthusiastic about their respective data. These discussions are illustrated by specimens of lantern slides, and the spirit of good-fellowship prevails.

On the evening of January 6, 1910 was held the 20th Anniversary. It was a time of rejoicing and congratulation; of acquaintances renewed among the less active members. Of impromptu speeches there were many,

that set forth humorously the trials and tribulations endured by the various members on their field trips. Of course one and all were ready to be "flash-lighted" after which painful operation, they retired to the hall to partake of the annual collation, which fittingly brought to a close a memorable evening.

Delos Hatch.

Few indeed of the older Oologists of the United States but that know Mr. Hatch. Specimens of eggs taken by him can be found without doubt in every large collection in North America and in most of the larger collections of Europe. He is one of the old time oologists that helped make North American Oology what it now is. Recently a representative of one of the local papers visited his home and we present herewith his description of what he saw.

WONDERFUL COLLECTION.

A Description of Interesting Museum of Mr. Delos Hatch.

On invitation of Mr. Delos Hatch, the well known taxidermist and collector of curios, of this place, a representative of the Eagle visited his museum on White street Tuesday morning and spent a very pleasant hour or two.

Mr. Hatch has his museum on the second floor of a building especially built for the purpose. The large room has a number of windows and a couple of skylights and is almost completely filled with interesting curiosities from actually the four quarters of the earth with specimens of the animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms.

Most of the mounted pieces are arranged around the room in glass show cases which show off their attractions to the best advantage. The animal section includes stuffed wolves, foxes, porcupines, deer, squirrels rabbits, coons, wild hogs and almost every small wild animal of the American continent. There also may be found in this rare collection a large number of mounted reptiles, fresh and salt fish and animals of all kinds.

One of the principal exhibits is that of birds and eggs, the collection of which has been a life long specialty every size, kind and plumage are here of Mr. Hatch and his wife. Birds of

in wonderful array, from the common little English sparrow to the beautiful birds of the tropics. It is also interesting to note the large display of eggs and their different sizes; colorings and shapes.

One of the most interesting sights in the museum, at least to the children, is a series of groups of birds illustrating "Who Killed Cock Robin?" each set representing some scene of the tragedy so familiar to every boy and girl.

A beautiful section of the museum is that devoted to butterflies of which there are hundreds of different varieties, no two alike. Mr. Hatch recently received a consignment of butterflies from Rochester, N. Y. valued at nearly \$150 and consisting of specimens from nearly every country of South America, Europe, Africa, Australia, India and Japan. These butterflies are worth from 50c to \$7.50 each.

The collection of curios includes minerals, fossils, shells and innumerable articles of interest. Mr. Hatch has a fine collection of stamps, coins and relics of all kinds and complete sets of American, Canadian and English coins from a very early date with most of the coins of other countries. A number of these coins were discovered in excavating on the sites of ancient Roman cities and it is thought that they were coined near the beginning of the Christian era.

Mr. Hatch also has a large quantity of United States and Confederate paper money. Two sheepskin parchments signed by Thos. Jefferson and James Madison are among the rare documents.

Mr. Hatch, assisted by his wife, has been collecting curios for the past thirty years and has an extensive acquaintance not only among naturalists of the United States but other countries as well. He is constantly exchanging specimens and receiving new curiosities and rarities to add to his already large and complete collection. He values the entire stock at between \$4,000 and \$5,000 and the value increases with age. It is an intellectual treat for anyone to visit Mr. Hatch's Dime Museum and those who have never seen the exhibits will do well to avail themselves of an early

opportunity of seeing the beauties and wonders of nature.

The Harvest.

This month's OOLOGIST reaches our readers and those of whom are collectors are in the midst of the annual Spring harvest.

The taking and preparation of bird skins, nests and eggs for the formation of a permanent collection and for scientific studies is perfectly legitimate and justified. The destruction of either as the result of a mere temporary fad is to be deprecated, and it is not wrong to take additional specimens within reasonable limits for the purpose of exchange; otherwise collectors and collections remote from the breeding place of the various species would be unable to add them to their cabinet. We trust that all our readers will use reason and discretion with respect to the gathering of specimens and that after the close of the season not only our advertising columns, but our reading columns as well will reflect a successful year in North American Oology.

This Month's Issue.

We opine that the oldest of our readers—and some of them have taken THE OOLOGIST since the first issue in 1884—have never seen a better Oologist than we send you this month. If each one of you will take a little interest in the journal and endeavor to send us at least one new subscriber you will thereby show us your appreciation for our extra effort. Can you not do so?

Bird Notes.

Send us in some more of your observations. At the rate we are printing them this month, the supply won't last long.

May 6th, 1910, a wild wood duck's nest was found in the overflowed Illinois river bottoms about fifteen feet above the water in the hollow end of a broken dead elm tree not over twelve inches in diameter. It contained fourteen eggs, evidently partially incubated, and an unusual quantity of down for this species.

"The Condor"

A Magazine of Western Ornithology

Edited by J. Grinnell.

Associate Editors:

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Vol. XII, 1910

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In continuation of its series of plates of the

Sparrows of North America

IN COLOR

Bird-Lore for January-February (Vol. XII, No. 1) contains colored figures of the Grasshopper, Henslow's Baird's and LeComte's Sparrows.

The series was begun in Bird-Lore for November-December, where the Chipping, Field, Tree, Clay-colored and Brewer's Sparrows were figured.

The demand for December, 1909, Bird-Lore has so exceeded our estimate that, in spite of the fact that we printed an unusually large edition, the supply is now exhausted. We will, however, send a copy of the Sparrow plate (the first of the Sparrows of North America in color) which appeared in that number, to all subscribers to Bird-Lore for 1910 (Vol. XII), in order that their series of these plates may be complete.

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- The Ornithologist and Oologist Semi-Annual, Published in 1889-90-91 by Wm. H. Foote of Pittsfield, Mass., and by C. C. Maxfield of Danbury, Conn, in 1891. No. 1, Vol. I.
- The Wilson Quarterly, Vol. 3.
- The Wilson Journal, Vol 1, Jany., 1893 and Vol. 2, June, 1893.
- The Oologist, of Utica, N. Y., Vols. 1-5 inclusive, for 1875 to 1881, any numbers.
- Journal of the Maine Ornithological Club. Vol. 2, No. 1, 2, 3, Vol.
- Birds of California, In relation to the fruit industry—Beal, Part II.
- Catalogue of Canadian Birds, by Prof. McCoun, Part I, 1st Ed.

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I will buy a large number of each of the above back numbers for cash at the rate they are listed at, as being for sale in this number of THE OOLOGIST. Address,

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For these I offer in exchange a very large list of the more common North American species, in original sets with full data. If you have none of the foregoing on hand now, but expect to take any this season, reserve what you take and write me.

THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS TAXIDERMY

VOL. XXVII. No. 6. ALBION, N. Y., JUNE 15, 1910. WHOLE No. 275

BRIEF SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wanted, Exchange, For Sale, Etc. inserted in this department at 25 cents for each 25 words for one issue; each additional word 1 cent. No notice inserted for less than 25 cents.

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Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office, at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "THE OÖLOGIST," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

BIRDS

WANTED.—One first set each of Sandhill and Whooping Crane, one pair of skins of Whooping Crane. Will exchange specimens from Northwest Canada. MACKAY & DIPPIE, Calgary, Alberta.

WANTED.—Skins of birds of the Rocky Mountain and Gulf states, also a few rare Eastern. Can offer material from Baja California (Mexico) and good exchange in well made Western skins. Please send complete lists. PINGREE I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Cal.

TO EXCHANGE.—Finely mounted birds and deer heads, several hundred Natural History and Sportsman's magazines, for bird and mammal skins. GEO. F. GUELF, Taxidermist, Brockport, N. Y.

Any collectors having a few good labeled specimens of foreign birds, send list. I will give A 1 skins of Illinois and California birds. Also offer skins of common specimens from Illinois for nests and sets of small species. HENRY K. COALE, Highland Park, Lake Co., Ill.

WANTED.—Male and female of Wood Duck, Great Horned Owl, Screech Owl, Sparrow Hawk, Flicker, Baltimore Oriole, Blue Jay and Scarlet Tanager. The first five with nests in section of hollow tree and the latter three with nests and eggs in section of original branches. For further particulars address J. FRIESEER, 5620 Lake Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED.—All eggs of the English Sparrow in any stage of incubation. Will pay 3c. per egg. No fresh or blown eggs wanted. Send me all you can get. P. G. HOWES, The Maplewood Museum of Natural Science, Stamford, Conn.

Nicely mounted birds sold at bargain prices; Canvasback, \$3.00; Robins, etc., 75c. Many others. Send stamp for complete list. A. RUSSELL SMITH, Edge Hill, Pa.

WANTED.—American and Foreign bird skins. Can offer in exchange mounted birds, bird skins and eggs in sets. Send list with exchange prices. JESSE T. CRAVEN, 811 Roosevelt Ave., Detroit, Mich.

I want 1 perfect skin in full breeding plumage of each of the following species: A. O. U. No. 396, 354, 456, 460, 468, 470a, 471, 477, 483, 495a, 498, 506, 515, 511b, 528, 530b, 534, 542c, 557, 558, 581d, 583, 585, 593c, 594, 641, 643, 644, 646, 651, 655, 657, 659, 660, 675, 679, 680, 681, 683, 685, 715, 737, 758a, 761, 725. I have duplicates for exchange of A. O. U. No. 373, 495, 498, 507, 529, 558, 559, 601, 608, 636, 648, 662, 594, 666. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED.—First class skins of Murrelets, Gulls, Shearwaters, Rails, Shore Birds, Grouse, Hawks, Owls, particularly Snowy and Great Gray, and certain small land birds. Offer representative Southern California species, also fine sets of personally taken Heermann's Gulls and Blue-footed Boobies. All reliable collectors send lists. PINGREY I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Calif.

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Is your Subscription paid up ?

EGGS

FOR EXCHANGE—First class Eggs in sets. C. S. RUTHERFORD, Revere, Mo.

Send exchange lists of first class sets for mine.—J. W. PRESTON, 1411 13th Ave., Spokane, Wash.)

I offer 1-3, 2-4 Fish Crow, 1-5 201, 1-5 194; all for a set of Bartman's Sandpiper 4 or 5 eggs. W. B. CRISPIN, Salem, N. J.

WANTED.—Good eggs, Indian relics, and Catocala. I have California butterflies, sea curiosities and stamps. R. E. DODGE, 552 Bay street, Santa Cruz, Cal.

WANTED.—Sets with or without nests. Particularly Sharp-tail and Seaside Sparrow. DR. J. P. BALL, Frankford, Pa. [2]†

FOR EXCHANGE.—2-2 Miss. Kite, 2-2 G-winged gull, 2-3 gl-winged gull. All collected by myself. G. W. STEVENS, Alva, Okla.

WANTED.—Eggs in sets with original data. Send list of everything and lowest cash price. R. L. MOORE, Vernon, Texas. [1]

EXCHANGE.—A fine series of ten of the Pallas Murre from Cape Hope, Alaska. I want 188, 332, 343, 348, 362, 364 and many others. D. E. BROWN, 6044 1st Ave., No. W. Sta. F. Seattle, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine set of 2, 3, 4 and 5 Ferruginous Rough-leg Hawk, on the basis of 75 cents cash value per egg. Only extra fine or rare material wanted. CHILDS MUSEUM, Floral Park, N. Y. [3]

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TO EXCHANGE—Sets with data, North American and Foreign. Can use many common kinds of both. Dr. T. W. RICHARDS U. S. Navy, 1911 N. St., N. W., Washington D. C.

"I have perfect sets of Mourning, Cerulean Black throated, Blue and Black throated Green Warbler, American Woodcock, Bartramian Sandpiper, King Rail, Canadian Spruce, Grouse and Sharp Shinned Hawk for exchange. I desire sets of American Flamingo, Long-billed Curlew, Sempalmated Plover, Franklin's Grouse, Bonaparte's Gull, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Red Cokaded Woodpecker, Pink-sided Junco, Hutton's and Black Capped Vireo, Sennett's Orange-crowned and Connecticut Warbler and Canada Jay. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, 945 Marquette Bldg., Chicago.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

I HAVE 273 3-4, 360a 2-4, 365 2-5, 375d 2-2, 476 1-6, 715 4-4, etc. U WANT 2-3-5-12-30-32-63-67-70-76-90-92-106-108-120-120c-128-258-318-319-320a-412-421 with nests; 428-432-433-434-436-439-466-466a-467-506-507, FRED TRUESDALE, Shandon, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in sets with full data. A. O. U. No. No. 11-3, 61-5, 131-1, 161-1, 271-2, 291-2, 30a 1-1, 32 1-1, 40 1-3, 43 1-1, 49 1-2, 51 1-3, 53 1-3, 56 1-2, 54 1-3, 58 1-3, 64 1-3, 67 1-1, 70 1-3, 72 1-3, 75 1-1, 77 1-2, 79 1-1, 80 1-4, 86 1-1, 106 1-1, 117 1-1, 120 1-3, 184 1-3, 191 1-5, 194 1-4, 200 1-3, 201 1-5, 202 1-4, 226 1-2, 271 1-1, 320a 1-1, 325 1-2, 326 1-2, 333 1-4, 337 1-2, 339 1-3, 348 1-2, 364 1-2, 378 1-1, 431 1-2 with nest; 506 1-2 519b 1-1, also blow pipe, embryo shears and hook and set of cut the lining egg drills. Will exchange all of the above for best offer of Indian bird spear points and other flint and bead relics. Write me and send outlines. HENRY J. RUST, Box 683, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

I want sets of following North American birds' eggs: A. O. U. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 40, 49, 51, 53, 70, 77, 125, 132, 140, 190, 196, 208, 224, 258, 261, 269, 280, 305, 325, 326, 332, 337, 343, 349, 352, 360, 362, 364, 368, 373, 375, 393, 394c, 402, 406, 416, 423, 428, 429, 452, 461, 464, 466, 466a, 477, 490, 494, 497, 506, 507, 517, 540, 546, 549, 550, 554, 558, 595, 604, 608, 611, 622, 627, 628, 631, 637, 648, 681, 702, 727, 735, 736, 746, 751, 758a, 759b. For any of these I will give full even rates in exchange, using the Lattin-Short 1905 Catalogue. I can offer A. O. U. Nos. 30a 6-1, 32 6-1, 79 1-1, 184-2-3 2-4, 187 2-3 2-4, 199 2-5, 313 1-2, 378a 2-5, 447 2-4, 448 2-4, 505a 1-3, 513 2-3, 528 1-4, 531 1-5, 542c 1-4, 552a 2-4, 578 1-2, 580a 1-2, 593a 1-4, 710 1-3, in sets. Also some desirable fossils; a large list of Shells, Minerals, Fossils, and curios and a few good books. If you have others to offer than those I mention above write me. I may be able to make you an offer. ERNEST H. SHORT, Box 173, Rochester, N. Y.

WANTED.—A few good skins of the Aleutian Tern (*Sterna aleutica*) Thayer Museum, Lancaster, Mass.

BOOKS

WANTED.—The Auk, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. VI, Nos. 1, 3. For cash or exchange. LOUIS A. FUERTES, Ithaca, N. Y.

WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

WANTED.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Abion, N. Y.

WANTED.—Books on birds. Will pay a reasonable cash price for those that I desire. State title and author, condition, etc. CHAS. F. CARR, (Personal), New London, Wis.

Have your Oologists or other magazines, bound by a careful, painstaking hand process. Write what you have and get styles. Prices reasonable. Exchange considered. HOWARD W. McMILLEN, Ada, Ohio. c

FOR SALE.—In perfect condition, "The North American Birds" by Henry Nehrling, German text, cloth bound, gilt edge, 668 pages and 36 plates, showing 137 species in natural color. Original price \$15. Sells for \$7. ERICH DIETRICH, Canby, Oregon.

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THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. . ALBION, N. Y. JUNE 15, 1910. WHOLE NO. 275

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.



No. 31 Nest and Eggs of Kentucky Warbler.

Photo by T. H. Jackson.



No. 35 Young Black-headed Gull, Winter plumage, Vevey, Switzerland.

Photo by P. G. Howes.

The Kentucky Warbler.

Plate No. 31.

Apologies are again due our old friend, Thomas H. Jackson for Plate 31 appearing on page 62 of the May issue of THE OOLOGIST and accompanying his article on the Kentucky Warbler. Through some process wholly unknown to us the wrong plate was substituted for the plate of Mr. Jackson's photo, and the one published was a photo of the nest, one egg and a young bird of the Turtle Dove.

In this issue we reproduce the plate which should have accompanied Mr. Jackson's article.

Our apologies are also due H. E. Bishop of Sayre, Pennsylvania, for using the plate from his photo of the Mourning Dove and crediting it to Mr. Jackson. The photo is an unusually good one and the mistake all round would be laughable were it not for the future use of these volumes, making the entire affair a matter of confusion.

Snakes.

Mr. Perez (Oologist, No. 274, p. 62), and others may be interested to learn that the apparent dislocating of the jaw noticed when a snake swallows a large object is a perfectly normal action, many bones of the head being so articulated as to allow of great freedom of movement. The digestive fluids of the snake's stomach will easily dissolve egg shells. The snake suffers no inconvenience whatever, either from the great distention of the mouth, or the difficulty of obtaining nourishment from an egg that he may have swallowed whole.

J. O. SNYDER.

**The Black Headed Gull on Lake
Leman, Switzerland.**

(*Larus ridisundus*)

Upper parts pearl-grey; wings with the exception of the primaries, which are white, edged and tipped with black, also pearl grey; head blackish brown; neck, rump and tail white; under parts also white; feet, legs and mandibles bright red. Winter: the same with the exception of the head which changes to white with a small brownish patch on the hind part of the crown. There is also a small circular patch just in back of the auriculars. Young: of a general mottled brown; a black band across the end of the



No. 34 Young Black-headed Gull, Mt. Grammont, Vevey, Switzerland.

Photo by P. G. Howes.

tail; mandibles yellowish-brown; legs and feet light orange. Sixteen inches. Winter resident?

The Black-headed gull is by far the commonest bird at Vevey and their screams may be heard at any hour of the day or night. From dawn until sunset they wing their way tirelessly up and down the shores of the lake, ever on the look out for any edible morsel. They are great divers, closely rivaling our American King fishers, and it is not an uncommon sight to see one suddenly fold its immaculate wings, drop into the water and emerge with a struggling perch or other fish. The other gulls, however, are quick to notice any such movement and have no hesitancy in making their brother's life a burden until the luckless fish slips down its captor's throat.

Moulting commences very early among the old birds and at this date (February 6th) many of them are in full summer plumage. The yearlings however have not started to change to the breeding plumage as yet.

At sundown hundreds of these birds congregate on the rocks along the edges of the lake and in places one would think that they were plaster rather than rock, so white are they from innumerable coatings of lime.

The usual cry is a harsh Kak! Kak! Kak! repeated several times. The birds have another cry which closely resembles that of the Cooper Hawk and still another which sounds like laughter and has earned for the birds their name of Ridibundus.

The Black-headed gulls nest in large communities, placing their nests of reeds and decaying vegetation in close proximity to each other among standing reeds or similar cover. The three or four eggs are greenish-buff, spotted and blotched with dark brown, black and grey, 2.2 x 1.5 in.

Out of the breeding season the

birds may be found following the plough in search of grubs and worms and in almost any place where there is sufficient water.

It is not a particularly easy bird to photograph. Their movements are very fast and they are very hard to approach unless there is a continual stream of bread or other food thrown to them. Twenty-four plates were exposed before the two pictures shown herewith were obtained. It was an hour and a quarter's wait after I set up my camera before a gull was kind enough to rest himself on the pile shown in the picture. At last! I said to myself, as I pushed the button, but imagine my disappointment a minute later on finding that I had forgotten to draw out the plate-holder slide! We have all been there, and I think it is unnecessary to mention the names which I called that poor innocent pile, gull and camera. After this the birds were more considerate and I had but fifteen minutes to wait before one alighted on my pile and allowed me to photograph him. The picture of the young gull was a lucky snap-shot and although I was trying to photograph the bird in flight, I had not expected him to drop his food so conveniently.

At what time the birds leave Vevey and at what place they carry on the duties of reproduction, I am unable to say, but as they start nesting in England in April, I should imagine that they would leave here sometime during that month. According to Boraston, the English Ornithologist, the Black-headed species nests on small islands in lakes or ponds throughout the British Isles. If this be so, the birds may possibly nest somewhere in the vicinity of Lake Leman, but it seems more probable to me that they fly to some inaccessible spot nearer to the coast rather than to rear

their young near such a thickly populated place as the shores of Lake Leman. There is one place however, where the gulls might nest, and this is at the eastern end of the lake where the river Rhone flows into it. Here the ground is low and swampy and is covered with a thick-growing low bush of some species unknown to the writer. Ground of this nature would make a typical nesting home for the Black-headed gulls and later in the spring, I intend to make an exhaustive search over this territory in hopes of finding the birds at home. If such a trip be made I shall report the results of it in a later number of THE OOLOGIST.

P. G. HOWES.

Mr. A. C. Read, now of the Isle of Pines, reports the taking of an English Blackbird (*Merula merula*) at Toledo, Ohio on October 30, 1906, as follows:

"Saw today a bird that has been puzzling me all fall. In size and shape it resembles a Robin; also in its walk or run, but in color it resembles a Blackbird, being jet black. Its notes when alarmed, are much like those of a robin, although a few are somewhat like those of a Grackle. Took this bird November 3d, sent it to Norman A. Wood of the University of Michigan for identification. He pronounced it an English Blackbird (*Merula merula*) but sent it to the Smithsonian Institute for further identification. The Institution verified his identification. In all probability it was an escaped cage bird, but I could learn of no-one who had one in our town, nor of any bird dealer who had ever seen one."

The article in the May issue relating to the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club should have been credited to W. M. Strong.

In the Rhone Valley of Switzerland.

On the morning of April 4, 1910, the writer started on a trip to the Valley of the Rhone in search of the nesting home of the Black-headed Gull. The Rhone is but fifteen miles from Vevey and is easily reached as many small steamers make daily visits to all parts of the lake. I disembarked at Villeneuve, a small town about three-quarters of a mile from the valley proper. Here I hired a row boat and after loading it with my cameras and other collecting materials, I was soon on my way to the supposed nesting home of "Ridibundus."

It was a typical April day; the sun was clear and warm and the liquid songs of Black thrushes and Chaffinches seemed to pour forth from every bush and tree as I started on my two-mile row to the mouth of the river. This low, swampy valley is perhaps some four miles wide, lying between great snow-capped mountains whose blue-shadowed crevices contrast vividly with their white, snow-covered peaks reaching to altitudes high above the low hanging clouds. To the north the Tour d'Alise rise almost perpendicularly from the valley to an altitude of 7005 feet. To the south are the well known Dents du Midi whose highest peak reaches 9555 feet and directly in front of us, far in the east, the Dent de Morcles rises like a great blue cone to an altitude of 8814 feet. The extreme end of Mount Grammont also rolls up from the southern side of the valley and one half mile to the north of this the Rhone empties into Lake Leman.

I landed but a few yards from the river's mouth and at once started to search the swampy country to the north of it. By 2 p. m. a strip one mile in length by one hundred and fifty feet in width had been carefully

gone over, but without finding the slightest sign of the gulls or their nests.

After eating my lunch I walked back to the boat intending to row up a few hundred feet and try the country to the south of the river, but had no sooner pushed off than a gull swept by, within a few yards of the boat, and to my great joy I noticed that it was

could be reached, as they were placed in the very center of a soft treacherous mire, covered with a species of tall growing reed, reaching to a height of six or seven feet. The nests were in all stages of construction, but none of them contained eggs.

From here I circled the mire, beaching the boat on the opposite side and started to search the dry land in back



No. 45 Valley of the River Rhone near Vevey, Switzerland.

Photo by Paul G. Howes.

carrying a large bunch of grass in its mandibles. The south side of the river was soon forgotten as the bird flew directly in the opposite direction, coming down into a swampy, reed-covered portion of the valley about three-quarters of a mile beyond where the morning's search had ceased. On reaching the spot I found that there were ten nests, but not one of them

of the swamp. Half an hour's work revealed one nest, a large affair of dead reeds and grasses apparently just ready for the reception of the eggs. It was placed on a slight mound separated from the mire by the remains of an old stone wall and within ten feet of a frequently used path to Villeneuve. Knowing that I would not be able to visit the place again as I

was leaving for another part of the country on April 6th, I photographed the empty nest which is shown herewith.

Having accomplished my end in finding the Black-headed gulls in their nesting haunts, I now started rowing back towards Villeneuve and by keeping in close to the tall reeds at the lake's edge many other interesting

whole valley was ringing with their liquid songs. Little Brown Grebes (*Tachybaptus fluviatilis*) would occasionally swim into view from among the reeds, diving noiselessly and without causing a ripple, at the sight of my boat. When seen for the first time, its small, rounded form, with fluffed up plumage, no proper tail, and the head nestling between the should-



No. 44 Nesting territory of Black-headed Gull, Rhone Valley, Apr. 4, 1910.

Photo by Paul G. Howes.

birds were noted which might have otherwise been overlooked. Pied Wagtails (*Motacilla lugubris*) were abundant, and many grey wagtails (*Motacilla melanope*) were also seen. Redstarts (*Ruticilla phoenicurus*) Chaffinches (*Fringilla coelebs*) and Green finches (*Ligurinus chloris*) were equally common and that day the

ers, it could easily be mistaken for a duckling. But when upon the barest hint of intrusion upon its privacy, it dives noiselessly without disturbance of the water with the rapidity of a flash of lightning, usually to appear no more within sight, it will be understood that this is an old bird in a special sense of the term-

Two nests of the European Magpie (*Pica rustica*) were noted. One of these was situated sixty feet from the ground in a tall poplar, while the other was but seven feet about the water in a small bush on the edge of the lake. The latter nest was composed of large sticks placed on a foundation of mud and lined with root-

fainter and fainter as the steamer swung far out into the lake and as an ornithologist a feeling of regret came over me, for I had probably seen the last of the Valley of the Rhone and the Black-headed gulls for many years to come. P. G. HOWES.



No. 43 Nest of the Black-headed Gull, Rhone Valley, Switz., Apr. 4, 1910.

Photo by Paul G. Howes.

lets and fine grasses. It contained an incomplete set of three eggs, pale bluish-green, closely spotted and speckled with olive brown and underlying blotches of purplish-grey. I was now close to Villeneuve again and ten minutes later I was standing on the back deck of the S. S. "Italic" bound for Vevey. I could hear the voices of the birds back in the valley, growing

NEW SUBSCRIBERS:—A number of our readers answered our request in the May issue and sent in one or more new subscribers each. This is the kind of support that will keep **THE OOLOGIST** up to its present high standard. Why cannot each one go and do likewise? You **can** if you **WILL**.

Notes On Four European Members of
The Genus *Baeolophus*.

Parus Major, Great Titmouse. Head and throat black; cheeks and a patch on the nape white; back, rump and tail coverts olive green; scapulars dark olive green; primaries and secondaries bluish black, outlined with bluish white; shoulder bright

side my window and here they find an abundance of food. The song is subject to great variation, indeed, I do not ever remember watching a flock of this species without hearing some new variation of their usual "Seetira! Seetira! Seetira!" or their inhospitable "Git-a-long! Git-a-long! Git!"

In summer the Great Tit is to be



No. 42 Nest of Black headed Gull in Valley of the Rhone, Apr. 4, 1910.

Photo by Paul G. Howes.

blue; one white wing bar; tail feathers dusky, the outer ones partly white; under parts bright yellow, divided in the center by a black line from chin to vent. Length six inches. Resident.

The Great Tit is the largest of the tribe as well as the commonest here at Vevey. Hordes of them make daily visits to the cypress trees just out-

sought in the heavily wooded sections of the country where it builds its nest of moss, fibers and feathers, placing it in cavities in trees or holes in old walls. The six to eight eggs are white, speckled and blotched with reddish-brown.

Parus britannicus, Coal Titmouse. Head, throat and center of neck

black; ear coverts, sides of neck and nape white; back greyish; wings greyish with two white cross bars; tail smoky grey; underparts yellowish white. Length four and one-half inches. Resident.

Although the Coal Tit is said to be widely distributed throughout Switzerland, it does not appear to be at all common. While one may see great numbers of Great Tits in a single day here at Vevey, the coal Tit seldom makes his appearance. It also differs somewhat in its habits from the other species of the same family, often remaining on the ground for long periods at a time as if the thought had never occurred to it that there might be plenty of insect food in the bark crevices of the surrounding trees. In fact, I believe that during the winter the Coal Tit eats a great many more seeds than insects.

In the spring the majority of these birds retire to the more heavily wooded mountainous districts to carry on the duties so important to their vitality.

The nest is placed in a crevice or a hole in a tree and it is composed almost entirely of moss and plant fibers. The six or seven eggs are almost exactly like those of our Chickadee, both in size and dimensions, but the reddish spots are perhaps generally more numerous on the eggs of this little foreigner.

As you enter the spruce groves on the numerous mountains which surround Vevey, a short, acute, but musical tinkling will occasionally greet the ear and you know that you have found the Coal Tit at home. His two bright eyes are intent upon every movement, but stand motionless for a minute and the owner of these bright eyes will soon consider you a harmless lunatic; regain lost confidence and go on unconcernedly about his

business, shouting his merry tinkling song and seizing every luckless seed or insect which happens in his hungry path.

Parus coerulens; Blue Titmouse. Crown blue; sides of head white divided by a blackish line from the base of the bill, across the eye to the back of the head, and enclosed by a heavier dark band looped from the nape to the chin; back of head and nape bright blue; back olive green; tail and wings bright blue, the latter with an indistinct greyish white cross bar. Length four and one-half inches. Resident.

To me the Blue or Tom Tit, as it is frequently called is one of the most beautiful of all European birds. His clean cut lines and flashy colors remind one more of a jewel than a bird as he flits here and there among the trees, performing all kinds of acrobatic feats and peering into every nook and crevice in a tireless and endless search for food. Everyone puts up little wooden houses or coconut shells for these little birds and there are few country gardens which do not have their tit families in the spring time.

They are sociable birds, often roaming about during the fall and winter in company with other tits, nuthatches or creepers. The Blue Tit's song is a metallic "Sing! Sing! siiiing!" repeated at very short intervals and often followed by a sharp "Ping! Ping!" The nests are like those of the last species, but they sometimes lay as many as eleven eggs! this being the case of a pair whose nest is in the Museum of Natural History here at Vevey.

Parus cristatus; Crested Titmouse. Back, rump and tail coverts reddish brown; lower parts white, tinged with buff, sides of neck and face white; throat and chin black; collar and a semi-circular patch behind the ear

also black; scapulars, primary, greater, middle and lesser coverts reddish brown; tertials, secondaries and primary Crest bluish-white with eight dark spots on each feather, forming eight distinct rows.

The Crested Tit is the rarest of the tribe and is seldom met with outside of the dense spruce forests of the mountains. Although I have tramped over a large part of the country surrounding Vevey, I have yet to find this species occurring below 3600 feet. The species observed at this altitude were seen among the spruces near the summit of Mt. Cubby, in a forest so dense that it was with no little difficulty that the coloring of the birds was correctly determined. Like the Coal Tit, the crested species seem to find as much food upon the ground as in the crevices of bark and consequently they spend a great deal of their time upon the soft floors characteristic to the forests which they inhabit.

If the crested tit has a regular song, I have yet to hear it, in fact, I have only heard their call note, a weak "Tseep", "Tseep", or a more drawn out "Tseeeep", resembling that of a Brown creeper.

The nest is composed of almost any soft material such as wool, horse hair, plant fibres or feathers and is placed in situation characteristic to the tit tribe. The eggs vary in number from five to eight. They are white, sprinkled with reddish brown, the spots forming an indistinct wreath around the larger end. They measure .62 x .48.

P. G. HOWES.

Who Knows? We Don't.

"During July, 1909, I was interested one day in watching a Barn Swallow feeding her young. The young sat on a telegraph wire and the old bird, af-

ter procuring food, would fly to them and without stopping, would deposit the food in the open mouth of the young bird as she passed. The performance was repeated many times, the old bird always passing under the wire and the young bird opening its mouth to receive the tid-bit at her approach. Is this method of feeding the young customary with Barn Swallows or Swallows in general as soon as the young leave the nest?

H. E. BISHOP."

A Correction.

I find among my early contributions to THE OOLOGIST at page 237, Volume 6, an error that should be corrected. This note should read Female Rose-breasted Grosbeak instead of Cedar Waxwing. The Grosbeak at that time was an entirely new bird to this locality and I took it for the female Waxwing. That was in the good old days when I would rather paint and draw the birds than go to the woods, but now I do both and enjoy it.

GEO. W. H. VOS BURGH.

We have recently had the pleasure of examining the check list of the collection of the well-known ornithologist, A. E. Price of, Grant Park, Illinois, and find he has the unusual number of 702 species and sub-species represented in his collection of North American birds eggs. That his collection is an unusually valuable one as to rarity of specimens represented may be judged by the fact that in checking his list against our own, we find 57 varieties in his collection not represented in ours.

Sunday, May 30, 1909, the nest of a Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufus*) was found in the Catholic cemetery at Henry, Illinois, built on the ground at the base of a sweet clover bush. So

far as our knowledge, experience and reading goes, a very unusual nesting site for this species; indeed the first instance of the kind coming within our personal knowledge. The nest contained four eggs and the mother bird apparently as much at home as she nestled among the grass, as a Red-wing Blackbird or Meadow lark.

FROM ISLE OF PINES.

A Field Trip to 'Sas Tres Hermanas' Mountains, April 4, 1910.

It was a cloudy Sunday morning when we started from McKinley for Nueva Gerona from where we were to go to the mountains. In our party there were ten, three of us on horse back and the rest in a wagon. After a most enjoyable ride of about twelve miles we arrived at the base of the mountains where we ate lunch. After eating we started to climb and in due time arrived at the top. The view was fine, but because of the mist we could not see quite so far out at sea as we could have on a clearer day, and our photographs were not so good. Very few birds were seen on the mountains, namely: Black-whiskered Vireo, which were in full song; Turkey Buzzards, and a pair of Broad-winged Hawks. The following birds were seen on the trip to and from Nueva Gerona:

Lizard Cuckoo, Cuban Kingbird, Gray Kingbird, Cuban Oriole, Cuban Pewee, Red-legged Thrush, Cuban Sparrow Hawk, Palm Warbler, Pigeon (*Columba inornata*), Meadow-lark, West Indian Mourning Dove, Cuban Ground Dove, Cuban Grackle, Florida Yellow-throat, Cuban Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-faced Grassquit and the best of all the Melodious Grassquit, which is an extremely rare bird. We arrived home about 7:30 p. m., tired, but well pleased with our trip and hope to go again soon.

A. C. READ.

Books Received.

Part 1, pp. 1-8, Volume 7, University of California Publications in Zoology, May 26, 1910.

This publication described two alleged new birds, as follows:

Sahuaru Screech Owl (*otis asio gilmani*)—"Most like *Otis asio cineraceus*—Ridgeway, from which it differs chiefly in slightly smaller size, paler coloration and greater restriction of the dark markings."

Arizona Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis huachucae*)—"Similar to *Strix occidentalis occidentalis*—Xanthus, but slightly smaller and conspicuously paler, white markings more extensive and dark areas less deep toned."

Both of these birds are described by Harry S. Swarth, the first being based upon a comparison of a series of eight birds and the latter based exclusively upon the type specimen.

We are now arriving at the natural and, necessarily to be expected end of the transition stage through which American Ornithology has of late been aimlessly traveling. Praise the Lord! We may now describe a new sub-species based upon a single bird. This is as it should be. Every ornithologist from now on may without fear, label every bird that he finds as an independent new sub-species and thereby indefinitely enlarge private collection. Throw away all your labels and in lieu of a dozen or fifteen sub-species of Horned Larks and a couple of dozen different Song Sparrows take each specimen in your collection and re-label each bird, a separate sub-species. You may thereby at sometime in the very distant, misty future, enroll your name in letters bold and bright upon the future pages of American Ornithology as the originator or discoverer of a sub-species that is "similar to . . . but slightly smaller" than some other bird that somebody else secured the day before or the day after. You will certainly thereby, to say the least, encourage the destruction of the birds in the endless hunt for something that is "similar to" but "slightly different from."

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The series was begun in Bird-Lore for November-December, where the Chipping, Field, Tree, Clay-colored and Brewer's Sparrows were figured.

The demand for December, 1909, Bird-Lore has so exceeded our estimate that, in spite of the fact that we printed an unusually large edition, the supply is now exhausted. We will, however, send a copy of the Sparrow plate (the first of the Sparrows of North America in color) which appeared in that number, to all subscribers to Bird-Lore for 1910 (Vol. XII), in order that their series of these plates may be complete.

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THE OÖLOGIST.

BIRDS--NESTS--EGGS TAXIDERMY

VOL. XXVII. No. 7. ALBION, N. Y., JULY 15, 1910. WHOLE No. 276

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In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

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WANTED.—Kodak film developing tank, for No. 1 Folding Pocket Kodak (Eastman) 2 1/2 x 3 or larger. Write me what you have, stating condition and price. O. A. RENA-HAN, Wawaka, Ind. (1e)

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FOR SALE.—Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition. Published by H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Cal., 1904. 25c. per copy, 3 for 50c., 7 copies for \$1.00. All prepaid for the price. Every egg collector in America should have a copy. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal. (2)

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Taxidermic Specimens for sale. A fine litter of young coyotes, about five weeks old; all skinned and cleaned in first class condition, with leg and skull bones, and measurements. The mother of the brood can be supplied also if desired. If interested, write. Price reasonable. Will mount one to show natural pose and expression, if desired. G. W. STEVENS, Curator, Okla. State Museum, Alva, Okla. (2)

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

The Oologist is growing every month. If you are interested in birds send it to some friend as a birthday gift. Help it along.

WANTED FOR CASH.—"Bird Lore" volume X numbers 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6; volume XI, numbers 5 and 6. All numbers, including cover pages, must be whole, clean and in perfect condition for binding. I have Studer's "The Birds of North America" containing plates of upwards of seven hundred (700) different species and varieties, drawn and colored from nature by Theodore Jasper. These two rare and valuable books I will exchange for best offer of choice sets (Taylor's Catalogue). G. H. MESSENGER, Linden, Iowa.

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THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. 7. ALBION, N. Y. JULY 15, 1910.

WHOLE NO. 276

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.



No. 37. Portrait of Troup D. Perry

TROUPE D. PERRY

With this issue we present a half-tone photo of our old friend Troupe D. Perry, of Savannah, Georgia. Few Ornithologists in the United States are better known to the general run of bird students. For a generation Mr. Perry has been a student of the birds of his locality and a collector on a large scale. Rare indeed it is to find any collections of oological specimens within the borders of the United States, of any considerable size, that does not contain numerous specimens with dates in Mr. Perry's well known handwriting behind them. Many of the larger collections in Europe likewise contain numerous examples of his industry and preparation. He is noted among the oologists of the country for the accuracy of his statements and extreme care with which he prepares everything taken by him.

Would that there were more of this kind abroad in the land.

D. B. BURROWS.

Professor Burrows, a well known bird student of Lacon, Illinois has just finished a year's superintendency of the Evant, Texas schools, being his second year there, and goes next year to San Diego, Texas, to take charge of the schools of that city. He is to be congratulated upon his promotion.

A card from him says, "I have done a little collecting, and have taken Plumbeous Chickadee, plumbeous Gnatcatcher, and Audubon's Oriole, among others." He will be home in a few days and Ye editor will without doubt have the privilege of inspecting these rare specimens.

Professor Burrows has probably as complete a collection of Texas specimens personally taken as any person living, he having taught in that state

nearly all of the time since 1892, and in widely separated localities, giving him an unusual opportunity to extend his acquaintance among the different species of that fauna.

THE RUFFED GROUSE.

(Bonasa umbellus)

A. O. U. No. 300.

This well known game bird is found throughout Eastern North America and is subject to few variations. It is not migratory and usually breeds wherever it is found. One of the first birds that the boys wandering through the woods become acquainted with, is the Ruffed Grouse. The bird forces itself upon the attention of the youngster either by its drumming, a peculiar noise that at once attracts the attention of the young mind, or startles Young America half out of his wits as it rises at his feet from the leaves and brush with a whirl and roar of its wings, truly appalling to the boy mind.

Its favorite haunts are the edge of the woods, abjuring usually the deep secluded densely wooded tracks. The nest is merely a depression scratched in the ground, lined with a few leaves, grass, stems and weeds, and is situated at the foot of a small shrub or at the base of a large stump or tree, sometimes by the side of a log and occasionally under brush or bushes; almost invariably where the ground is more or less covered with fallen last year's leaves, with which the protective coloration of the bird match up almost to perfection.

The eggs, numbering from eight to fourteen, are of an ovate, slightly pointed at one end, shape, of creamy color and sparsely spotted with brownish rusty or reddish spots, scattered sparingly over the shell, and usually showing but faintly. The bird is noted as a close sitter, and will

permit itself to be almost trod upon before leaving its nest.

It is noted as a wild denizen of the forests and is usually looked upon as also the Prairie Chicken, as untamable, but this is erroneous; for the Ruffed Grouse has been tamed within a comparatively short time, until it was nearly as domestic as a Bantam chicken. It is a useful bird in that it destroys vast numbers of insects

which would otherwise prey upon the forest trees; and great quantities of weed seeds, besides being excelled by but few of its tribe as a table bird.

The splendid plate of the nest and eggs of this species appearing in this issue of THE OOLOGIST, is made from a photo taken by H. E. Bishop in the vicinity of Philadelphia and is truly a first class representation of the real home of this grouse.



No. 23. Nest and eggs of Ruffed Grouse.

—Photo by H. E. Bishop

THE "RED-LEGGED" BLACK DUCK.

The case of Dwight vs. Brewster, IN RE the Red-Legged Black Duck has again broken out to the tune of eleven pages of space in the July Issue of The Auk—and the end is not yet.

Query — How much information

could these distinguished gentlemen acquire by rearing a few Black Ducks in confinement and ascertaining whether or not the Red-Legged and common varieties would develop from the same brood? Did it ever occur to you?

BARTRAMIAN SANDPIPER.

For a long number of years expert gunners have brought in specimens of this bird and the same has been noticed around Buffalo and vicinity during the entire season, making it plausible that they breed here, but never before has this fact been established. Having heard that numbers were seen in rear of the shipyard on the Canadian side of Niagara River, near Bridgeburg, we decided to go there on June 12th and look for them. Arriving there we searched for them on the somewhat dry meadows and very soon raised a pair, but did not find their nest. The male flew close around us uttering its peculiar whistle. Finally the female circled around us uttering its weird whistle entirely different from that of the male.

We went to another field close by and soon another pair circled around us. We hid in three different directions and watched the birds and were rewarded by seeing the male and female fly to the ground on the same spot. We closed in on them and to our delight, found the nest; but to our grief, the four eggs lay broken, scattered around the nest. Several pictures of the nest and eggs were taken and I finally packed the pieces carefully in a box and have them in my collection. They are more pyas form in shape than those that I have from North Dakota.

We decided that I should return to the meadow where we saw the first pair and my son Ed. and Mr. James Savage concluded to make a wide circle to look for more. The latter, after a searching tour located another pair and finally found a young bird about a week old, closely watched by the parent birds, flying alarmingly around them. Mr. Savage took several pictures.

I, in the meantime, watched the first

pair, but could not locate the nest. The male bird lit on a fence post about thirty feet away and uttered its peculiar call while the female circled around me.

By this time the afternoon was well advanced and we had to take our boat to get back to Buffalo.

The end of May will be the proper time next year to look for the eggs.

The Bartramian and Spotted Sandpipers have increased materially in the vicinity of Buffalo.

OTTAMAR REINEKE.

THE SWAMP SPARROW.

(*Melospiza georgiana*)

A. O. U. No. 584.

This inconspicuous little grayish colored bird is well known to all bird students; but to the ordinary layman, it is just one of the multitude of "brown chippies" with which cognomen most of our small sparrows are designated.

The home of the Swamp Sparrow, as its name would imply is in the marshy swamps, scattered throughout its range. This little bird wears a bright chestnut crown and black visor, usually streaked with black. The black throat patch so common to many of our sparrows is wanting. The upper parts are brownish, boldly variegated with black center lines of the feathers, and grayish outer edgings of the wing, giving the bird a streaked appearance. The under parts are an ashy gray.

Its range covers almost the entire Eastern part of North America West to the Great Plains, North to Hudson Bay and Labrador. It winters in the Southern states. It is an abundant bird in the breeding season, and like its near relative, the Song Sparrow, is a fine musician.

Its nest is placed at the base of a small sprout or in the side of a bank

or in a bunch of grass or small weeds in the swamps. It usually lays four eggs, occasionally five. These superficially resemble the Song Sparrow in general appearance, but a well selected series of each species will disclose pronounced differences. The ground color in the Swamp Sparrow being usually of a lighter green, the eggs appreciably smaller and not so thickly spotted, but usually with larger spottings than those to be found on the Song Sparrow.

The nest is constructed of grass, fine weeds and lined with finer straws or grasses, deeply cupped and not infrequently with its base sunken into the ground.

This little bird is a harmless member of its tribe, not especially beneficial, and for that reason (?) is seldom disturbed or persecuted by man; as the genus *Homo* seems to exhaust most of his destructive energies in assaults upon highly beneficial members of the bird tribe.

We present herewith a photo of a typical nest and set of eggs of this species in situ, taken in the vicinity of Philadelphia by H. E. Bishop, who is well known to the readers of *THE OOLOGIST*. It is especially good in view of the fact that it is perfectly typical.



No. 28 Nest and eggs of Swamp Sparrow.

—Photo by H. E. Bishop

Nesting of the King Rail.

By P. B. Peabody.

Editor, THE OOLOGIST:

There is truth in your comment, in July, current issue of the OOLOGIST; that "it is the misfortune of American Ornithology, relative to many species; our most common, everyday birds are over-looked in the strenuous hunt for rarities."

Yet I am compelled to say, as one result of my own "strenuous hunt" after data covering our "most common, everyday birds," that there is really more literature concerning itself with the habits of common birds, than one is apt to imagine. The accompanying pages afford a by-no-means unusual example of the large amount of fugitive literature which abounds in the choicest and most valuable material for the bird student. The excerpts from the manuscript of my work are given verbatim; and I append material of my own:

(From Manuscript of Nesting Ways of North American Birds):

"The nests of the King Rail are coarsely built of grass or rushes; and are placed amid rushes or grass. P. M. Silloway has made ample study of the nestings. Let us consult him:

(King) Rails locate their nests where water is receding; and they perhaps intend that the ground shall be uncovered of water when the young step from the nest. I never found late nests on the dry or uncovered ground; but I have examined nests with incubated eggs in the outer flags where the ground was uncovered; and even baked hard.

"The ordinary nest is made of bits of rushes lined with softer portions of rush. King Rails canopy their nests; and the presence of the shelter made by the drooping (sic) and drawing together of the tops of the stems

is a pretty sure index of a nest with its full complement.* The eggs number (for Illinois), from eight to fourteen; sets of ten, eleven and twelve being most common." (Some Common Birds, 307). Two sets are laid, in the South. In South Carolina First sets are laid between May 10 and June 15; while the later broods are nascent between June 20 and July 15. One brood, only, is raised, more northerly. In Stafford County, Kansas, the Author found nests only just ready for occupancy the First of June. Iowa nests are "full" as early as May 20. In Minnesota the layings are completed between June 10 and the First of July. In the North, (at least), a King Rail nest may be found at times, at some little distance from water. Most Rails will play this trick, occasionally, (especially the Virginia).

"Parasitism prevails with the King Rail; as with many water birds. B. H. Swales reported, from a little swamp, near Detroit, Michigan, a nest containing, June, nine eggs of the host; seven of the Virginia Rail; and one of the Sora. And Mr. Silloway says: "I found a nest containing eight eggs of the (Florida) Gallinule and five eggs of the (King) Rail, the Rail being the usurper." (op. & loc. cit., supra). The writer has long been interested in the King Rail; through the very casualness of his acquaintance with it. Glimpses of this "folio edition" of the familiar Virginia Rail, seen at famous Heron Lake, Minnesota, and in the outskirts of the City of St. Paul, and again in the smaller marshes of Southern Minnesota, have kindled in my soul desire to find the nest of this greatest of North American Rails.

In early June, 1908, I was being clumsily trundled along through the sand dunes of Stafford County, Kansas, en route for the big salt marshes;

when suddenly, in a swale, ditch-encumbered and filled with rushes and water, along the railway right of way, I saw, for just a moment, the forms of a (suppositious) pair of King Rails.

Later research brought some five nests to light. These were rendered greatly conspicuous by the very means that were being used for the concealment of the eggs; namely, the canopy. All nests but one were in at least a few inches of water. All were amid rushes and cat-tails; and were made of cat-tails and grasses. I am inclined to consider most of the nests as decoys: there being no evidence in the (thoroughly workable) areas wherein the nests were found, of more than two pairs of birds. There were no eggs, as yet, on the second day of June. It has never been possible for me to follow up this find. My excuse must be my absorption in "the strenuous hunt for rarities." That I have been successful in this quest, going three different years, as I have done, clear across three states to search for nests of the Yellow Rail in one small two-acre section of a great North Dakota coulee, must be set down not nearly so much to sheer "good luck" as to that intimate knowledge which comes of unending study and an unbounded capacity for hard work. It is no small honor to have been enabled to discover five out of the not-more-than-ten nests of the rarest of North American Rails, (*noveboracensis*), that science has brought to light during the past ten years. But this, in Kipling language, is "another story."

P. B. PEABODY.

*Note, Page 2: Professor Silloway is in error, here. My fully-canopied egg.

◆◆◆

In California.

A number of our California subscribers have forwarded us the following

clipping from one of the Los Angeles papers, presumably desiring that we publish it. There is no more fascinating department in all the study of ornithology than the keeping of wild birds in as near natural surroundings as possible in confinement, and thereby becoming acquainted with many of their peculiarities, which can be learned possibly in no other manner.

—

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To attempt to name the inhabitants of the place would be to give a catalog of most of the rare and beautiful feathered creatures of the world. Nearly every country is represented and nearly every bird of plumage or of song is included in the collection.

J. C. Edwards, one of the foremost bird authorities of the United States, a man who has devoted his life to the study of birds, has been placed in charge of the institution by Mr. Grider.

The institution is to be opened Saturday night and a cordial invitation has been extended the public by Mr. Grider.

Returns From Alaska.

Our friend, Professor Stevens of the Northwestern Normal School at Alva, Oklahoma, has but recently returned from an extended Alaskan trip and this is what is told of it in one of the papers published in the capitol of his state:

Guthrie, Ok.—Returning home from seven months spent in Alaska with one of the finest zoological specimens ever brought out from the Arctic region, Professor George W. Stevens, head of the department of biology at the Northwestern Oklahoma normal school at Alva, is in Guthrie to discuss with the board of normal school regents the disposition of the material which he has secured.

Professor Stevens's collection includes groups of eight big Arctic animals, moose, caribou, seals, sea lions, black bear, Kadiack brown bear, deer and white mountain sheep. He also secured a fine collection of smaller animals, such as beaver, mink and otter, about 120 varieties of birds and 1,500 valuable birds' eggs, which are worth on an average \$1 apiece.

Most of his hunting was done on the Kenai peninsula, with the town of Seward as the base of supplies, although some of his finest specimens of deer were killed in Southern Alaska. He considers himself very fortunate in securing the white mountain sheep, which are quite rare and difficult to get. The mountain climbing involved their hunting a hazardous experience, although the most exciting

game of all to hunt, according to Professor Stevens, are the Kadiack bears, which are of about the same variety as the grizzly, only twice as large. One of the animals which he killed weighed 1,400 pounds and some of them run as high as 1,600 pounds. He gives a very graphic description of the sensations experienced when trailing a wounded bear through almost impenetrable underbrush, with the knowledge that at any moment the bear is likely to turn and fight, hunter and hunted then having their position reversed.

With everything packed into the very smallest available space, Professor Stevens brought back with him half a carload of material, all of which came through in very good shape. The bulk of it probably will go to the museum of the Alva school, which, through his efforts, already has a fine collection of Oklahoma fauna. The board of regents is inclined to give some of the specimens thus obtained to the other normal schools, but will probably require them to mount the specimens and prepare them for exhibition themselves.

Professor Stevens is a graduate of Kansas university, and received his training in zoology and taxidermy under Professor L. L. Dyche, the famous Kansas scientist and hunter of big game.

BIRD NOTES.

We wish everyone of our subscribers who writes to the Editor no matter upon what business or subject, would include in his letter some item of news which the writer believes would be of interest to our readers, or any considerable portion thereof. This we would appreciate, as it would assist us in furnishing just what our readers want, viz: fresh, crisp field notes.

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The demand for December, 1909, Bird-Lore has so exceeded our estimate that, in spite of the fact that we printed an unusually large edition, the supply is now exhausted. We will, however, send a copy of the Sparrow plate (the first of the Sparrows of North America in color) which appeared in that number, to all subscribers to Bird-Lore for 1910 (Vol. XII), in order that their series of these plates may be complete.

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Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 276 your subscription expires with this issue. 281 your subscription expires with December issue 1910. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office, at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "THE OÖLOGIST," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

BIRDS

WANTED.—One first set each of Sandhill and Whooping Crane, one pair of skins of Whooping Crane. Will exchange specimens from Northwest Canada. MACKAY & DIPPIE, Calgary, Alberta.

WANTED.—Skins of birds of the Rocky Mountain and Gulf states, also a few rare Eastern. Can offer material from Baja California (Mexico) and good exchange in well made Western skins. Please send complete lists. PINGREE I. OSBURNE, Pasadena, Cal.

TO EXCHANGE.—Finely mounted birds and deer heads, several hundred Natural History and Sportsman's magazines for bird and mammal skins. GEO. F. GUELF, Taxidermist, Brockport, N. Y.

Any collectors having a few good labeled specimens of foreign birds, send list. I will give A 1 skins of Illinois and California birds. Also offer skins of common specimens from Illinois for nests and sets of small species. HENRY K. COALE, Highland Park, Lake Co., Ill.

WANTED.—A few good skins of the Aleutian Tern (*Sterna aleutica*) Thayer Museum, Lancaster, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Set of three Corey Least Bittern for handsome set Golden Eagle Many common Florida sets for Terns and Hummers. O. E. BAYNARD, Gainesville, Fla. (1e)

WANTED.—Prothonotary Warbler 1-5, Parula Warbler 1-5. If you have these send for my list. D. I. SHEPARDSON, 1128 Hobard Blvd., Los Angeles, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Bird skins, Hooker's Natural History, Davies' 4th Edition, common tame Pigeons. Desire books on birds, bird skins, or mounted birds. O. M. GREENWOOD, Manchester, Iowa. (1e)

I want 1 perfect skin in full breeding plumage of each of the following species: A. O. U. No. 396, 354, 456, 460, 468, 470a, 471, 477, 483, 495a, 498, 506, 515, 511b, 528, 530b, 534, 542c, 557, 558, 581d, 583, 585, 593c, 594, 641, 643, 644, 646, 651, 655, 657, 659, 660, 675, 679, 680, 681, 683, 685, 715, 757, 758a, 761, 725. I have duplicates for exchange of A. O. U. No. 373, 495, 498, 507, 529, 558, 559, 601, 608, 636, 648, 662, 594, 666. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED.—First class skins of Murrelets, Gulls, Shearwaters, Rails, Shore Birds, Grouse, Hawks, Owls, particularly Snowy and Great Gray, and certain small land birds. Offer representative Southern California species, also fine sets of personally taken Heermann's Gulls and Blue-footed Boobies. All reliable collectors send lists. PINGREY I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Calif.

THE CELEBRATED HUNGARIAN AND ENGLISH PAKTRIDGES AND PHEASANTS, capercaillies, black game, wild turkeys, quails, rabbits, deer, etc. for stock purposes. Fancy pheasants, peafowl, swans, cranes, storks, ornamental geese and ducks, foxes, squirrels, ferrets, and all kinds of birds and animals. WENZ & MACKENSEN, Dept. H, Pheasantry & Game Park, Yardley, Pa.

WANTED.—Eggs in sets with original data. Send list of everything you have. GEORGE SETH GUION, Napoleonville, La.

EGGS

FOR EXCHANGE.—First class Eggs in sets. C. S. RUTHERFORD, Revere, Mo.

Send exchange lists of first class sets for mine.—J. W. PRESTON, 1411 13th Ave., Spokane, Wash.

I offer 1-3, 2-4 Fish Crow, 1-5 201, 1-5 194; all for a set of Bartman's Sandpiper 4 or 5 eggs. W. B. CRISPIN, Salem, N. J.

WANTED.—Good eggs, Indian relics, and Catocala. I have California butterflies, sea curiosities and stamps. R. E. DODGE, 552 Bay street, Santa Cruz, Cal.

EXCHANGE.—A fine series of ten of the Pallas Murre from Cape Hope, Alaska. I want 188, 332, 343, 348, 362, 364 and many others. D. E. BROWN, 6044 1st Ave., No. W. Sta. F. Seattle, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine set of 2, 3, 4 and 5 Ferruginous Rough-leg Hawk, on the basis of 75 cents cash value per egg. Only extra fine or rare material wanted. CHILDS MUSEUM, Floral Park, N. Y. [3]

WANTED.—Sets of 351, 352, 352a, 206, and many common sets; have to offer choice sets 679 1-4, 417 1-2, 419 1-2, 337, 339, 375, 263, 261, 273 and many other choice sets; send list and receive mine. RAY DINSMORE, Perry, Ohio

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine sets of Least Tern, Black Skimmer, Louisiana Heron, Wayne's Clapper Rail, Florida Burrowing Owl, and others. For particulars address W. W. WORTHINGTON, Shelter Island Heights, New York.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in fine sets, beautiful minerals, butterflies and moths in dust and insect proof cases, and other natural history specimens. Want all the above. Send lists and receive mine. LEWIS C. SNYDER, Lacona, New York.

FOR EXCHANGE.—A few choice sets of glaucous-winged gull, black oyster catcher, ring-necked plover, Kodiak fox sparrow, Pacific murre. All collected by myself. G. W. STEVENS, Alva, Okla.

FOR SALE.—Some rare single eggs from Iceland, Loons, Sjaa, Glaucous Gull, Oldsquaw, Northern Eider, Bean Goose, Whooping Swan, Golden Plover, Dunlin, Godwit, Ruff, Snowflake, Iceland Falcon, and others. Send for full list to H. WARREN, Room 215 St. James Chambers, Adelaide St., E., Toronto, Ont.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Am. Sparrow Hawk 4 eggs; Chickadee, 7 eggs; both perfect sets and nicely marked, for set of 375d, or well marked set of 337R. C. G. HART, East Berlin, Conn. (1e)

FOR EXCHANGE.—Sets of Arctic Sea Birds from Alaska and Northern Canada. Send your exchange list to H. WARREN, 140 Wilton Ave., Toronto, Can. (1)

FOR EXCHANGE.—190 1-4 1-5; 197 1-4; 198 1-4; 199 1-4; 200 1-4; 201 2-4 2-5; 325 1-2; 316 1-2 364 3-2 8-3; 416 1-2; 419 1-2; 188a 1-5; 490 3-3 2-4 1-5 593d 1-3; 724 1-6 2-7. E. J. DARLINGTON, Wilmington, Del. (1e)

TO EXCHANGE.—Sets with data, North American and Foreign. Can use many common kinds of both. Dr. T. W. RICHARDS U. S. Navy, 1911 N. St., N. W., Washington D. C.

"I have perfect sets of Mourning, Cerulean Black throated, Blue and Black throated Green Warbler, American Woodcock, Bartramian Sandpiper, King Rail, Canadian Spruce, Grouse and Sharp Shinned Hawk for exchange. I desire sets of American Flamingo, Long-billed Curlew, Semipalmated Plover, Franklin's Grouse, Bonaparte's Gull, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Red Cockaded Woodpecker, Pink-sided Junco, Hutton's and Black Capped Vireo, Sennett's Orange-crowned and Connecticut Warbler and Canada Jay. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, 945 Marquette Bldg., Chicago.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

I HAVE 273 3 4, 360a 2-4, 365 2-5, 375d 2-2, 476 1-6, 715 4, etc. U WART 2 3 5-12 30-32 63-67-70 (76) -90 92-94 -106 -108 120a-120c-128-258-318-319-320a-412-421 with nests; 428-432-433-434-436-439-466-466a-467-506-507, FRED TRUESDALE, Shandon, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in sets with full data. A. O. U. No. Nos. 1-1-3, 6-1-5, 13-1-1, 16-1-1, 27 1-2, 29 1-2, 30a 1-1, 32 1-1, 40 1-3, 43 1-1, 49 1-2, 51 1-3, 53 1-3, 56 1-2, 54 1-3, 58 1-3, 64 1-3, 67 1-1, 70 1-3, 72 1-3, 75 1-1, 77 1-2, 79 1-1, 80 1-4, 86 1-1, 106 1-1, 117 1-1, 120 1-3, 184 1-3, 191 1-5, 194 1-4, 200 1-3, 201 1-5, 202 1-4, 226 1-2, 271 1-1, 320a 1-1, 325 1-2, 326 1-2, 333 1-4, 337 1-2, 339 1-3, 348 1-2, 364 1-2, 378 1-1, 451 1-2 with nest; 506 1-2 519b 1-1, also blow pipe, embryo shears and hook and set of cut the lining egg drills. Will exchange all of the above for best offer of Indian bird spear points and other flint and bead relics. Write me and send outlines. HENRY J. RUST, Box 683, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

I want sets of following North American birds' eggs: A. O. U. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 40, 49, 51, 53, 70, 77, 125, 132, 140, 190, 196, 208, 224, 258, 261, 269, 280, 305, 325, 326, 332, 337, 343, 349 352, 360, 362, 364, 368, 373, 375, 393, 394c, 402, 406, 416, 423, 428, 429, 452, 461, 464, 466, 466a, 477, 490, 494, 497, 506, 507, 517, 540, 546, 549, 550, 554, 558, 595, 604, 608, 611, 622, 627, 628, 631, 637, 648, 681, 702, 727, 735, 736, 746, 751, 758a, 759b. For any of these I will give full even rates in exchange, using the Latin-Sport 1905 Catalogue. I can offer A. O. U. Nos. 30a 6-1, 32 6-1, 79 1-1, 184 2-3 2-4, 187 2-3 2-4, 199 2-5, 313 1-2, 378a 2-5, 447 2-4, 448 2-4, 505a 1-3, 513 2-3, 528 1-4, 531 1-5, 542c 1-4, 552a 2-4, 578 1-2, 580a 1-2, 583a 1-4, 710 1-3, in sets. Also some desirable singles: a large list of Shells, Minerals, Fossils, and curios and a few good books. If you have others to offer than those I mention above write me. I may be able to make you an offer. ERNEST H. SHORT, Box 173, Rochester, N. Y.

Is your Subscription paid up ?

BOOKS

FOR EXCHANGE.—Personally taken recently in Lower California. Fine sets of Xanthus Murrelet, Black Petrel, Socorro Petrel; also Heermann's Gull and Blue-footed Booby. Want only absolutely perfect sets and skins. Water birds preferred. PINGREE I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Cal.

FOR SALE.—Some sets and single eggs of Arctic Sea Birds such as Pacific Loon, Pacific Kittiwake, Pacific Eider, Ancient Murrelet, Parasitic Jaeger, Iceland Gull, Glaucous Winged Gull, Short-billed Gull, Red-faced Cormorant, Harlequin Duck, American Scoter, Willow Ptarmigan. send for full list to H. WARREN, Wilton Ave., Toronto, Can.

FOR EXCHANGE at Taylor's prices. Fla. Cormorant 6-3, Anhinga 3-4 5-3 1-5, Boat-tailed Grackle 4-3, Fla. Screech Owl 3-2, Osprey 2-3 3-2, Pileated Woodpecker 1-2, Mockingbird 4-3 4-4, Fla. Night Hawk 2-2 3-1, Ward's Heron 1-3, Fla. Red-wing Blackbird n-3 3-3, Red-headed Woodpecker 3-4 1-5, Fla. Blue Jay, 3-3 2-4, Green Heron 1-4, Painted Bunting n-4 3-3, Cardinal 3-3, Loggerhead Shrike 2-3, Fla. Cardinal 1-3, Roughwing Swallow 1-4, Calif. Brush Tit 1-4, Harris Hawk 1-2, Swainson's Hawk 1-2, Fla. Red-shouldered Hawk 3-1, Desert Sparrow Hawk 1-3, Carolina Chickadee 1-4, Brown-headed Nuthatch 1-4, Bluebird 1-4, Roseate Spoonbill 1-3, Wood Ibis 2-3, and Carolina Wren 1-5. These specimens are A 1 and with splendid data. All letters answered. DONALD J. NICHOLSON, Orlando, Fla. (1)

FOR SALE.—My entire Ornithological Library, either as a whole or by separate volumes. Address S. B. LADD, 215 Walnut St., Reading, Pa.

FOR EXCHANGE.—I have a pair of Climbers with straps to exchange for Nature Books or Specimens, or will sell for \$2.50 prepaid. E. A. STONER, Greenwood Station, Des Moines, Iowa. (de)

WANTED.—Chapman, Study of Birds, with camera, 4 collecting gun with shells and strong pair field glasses. Have to offer fine pair Walrus Tusks, skins and eggs. ARTHUR W. BROCKWAY, Hadlyme, Conn. (1)

FOR SALE.—To settle an estate. 75 pieces U. S. Fractional Currency; many rare. Specimens of all the issues. Also small collection coins. Some rare. Prospective buyers write. R. T. FULLER, Lacona, Oswego Co., N. Y. (de)

FOR SALE.—As I will travel two years, I will offer for sale during 30 days, a large line of Taxidermist's, Naturalist's and Furrer's tools and supplies at 25 to 50 per cent discount from wholesale lists. A large collection of Natural History specimens of every description and books, to highest bidder. A chance for you. THOMAS B. TIPTON, Richards, Mo. (1)

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

The Oologist is growing every month. If you are interested in birds send it to some friend as a birthday gift. Help it along.

WANTED.—The Auk, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. VI, Nos. 1, 3. For cash or exchange. LOUIS A. FUERTES, Ithaca, N. Y.

WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

WANTED.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion, N. Y.

WANTED.—Books on birds. Will pay a reasonable cash price for those that I desire. State title and author, condition, etc. CHAS. F. CARR, (Personal), New London, Wis.

Have your Oologists or other magazines, bound by a careful, painstaking hand process. Write what you have and get styles. Prices reasonable. Exchange considered. HOWARD W. McMILLEN, Ada, Ohio. c

FOR SALE.—In perfect condition, "The North American Birds" by Henry Nehrling, German text, cloth bound, gilt edge, 668 pages and 36 plates, showing 137 species in natural color. Original price \$15. Sells for \$7. ERICH DIETRICH, Canby, Oregon.

BIRD MAGAZINES.—I have about 500 old bird magazines for exchange, including complete volumes of Auk, Condor, Nidologist, Osprey, Oregon Naturalist, and odd numbers of all of these. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal.

For sale or to exchange for books, magazines or bird skins. O & O vols. VI, VII, VIII, XVI, XVII. Nidologist vols. II, III, IV, Trans Wis. Acad. Odd vols.; Auk XI, 3 and 4; XII, 3; XX, 2; Capens Oology; Oologist, vols. VII to XVII inc. bound. Hardwick's Science Gossip. F. B. McKECHNIE, Ponkapog, Mass.

FOR SALE.—The following books: Birds of North and Middle America by Ridgway, Parts I, II, III, and IV. Birds of Wyoming 1902, by Knight, Our Northern and Eastern Birds, by E. A. Samuels, Nuttall's Ornithology, two volumes, The Auk, Vols. 16, 21, 22, 23 and 24. All in excellent condition. Will sell cheap. F. C. HUBEL, Clarkston, Mich.

EXCHANGE.—Set of 331 1-4 for any good set of Hawk or Owl eggs of the same value. ALEX WALKER, Armour, S. Dak.

I will give \$1.00 for No. 6 of Vol. 5 of THE OOLOGIST in the original covers and in good condition. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED.—The following back numbers of THE OOLOGIST for the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Vol. 2, No. 2; Vol. 3, No. 4; Vol. 5, No. 6; Vol. 6, No. 4; Vol. 13, No. 5; Vol. 14, No. 3 and 10. Vol. 15, No. 7. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR SALE.—Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition. Published by H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Cal., 1904. 25c. per copy, 3 for 50c., 7 copies for \$1.00. All prepared for the price. Every egg collector in America should have a copy. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal. (2)

THE MAPLEWOOD Biological Laboratory

Offers a New Preparation Showing the
Anatomy of an Eighteen Day Old Em-
bryo of the Common Chicken in
Four Preparations

No. 1, Cross sections through the head show-
ing the head cavity containing brain, eye, etc.

No. 2, The digestive organs entire.

No. 3, The tongue.

No. 4, The feet and legs.

The specimens within the jar are attach-
ed to a transparent glass plate, thus a
rear as well as a front view is afforded.

Mounted in 1 3/4 inch glass cylinders with
heavy base. Price per jar containing
the four preparations as described above

\$8.50 Delivered

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The Maplewood Biological Laboratory
Stamford, Conn.

THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. 8. ALBION, N. Y. AUG. 15, 1910. WHOLE No. 277

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A LETTER.

One of our old friends sends us a letter containing, among other things, the following paragraph, which turns the mind backward to the days when oology in America was young:

"I have not been in the field once this season. Like old friend, Troup D. Perry, am getting stiff and the legs will not go as they used so. I and Perry have corresponded since 1880, and I have yet to find a more sincere man to the heart than he. My, but how the times have changed since those days! Where are all the old egg men? We don't see their names in print any more; have crossed over the Great Divide into new worlds. Cones, Bendire, Wade, Southwick, Andros, Small, Noble, and Snowden Howland are with the silent majority now."

Professor W. Otto Emerson of Haywards, California, is now engaged in arranging and cataloguing the oological collection of the late Walter E. Bryant for the Oakland Public Museum. This collection is not as large as one would suppose, but contains many specimens taken in the early 70's when Oakland was a city of less than 40,000 and the ground now covered by the same place which extends in practically solid blocks from Alameda clear to Berkeley and contains approximately 200,000 people.

Mr. Bryant was in his lifetime, regarded as one of the best posted ornithologists in the United States on the

Hummingbirds, and probably as the very best in preparing these minute specimens either as skins or mounted birds.

Our old friend Thomas H. Jackson of West Chester, Pennsylvania, has recently enjoyed the pleasure of an extensive bird observation trip into the wilds of Florida, viewing among other things, the sights of the famous Bird Island, and we are informed, has brought home a splendid collection of photographs taken during his visit to that Mecca of all bird lovers.

During his stay in Florida he enjoyed the pleasure of a visit with Mr. Oscar Baynard, who is also well known to our readers as a discriminating observer of Florida bird life.

At Coronado, Florida, a Fish-hawk was found the other day, in rather an unusual predicament.

Someone had set a steel coon trap on a mudbank, bordering one of our salt marshes. The trap was baited with a small fish. The rising tide covered trap and bait. A Fish hawk, seeing the fish under water, dived down for it, with the result that it was caught by one foot in the trap. Evidently the bird had been held thus for two or three days. Its plumage was torn and disarranged, and the bird was so weak and emaciated that for half an hour after being liberated, it was unable to fly away.

RUBERT J. LONGSTREET.

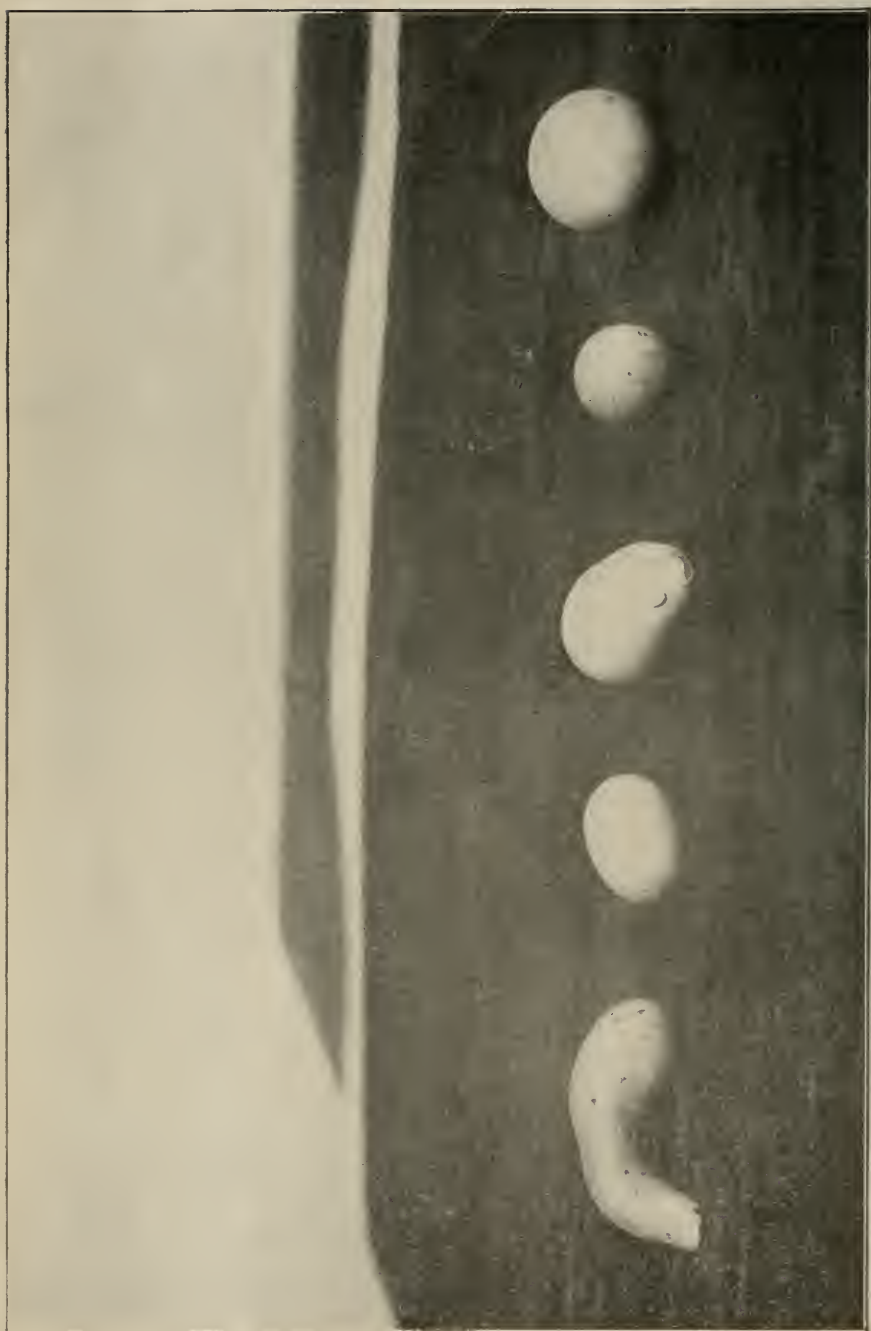


Plate No. 18.—Five Dwarf Tame Chicken Eggs.

SAMUEL B. LADD.

The older oologists will recognize this name at a glance. During the late '80's and nearly all of the '90's Mr. Ladd and Mr. Thomas H. Jackson, both of West Chester, Pennsylvania, were very prominent in the Oological world.

Our old friend Jackson is still at it; but Mr. Ladd has drifted away from the hobby of early youth and but recently Ye Editor has come into the possession of the entire collection of North American birds eggs owned by Mr. Ladd, including therein in all probability, some of the more extensive and finest series of North American Warblers eggs in existence.

For many years Mr. Ladd, Mr. Jackson and J. P. Norris of Philadelphia, were known to egg collectors throughout the United States as being specially interested in the warbler family, and they all accumulated not only large, but especially well selected series of the eggs of these minute birds.

The securing of this collection is indeed a prize for our cabinet. Mr. Ladd says in his final communication relating to this transaction:

"Mr. Barnes, I desire especially to thank you for your exceedingly prompt and liberal settlement of this matter."

We may say for Mr. Ladd that, though we have unpacked and checked up a good many collections of North American birds eggs, he is by far the most careful packer of specimens of this character with whom we have come in contact. Though the outside case containing this collection was badly rent, smashed and split by the very careful(?) usage it received in expressage, yet there was but one single egg of the entire lot that was broken; something very unusual. Though, of course, there were a number of sets, as there always are on

such deals, as this, that failed to check up with the data, all of which was no fault of Mr. Ladd.

We hate to lose him from our ranks and have no doubt that anything he undertakes will be pursued in the same careful, painstaking manner that will ultimately make for success.

American Bird Banding Association.

On December 8, 1909, there was organized in New York City, The American Bird Banding Association, the object of which is "the banding of wild birds and recording of accurate data on their movements."

The formation of this society was the outgrowth of a movement which was started in 1908 by a committee of the New Haven Bird Club, having in mind the study of the movements and migrations of wild birds by means of metal bands which should be attached to their legs. These birds bear an address and a serial number, and in inscription reading "Notify The Auk, New York." When a bird is banded, a record is made of the number of the band and the species of the bird on which it is used, as well as the date and place of banding. Should this bird ever fall into anyone's hands, it is hoped that as a result of the inscription on the band, a notification of the finding will be sent to The Auk together with a record of the number. In this way it is supposed accurate data may be obtained of the movement of the individual birds, a thing which is not possible by the ordinary methods of the migration

FROM MINNESOTA.

Minnesota is Popular Summer and Winter resort for 316 Species.

Minnesota has 316 species of birds, out of which eighteen are classed under the "accidentals and rare," was

the interesting information Dr. Thomas S. Roberts, student of ornithology, gave before the members of the Woman's club of Minneapolis at its meeting in the Handicraft Guild hall yesterday. The topic of his lecture was "Birds in Minnesota," and a hall thronged to the very doors was testimony that the club women are much interested in birds.

Dr. Roberts divided the feathered inhabitants of the state into classes, as thirty-one permanent, 184 summer residents, fifteen migrant species, eighteen that come purposely to enjoy the cool, bracing Minnesota winter, forty-nine are regular winter species; fifteen species which are purely "accidental" winter birds, all of which, with the "accidentals," and "the during the winter only" and the occasional visitors, make a total of seventy-one winter birds.

Dr. Roberts made free use of stereopticon views, which gave a precise idea of the life the Minnesota birds live. The audience came face to face with the humorist, the useful bird, the destructive bird, the sponge, like the cowbird, that lays her eggs in the nest of any other bird and thus shifts the responsibility of feeding and raising her young to foster parents, who in turn faithfully take up the obligation even long after the birds are twice their size. The cowbird is the only Minnesota bird, however, that acts thus, even the Minnesota cuckoo has more pride and, contrary to the English cuckoo, raises its own young, although it does not build a nest and just drops its eggs on plain earth.

Minnesota even has gulls, the rosy Franklin gull, which differs from the seagull in that it nests inland. The hawk belongs to the destructive birds, and to its ferocious disposition and desire for bird food is due the fact that

the grouse has become almost extinct in Minnesota.

Another destructive bird is the cherry bird, that finds its chief delight in destroying the cherry and other fruit blossoms and thus impairing the crop. Among the woodpeckers but one is to be classed among the destructive birds, the sap sucker, which lives on the sap of young trees and feeds its young on it and is thus responsible for the killing of many a slender ash and maple. Otherwise the woodpeckers are a useful lot, as they belong to the species with the sticky tongues that pick up ants and destroy ant hills under trees for a living. Others have a tongue built like a long pliable needle that just picks up worms or other harmful insects.

The blackbird, the special enemy of the agriculturist, was not forgotten on the list of destructive ones, for it's the black birds that destroys acres and acres of corn just by ripping open the protective silk tissues that cover the ears, and by picking out carefully the heart of that kernel.

Dr. Thomas illustrated interestingly the nest of the birds, and the ingenious way in which they build to protect them in every possible way from the casual prowler and observer, the number of eggs laid by different species, which in some cases is not more than one, while other species, like the quail, have nests with as many as sixteen and more. The peculiarities of the rubythroat humming bird, the yellow warbler, the flickers, and all the other 298 varieties were pointed out in the brightly colored illustrations thrown on the screen.

After the meeting the Japanese prints done by Mrs. Bertha Lum were viewed and tea hour followed.

THE NEW AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION'S CHECK LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

The Auk for July announces the fact—which is important if true,—that this check list will “probably” be ready for distribution about the end of July. So many false alarms have developed in regard to this long expected production during the four years since it was first announced that we may and we may not have it at the time announced. Let us however live in hopes.

The Annual History of these many announcements, delays and excuses for non-appearance might be interesting for our readers, but in view of the announcement in *The Auk*, will not be published at this time.

The foregoing was intended for the July issue, but was held up hoping that the lost would be found. At the time of going to press it is still in the land of the unknown.

OHIO BIRDS.

Indian Lake (Lewiston Reservoir) is a body of water some five or more miles across, situated in the north-western part of Logan county, Ohio. There is much shallow water about the shores where cat tails and rushes grow, making it a haunt much esteemed by many kinds of birds.

For three successive years, I have visited Indian Lake between July 30 and August 2. I have been much interested in the status of the great blue heron, and these visits at the same time for three years have afforded an opportunity for an interesting comparison of the numbers of the herons.

In 1908, they were abundant. There were scores of young and old flying to and from the herony on Crane Island,

and their croaking was the commonest sound about the water. In 1909, I saw not more than half a dozen. I inquired of persons who permanently reside about the lake for the cause of the scarcity of herons, but they either did not know or had not noticed. This year, though not so abundant as in 1908, they are quite common, and seem to be well protected. One of them flew within thirty feet of our boat as we rowed along.

For many years, a pair of bald eagles has nested unmolested in the top of a tall oak tree on one of the islands. Other quite common water birds were kingfisher, little green heron, spotted sandpiper, et cetera. Two mallards were seen flying. At Lake Ridge, a summering place, there is a considerable flock of mallards and Canada geese in captivity. On July 30, 1908, I saw a common tern on Indian Lake. They do not breed there to my knowledge, and it is the only one I ever saw there.

One morning we went out on the water while it was yet dark to watch the coming of the day. Many of the birds began to call or sing at the first glimmer of light. Just as the gilt edge of the sun appeared above the horizon, there was a tremendous whirl of wings from the nearby cat tails. It was the tree swallows. Thousands of them were arising from the roost with a whirl that was almost a roar. They flew up in an immense, funnel-shaped body, not unlike that of chimney swifts when they go to roost in large numbers. In a minute from the time the first bird arose, all were dispersed and pursuing their insect prey over the glassy waters of the lake.

WHEELER McMILLEN.

WINTER WREN NESTING.

May 22d along the stream that flows through the region inhabited by my pair of Goshawks I found a nest of Winter Wren.

The stream flows over and among many moss and fern-covered rocks. Fallen timber and old logs are numerous. As there is a large amount of pine and hemlock the woods are cool, damp and shady, making an ideal place for this wren to summer. The nest was placed under and among the roots of a partly fallen birch. It was well under and entirely concealed from view unless a person got down on hands and knees to look. The nest was a large ball of green moss with a few fine dead twigs of hemlock about the small hole or entrance. The nest was thickly lined with feathers of some bird that had likely been eaten by a hawk or owl. The nest contained five fresh eggs. Pure white with a few brown dots. The female sat very close.

The Winter Wren is not uncommon in summer and a few are found in suitable places, but its nest is very hard to find here. Decoy nests are frequently seen under logs and roots of fallen trees.

R. B. SIMPSON.

BIRDS OBSERVED IN SOUTHERN HILLSBORO CO., N. H.

The only articles with which I am acquainted dealing, with the birds of Hillsboro County, were published in the O. & O. in 1892 by A. M. Farmer. Besides scattered notes, he printed in O. & O. September, 1892, a list of thirty-six birds observed in Northern Hillsboro County from June 27 to July 2, 1892. It is partly to supplement this list that the following notes, based on observations made at Sharon and vicinity, in Southern Hillsboro County, at an altitude of about fourteen hun-

dred feet, from July 14th to August 11, 1909, are written. Species starred were not given in Farmer's list.

x 1. Bob-white (*Colinus virginianus*). One heard on July 25th and 27th in Temple.

2. Ruffed Grouse, (*Bonasa umbellus*). Three seen, July 17-22.

3. Black-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*). A single bird seen in Sharon on July 27th, on its nest, which held one just hatched bird, one pipped egg, and one not pipped.

x 4. Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*). Two seen together in Sharon, July 15th.

x 5. Flicker, (*Colaptes a. luteus*). About four seen.

6. Whip-poor-will, (*Antrostomus vociferus*). Some six heard.

7. Chimney Swift, (*Chateura pelagica*). Not common.

8. Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). Saw three or four between Sharon and Petersboro, August 11.

9. Phoebe (*Sayorius phoebe*). One seen July 28, and one heard in Temple July 27.

10. Blue Jay (*Cyanocitta cristata*). Not common.

11. Crow, (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*). Not common.

x 12. Purple Finch, (*Carpodacus purpureus*). A female seen in Sharon July 15.

13. Vesper Sparrow (*Poocetes gramineus*). Uncommon.

14. White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). Not common. First heard singing on July 14.

15. Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella passerina*). Uncommon.

16. Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*). Fairly common.

x 17. Junco (*Junco hyemalis*). Not common; first seen (two) on July 14, in Sharon.

18. Song Sparrow (*Melospiza melodia*). Common. A nest with four young found on July 31, and a nest with three eggs in Temple on August 1, the latter being built on the ground.

19. Chewink (*Pipilo erythrophthalmus*). Common.

20. Indigo bird (*Passerina cyanea*). A bird sang constantly near the house where I stopped.

21. Scarlet Tanager, (*Piranga erythromelas*). Two or three heard singing in Sharon, July 14-22.

22. Barn Swallow (*Hirundo erythrogaster*). Not common.

x 23. Cedarbird (*Bombycilla cedrorum*). Fairly common.

24. Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireosylva olivacea*). Common. A nest with three eggs found on July 28th by my brother.

x 25. Solitary Vireo (*Lanivireo solitarius*). Two or three singing birds seen, July 15-27.

x 26. Black-and-White Warbler, (*Mniotilta varia*). Fairly common, July 15-27.

x 27. Parula Warbler, (*Comsothlypis a usneae*). One seen in Sharon on July 22.

x 28. Black-throated Blue Warbler, (*Dendroica coerulescens*). Two males seen July 27 and 29th respectively.

x 29. Myrtle Warbler, (*D. coronata*). Not common; first seen July 15, a singing bird. Several young seen.

30. Chestnut-sided Warbler, (*D. pensylvanica*). About five seen.

x 31. Black-throated Green Warbler (*D. virens*). Common. I found a nest containing four young in Sharon on July 15th in a situation so far as I know unique—fifteen feet up on a nearly horizontal small branch of an apple tree in an abandoned orchard. The bird was seen feeding the young. On July 17th after a storm, the nest was empty, though the birds were too

young to have left it naturally. Internally, it is of fine grass stalks, lined with some hair; outwardly, its materials are more miscellaneous, being bark strips, fine twigs, silvery fibre, a few grass stalks, with much bark from the Paper Birch.

Another nest found by my brother held four fresh eggs on July 30th. Placed three and one-half feet out on a horizontal Black Spruce limb, it was closely covered above by a branchlet from the same limb, but was very evident from below.

x 32. Blackburnian Warbler, (*Dendroica fusca*). A male seen in Sharon on July 15th.

33. Oven bird, (*Seiurus aurocapillus*). Fairly common.

x 34. Water-thrush, (*Seiurus noveboracensis*). Saw a single bird in company with Warblers and Chickadees in Sharon on July 23d, noting his white superciliary, entirely spotted underparts and caudal irritability.

x 35. Maryland Yellow-throat (*Geothlypis trichas*). Fairly common.

x 36. Canadian Warbler, (*Wilsonia canadensis*). Three or four seen, July 15-27, Sharon.

x 37. Redstart, (*Setophaga ruticilla*). A female seen in Peterboro, July 17.

38. Catbird, (*Dumetella carolinensis*). One or two heard and seen.

39. Brown Thrasher (*Toxostoma rufum*). One or two seen.

x 40. Red-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*). Saw one on Mt. Temple, at about 1800 feet, July 27; heard another July 30, in Sharon.

x 41. Chickadee, (*Penthestes atricapillus*). Common.

x 42. Golden-crowned Kinglet, (*Regulus satrapa*). One seen July 17; on July 27, I saw in Sharon a brood of five or more, accompanied by the male, at least. I noted, from close range

opera glass examination, that the base of the lower mandible in the young was flesh-colored or perhaps even yellowish.

x 43. Hermit Thrush, (*Hylocichla guttata pallasii*). Fairly common. Found a nest with four eggs on July 16th.

x 44. Robin (*Planesticus migratorius*). Common. One old nest was on a beam inside an old shed, another, containing an addled eggs, flat on a beam in a well-house.

x 45. Blue-bird, (*Sialia sialis*). Five seen, Sharon, July 15th.

Farmer's list mentioned a Black-poll Warbler as probably seen, and the Prairie Warbler and Wood Thrush as common. The first two are doubtless erroneous, while the last I take to be merely a slip of the pen for the Hermit.

SIDNEY F. BLAKE.

SPRING AND WINTER BIRDS.

The past winter was notable for the great amount of snow. By February the snow in the woods was forty to fifty inches deep and lumbermen and oil men were compelled to use snowshoes. We had a fine warm March, but April and May and even early June were cold months marked by severe frosts and freezes. The migrants, especially warblers, were very late in arriving and when they did come, it was in small numbers and spread out. No flights.

Several times during the severe winter, lumbermen report seeing Ravens in the heavy timber along the Warren-Forest County line. Late in April I saw three Ravens flying near here. The first I have ever seen. Early in May a pair were seen nearby. It is not unlikely that they are located in some of the large timber tracts and when the hunting season opens this

fall I may locate them. Not many years ago Ravens were resident here, but for some reason all seemed to leave at once. In spite of the severe weather, northern visitors were scarce. There were only a few flocks of American Crossbills and Pine Finches. Much less in number than usual. Snow flakes were about in large flocks and on the open places on the river were a few Goldeneyes and American Mergansers. These with an occasional Northern Shrike made up the list of visitors. A pair of Sparrow Hawks stayed about the business part of town and preyed on the English Sparrows. Late in February, one of them was killed by striking a wire while in pursuit of a sparrow.

April 10th I saw a Holbell's Grebe still in winter plumage. A quite rare bird in this part of the state.

During the last week in May I saw several Olive-sided Flycatchers along the river. May 25th I shot an Eagle along the river. It was partly in adult plumage and measured 7 feet $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in expanse. This is the first eagle I have taken that was seven feet in expanse. Others have always fallen short.

R. B. SIMPSON.

A CORRECTION.

Editor, The Oologist:—

I wish to call your attention to two errors in the last issue of THE OOLOGIST. My picture which you reproduced in that issue as that of the Swamp Sparrow, is instead the nest of a Meadow Lark as described in the article which I sent you at the time. The other error is of no consequence—you stated that Sayre was in the vicinity of Philadelphia, which it is not. Philadelphia is on the southern boundary line of the state, while Sayre is on the northern boundary, about 225 miles distant.

H. E. BISHOP.

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THE OÖLOGIST.

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TO EXCHANGE—Sets with data, North American and Foreign. Can use many common kinds of both. Dr. T. W. RICHARDS U. S. Navy, 1911 N. St., N. W., Washington D. C.

"I have perfect sets of Mourning, Cerulean Black throated, Blue and Black throated (Green Warbler, American Woodcock, Bartramian Sandpiper, King Rail, Canadian Spruce, Grouse and Sharp Shinned Hawk for exchange. I desire sets of American Flamingo, Long-billed Curlew, Semipalmated Plover, Franklin's Grouse, Bonaparte's Gull, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Red Cockaded Woodpecker, Pink-sided Junco, Hutton's and Black Capped Vireo, Sennett's Orange-crowned and Connecticut Warbler and Canada Jay. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, 945 Marquette Bldg., Chicago.

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

I HAVE 273 3-4, 360a 2-4, 365 2-5, 375d 2-2, 476 1-6, 715 4-4, etc. U WANT 2-3-5-12-30-32-63-67-70 (76) -90-92-106-108-120a-120c-128-258-318-319-320a-412-421 with nests; 428-432-433-434-436-439-466-466a-467-506-507, FRED TRUESDALE, Shandon, Cal.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in sets with full data. A. O. U. No. No. 11-3, 61-5, 13 1-1, 161-1, 27 1-2, 29 1-2, 30a 1-1, 32 1-1, 40 1-3, 43 1-1, 49 1-2, 51 1-3, 53 1-3, 56 1-2, 54 1-3, 58 1-3, 64 1-3, 67 1-1, 70 1-3, 72 1-3, 75 1-1, 77 1-2, 79 1-1, 80 1-4, 86 1-1, 106 1-1, 117 1-1, 120 1-3, 184 1-3, 191 1-5, 194 1-4, 200 1-3, 201 1-5, 202 1-4, 226 1-2, 271 1-1, 320a 1-1, 325 1-2, 326 1-2, 333 1-4, 337 1-2, 339 1-3, 348 1-2, 364 1-2, 378 1-1, 431 1-2 with nest; 506 1-2 519b 1-1, also blow pipe, embryo shears and hook and set of cut the lining egg drills. Will exchange all of the above for best offer of Indian bird spear points and other flint and bead relics. Write me and send orders. HENRY J. RUST, Box 683, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho.

I want sets of following North American birds' eggs: A. O. U. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 40, 49, 51, 53, 70, 77, 125, 132, 140, 190, 196, 208, 224, 258, 261, 269, 280, 305, 325, 326, 332, 337, 343, 349, 352, 360, 362, 364, 368, 373, 375, 393, 394c, 402, 406, 416, 423, 428, 429, 452, 461, 464, 466, 466a, 477, 490, 494, 497, 506, 507, 517, 540, 546, 549, 550, 554, 558, 595, 604, 608, 611, 622, 627, 628, 631, 637, 648, 681, 702, 727, 727, 735, 736, 746, 751, 758a, 759b. For any of these I will give full even rates in exchange, using the Lattin-Short 1905 Catalogue. I can offer A. O. U. Nos. 30a 6-1, 32 6-1, 79 1-1, 184 2-3 2-4, 187 2-3 2-4, 199 2-5, 313 1-2, 378a 2-5, 447 2-4, 448 2-4, 505a 1-3, 513 2-3, 528 1-4, 531 1-5, 542c 1-4, 552a 2-4, 578 1-2, 580a 1-2, 593a 1-4, 710 1-3, in sets. Also some desirable singles; a large list of Shells, Minerals, Fossils, and curios and a few good books. If you have others to offer than those I mention above write me. I may be able to make you an offer. ERNEST H. SHORT, Box 173, Rochester, N. Y.

Is your Subscription paid up ?

FOR EXCHANGE.—Personally taken recently in Lower California. Fine sets of *Nanhus Murrelet*, *Black Petrel*, *Socorro Petrel*; also *Heermann's Gull* and *Blue-footed Booby*. Want only absolutely perfect sets and skins. Water birds preferred. PINGREE I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Cal.

FOR SALE.—Some sets and single eggs of Arctic Sea Birds such as *Pacific Loon*, *Pacific Kittiwake*, *Pacific Eider*, *Ancient Murrelet*, *Parasitic Jaeger*, *Iceland Gull*, *Glaucous Winged Gull*, *Short-billed Gull*, *Red-faced Cormorant*, *Harlequin Duck*, *American Scoter*, *Willow Ptarmigan*. Send for full list to H. WARREN, Wilton Ave., Toronto, Can.

BOOKS

WANTED.—The Auk, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. VI, Nos. 1, 3. For cash or exchange. LOUIS A. FUERTES, Ithaca, N. Y.

WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

WANTED.—Books on birds. Will pay a reasonable cash price for those that I desire. State title and author, condition, etc. CHAS. F. CARR, (Personal), New London, Wis.

Have your Oologists or other magazines, bound by a careful, painstaking hand process. Write what you have and get styles. Prices reasonable. Exchange considered. HOWARD W. McMILLEN, Ada, Ohio. c

FOR SALE.—In perfect condition, "The North American Birds" by Henry Nehrling. German text, cloth bound, gilt edge, 668 pages and 36 plates, showing 137 species in natural color. Original price \$15. Sells for \$7. ERICH DIETRICH, Canby, Oregon.

BIRD MAGAZINES.—I have about 500 old bird magazines for exchange, including complete volumes of Auk, Condor, Nidologist, Osprey, Oregon Naturalist, and odd numbers of all of these. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal.

For sale or to exchange for books, magazines or bird skins. O & O vols. VI, VII, VIII, XVI, XVII. Nidologist vols. II, III, IV. Trans Wis. Acad. Odd vols.; Auk XI, 3 and 4; XII, 3; XX, 2; Capens Oology; Oologist, vols. VII to XVII inc. bound. Hardwick's Science Gossip. F. B. McKECHNIE, Ponkapog, Mass.

FOR SALE.—The following books: Birds of North and Middle America by Ridgway, Parts I, II, III, and IV. Birds of Wyoming 1902, by Knight. Our Northern and Eastern Birds, by E. A. Samuels. Nuttall's Ornithology, two volumes. The Auk, Vols. 16, 21, 22, 23 and 24. All in excellent condition. Will sell cheap. F. C. HUBEL, Clarkston, Mich.

I will give \$1.00 for No. 6 of Vol. 5 of THE OOLOGIST in the original covers and in good condition. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED.—The following back numbers of THE OOLOGIST for the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Vol. 2, No. 2; Vol. 3, No. 4; Vol. 5, No. 6; Vol. 6, No. 4; Vol. 13, No. 5; Vol. 14, No. 3 and 10. Vol. 15, No. 7. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR SALE.—Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition. Published by H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Cal., 1904. 25c. per copy, 3 for 50c., 7 copies for \$1.00. All prepaid for the price. Every egg collector in America should have a copy. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal. (2)

FOR SALE.—My entire Ornithological Library, either as a whole or by separate volumes. Address S. B. LADD, 215 Walnut St., Reading, Pa.

WANTED FOR CASH.—Bird Lore Vol. I—2, 6; Vol. II—2; Vol. III—1; VII—1. LOUIS S. KOHLER, Bloomfield, N. J.

WANTED.—The Bulletin of the Cooper O. Club Vol. I complete; Wilson Bulletin Nos. 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 24 for cash. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 98 Watsessing Ave., Bloomfield, N. J.

OLD MAGAZINES WANTED.—The Oologist by Lattin, Vol. V complete. The Oologist by Willard, Vol. I, complete; Vol. II, Nos. 1, 2, 3. Also some of older Wilson Club publications. DR. GUY C. RICH, Sioux, City Iowa. (1)

WANTED.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion, N. Y.

MISCELLANEOUS.

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

Wanted.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion, N. Y.

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

Wanted: A buyer for fine camera. Premo Supreme, 5 x 7, practically new; it has all attachments and adjustments found on a first class camera. G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

TO EXCHANGE a very fine Premo Supreme camera, 5 x 7, for a motorcycle in GOOD CONDITION. Write G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

EXCHANGE-- Nearly new 24 guage Janssen Sons and Co. double breech loading top snap hammer gun, marked Belgium Laminated Steel, \$11 Would exchange for larger bore. (1) A. C. Dyke, Bridgewater, Mass.

FOR SALE-- One number 3, folding camera. Has been used very little Will sell cheap. Write for price.

D. Carey Westbrook, 412 West College St., (1e) Griffin, Ga.

The Oolog'ist is growing every month. If you are interested in birds send it to some friend as a birthday gift. Help it along.

THE MAPLEWOOD Biological Laboratory

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THE OÖLOGIST.

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No. 76. Black Buzard roosting on Cathedral tower, Vera Cruz, Mexico.

—Photo by George E. La Grange.

MEXICAN BIRDS.

A personal letter from George E. LaGrange, a nephew of the Editor at present a Senior in Stanford University at Palo Alto, California, tells many interesting things of some of the birds of Vera Cruz, Mexico, where he spent most of the past summer. It in part reads as follows:

"I think practically all the birds are different, even the Buzzards. I know the Blackbirds are—they have tails, regular fans; while the birds are fully half again as large as our Purple Grackle. They are very plentiful and very tame—as in fact all wild game is in Mexico. Nothing of this sort is molested by the natives.

In Vera Cruz the blackbirds seem to come, one, each and every egg-hatched nigger amongst them, to the central plaza of the city to roost in the trees to be found there. Every evening, as sure as the sun approaches the western horizon, they begin to assemble. Singly, in families and tribes, almost in battalions, they flock in to begin their nightly squabble for a piece of green limb two inches long and free from branches and leaves—and other blackbirds—upon which they may prepare, to begin, to get ready, to commence, to roost for the night. For it is one thing to have and another to hold. And although the good little early bird who retires in proper season, may select and stake out his claim for a roost, he must be prepared to defend it against every new comer and late comer until long after sundown. Jumping of claims is well known in the genera of blackbirds, nor is there any rule to the game except hold as hold can. In fact, and I don't speak jokingly, so furious and boisterous, numerous and continuous are the squabbles which take place for a comfortable bed that from an

hour before sundown, till black dark, it is exceedingly difficult to carry on a conversation anywhere in the plaza. The trees are simply alive with squawking, flapping birds. Indeed the trees seem to have borne a crop of wings amidst their other foliage. Awnings are always put up evenings when the band plays to protect the seats and heads of the listeners.

Nor are the blackbirds the only guests, welcome or unwelcome, who make their beds and sleep undisturbed by cops or night watchmen, on the streets of the main thoroughfare of the city. Cotimely with the arrival of the blackbirds there ascend flocks and clouds of graceful, swift darting swallows, not chimney skiffs, of course, because there are no chimneys in Mexico. They skim the heavens in early dusk in silence, apparently very deeply mortified at the dreadful squabble going on beneath them. Gradually as the evening's dusk descends they too sink lower and lower and pass swifter and closer until the heavens look like an inverted magnified ant hill. Lower and lower they swoop, in gradually lessening circles until their twitterings can be caught mingled with the now somewhat subdued clamor of the blackbirds. And finally after a few daring sweeps directly over the heads, even amongst the surging of the crowds below, they pass to their roost for the night, where however there has already begun a scramble for a "location" which bids fair to vie with the one described above. Their demands however are far less exacting than those of the blackbirds. No soft fresh green branch do they beseech, their only cry, and one which has now raised the total humdrum to its loudest pitch—is for nothing more than one inch of bare, hard, cold copper wire. Only it must be an inch of a

particular strip of copper wire. And this ideal, aristocratic location consists in what—simply a trolley wire. No not "a" trolley wire either, but one very particular one, viz: "the" one blessing in front of the two best hotels in the city. And there they fight, their twitterings now become cries, and then roost in the glare of the electric lights from the "portales" where in summer are situated the dining rooms of the hotels not fifteen feet distant in an air line. And there as the "Vera Cruzano" lights his "cigarro" after his eight o'clock supper, if he looks up he can see, even at the tail of the filmy smoke trail which rises from the end of his own cigarette, the outlines of hundreds of birds all strung along on the wire at invariable intervals of about an inch, and looking perhaps like so many clothes pins. Neither the busy life in the hotel corridors, "portales" nor cafes immediately at their tails' ends, nor the bustle in the street beneath their feet, nor the passing of sharp gonged street cars along the adjacent streets, which causes their wire to bob dizzily up and down, nor even yet the strains of all varying music from the "kiosko" across the street; none of this serves even in the slightest, either to deter them from seeking their roost, from squabbling over a bed, or from sleeping serenely when darkness has made further contentions difficult and dangerous.

But not yet have we noted all. One guest at the Plaza Hotel for Birds has been overlooked. He has been too stately, too lofty and dignified to descend into the streets and mix with the other noisy occupants below. Yes, too dignified even to cry out. And so, at first, amidst all the other cry and clamor we have noted him not. However, had we chanced to

look, even as early as five o'clock, a few stray lone black buzzards, the early birds of the night, might have been seen perched on the highest pinnacles of the tiled Cathedral tower, either tired out early after a hard day, or just back after some rousing car-Hon feast. At any rate there they are and from all directions come other stragglers. Still they come, each seeking out his accustomed lodging place and if found occupied by a "sooner" ejecting him from the spot. In this fashion with noiseless intermittent short scraps, the old Cathedral tower is gradually peopled by these huge dusky spectres, until every inch of "standable" standing room has been "stood" for, or on.

And there, back to the old roost, they come, every day and every eve, to sit and preen their feathers, or spread their wings to dry, or sit motionless and in silence while they listen to or coolly eye their relatives in the trees below. All just as they have done since the Cathedral was first built, some three hundred and fifty years ago.

And this is the spectacle which the plaza of Vera Cruz has to present on any old summer's eve. A lively scene indeed, with the band playing, the birds crving in competition, and a populace come to enjoy the delicious cool of the evening. Everything is out of doors, birds, buzzards and people. Air, cool sea breeze and land breeze is plentiful. The hotel cafes are in the midst of it all, in view and enjoyment of it all. They are situated on the only sidewalk there is in front of the hotels, some fifteen feet wide and extending around two sides of the plaza. The sidewalk is covered by "Portales" which support a ceiling some twelve or fifteen feet high and above this a second story. Under

these portales are spread the dining tables where meals and liquors are served.

Here the Vera Cruzano of means brings his family on band nights and takes his meal and his drinks, while newsboys, bootblacks, "vendadors" de flowers, fans, curios, lemonade, and what not pass in and out among the guests and tables and cry their wares or run errands. All are happy contented, fat and peaceful in a land of elbow room, fresh air, and ease, and where the days never exceed thirteen hours in length, between sun up and sun down, I suppose—and where though warm, none ever are prostrated or sun struck, perhaps because the people have learned to economize the cogl of the day by arising and breakfasting at four in the morning, then taking a nap at mid day. All business stores, etc., close up from twelve until two. In Mexico City, it is from one to two-thirty.

I enclose a picture of the Cathedral covered with buzzards taken from another tower somewhat higher at about six-thirty p. m. Also some pictures of a buzzard taken in Oaxaca. He is perched on top of a cactus at least twenty feet high and spreading his wings towards the rising sun to dry. There had been a night rain. Many are seen thus drying themselves at almost any and all times. This picture is dark because it was taken against the sun before the sun had risen. He let me walk right up underneath him without flying. They are all very tame. When the shutter snapped however, he dropped his wings to look at me, but did not fly away. I have seen one buzzard with wings spread standing on the ground during a drizzle and apparently trying to shield his mate which stood under one wing. I doubt however if that were his purpose.

GENERAL NEWS.

Being called some twelve miles south of Lacon, Illinois, the latter part of last month on business, I was much surprised to find a colony estimated by parties who live in that vicinity, of all the way from one hundred to three hundred, English Ring-necked Pheasants. They seemed to be scattered over a territory some three miles wide by five miles long, up and down the Illinois river, and adjacent bluffs. People there told me that many young had been hatched this year, one brood containing eighteen. They are rigidly protected by the farmers living in that vicinity, and without doubt, will rapidly increase as they seem to have become a fixture there. I only saw one bird, a male along the edge of an oats stubble field. He seemed in perfect plumage and not the least alarmed, though we drove along within fifty yards of him. —Editor.

Wanted—News.

Again we must appeal to our readers for short newsy notes. If you have occasion to write the editor on any subject, do not fail to include some short bit of information that you may think would be of general interest to our readers, even if it should occupy but two or three lines. Without doubt, all of us have continually coming under our notice, small matters, which are yet of general interest, and we should be disposed not only to help ourselves but THE OOLOGIST and its readers as well. We are sure such short contributions would be much appreciated.

Thanks.

One of our friends sends us two subscriptions paid up and fails to disclose his or her identity. Thanks for this kind of support anyway.



No. 75. Black Buzzard drying its wings on a cactus in Mexico.

—Photo by George E. La Grange.

A Buzzard's Sense of Smell.

While paddling around Kale Kilby near the town of Suffolk, Virginia, on the 31st of May last year, my companion, Mr. J. E. Gould of Norfolk, and I noticed on a dead stump ahead of us, a Turkey Buzzard (*Cathartes aura*). Drawing nearer, he seemed loath to move and kept leaning over and peering into a hole about eight inches below him. We became inquisitive also and on pushing over the dead stump, and breaking open the hole, found two dead Yellow-shafted Flickers (*Colaptes auratus*). These birds were only partly decomposed and now that Buzzard at the height he generally sails, could detect them, still remains a mystery to me.

H. H. BAILEY.

Additional Notes on the Breeding of *Catharista urubu*.

On April 3rd, this year, I was out in a large Cypress Swamp in Florida collecting Black Vulture and Water Turkey sets and taking photos of eggs and young in situ of these species and also the Wards Heron.

I was up about ninety feet in a cypress engaged in the interesting operation of taking the picture of two young Wardi about a month old I should judge, as usual with this bird one of the youngsters was a great deal larger than the other and the largest one seemed greatly worried at my being so near him, he had vomited up a piece of a moccasin snake about fourteen inches long when I first appeared at the nest and I guess he was afraid that I had designs on his breakfast because every half minute or so he would stretch out his long neck and pick up one end of this delicate morsel and make as if to swallow it, but he would always change his mind. I waited fully half an hour in hopes he

would so that I could get a picture of the operation. During this wait I looked about over the swamp to see what was "doing" and happened to see an old Black Vulture up in a Wardi nest of last year from which I had collected a set. I thought at first the Buzzard was making a breakfast from some of the remains of the young Herons. Climbing up higher however in the tree I was in I made out that Mrs. Buzzard was evidently covering eggs. I had a free and unobstructed view of her from where I was and being only about twenty yards away could see fine. She was sitting broadside to me and had her head tucked around to the off side so that I could not at first see it and acted as if she were hiding from me. I have never noted this act in this species before as when you approach an incubating bird she is always nervous, etc. I clapped my hands, and made all kinds of noises but could not wake her up so I called to my companion on the ground to go to the tree and rap on it, upon his doing this she woke up and flew off at once and displayed two of the nicest eggs of this species that I have ever seen. Needless to say that I came down from the tree I was in and collected this set. They are shorter and rounder than any other sets of these I have and heavily marked and very handsome. In all my observations of this bird this is the first time I have ever found her breeding so high up, possibly this swamp had every available hollow log in use by her friends and she was compelled to go high. This nest was 85 feet up in a cypress.

O. E. BAYNARD,



No. 63. Set Black Vulture's eggs with runt.

—Photo by O. E. Baynard

Charles K. Worthen's Collections.

Some time since, Oologist volume 26, page 126, we advised our readers of the death of Charles K. Worthen, the well-known scientist of Warsaw, Illinois. His going took from us the last of the large dealers in scientifically prepared bird skins and eggs, numbering as he did, museums throughout the world as his customers, and being in contact with collectors of rarer material in all parts of the globe. He was a medium through which nearly all public institutions acquired much of their material; and above all, his rank and standing for absolute integrity as well as scientific authenticity was without a rival.

At the time of his death, he left a stock of something like seven thousand

and bird skins, including well rounded series of many of the rarer varieties, such as Swallow-tailed Hawk, Yellow and Black Rail, Carolina Parakeet, Passenger Pigeon and the like, all of which are practically unobtainable at this time. For some reason unknown to us these were sold to New York parties at a ridiculously low price, without an opportunity being given or knowledge brought home to the general collectors throughout the country of the coming disposition of this rare accumulation.

Mr. Worthen's stock of North American birds eggs and nests has been on the market since his death, and has but recently become the property of the Editor of THE OOLOGIST.

Though not large, it contained many very desirable specimens including,

The nest and eggs of the Emerald throated Hummingbird, and a set of eggs and pair of adult skins of the Cuban Martin from Buenos Ayres, and of the rare Swallow-tailed Gull (*Cregus furcatus*) from the Guadalupe Islands, and of the extremely rare Kirtland's Warbler, the latter accompanied by the nest.

With relation to this deal, a letter from the daughter of Mr. Worthen through whom the negotiations were carried on, in finally closing up the transaction, writes:

"Mr. Barnes, I can't tell you how grateful I am or how surprised as to your final decision as to settlement. I do not know how to thank you for your courtesy, liberality and great kindness to us in this affair."

This collection came to hand with a considerable number of broken specimens and a number lacking entirely any data, and a number of others where the set marks on the eggs failed to prove up with the data accompanying them. All such specimens have gone into the waste heap. The acquisition of these eggs, some 2500 in number, will materially enlarge the number of our rarer series, and will be a substantial addition to our cabinets.

Kill the Cowbird.

Physicians say that the way to blot out dangerous diseases is to prevent their growth in infancy. Just as the White Plague is a menace to the human race, so the cowbird is the White Plague to our Bird Life.

What do they do? Too shiftless to build nests of their own, they lay their eggs in nests of other birds. Not content with one cradle for their worthless young, a single cowbird will de-

posit one or two eggs in as many as four different nests. It has been estimated that one cowbird lays a set of from four to six eggs. If she deposits two eggs in a nest, that means that, after laying a complete set, the female cowbird has disturbed three nests.

It is no uncommon occurrence for these "Reprobates of Birdom" to spill out the eggs of the rightful owners of the nests in which they have layed. Such an occurrence was experienced by the writer not long ago. In fact the experience gave the incentive for this "Invective."

On June 18th last, the author found a cuckoo's nest with two cuckoo's eggs in it and two cowbirds. The latter were promptly removed as they always should be. On June 20th, two days later, the nest was again visited, and the cuckoo's eggs were found broken, on the ground beneath the nest, while the structure itself held two cowbirds eggs. Is it necessary to state that the cuckoo deserted?

Again—A wood thrush started a nest not far from my home and had got as far as laying two eggs in it when she was disturbed by a cowbird laying also two eggs in it. The thrush immediately stopped laying and as her full set would have been four, it can readily be seen that the cowbird was responsible for the absence of the other two thrushes that ordinarily would have been born.

We will now trace the incubation of the two thrushes eggs and the two eggs of the cowbird, as it actually happened. The thrushes eggs hatched in due time and the young promised to become perfect specimens of their tribe. Mother Thrush patiently sat on the two cowbird's eggs, which did not hatch for three days after the birth of her own young, for the reason that they were laid approximately



No. 64. Set Turkey Vulture's eggs with runt egg. ---Photo by R. M. Barnes.

three days later. Will the reader please bear in mind that during these three days of extra incubation, as far as the writer could observe, the thrush neglected to feed her own young?

Thus their growth and vigor was stunted at the start. However, when the young cowbirds were hatched they immediately started to grow with great rapidity. They put on their feathers twice as fast as the young thrushes and here is where the harm comes in. As is the case with mankind, to give extra attention to the strong and robust, and neglect the weak, so it is with the birds. Mrs. Thrush, her poor, misled heart filled with joy at the wonderous development of the two orphans, spent all her time, gave all her food to them. When the nest was visited after an interval of three days, the young

thrushes were the only occupants of it. Their physical condition was pitiful. Their feathers were not half what they should have been. They seemed thinner and more scrawny than when they were born. They were even too weak to open their mouths and display an appetite as young birds always do. Although the cowbirds were not seen at all, the reader will doubtless agree with me in my surmise that they are now healthy, strong birds, fully prepared and even eager to duplicate the crime under which they were born. The young thrushes disappeared from the nest the next day, but I feel sure that they fell prey to some squirrel or chipmunk, at least they are not now the beautiful matured thrush that should have been.

Such cases are doubtless very common. Very few birds are immune from this "Scourge of the Woods."

I have found their ugly eggs in the little Least Flycatcher's nest, in the well hidden homes of the Oven Bird and Chewink. They have even ascended to the high, swaying nest of the Baltimore Oriole, to deposit their germs of destruction.

The death of one full grown cowbird means the presence in the world of ten other and useful birds, Thrushes, Catbirds, and Ground Sparrows especially, for in six catbird's nests, eight thrushes, and four song sparrows, cowbird's eggs were found without exception.

Hitherto, war has been waged most vehemently on the English Sparrow, but I herein urgently request all naturalists, all lovers of our Feathered Friends, to rouse themselves and make the steadily increasing number of COWBIRDS as steadily decrease.

By GLEN V. KRAUS,
Marshfield, Wis.

AMERICAN RAVEN.

I think I have made a rare find, and as so little has been said on this subject, I will write it up.

On March 26, of this year, while about thirty miles from Shandon in foot hills of Kern County, I made the following discovery.

After hunting over a large canyon covered with trees on one side and very rocky on the other, and finding nothing, I went across to another very rocky canyon. On my arrival there I found a nest with five fresh Prairie Falcon eggs. The rock in which the nest was built was about one hundred feet long and from forty to one hundred feet high. The Falcon nest which faced the south, was placed in an old raven's nest about twenty feet from the ground.

On going farther down I found another large rock. This one was about

one hundred feet high. I could see a nest up in a crevice. I threw up a stone and off flew Madam Raven. I hurried up the rock and soon came to where I could see the edge of the nest. I was at least ten feet from the nest and could plainly see four eggs. I tried to get something to fish the eggs out with, but couldn't, so I decided to try to get there with rope. The way I swung around there wasn't slow. When I reached the nest I found there were seven eggs. Was I surprised? I wonder! When I tested them I found the incubation to be started.

I was very happy over my rare prize. Having one set, which you know is genuine, is worth a dozen doubtful sets. I give the following data:

Nest placed in crevice of rock, ten feet up and one hundred feet down from top of rock. The nest was made of sticks and lined with wool.

This is the first set of seven I ever took. Sets of six aren't so common as those of five.

The first set I found this year contained six fresh eggs. The eggs varied a great deal in size, but carried the same markings. There was one odd egg, that is in all sets I have ever taken or seen. This nest was in a pine tree about sixty-five feet from the ground. It was made of sticks and lined with cow's hair. This set is in the Oological collection of Mr. A. E. Price.

One more set was taken by me in a cliff about sixty feet down and thirty feet up. This set contained four very large, handsome eggs. The nest was of the usual structure.

The raven is very bad about other bird's eggs, and I have known them to eat chicken eggs.

I must stop on this species, as I am very proud of my raven sets.

FRED TRUESDALE.

FINDING NESTS OF WHITE THROATED SWIFTS.

Part II.

In THE OOLOGIST, No. 273, page 49, I quoted a few remarks about finding nests of this Swift. So little has been recorded concerning these rare birds, that I really believe they need another write-up.

When they began nesting first this year, I was unable to study their habits further. But on dates of June 14, 15, 16, I found time to go out, and found five nests, which I will describe later.

On My arrival, at the top of Cliff No. 1, on the fourteenth, I located three nests, or saw Swifts go into three different places in the cliff.

The cliff was very large, being about 150 feet of a slope and below this a pitch of about seventy feet. There was a sort of large crack at top that extended down no less than fifteen feet and overhanging at top three feet.

To commence with I had to get one hundred and fifty feet of rope and my thirty foot ladder and some iron pegs for safety. After having set my line with ladder, I found it was necessary to use another rope to keep my ladder in place. I then went down to the first crack, I had seen them fly into. I couldn't see anything, but could hear young birds. There was a small hole about one foot above the crack. I reached in about two feet and pulled out a nest containing four half-grown birds and one dried up egg.

The nest was made of a few straws and grass, lined with feathers, cemented together with bird saliva. It measured four inches across the top, and two inches deep.

It was then so late, I had to leave. That evening I hunted all I could find about this bird and read them with much interest.

The next morning my friend, Mr. Brown, and I went out to see about the other nests. Mr. Brown went down to the second nest, which was at least four feet back in the crack. There was no chance to find out anything here. We could hear the owner in the nest. He then went to the third nest. He found this one to be in about two feet and contained four young ones. The nest was similar to number one.

I wanted a nest to study so fixed up a nest and took one of these. I also secured two birds which I intend to have mounted.

The female bird has a large head and white throat. There is a strip of white running full length. The wings are very long and very narrow, with a very little white. The tail is about half as long as wings, and is white on both sides of the root. The back is a sort of bluish or slate color. The male is similar, but is more blackish on the back.

Being unable to do any more with this cliff, I left for another one the next morning. I went down about one hundred and ten feet to the first nest. It was about two feet back in small crack. The nest was similar to others and contained four birds nearly ready to fly.

I went to the fifth and last nest, but could do nothing. It was in a hole and I could see no end of it.

In my three days' study, I find they fly around most in the mornings and evenings. They feed the young about every half hour, and both birds go into the nest.

I also found four young birds dead. Evidently they were caught in a narrow place, as they tried to come out.

Where do the various books get data on their laying in June and July? I can't see for my part, as these must have been laid early in May. I intend

making further search to see if two broods are reared in a season.

I also have letters from a few Oologists having between six and seven hundred species, who have none of this kind. I am sorry I obtained no eggs to describe, but as I described them in April, will let it go at that.

FRED TRUESDALE.

Turkey Buzzard (*Cathartes aura*.)

This set was taken by me in Nueces County, Texas, May 10, 1898. The eggs were placed on the bare ground at the foot of a large mesquite tree, which was surrounded by a dense thicket of thorny bushes and pear cactus. The locality was an infrequented side hill not far distant from Penitos Creek and about one and one-half miles from the Nueces river: a hot, dry spot, but one which is often selected by this species in South-west Texas. The creek at this point is a mere arroyo or dry creek bed and the hill slopes towards the south-west. The eggs were fresh and the runt egg, as is usually the case in a perfect runt, was infertile, containing no yolk.

In such a location as this, the bird usually sits close and will not leave the eggs unless the intruder makes a near approach, and it is often necessary to beat up the bushes well to flush her. It was especially true in this case, for there were no trails or paths leading near enough to alarm the sitting bird and the growth of thorny bushes was so dense that it was necessary to crawl under them to reach the spot.

D. B. BURROWS.

Runt Set of *Catharista urubu*.

This set was collected on February 28th, 1909, in Florida and was on the ground beside a dead palmetto tree that had been blown over. The set

measures 1.75x1.30 and 2.95x1.95. The smaller egg was laid two days before the larger one. The largest egg of this set has a pale bluish ground color spotted with brown and lavender, and the spots are mostly confined to the larger end. The small egg is of a darker bluish ground color with decided lavender markings that appear to be under the shell. The egg is not spotted with large spots like the larger egg but is blotched over with two shades of brown and dark lavender, and the entire surface of this egg is speckled with fine dots of dark brown which do not show up in the picture. The only other egg I ever saw just like this was one of a set that I sent to Ed. J. Court and another egg of a set taken from the same nest as the one sent him and which I now have in my collection. These two normal sized eggs and the runt are the only three marked in this manner that I have ever seen. This runt egg has many small elevations or warts mostly around one end that appears to be the smaller end, altho the egg is practically equal ended and it is hard to see much difference. This runt set was found within a few rods of where a runt set was laid the year before and possibly was laid by the same bird. I did not see this other runt set but was told of it by the man who first directed me to the set I collected. The second set collected from the same nest this year was normal.

O. E. BAYNARD.

NEW YORK NOTES.

In Grand Island in the Niagara River, a fine specimen of the White-faced Glossy Ibis was taken this Spring. The only record of one taken in the State of New York dates back to 1844.

We also took a fine set of five eggs of the Spotted Sandpiper a few years ago, and this season were lucky enough to find a beautiful set of seven spotted Sandpiper eggs.

OTTAMAR REINECKE,

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I desire sets of 5, 12, 30a, 49, 64, 77, 200, 213, 224, 258, 273, 278, 292, 300, 331, 339, 342, 360, 360a, 368, 373, 375, 388, 390, 394, 406, 408, 409, 414, 418, 474b, 478a, 481, 401, 540b, 549, 567d, 570, 588d, 590, 592, 594a, 603, 611, 619, 624, 639, 646a, 681c, 701, 702, 712, and many others. I can offer sets and singles of Arctic Sea Birds' Eggs, such as Divers, Auklets, Gulls, Geese, Ducks, Plovers and Sandpipers. Send your exchange list and receive mine. H. WARREN, 140 Wilton Ave., Toronto, Canada. (1)

I desire sets of 5, 12, 30a, 49, 64, 77, 200, 213, 224, 258, 273, 278, 292, 300, 331, 339, 342, 360, 360a, 368, 373, 375, 388, 390, 394, 406, 408, 409, 414, 418, 474b, 478a, 481, 501, 540b, 549, 567d, 570, 588d, 590, 592, 594a, 603, 611, 619, 624, 639, 646a, 681c, 701, 702, 712 and many others. I can offer sets and singles of Arctic Sea Birds, eggs, such as Divers, Auklets, Gulls, Geese, Ducks, Plovers and Sandpipers. Send your exchange list and receive mine. H. WARREN, 140 Wilton Ave., Toronto, Canada.

RARE N. A. SETS AT LOW RATES.—I offer, at a bargain, a number of sets and singles of such species as Northern Phalarope, Semipalmated Plover, Am. Rough-legged Hawk, Snowy Owl, Raven, Snowflake, Lapland Longspur, Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Am. Pipit, Gray Cheeked Thrush, etc., etc., because one or more eggs are imperfect or a part of the set has been destroyed. I collect SETS of birds of prey ONLY, but also desire living turtles and certain other reptiles. J. D. SORNBORGER, Rowley, Mass.

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TO EXCHANGE a very fine Premo Supreme camera, 5 x 7, for a motorcycle in GOOD CONDITION. Write G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

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FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

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Wanted.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion N. Y.

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WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

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FOR SALE.—Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition. Published by H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Cal., 1904. 25c. per copy, 3 for 50c., 7 copies for \$1.00. All prepaid for the price. Every egg collector in America should have a copy. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal. (2)

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THE OÖLOGIST.

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Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.



No. 70—Nest and Eggs of Chimney Swift
Photo by Earl R. Forrest.

Photographing Some Difficult Nests.

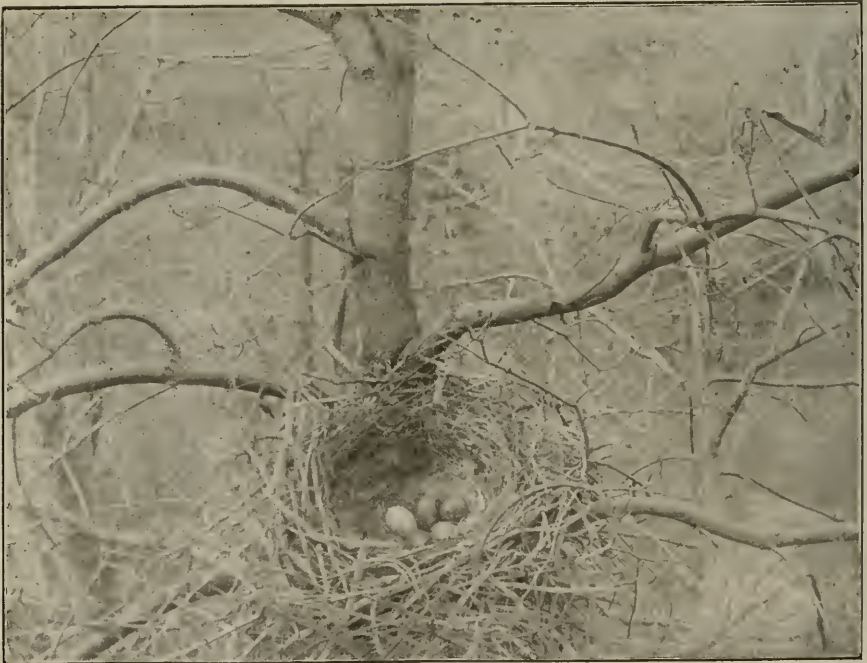
The three following species, although not rare, are rather hard to photograph, especially their nests and eggs in the original situation. A photograph, of the nest and eggs of the first species is hard to obtain. In a long experience this is the only opportunity that I ever had to record the nesting of this bird with the camera, and I thought that perhaps an account of the find and the result might prove of interest to the readers of THE OOLOGIST.

Chimney Swift. (*Chaetura pelagica*).

During the early summer of 1903, with two companions and fellow collectors I was camping in the southern part of Washington County, Pennsyl-

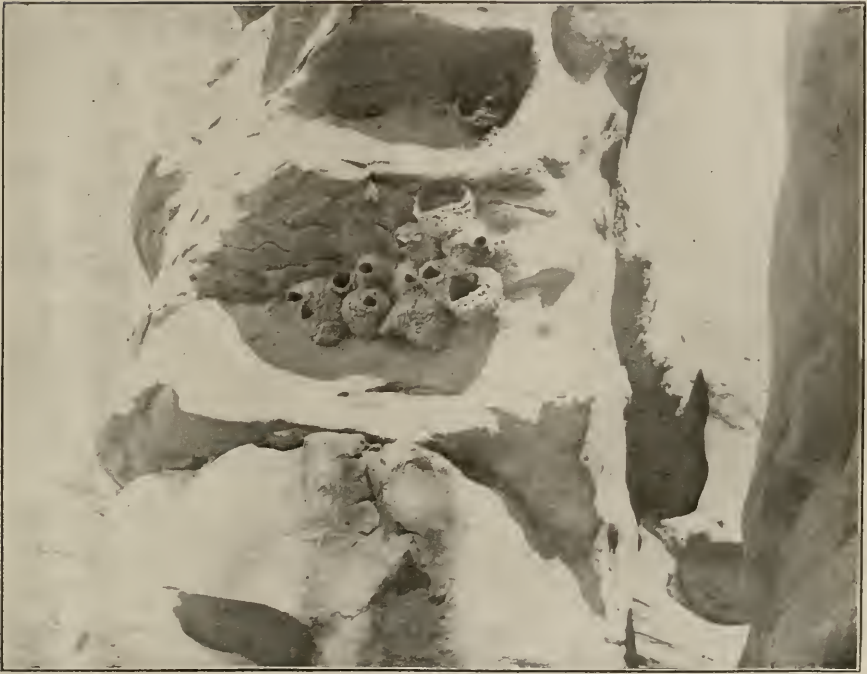
vania. By referring to my note book for that year I find that on June 26th, one of my comrades, while on his way to a country store, found a Chimney Swift's nest in the large stone chimney of an old log cabin. The house contained two stories and was situated in a field along a road, and about one hundred yards from a farm house. The old building was surrounded by a few apple and cherry trees. My friend discovered the nest by looking up the chimney from an old fire place on the first floor. He climbed to the roof of the cabin and, on looking down the chimney, saw one egg in the nest. He left at once and reported his find at camp.

We decided that the set would be completed by the 29th, and so, on that



No. 62—Nest and Eggs of Crow

Photo by Earl R. Forrest.



No. 71—Nests of Cliff Swallows

Photo by Earl R. Forrest.

date, armed with a camera, a small crowbar, a heavy chisel, and a hatchet we went to the old house. Unfortunately a farmer was cutting grain in the field and, as we did not know but that he might raise objections to the plans which we had for destroying his property, we had to work with caution.

By measurements we located a point in the chimney, on the second floor of the house, and on the side opposite to the nest, which we thought would be a good location for the camera. We immediately set to work to dig a hole in the chimney. We were as quiet as possible about it, so as not to arouse the suspicions of the farmer before mentioned, and we suspended operations whenever he came in the vicinity of the cabin. The chimney was very thick and the stones were large,

and so it took us the best part of an hour to dig an opening large enough for the front of the camera.

Our calculations proved to be correct, and the hole commanded an excellent view of the nest, which contained three eggs. Two exposures were made, both of which, on developing, turned out good.

The nest was situated sixteen feet from the bottom of the chimney and about six feet from the top. It was composed of twigs, glued together with the saliva of the bird.

American Crow. (*Corvus americanus*).

On April 24th, 1905, a friend informed me that he had found a crow's nest, containing five eggs, which he thought would be easy to photograph. It was located about one-half mile from town (Washington, Pennsylv-

vania) and so, on the next afternoon, we went after it with our camera and all the necessary paraphernalia.

The nest was situated twenty feet from the ground, in a young beech, on the edge of a small thicket. Within three feet of this tree was an oak, with a large limb which jutted out above the nest. It was an easy matter to climb this tree, fasten the camera to the limb (which was almost as good as a tripod on the ground) focus, and make the exposure. The result was very good and accompanies this article.

Cliff Swallow. (*Petrochelidon lunifrons*)

During the summer of 1905, I was located on a cattle ranch, four miles from the northwest corner of Yellowstone Park, Montana. It was a wild remote region, in the heart of the rugged Gallatin Mountains, and bird life was abundant. It was too late in the season for much collecting or bird photography, and I only succeeded in obtaining three good photographs of this character, the best one of which was of the nests of a colony of Cliff Swallows.

In the north end of the horse pasture was a high, rugged precipice. Far up on the rocks these birds had built a great number of their peculiar, gourd shaped, mud nests. They had evidently built them there for years, as traces of old nests were found in many sheltered places on the cliff. In all, I counted sixty-eight nests, which, judging from their good state of preservation, had been built that season. They were in clusters of from six to a dozen each, like that shown in the accompanying photograph.

EARLE R. FORREST.

Summer Residents of Philadelphia County, Pa.

Although it is the smallest and most populous county in Pennsylvania, Philadelphia is by no means devoid of bird life during the summer as the accompanying list will testify.

In the list, I have given the birds status as a breeder, together with the records of nests of all those that have actually been found nesting, and have also enumerated the few species that formerly bred in the county, so as to make the list as complete as possible. Those species of which no nests have been found have also been included, but only when the data was conclusive in establishing the bird as a summer resident.

I am optimistic enough to regard the list as far from being complete, but that its completion shall eventually occur is the sanguine hope of the writer.

The records are based chiefly upon personal observation, made during the past twelve years, chiefly in the North and Northeastern parts of the county, and contains very little data of others, and such are only included that are well authenticated.

144, Wood Duck; formerly rare. One was seen on May 27, 1901, at Volunteertown, and about this time a nest was found along the Tacony Creek, near Crescentville, by a resident of the city.

191, Least Bittern: Common on the Delaware marshes, Richmond; five eggs, June 1, 1904.

201, Little Green Heron; scarce; Holmesburg, June 29, 1909; five eggs.

202, Black-crowned Night Heron; rare, Holmesburg, May 1897, two fledglings taken from a nest by a couple of men. Birds from heronries in the vicinity of the city occur all summer at various localities.

208, King Rail; very rare. Bridesburg, June 12, 1908; 11 eggs.

212, Virginia Rail. Not common. Bridesburg, June 10, 1909; 10 eggs.

219, Florida Gallinule; common and restricted. Richmond, June 10, 1904; 10 eggs.

221, Coot; exceedingly rare. Richmond, several half grown young shot in July, 1906 by illegal gunners. An adult was seen here on May 26, of this year.

223, Woodcock. Rare. Occur throughout the breeding season at many localities as my records indicate, but my patient researches for nests have all been in vain.

261, Upland Plover. Rare and formerly. Sandiford, on June 26, 1903 a bird was seen and evidently nested. I have the assurance of farmers that a pair had been about all that summer.

263, Spotted Sandpiper. Common. Frankford, May 14, 1897, 3 fresh eggs.

273, Killdeer; rare. Bridesburg, July 25, 1903, two family flocks.

289, Bob-white; very rare. Pair bred at Sandiford in 1903, where I saw pair in June, but failed to locate their nest.

316, Mourning Dove; not common. Blue Grass, May 10, 1902, 2 eggs.

325, Turkey Vulture. Exceedingly rare. Pair was seen all summer of 1909 at Verusville, and with their two young on wing at Rockledge on June 24, 1909.

333, Cooper's Hawk; rare. Walnut Hill, April 17, 1902, 4 eggs.

339, Red-shouldered Hawk, very rare. Walnut Hill, May 2, 1908, 2 eggs. (This locality—Walnut Hill—is just across the Philadelphia County line, in Montgomery County. On several occasions have observed both the Cooper's and Red-shouldered Hawks in Philadelphia County, but as yet have not succeeded in finding a nest, though

I have seen family flocks of both species.)

343, Broad-winged Hawk, rare. Frankford, deserted nest, April 28, 1902.

352, Bald Eagle, exceedingly rare during former years. A pair is said to have then nested at Jonesdale. I have two records of birds seen and undoubtedly stragglers; Jonesdale, May 16, 1899, and Frankford, June 9, 1899.

360, Sparrow Hawk; common. Frankford, April 14, 1898, 3 fresh eggs.

364, Osprey; exceedingly rare during former years. One was seen at Holmesburg, May 28, 1898.

366, Long-eared Owl; rare. Frankford, June 9, 1899, 4 fledglings. (The Barn Owl is also a rare summer resident, occurring chiefly south of the city, but as yet I have never seen it in winter or summer.)

373, Screech Owl; common and decreasing. Frankford, April 15, 1899, 3 eggs.

387, Yellow-billed Cuckoo; common. Jonesdale, July 14, 1897, 3 eggs.

388, Black-billed Cuckoo; not rare. Frankford, June 22, 1898, 4 eggs.

390, Belted Kingfisher; not rare. Holmesburg, May 20, 1897, 6 naked young.

393, Hairy Woodpecker; rare. Have found inaccessible nests at Frankford, Holmesburg and Bustleton on different occasions.

394c, Downy Woodpecker; common. Holmesburg, June 9, 1900, 5 fledglings.

406, Red-headed Woodpecker; scarce. Coopersville, June 9, 1897, 6 eggs.

412a, Northern Flicker; abundant. Frankford, May 5, 1897, 5 eggs.

420, Nighthawk; rare. Crescentville, May 30, 1907, flushed a female but failed to find its nest, though its actions and behavior indicated the presence of one.

423, Chimney Swift; common.

Frankford, May 27, 1901, 1 egg.

428, Hummingbird; scarce. Holmesburg, June 7, 1906, 2 eggs.

444, Kingbird; common. Bustleton, June 5, 1897, 4 eggs.

452, Crested Flycatcher; common. Jonesdale, June 14, 1897, 5 eggs.

456, Phoebe; rather scarce. Holmesburg, May 25, 1898, 2 eggs.

461, Wood Pewee; not common. Wissinoming, deserted nest, June 11, 1902.

466a, Alder Flycatcher; exceedingly rare. Dr. J. P. Ball collected nest and eggs in June, 1909, at Frankford.

467, Least Flycatcher, rare. A bird was seen at Frankford on May 28, 1903, and another on July 15, 1909, at Holmesburg.

477, Blue Jay; scarce. A pair nested in 1907 at Frankford, but I couldn't find their nest. Have several other summer records of birds seen.

488, Crow; common. Frankford, April 13, 1898, 5 eggs.

489, Fish Crow; scarce. Jonesdale, April 10, 1902, 5 eggs.

494, Bobolink; exceedingly rare. Have seen birds at Bridesburg on June 5, 1902 and June 1, 1906.

495, Cowbird; common. Holmesburg, June 7, 1897, 1 egg in Red-eyed Vireo's nest.

498, Red-winged Blackbird; common. Blue Grass, May 20, 1899, 4 eggs.

501, Meadow Lark, common. Frankford, June 4, 1898, 5 eggs.

506, Orchard Oriole, scarce. Holmesburg, June 12, 1897, 4 eggs.

507, Baltimore Oriole; not common. Holmesburg, May 17, 1897, 1 egg.

511, Purple Grackle; common. Holmesburg, April 21, 1898, 4 eggs.

E. S. English Sparrow; too abundant. Frankford, April 23, 1898, 6 eggs.

529, Goldfinch; not common. Bustleton, September 17, 1897, 1 fledgling.

540, Vesper Sparrow; common. Frankford, June 29, 1897, 3 eggs.

546, Grasshopper Sparrow; scarce. Breeds every summer at Blue Grass, but my attempts to find a nest have all been failures.

560, Chipping Sparrow; common. Blue Grass, June 3, 1897, 3 eggs.

563, Field Sparrow; abundant. Jonesdale, July 1, 1897, 4 eggs.

581, Song Sparrow; abundant. Jonesdale, May 14, 1897, 4 eggs.

584, Swamp Sparrow; common. Bridesburg, May 27, 1900; 4 eggs.

587, Towhee; rare. A pair seen at Jonesdale all summer of 1909, but I failed to find their nest. Have one or two other summer records.

593, Cardinal; not common. Jonesdale, June 3, 1898, 2 eggs.

595, Rose Breasted Grosbeak; rare. Jonesdale, May 28, 1907, 2 eggs.

598, Indigo Bunting; common. Frankford, May 31, 1898, 3 eggs.

604, Dickcissel; formerly, but not since 1880 at Frankford.

608, Scarlet Tanager; rather rare. Frankford, new nest June 6, 1899.

611, Purple Martin; locally rare. There are occupied colonies at Holmesburg and Bustleton, that have been used every year since 1896.

612, Cliff Swallow; rare if at all. Have summer records covering the years 1897 to 1901, but have never been able to locate a colony or find a nest.

613, Barn Swallow; common. Frankford, new nests July 7, 1898.

616, Bank Swallow; rare. Formerly, a small colony at Holmesburg, which passed out of existence in 1897, when I first found it. These birds however, occur here in summer in abundance along the river and inland, but they are feeding birds from nearby colonies over in New Jersey.

617, Rough-winged Swallow; not

rare. Holmesburg, June 1, 1899, 7 eggs.

619, Cedar Waxwing! scarce and local. I have never found a nest. Dr. J. P. Ball found several pair nesting at Lawndale several years ago.

624, Red-eyed Vireo; abundant. Frankford, June 17, 1897, 4 eggs.

627, Warbling Vireo; scarce. Frankford, June 7, 1898, 3 eggs.

628, Yellow-throated Vireo; rare. A pair was watched gathering nesting material on May 30, 1907, at Lawndale.

631, White-eyed Vireo; not rare. Sandiford, June 1, 1899; 3 eggs and a nest was not found. Breeds sparingly every year along the Wissahichon Creek, in Fairmount Park.

639, Worm-eating Warbler; rare. Breeds only on the wooded ridges along the Wissahichon Creek, where I have seen it in the summer of 1908 and 1909.

641, Blue-winged Warbler; common and increasing. Bustleton, May 30, 1909, 3 eggs.

652, Yellow Warbler; common. Aramingo, May 22, 1899, 3 eggs.

674, Ovenbird; common. Frankford, May 26, 1897, 5 eggs.

676, Louisiana Water Thrush; rare. Occur every summer on the Wissahichon Creek in Fairmount Park, the only locality in the county where it breeds, though I flushed one at Frankford, May 27, 1897, from under the roots of a tree along a small brook in a wood, but failed to find the nest. I saw two fledglings on the Willahichon in 1908, on June 17 and 24, respectively.

677, Kentucky Warbler; common and increasing. Strange to say I have never been able to find a nest, but have seen several fledglings and nests taken in this county.

681, Maryland Yellow-throat; common. Sandiford, May 24, 1900; 4 eggs.

683, Yellow-crested Chat; common. Frankford, May 26, 1897, 4 eggs.

687, Redstart; rare, but appears to be increasing on the Pennypack Creek where seven pair were seen in 1908, and 1909, and an unfinished nest found on June 8, 1909, at Cercesville.

704, Catbird, abundant. Holmesburg, May 12, 1900, 4 eggs.

705, Brown Thrasher; not common. Jonesdale, May 22, 1898, 4 eggs.

718, Carolina Wren; common. Holmesburg, June 14, 1897, 5 fledglings.

721, House Wren; common. Frankford, July 3, 1898, 3 eggs.

724, Short-billed Marshwren; exceedingly rare. Richmond, June 8, 1904, 4 eggs.

725, Long-billed Marsh Wren; abundant. Bridesburg, June 17, 1902, 3 eggs.

727, White-breasted Nuthatch; scarce. Near Veresville, new nest April 22, 1899.

731, Tufted Titmouse; scarce. Never found a nest, but have seen the birds with their families on several occasions, and eggs taken in the county.

736, Carolina Chickadee; rare. A nest containing 7 eggs found at Holmesburg, before I kept a note book was recorded in THE OOLOGIST for March 1907; I have since seen the birds on several occasions in summer.

755, Wood Thrush; abundant but decreasing. Holmesburg, May 17, 1897, 3 eggs.

761, Robin; abundant. Holmesburg, April 21, 1898, 3 eggs.

766, Bluebird, common. Jonesdale, June 14, 1897, 5 eggs.

RICHARD F. MILLER

Coronado Florida Migrants.

The following notes were taken during 1907, 1908 and 1909. Dates given are those of earliest arrivals and latest departures.

Winter Species. Arrives.	Departs.	
Herring Gull	Sept. 20	Apr. 10
Bonaparte Gull	Sept. 16	Apr. 9
Sanderling	Sept. 16	Mar. 25
Willet	Aug. 24	Apr. 10
Spotted Sandpiper.	Aug. 9	May 21
Black-bellied Plover	Aug. 23	May 26
Ruddy Turnstone.	Aug. 12	May 26
Kingfisher, Belted.	July 19	May 9
Tree Swallow	Aug. 21	May 27
Myrtle Warbler.	Nov. 20	Mar. 9
Oven Bird	Sept. 21	May 1
House Wren	Oct. 14	Apr. 1
Catbird	Oct. 14	June 6
American Robin	Nov. 30	Feb. 26

Summer Species—

Least Tern	May 5	Sept. 10
Wilson Plover	Mar. 6	Sept. 30
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Mar. 2	Sept. 16
Chuck-will's Widow	Mar. 25	Aug. 27
Night Hawk	Apr. 10	Sept. 16
Chimney Swift	Apr. 9	Sept. 10
Gray Kingbird	Apr. 20	Sept. 15
Crested Flycatcher.	Apr. 1	Sept. 20
Painted Bunting.	Apr. 15	Sept. 27
Purple Martin.	Feb. 26	Aug. 10
Red-eyed Vireo.	Apr. 1	Sept. 20
Parule Warbler	Mar. 20	Sept. 5

Transient Species. Fall. Spring

Semi-palmated Sand- piper	Aug. 19	May 26
Semi-palmated Plov- er	Aug. 10	Apr. 20
Kingbird	Aug. 9	Apr. 28
Barn Swallow	Aug. 4	May 6
Black & White War- bler	Aug. 21	May 1
Wormeating War- bler	Aug. 30	May 9
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Sept. 28	May 3
Yellow Warbler	Sept. 12	Apr. 18
Water Thrush	Aug. 29	Apr. 23
American Redstart.	Aug. 17	May 13

The above noted thirty-six species are the more common of our migratory birds. There are several others, which are rather irregular, as the Cape May Warbler, Downy Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-cock-

aded Woodpecker, Wood Thrush, Tufted Titmouse and Hermit Thrush.

ROBERT J. LONGSTREET.

The Late Dr. Dowie as a Naturalist.

When Dr. Dowie purchased the tract of land for Zion City, about the first thing he did, was to issue a decree, that all birds, squirrels, trees, wild flowers, and natural park places, should be preserved, and protected in every way necessary. He ordered squirrel and bird houses put up, and not a gun was allowed in the city, and woe to the person who broke any of these rules. That the Doctor, as he was always called, and whom I found to be a very kind man, loved the birds, was manifest, when, while broken down with sorrow, at his daughter's grave side, an Oriole alighted near its nest, above his head and began singing; he raised his hand, pointed up at the bird, and with tears coursing down his face, remarked on the beauties and blessing of the Great Ruler of the universe, and the light hearted happiness of this little Oriole.

The protection of the birds and animals, caused them to become very tame; some of them would hardly get out of your way. While in the city, several times, I have observed the following birds, most of them nesting, and living at peace:

Migrants:—

- Mallard
- Several undetermined ducks on the lake.
- Canada Goose.
- Fox Sparrow.
- Brown Creeper.

Summer Residents:—

- American Bittern.
- Green Heron.
- Sora Rail.
- Virginia Rail.
- American Coot.

Bartramian Sandpiper.
 Spotted Sandpiper.
 Killdeer.
 Bob-white.
 Mourning Dove.
 Marsh Hawk.
 Cooper's Hawk.
 Red-tailed Hawk.
 Sparrow Hawk in Shiloh Park in
 heart of the city.
 Yellow-billed Cuckoo?
 Black-billed Cuckoo.
 Belted Kingfisher.
 Downy Woodpecker.
 Red-headed Woodpecker.
 Flicker.
 Whip-poor-will.
 Night Hawk.
 Ruby-throated Hummingbird.
 Kingbird.
 Crested Flycatcher.
 Phoebe.
 Wood Pewee.
 Prairie Horned Lark.
 Bobolink.
 Cowbird.
 Red-winged Blackbird.
 Meadowlark.
 Baltimore Oriole.
 American Goldfinch.
 Vesper Sparrow.
 Chipping Sparrow.
 Field Sparrow.
 Song Sparrow.
 Red-eyed Towhee.
 Indigo Bunting.
 Scarlet Tanager.
 Purple Martin.
 Red-eyed Vireo.
 Yellow Warbler.
 Oven Bird.
 Catbird.
 Brown Thrasher.
 House Wren.
 Short-billed Marsh Wren.
 Long-billed Marsh Wren.
 White Breasted Nuthatch.
 American Robin.
 Eastern Bluebird.

Resident:—

Pinnated Grouse.
 Ruffed Grouse.
 Screech Owl.
 Blue Jay.
 American Crow.
 Black-capped Chickadee.
 American Woodcock.
 Sharp-shinned Hawk?

Birds Seen:—

Hairy Woodpecker.
 Chimney Swift?
 Orchard Oriole.
 Bronzed Grackle.
 Purple Grackle.
 White-throated Sparrow.
 Slate-colored Junco.
 Rose-breasted Grosbeak.
 Cliff Swallow?
 Cedar Waxwing.
 White-rumped Shrike.
 American Redstart?
 2 or 3 species of Gulls on Lake Mich-
 igan not near enough to deter-
 mine.

Making in all seventy-eight species,
 and several others too far out on
 Lake Michigan to be able to decide
 what they were.

Since Dr. Dowie's death, the rifle
 and air gun have done a deal of mis-
 chief among the animals and birds,
 and the city is not what it once was
 for the birds, animals, flowers, trees
 and shrubs.

GEORGE W. H. VOS BURGH.

Notes on August Birds at Bloomfield In Northern New Jersey.

On August 7, 1910, I found a pair of
 Blue-winged Yellow Warblers, short-
 ly after sunrise, in a Wild Honey-
 suckle thicket at Bloomfield. They
 were in company with a female Red-
 start. The trio were found at least
 a dozen times throughout the day
 near where discovered. They were
 again found on the 8th and then dis-

appeared and were not seen again during the month.

On August 8, 1910, I found an adult male Chestnut-sided Warbler, a pair of Black and White Warblers, and a family of Carolina Wrens, consisting of the parents and three youngsters, at Pompton Lakes. At Oakland, a pair of American Pipits were located for the first time this year. All of the above, with the exception of the Redstart, which is a common summer resident, are usually scarce in these localities at this time of the year.

On August 14, 1910, I found a partly Albino Robin in Branch Brook Park, Newark, in company with a small flock of about twenty. The bird's marking were all normal with the exception of its wings and head. The two outer primaries and several of the greater coverts were clear white, and the nape of its neck, crown and auriculars were also pure white. The bird remained in and near the park throughout the month.

LOUIS S. KOHLER.

Abnormal Chimney Swift Eggs.

While on a trip through Passaic Co., at Pompton Lakes, N. J., on May 26, 1910, I had the pleasure of locating a nest of the Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) in which two abnormal eggs were found.

The nest was located in the main chimney of an old farm house quite near the top and contained a clutch of five eggs perfectly normal in color and appearance. Two of these were at least one-half again as large as the other three, which were normal in size.

The two big eggs measured .89 x .62 and .85 x .59; and the three small ones .74 x .51; .73 x .48; and .74 x .50.

I have neither the eggs or a picture to substantiate the above record, as

the presence of the nest was already known to the owner of the house and she positively would not listen to any suggestion as their value to oology. She was one of the class of bird lovers who will only consider their economic value and companionship. I must say I would have much liked to have taken the set, but out of respect for the good old lady and her great love for our bird friends, could not persuade myself to attempt to steal a march on her and secure them at any risk.

LOUIS S. KOHLER,
Bloomfield, N. J.

Walter Raine at the Toronto Exhibition, 1910.

The Natural History Exhibit, consisting of Stuffed Birds, Animals, Shells, Butterflies and living Fish in tanks, is this year located under the Grand Stand, just east of Nasmith's Dining Hall.

Here is to be seen an attractive exhibit of Birds' Nests and Eggs from the extensive collection owned by W. Raine, of Kew Beach, Toronto. As the space is limited, it is impossible to show Raine's entire collection (numbering over 50,000 specimens, one of the largest in North America); but enough specimens have been selected from the collection to make a fine display, that will, no doubt, prove interesting as well as instructive.

The eggs of the Ostrich family are well represented, for, in addition to the eggs of the common Ostrich from Africa, are to be seen eggs of Emu from Australia, Rheas from South America, Darwin's Rhea from Patagonia, Cassowary from New Guinea, and eggs of the One-Wattled Cassowary—the only eggs of this specimen in North American collections.

There are Albatross eggs, Penguins',

Man-c-War Birds' and Boobies' eggs from the islands of the South Pacific, and all kinds of Sea Birds' eggs from the Arctic regions, as well as eggs of Eagles, Vultures, Hawks, Swans, Geese, Cranes and Pelicans from all parts of the world.

One case contains fifteen specimens of nests and eggs of Wild Ducks and Geese, collected by Mr. Raine amongst the lonely lakes of Northern Canada and Europe.

Of special interest is a fine series of one hundred Humming Birds' Nests, and as specimens of bird architecture a great variety of beautiful and curious nests are shown, the pretty and neatly constructed nests of the Humming Birds, Warblers, Gnatcatchers, Finches, Bush Tits and Wrens making a contrast to the carelessly made nests of the Doves, Marsh Hawks, Plovers and Sandpipers.

This exhibit covers a space 30 x 5 feet, and yet only comprises one-tenth part of the immense collection Mr. Raine has been twenty years in getting together.

Please note the location, under the Grand Stand, West end, as we feel sure the Natural History Exhibit will prove interesting to all visitors.

The New A. O. U. Check List.

"All things come to him who waits." At least strange as it may seem, after many promises, disappointments, explanations, delays, etc. this production has made its appearance, and the students of birds may now (providing he has the price) acquire a complete list of the birds, included in the American Ornithologists' Union Check list. But by so doing, he will acquire in addition thereto the misfortune of owning a book, which, if he is to keep it up to date, will require an endless amount of erasures, interlineations,

additions and subtractions, if not multiplication and division.

It is to be hoped that some day, whenever that day is, if it ever arrives, that we may have a list of bird names that will be as permanent as that of the Robin, which, though the Latin name has undergone many transformations, is still known as the Robin. Certainty and permanency in names as in all other things is one of the most highly desirable of conditions; and we trust that the hair-splitting closet naturalists will ultimately either arrive at the end of their string or carry their peculiar eccentricities to such an extent as to totally discredit themselves along these lines, and that a day will soon arrive when the name of a bird will be as permanent and as recognizable as the name of any other one thing. When that day comes, confusion worse than confounded, will be a thing of the past.

One of the most ominous things noted in the new check list is the threatened assault on the permanency of the common names of our birds. Many of these are changed and if this disease spreads as rapidly as it did among the scientific names, we will never be able to recognize many of our old friends in a few years. Let us hope it will not be.

From the National Conservation Congress at Minneapolis, Minn.

FAVORS BIRD CONSERVATION Naturalist Tells of Good Done by Feathered Tribe.

Frank M. Chapman of New York city, curator of birds in the American Museum of Natural History, addressed the conservation congress last evening on "Practical Bird Conservation."

Mr. Chapman referred to birds as the conservators of our forests and

told how they destroyed forest-destroying insects. He said that insects caused an annual loss to the timber and forestry interests of the country of \$100,000, and said: "We cannot hope to preserve our timbered areas without the exercise of proper methods of conservation, nor can the conservationists hope for success in this direction without the co-operation of the birds.

"We can afford to spray those orchard trees which yield an annual dividend in fruit, but, mechanical difficulties aside, we cannot afford to spray a tree which yields a crop only once in a lifetime. The forester can assist the birds but he cannot dispense with their services.

"Let me now present from a wealth of data a few facts in support of this assertion that birds are essential to the continued existence of forests. The extent to which trees are preyed upon by insects will be more fully realized when I tell you that forty-one different species of insects infest the locust, eighty the elm, 105 the birch, 165 the pine, 170 the hickory, 186 the willow, while the insect foes of the oak number over five hundred.

"At no period of its life is the tree exempt from insect depredation, and every part of it is attacked, from the tiniest rootlet to the terminal bud, blossom or fruit."

Mr. Chapman asserted that "chief among the enemies of birds is woman." He referred to the slaughter of birds in the quest for feathers, and spoke particularly of the passing of the white heron of the southern marshes.

White Tailed Ptarmigan.

I should be very pleased to hear from any readers of THE OOLOGIST, who may have any authentic eggs of *lagopus leucurus* and any information as to when and where they were taken will be very much appreciated. I have two sets of this species, one of six eggs, and one of ten, with the latter set I also have both parents. Both sets were taken in the Rocky Mountains west of this city, and in each case the female showed remarkable tameness. In the case of the set of six eggs, the female sat while several photos were taken of her, and was then lifted off the eggs by hand (a fact) after which she strutted around making a clucking sound like an angry hen. This is the statement my collector gave me and I do not doubt it.

These two sets are the fruits of over fifteen years endeavor to secure the eggs of this bird.

G. F. DIPPIE,

Calgary, Alberta, Can.

WOULD SAVE BIRDS

The Audubon Society at the Minnesota State Fair.

The State Audubon society is making an appeal to save the harmless birds and its collection at the state fair shows the various songsters of Minnesota and tells their value.

The society has been given a corner in the horticultural building, where its work is pictured and told by the attendants in charge. The society is aiming to prevent a slaughter of song birds in Minnesota similar to that recently in Tennessee where thousands of robins and other harmless birds were slain.

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Any collectors having a few good labeled specimens of foreign birds, send list. I will give A 1 skins of Illinois and California birds. Also offer skins of common specimens from Illinois for nests and sets of small species. HENRY K. COALE, Highland Park, Lake Co., Ill.

TO EXCHANGE.—Bird skins from north-eastern United States for specimens from other parts of North America. Collectors send their lists in exchange for mine. J. A. WEBER, Palisades Park, N. J.

I want 1 perfect skin in full breeding plumage of each of the following species: A. O. U. No. 396, 454, 456, 460, 468, 470a, 471, 477, 483, 495a, 498, 506, 515, 511b, 528, 530b, 534, 542c, 557, 558, 581d, 583, 585, 593c, 594, 641, 643, 644, 646, 651, 655, 657, 659, 660, 675, 679, 680, 681, 683, 685, 715, 757, 758a, 761, 725. I have duplicates for exchange of A. O. U. No. 373, 495, 498, 507, 529, 558, 559, 601, 608, 636, 648, 662, 594, 666. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED.—First class skins of Murrelets, Gulls, Shearwaters, Rails, Shore Birds, Grouse, Hawks, Owls, particularly Snowy and Great Gray, and certain small land birds. Offer representative Southern California species, also fine sets of personally taken Heermann's Gulls and Blue-footed Boobies. All reliable collectors send lists. PINGREY I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Calif.

THE CELEBRATED HUNGARIAN AND ENGLISH PARTRIDGES AND PHEASANTS, capercaillies, black game, wild turkeys, quails, rabbits, deer, etc. for stock purposes. Fancy pheasants, peafowl, swans, cranes, storks, ornamental geese and ducks, foxes, squirrels, ferrets, and all kinds of birds and animals. WENZ & MACKENSEN, Dept. H. Pheasantry & Game Park, Yardley, Pa.

Is your subscription paid up?

EGGS

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

FOR EXCHANGE.—First class Eggs in sets. C. S. RUTHERFORD, Revere, Mo.

Send exchange lists of first class sets for mine.—J. W. PRESTON, 1411 13th Ave., Spokane, Wash.

I offer 1-3, 2-4 Fish Crow, 1-5 201, 1-5 194; all for a set of Bartman's Sandpiper 4 or 5 eggs. W. B. CRISPIN, Salem, N. J.

WANTED.—Eggs in sets with original data. Send list of everything you have. GEORGE SETH GUION, Napoleonville, La.

Are you interested in North American Water-birds' eggs? Send for list, 225 species. THOMAS H. JACKSON, West Chester, Pa. (4)

WANTED.—Good eggs, Indian relics, and Catocala. I have California butterflies, sea curiosities and stamps. R. E. DODGE, 552 Bay street, Santa Cruz, Cal.

EXCHANGE.—A fine series of ten of the Pallas Murre from Cape Hope, Alaska. I want 188, 332, 343, 348, 362, 364 and many others. D. E. BROWN, 6044 1st Ave., No. W, Sta. F. Seattle, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE.—A few choice sets of glaucous-winged gull, black oyster catcher, ring-necked plover, Kodiak fox sparrow, Pacific murre. All collected by myself. G. W. STEVENS, Alva, Okla.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine set of 2, 3, 4 and 5 Ferruginous Rough-leg Hawk, on the basis of 75 cents cash value per egg. Only extra fine or rare material wanted. CHILDS MUSEUM, Floral Park, N. Y. [3]

WANTED.—Sets of 351, 352, 352a, 206, and many common sets; have to offer choice sets 679 1-4, 417 1-2, 419 1-2, 337, 339, 375, 263, 261, 273 and many other choice sets; send list and receive mine. RAY DINSMORE, Perry, Ohio

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine sets of Least Tern, Black Skimmer, Louisiana Heron, Wayne's Clapper Rail, Florida Burrowing Owl, and others. For particulars address W. W. WORTHINGTON, Shelter Island Heights, New York.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in fine sets, beautiful minerals, butterflies and moths in dust and insect proof cases, and other natural history specimens. Want all the above. Send lists and receive mine. LEWIS C. SNYDER, Lacona, New York.

FOR EXCHANGE.—One set of Eleven Wood Duck, taken in 1904 by Verdi Burch in New York for a good set of three of Golden Eagle. This duck is rapidly becoming extinct and these eggs are now rarely offered. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

TO EXCHANGE.—Sets with data, North American and Foreign. Can use many common kinds of both. Dr. T. W. RICHARDS U. S. Navy, 1911 N. St., N. W., Washington D. C.

I HAVE 273 3-4, 360a 2-4, 365 2-5, 375d 2-2, 476 1-6, 715 4-4, etc. U WABT2-3-5-12-30-32-63-67-70-(76) -90-92-106-108-120a-120c-128-258-318-319-320a-412-421 with nests; 428-432-433-434-436-439-466-466a-467-506-507, FRED TRUESDALE, Shandon, Cal.

FOR SALE.—Some rare single eggs from Iceland, Loons, Sjua, Glaucous Gull, Oldsquaw, Northern Eider, Bean Goose, Whooping Swan, Golden Plover, Dunlin, Godwit, Ruff, Snowflake, Iceland Falcon, and others. Send for full list to H. WARREN, Room 215 St. James Chambers, Adelaide St., E., Toronto, Ont.

"I have perfect sets of Mourning, Cerulean Black throated, Blue and Black throated Green Warbler, American Woodcock, Bartramian Sandpiper, King Rail, Canadian Spruce, Grouse and Sharp Shinned Hawk for exchange. I desire sets of American Flamingo, Long-billed Curlew, Semipalmated Plover, Franklin's Grouse, Bonaparte's Gull, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Red Cokaded Woodpecker, Pink-sided Junco, Hutton's and Black Capped Vireo, Sennett's Orange-crowned and Connecticut Warbler and Canada Jay. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, 945 Marquette Bldg., Chicago.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in sets with full data. A. O. U. No. No. 11-3, 61-5, 131-1, 161-1, 271-2, 291-2, 30a 1-1, 321-1, 401-3, 431-1, 491-2, 511-3, 531-3, 561-2, 541-3, 581-3, 641-3, 671-1, 701-3, 721-3, 751-1, 771-2, 791-1, 801-4, 861-1, 1061-1, 1171-1, 1201-3, 1841-3, 1911-5, 1941-4, 2001-3, 2011-5, 2021-4, 2261-2, 2711-1, 320a 1-1, 3251-2, 3261-2, 3331-4, 3371-2, 3391-3, 3481-2, 3641-2, 3781-1, 4311-2 with nest; 5061-2, 519b1-1, also blow pipe, embryo shears and hook and set of cut the lining egg drills. Will exchange all of the above for best offer of Indian bird spear points and other flint and bead relics. Write me and send outlines. HENRY J. RUST, Box 683, Coeur d' Alene, Idaho.

I want sets of following North American birds' eggs: A. O. U. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 40, 49, 51, 53, 70, 77, 125, 132, 140, 190, 196, 208, 224, 258, 261, 269, 280, 305, 325, 326, 332, 337, 343, 349 352, 360, 362, 364, 368, 373, 375, 393, 394c, 402, 406, 416, 423, 428, 429, 452, 461, 464, 466, 466a, 477, 490, 494, 497, 506, 507, 517, 540, 546, 549, 550, 554, 558, 595, 604, 608, 611, 622, 627, 628, 631, 637, 648, 681, 702, 727, 735, 736, 746, 751, 758a, 759b. For any of these I will give full even rates in exchange, using the Lattin-Short 1905 Catalogue. I can offer A. O. U. Nos. 30a 6-1, 32 6-1, 79 1-1, 184 2-3 2-4, 187 2-3 2-4, 199 2-5, 313 1-2, 378a 2-5, 447 2-4, 448 2-4, 505a 1-3, 513 2-3, 528 1-4, 531 1-5, 542c 1-4, 552a 2-4, 578 1-2, 580a 1-2, 593a 1-4, 710 1-3, in sets. Also some desirable singles; a large list of Shells, Minerals, Fossils, and curios and a few good books. If you have others to offer than those I mention above write me. I may be able to make you an offer. ERNEST H. SHORT, Box 173, Rochester, N. Y.

Is your Subscription paid up ?

BOOKS.

WANTED FOR CASH.—Bird Lore Vol. I-2, 6; Vol. II-2; Vol. III-1; VII-1. LOUIS S. KOHLER, Bloomfield, N. J.

WANTED.—The Auk, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. VI, Nos. 1, 3. For cash or exchange. LOUIS A. FUERTES, Ithaca, N. Y.

WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

WANTED.—Books on birds. Will pay a reasonable cash price for those that I desire. State title and author, condition, etc. CHAS. F. CARR, (Personal), New London, Wis.

Have your Oologists or other magazines, bound by a careful, painstaking hand process. Write what you have and get styles. Prices reasonable. Exchange considered. HOWARD W. McMILLEN, Ada, Okla. c

FOR SALE.—In perfect condition, "The North American Birds" by Henry Nehrling, German text, cloth bound, gilt edge, 668 pages and 36 plates, showing 137 species in natural color. Original price \$15. Sells for \$7. ERICH DIETRICH, Canby, Oregon.

FOR SALE.—The following books: Birds of North and Middle America by Ridgway, Parts I, II, III, and IV. Birds of Wyoming 1902, by Knight, Our Northern and Eastern Birds, by E. A. Samuels, Nuttall's Ornithology, two volumes, The Auk, Vols. 16, 21, 22, 23 and 24. All in excellent condition. Will sell cheap. F. C. HUBEL, Clarkston, Mich.

BIRD MAGAZINES.—I have about 500 old bird magazines for exchange, including complete volumes of Auk, Condor, Nidologist, Osprey, Oregon Naturalist, and odd numbers of all of these. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal.

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—For Ornithological Books: Vols. I, XII, Forest and Stream, bound, with index and summary of all the ornithological matter contained in these volumes. 1881 issue, paper cover. Address, H. H. BAILEY, P. O. Box 154, Newport News, Va. (le)

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CATALOGS

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

I will give \$1.00 for No. 6 of Vol. 5 of THE OOLOGIST in the original covers and in good condition. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR SALE.—My entire Ornithological Library, either as a whole or by separate volumes. Address S. B. LADD, 215 Walnut St., Reading, Pa.

WANTED.—The Bulletin of the Cooper O. Club Vol. I complete; Wilson Bulletin Nos 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 24 for cash. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 98 Watsessing Ave., Bloomfield, N. J.

WANTED.—Robert Ridgway's Birds of North and Middle America; Parts 2, 3, and 4. Paper cover preferred. OSCAR T. WILLARD, Jr., 5481 Jefferson Ave., Chicago, Ill.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Bird skins, Hooker's Natural History, Davies' 4th Edition, common tame Pigeons. Desire books on birds, bird skins, or mounted birds. O. M. GREENWOOD, Manchester, Iowa. (le)

WANTED.—Odd volumes, plates or parts of any octavo edition of Audubon's Birds of America. Good price given; especially for plates Nos. 40, 73, 118, 283, 284, 346, 359, 375, 488, 490, 491. S. N. RHOADS, 920 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

OLD MAGAZINES WANTED.—The Oologist by Lattin, Vol. V complete. The Oologist by Willard, Vol. I, complete; Vol. II, Nos 1, 2, 3. Also some of older Wilson Club publications. DR. GUY C. RICH, Sioux City Iowa. (1)

WANTED.—The following back numbers of THE OOLOGIST for the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Vol. 2, No. 2; Vol. 3, No. 4; Vol. 5, No. 6; Vol. 6, No. 4; Vol. 13, No. 5; Vol. 14, No. 3 and 10, Vol. 15, No. 7. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR SALE.—Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition. Published by H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Cal., 1904. 25c. per copy, 3 for 50c., 7 copies for \$1.00. All prepaid for the price. Every egg collector in America should have a copy. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal. (2)

For sale or to exchange for books, magazines or bird skins. O & O vols. VI, VII, VIII, XVI, XVII. Nidologist vols. II, III, IV. Trans Wis. Acad. Odd vols.; Auk XI, 3 and 4; XII, 3; XX, 2; Capens Oology; Oologist, vols. VII to XVII inc. bound. Hardwick's Science Gossip. F. B. McKECHNIE, Ponkapog, Mass.

WANTED.—COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE requires the services of a representative in to look after subscription renewals and to extend circulation by special methods which have proved unusually successful. Salary and commission. Previous experience desirable but not essential. Whole time or spare time. Address, with references, H. C. CAMPBELL, Cosmopolitan Magazine, 1789 Broadway, New York City.

MISCELLANEOUS.

TO EXCHANGE a very fine Premo Supreme camera, 5 x 7, for a motorole in GOOD CONDITION. Write G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

FOR SALE-- One number 3, folding camera, Has been used very little Will sell cheap. Write for price.

D. Carey Westbrook 412 West College St., (le) Griffin, Ga.

Wanted. — Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion N. Y

Wanted: A buyer for fine camera. Premo Supreme, 5 x 7, practically new; it has all attachments and adjustments found on a first class camera. G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

FOR SALE.— One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE — Sets of Red-footed Booby, Black-vented Shearwater, and Ridgeway Noddy, collected by A. W. Anthony; and many others. I want especially, good sets of 328, 339a, 343, 355, 356, 357. ALFRED B. HOWELL, 250 N. Orange Grove Ave., Pasadena, Cal.

IMPORTED COCOONS.—Atlas, Mylitta, Roylei, Selene, Trifen-estrata and other Indian pupae for Regalis, Versicolora and other desirable native pupae and eggs. JAMES L. MITCHELL, Indiana Trust Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

EXCHANGE-- Nearly new 24 guage Janssen Sons and Co. double breech loading top snap hammer gun, marked Belgium Laminated Steel, \$11 Would exchange for larger bore. (1) A. C. Dyke, Bridgewater Mass.

SOMEONE—Make me some offers on cases of fine U. S. Fractional Currency. Very desirable stuff for collectors. All answered. R. T. FULLER, Lacona, N. Y. (1)

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—Over 775 scientific and showy shells representing 321 species, named, packed ready to ship. List upon request. Price \$15.00, or will exchange for ornithological books and sets of birds' eggs. If you are interested in shells do not fail to inquire into this collection. Also 30 species of birds' eggs in sets at a bargain. CLARENCE F. STONE, Branchport, N. Y.

Students, Sportsmen, Naturalists.— Let Mullen mount your trophies, standard Museum methods in taxidermy, all branches, Tanning, Lap Robes, Fur Coats. B. F. MULLEN, Taxidermist, Tanner, 509 N. 25th St.

Watch This Space
In the Future
FOR OUR LIST
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Of
North American
Lepidoptera

We will have some
nice rarities such as
Papilio Daunus
AND
Sphinx Kalmiae

The Maplewood Biological
Laboratory

THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. 11. ALBION, N. Y. NOV. 15, 1910. WHOLE No. 280

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.



No. 67—Walter Raine, of Toronto, Canada, and Wife

Walter Raine.

With this issue we present to you a likeness of Walter Raine and his wife. Mr. Raine needs no introduction and no encomium. He is one of the best known oologists in all North America and has placed in various collections, perhaps more eggs than any other dealer in North America.

The years he has been in the business he has established a reputation for fairness and integrity that anyone may well envy. Specimens from him are to be found in almost every leading collection in North America. We have done business with Mr. Raine for practically twenty years and have just recently closed up with him the largest single exchange of specimens we have ever made, aggregating on both sides about 1000 separate specimens.

Elevated Nests of the Indigo Bunting.

On September 3, 1903, in Juniata Park, at Frankford, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, I found an Indigo Bunting's nest in an unusual situation. It was fourteen feet up in a big white-oak on the edge of the wood, and ten feet out from the trunk, "saddled" to a small crotch at the end of a slender horizontal limb.

Of course it was empty at this late date, but on examination, showed that a brood of young had been raised in it.

At the identical place, on October 4, 1905, I found another elevated Indigo Bunting's nest. This one was in a young sour gum about twenty feet from the oak, and was seventeen feet from the ground, placed in the same kind of a situ as the other, six feet out from the trunk. And like it also, young had been reared in it. It resembled the first nest, but was looser constructed. Both were made of the usual combination of materials and did not differ appreciably from normal situated

nests, and there is no doubt as to their having been built by the same pair of birds.

There were plenty of undergrowth in the woods in which the birds could have nested, and why they should have chosen the trees is another one of those birds' mysteries so puzzling to us.

Never before or since have I ever found an Indigo Bunting's nest over five feet high; the average height of their situation in my experience being one and one-half feet, and the lowest nest I ever saw was within six inches of the earth. R. F. MILLER.

List of Birds Observed at Petersburg, Virginia, by Charles Lungsford, Jr.

- 129 American Merganser
- 132 Mallard
- 133 Black Duck.
- 143 Pintail
- 144 Wood Duck
- 147 Canvas-back Duck
- 172 Canada Goose, seen flying over.
- 191 Least Bittern, a few nests found two years ago in the Appomattox marshes.
- 194 Great Blue Heron
- 200 Little Blue Heron
- 201 Little Green Heron, found nesting
- 208 King Rail
- 214 Carolina Rail
- 228 American Woodcock
- 230 Wilson Snipe
- 263 Spotted Sandpiper
- 273 Killdeer
- 289 Bob-white, found nesting .
- 310 Wild Turkey; one nest found several years ago containing one added egg
- 316 Mourning Dove; found nesting
- 325 Turkey Vulture; found nesting
- 326 Black Vulture
- 364 Osprey
- 333 Cooper's Hawk

- 252 Bald Eagle; one killed on the Ap-
pomattox marshes on March
12th that measured 6 feet and
6 inches from tip to tip.
- 368 Barred Owl
- 373 Screech Owl
- 375 Great Horned Owl
- 387 Yellow-billed Cuckoo
- 290 Belted Kingfisher; found nesting
- 402 Yellow-bellied Sapsucker
- 406 Red-headed Woodpecker
- 412 Flicker; found nesting
- 417 Whip-poor-will
- 420 Night Hawk
- 423 Chimney Swift; found nesting
- 428 Ruby-throated Hummingbird;
found nesting.
- 608 Scarlet Tanager; found nesting
- 610 Summer Tanager
- 593 Cardinal; found nesting
- 517 Purple Finch
- 498 Red-winged Blackbird; found
nesting
- 597 Blue Grosbeak; found nesting.
- 598 Indigo Bunting; found nesting
- 477 Blue Jay; found nesting
- 766 Bluebird; found nesting
- 507 Baltimore Oriole
- 506 Orchard Oriole; found nesting
- 687 Redstart; two nests found in
June 3, 1910; one with young
and one with eggs
- 529 American Goldfinch
- 681 Maryland Yellow-throat
- 652 Yellow-Warbler; found nesting
- 619 Cedar Waxwing
- 683 Yellow-breasted Chat; found
nesting
- 501 Meadowlark
- 452 Crested Flycatcher; found nest-
ing
- 587 Towhee; found nesting
- 761 American Robin; found nesting
- 456 Phoebe; found nesting
- 461 Wood Pewee; found nesting
- 616 Bank Swallow; found nesting
- 627 Warbling Vireo; found nesting
- 631 White-eyed Vireo; found nesting
- 540 Vesper Sparrow
- 560 Chipping Sparrow; found nest-
ing
- 563 Field Sparrow; found nesting
- 584 Swamp Sparrow
- 558 White-throated Sparrow
- 581 Song Sparrow; found nesting
- 705 Brown Thrasher; found nesting
- 755 Wood Thrush; found nesting
- 718 Carolina Wren; found nesting
- 721 House Wren; found nesting
- 725 Long-billed Marsh Wren
- 567 Slate-colored Junco
- 731 Tufted Titmouse
- 735 Chickadee; found nesting
- 727 White-breasted Nuthatch
- 444 Kingbird; found nesting
- 704 Catbird; found nesting
- 611 Purple Martin; found nesting
- 613 Barn Swallow
- 494 Bob-o-link
- 495 Cowbird
- 511 Purple Grackle
- 488 American Crow; found nesting
- 153 Bufflehead Duck; one killed on
Appomattox River.

The American Coot.

(Fulica Americana)

No. 221.

The American Coot, locally called "Mud Hen" is quite common in favorable localities, throughout its range in South Dakota. They nest in Colonies from a few pair in the small ponds to large numbers in the lakes and large marshes in company with Grebes and Rails.

They are divers and seldom fly except for short distances over the water. When ducks are scarce, they are often shot by hunters and left where they are.

At daybreak I have seen large numbers of coots along the shores.

When alarmed they would fly with their feet almost touching the water across the few rods of open water to the rushes.

This year they arrived about April 1st. and the first full nests were found May 25th. The nests are made of dead

rushes and reeds floating on the water, but are very well made when compared with the unsteady structures erected by Grebes. From five to fifteen eggs are laid.

One nest found by a friend contained an egg just like the others, but no larger than an English Sparrow's egg.

ALEX. WALKER.

The American Redstart.

The American Redstart in Northern New Jersey is a common summer resident, arriving about May 5th and remaining with us until October 1st. Shortly after their arrival from the south the pairs mate and commence building homes and it is quite common to find a number of their nests each year. After the breeding and nesting seasons are over and the young are able to care for themselves, this minute flycatching warbler may be found at most any time pirouetting among the branches of the lower shrubs and trees or darting in pursuit of a passing insect and returning to its former perch to again take up its ever restless search for subsistence.

Their nesting sites, in this locality, it has been my experience to find in the lower growths of the elms, sassafras, and alders. At times they will locate in the higher trees, but not very often as they usually prefer the lower half of the trees.

May 20, 1908, one pair of these bright colored little warblers commenced building a nest in an elm sapling along the main thoroughfare of Bloomfield, N. J. This nest when completed three days later, was a beautiful, cup-shaped structure consisting principally of slender twigs and dried grasses overlain with plant down and spider webs and lined with horsehair and plant down, and was cradled near the

trunk of the sapling on a horizontal branch.

The first egg was laid on the second day after completion and an egg each day was deposited for four days thereafter. On the morning of the seventh day, the nest was visited and found to contain but four Redstart and an egg of the parasitic Cowbird. The other egg had apparently been broken and the shell carried off by the parents, as nothing remained but some slight yolk stains. The egg of the Cowbird I removed and left the little mother only her own eggs to care for. The male was found on the nest on the eighth and twelfth days and at other times a short distance off gaily singing and searching for food for his patient little mate which he often visited with some dainty morsel.

On the fifteenth day the eggs hatched and for a week after, the parents kept the youngsters well supplied with food. At this time the male fell prey to a house cat and the female was left alone to satisfy the ever increasing hunger of her offspring.

On the twelfth day after hatching, the young left the nest. All of these were but partly feathered at this time, but by the twentieth day after birth began to look out for themselves with their mother.

One of the youngsters developed a number of white feathers during its early life, but by the middle of July these had disappeared and its normal plumage had appeared. The brood remained in the vicinity until August second, when they disappeared and were not seen again.

This is the only nest I ever located at Bloomfield N. J., but have found numerous families from time to time throughout the northern half of the state in the more rural districts.

LOUIS S. KOHLER.

Bloomfield, N. J.

Brown Thrasher in Southwestern Pennsylvania.

On July 3, 1910 I found a nest of the Brown Thrasher, containing two eggs, and on July 10th, a nest of the same number. In both cases incubation had begun. Is this not unusual, as I find of no instances of this kind, the Brown Thrasher laying in April and May, and then from three to four eggs.

One of these nests was in a small apple tree, composed of weeds and grass, lined with rootlets, three feet from the ground. The other was in a blackberry brier two and one-half feet from the ground, and made of the same material. In the last case the bird remained on the nest after I was within three feet of her.

GHALE M. NUSS.

Baeolophus Inornatus.

I found a nest of the Plain Titmouse in a rather novel manner on March 28th of the season just passed. We had been searching through the live oaks that border the foothills along the Los Angeles River for sets of this species, but had met with no success.

Leaving the oak belt behind, we followed the road down through the willows. Wishing to obtain a stick to rap at the base of any willows exhibiting symptoms of being the nesting place of any of the numerous species of Woodpeckers inhabiting the river bottom, I broke off a limb from a small dead willow near the road. To my surprise, I noticed a quantity of rabbit and squirrel hair projecting from the cavity left, and further examination revealed a set of four eggs of the Plain Titmouse, covered over by the hair and feathers forming the lining. The foundation of the nest was composed of straw and green moss.

I would like to hear of other acci-

dental discoveries of this sort, which many of the readers of THE OOLOGIST have no doubt experienced.

D. I. SHEPARDSON.

The Holboell Grebe in Philadelphia County, Pa.

In THE OOLOGIST (1906, p. 23) I recorded the capture of a Holboell's Grebe in Philadelphia County. Ever since then I have been on the lookout for others, but never met with it again until November 11, 1909. On that day I saw three together on the Schuylkill River, above the Falls of Schuylkill, and in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia.

I watched them for a long time as they dove and swam about, always keeping together, and never coming any nearer than within about two hundred yards of the shore. They also kept shy of the few pleasure crafts on the river at the time, mainly canoes.

It was impossible to shoot them as they were in the park, so I am still in quest of other specimens for my collection.

It is a singular fact that very few of our gunners have met with this bird; none whom I have interviewed have ever seen it, and they know it not when I described it to them. There is a bare possibility of their confusing it with the Red-throated Loon.

There is one in the possession of a family in Kensington, Philadelphia, killed about November or December, 1905, on the Delaware River, above Philadelphia; which is probably a female.

R. F. MILLER.

J. L. RAWSON'S QUAIL TRAP ITEMS

Connecticut Bird Notes From an Old Hand at the Game.

The Quail Trap, Sep. 23, 1909.—My attention has been called to a list of common birds which appeared at in-

tervals in a Putnam newspaper. Such lists are often useful in compiling general catalogues, government and state reports. They are of value when accurate data of spring and fall migrations are made, when new arrivals are reported, and fresh economic habits noted. We wish the author had given us more of his experience in the field, and said whether he shoots his types, as we infer from the close measurement given of the warblers. No doubt his notebook could tell us what useful birds continue to diminish near his house, what kinds hold their own and what species of service to the farmer may show slight gains. Has the last colony of martins at East Woodstock been driven away by the sparrows? How many communities of cliff swallows still remain in or near the village. With no visible enemy to disturb the many pairs, can this observer explain why there are so many unoccupied holes in the sand swallow bank at the park? There are fewer English sparrows at North than at East Woodstock, so that one of the charms of quail trap life is immunity from this pest. Like the Lilibridges, the Mains and the Brands, all true bird lovers, we give passer domesticus a scatter-gun welcome.

The waders, swimmers and rapacious birds are not included in the list we refer to, nor is mention made of rare winter and summer residents. All of the eastern herons are to be found at times in East Woodstock mill and factory ponds and quiet pools of muddy brooks, except the snowy and least bittern, which are occasionally reported in the lower part of the county, I do not know a better place to observe the herons than at Potters' pond in the neighborhood where a pair of great blues have been feeding for two weeks.

For ten days two great blues have been seen daily by the trainmen on the west side of Tadpole near Jewett City. Night herons feed nearly all summer at Potters', bitterns boom at dusk, and green herons are seen there every day in summer. Two pairs of green herons bred in the pines this season at the east side directly over a bed of purple cypripedium. I have eaten both night and green heron squabs on Fishers Island, and can remember when Mohegan Indians brought dressed squabs to market while the squaws had hulled wild strawberries for sale in tiny cone-shaped baskets. A brood of dusky duck, raised last spring on the western reedy border, were seen all summer by trout and pickerel fishermen. Irving Paine shot a pair from this branch for his table. The wood ducks which used to frequent this secluded water hole departed when the hollow forest trees east of the pond were cut off. Many the toothsome woodducks I have eaten shot here, at Gates Pond, Poquetanuck, and at Hallville pond, near Lincoln park. It is not the fowler's gun that has made wood duck rare; but sweeping the county of all standing timber where alone they can breed will soon exterminate this beautiful hole-builder.

The first wood drake I ever shot was in Damon Chandler's pond, North Woodstock, and the next one at Foster Child's pond, Village Corners; but these ponds are dry and the woods around them gone. My first teal was from Sam Allen's pond, Sandy Hollow, first hooded sheldrake from Fort Ned, Canterbury, and only eider from Fishers Island sound near Nawyaug point. Quail, hawk and crows, I first winged from the road wagon of the late C. A. Brand. A far cry between these boyhood pastimes and shooting

snakebirds from a steamer's deck on the Ocklawaha river. Once in Academy days, Messrs. Brand, Rockwell, Hale and myself fired a volley from muzzle loaders across Poquetanuck cove at an indistinct quacking bunch and it was not till we had paid a round sum of money to a farmer for four crippled muscovies that we realized that we were trying to bag barnyard fowl.

September 6th Cyril Paine brought me a Carolina rail, picked up under telephone wires at the Neighborhood. I also picked up a sora at West Mystic with the same deadly wire-mark on its neck. Mrs. Murdock's cat killed another rail from the ten young hatched in William Brown's meadow. These are my only English Neighborhood records, though I have heard the sora's sharp call in July in our own cattail reeds. A female was covering from ten to fourteen eggs on Groton Long Point for five years in succession and I saw some of the tiny young taken down by the big Lower Field frogs. Several times half-fledged rail were seen in the marx meadow west of the Wildcat rocks, East Norwich. I could always find two or three pairs breeding at Poquetanuck cove, and from above the road at the cove I took a well-matted nest for the late Capt. Charles Bendire.

The captain wished me to get for him a series of nests of the local rapacious birds, and at one time I had by heroic efforts secured for him typical nests of red-tailed, red-shouldered, Cooper's, sharp-shinned, marsh, and broad-winged hawks—the broad-wings being the smallest in the bulky lot. The great horned owl's nest had been used by redtails, and the barred owl's built by red-shouldered hawks. With the aid of Capt. Thomas Potter

and his lobster boat I made a strenuous attempt to tie up and transport a fish hawk's nest from Sea Flower beacon. It was a monstrous affair, used for a generation, and in its composition had bushels of cornstalks and lobster warp, yards of cables, dead crows, horeshoe crabs, deer's feet, and bushels of seaweed and hanging usnea moss. The untimely death of Captain Bendire left these large nests uncalled for, and slowly falling to pieces in the cellar of 193 Broadway, they were finally consigned to the fire magazine of the steam heater.

In the East Woodstock list we did not see the white-winged crossbill, which I never failed to find in open winter days in our own hemlock woods. An East Woodstock man early last spring picked up an electrocuted American crossbill in red nuptial dress. I have had two woodcock killed by Woodstock wires, and nearly twenty mangled by 'phone and telegraph wires along the seventeen miles of the Colchester turnpike. These birds when fresh I have had served at my table, thus eating game out of season without breaking the intent or letter of the close game laws.

There are some flight woodcock already around the few spring holes not dried up, an occasional bird in the ensilage patches, but not any in the birches. No young bob whites have been seen here, and we think the early whistling cock quails could find no mates and went into other towns. Pheasants do not increase locally, and Woodstock hunters agree with Norwich gunners that the young do not survive the terrors of winter. But the grouse chicks, in moderate numbers, with crops gorged with late huckleberries, acorns, eyebright and white grubs, are large as the old "biddies"

and ready for the onslaught of the licensed mob. I have on the dryblock a fine female great horned owl shot by Mr. George Snow after it was betrayed by noisy pestering crows. One of the local males among our stuffed owls was shot on a barn by Mr. William Gordon. I chloroformed the last cannibal *bubo* in the owlery. I often feel like feeding chloroform to our macow for its unearthly shrieks, but for the fact that it imitates exactly the hoots of all owls, and the calls of bobwhite, whippoorwill, poultry, dogs and the human voice. For eight years there has been no record of eagles at the Quail Trap. Ospreys pass over sometimes, and one was shot by a farmer on Redhead Hill.

Who can tell whether it is a blight or the drought that has early in September killed the leaves on all the white birches in the four parishes. Maybe it is a new insect plague, for Mr. Murdock, who was cutting birches today on Harold Hibbard's farm, says that his clothes were covered with strange looking bugs. Who ever saw the woodbine as bright as it is now without the action of frost? Sumac, maple and beech are foils, but the sandfire of the salt marshes alone can rival its glistening cardinal. From the army of warblers beginning to go south a few daily stop on the ash wind-break at the west-windows of the Quail Trap, where I sit with pencil and notebook, recording this early movement. If the East Woodstock bird man is similarly occupied, we can compare notes at the end of October. Bird matters at the west parish continue to be well looked after by the veteran ornithologist, the Rev. Mr. Jones, and there are a score of trained observers between Woodstock and Norwich. But how many of these people could have the patience of the

Preston City lady who writes so fascinatingly for *The Bulletin* of the feathered wards she charms on her window sill. C. L. R.

Bird Notes.

Publishing as much bird material as we do, we are continually in need of copy. Our readers have little idea of the large amount of copy that one issue of *THE OOLOGIST* eats up. The result is, we are nearly always shy.

While we have many splendid bird articles on hand, yet it has been our endeavor for sometime to keep gathering these together that we might collect them and publish them in such a way as we could devote separate issues of *THE OOLOGIST* largely, if not exclusively to different bird families; as for instance, one issue to the Raptores, another issue to the Waders, another issue to the Wild Fowl, still another to the Warblers, and so on.

In order to do this, we of course, must have a large stock of material and would appreciate any contributions that our subscribers might see fit to make along these lines. It is not necessary that the contributions should be either lengthy or specially scientific. Short, newsy notes are always acceptable with us.

Florida Jays.

In Hillsbrook County, Florida, we get quite a number of the Florida Jays (*Aphelocoma cyanen*), but during the last few weeks they have disappeared. They are the tamest birds here. A neighbor is in the habit of feeding them, and she gets as many as sixteen on the veranda at once. In the spring they are in the habit of pecking at windows. A. G. REYNOLDS.



No. 65—Nest and Eggs of American Coot.

—Photo by Alex Walker of Armour, S. D.

Nesting of the White Throated Sparrow.

The White Throated Sparrow is a common breeder in this locality, the nesting season extending from May 20th to August 15th. During this period fresh sets can be taken at any time, it having been definitely ascertained that the bird lays second sets. The first week in June appears to be the best time for the first laying and about June 15th for fresh sets of the second. The earliest nest was found on May 22nd, 1910, with four eggs and the latest on August 1st, 1909, with three fresh eggs.

As is well known the W. T. Sparrow spends the summer mostly in lowlying evergreen woods—openings, “lanes,” or glades in damp cedar

woods being the favorite haunts of the species when nesting season sets in. In old winter wagon roads in these woods, where the grass is long and plants and vines of various orders are strewn about on the ground, one is almost sure to locate a nest of this beautiful sparrow. The majority of the nests are usually placed on the ground or on grassy mounds in small openings or clearings; others are placed a foot or two up in coniferous bushes or in old brush heaps. If the bird is on the nest, she generally sits close until you are upon her and then you find the nest snugly placed and heavily built of moss, dead wood, bark, skeleton leaves, rootlets, etc., and lined with fine grasses and a few hairs. This appears to be the usual

composition of all nests examined during the past four or five years—some three or four hundred having come under notice. Very few nests of the bird are found in a day's search, even in a locality where they are breeding fairly common. It is a well known fact that a number of the birds are off the nests in the day time, especially when the eggs are fresh, and if you intend to find nests by flushing the bird you will examine but one or two in a day. If you happen to come upon some nice grassy spots or mounds in suitable places and search amongst them with your hands, you will meet with more success than by waiting for flushing birds. On July 15th of the present year six nests of the W. T. Sparrow were located in this way, all of which contained fresh eggs. None of the birds were sitting. This, however, is a record for one day's work.

Very few Ornithologists understand thoroughly the nesting habits of this sparrow. For instance, how many know that the bird removes the eggs to another spot if once disturbed? This is a fact. The W. T. Sparrow is very shy. In about 25 cases I have returned to nests which originally contained one egg and have found nests turned up side down and eggs gone. A bird was flushed off a nest containing two eggs and when the nest was visited but two days later, it was empty. Some of the nests were very well hidden under old brush heaps, sunk in moss amongst sphagnum bushes, etc., and only a careful observer would ever locate them. In short, every nest which has prompted a second visit has been found destroyed and contents missing. It would certainly be very interesting to see the bird carrying off the eggs.

This sparrow lays from two to five

eggs, and the markings and size vary greatly. The usual reddish coloration obtains in most cases, but a few sets have been taken with a deep blue underground color with purplish scrawls and blotches over the entire egg.

W. J. BROWN.

Black Birds.

A number of years ago the Black-birds near Washington, Pa., in this section gathered in large flocks, during the latter part of August and September. There were a number of roosts near town and every evening great numbers of them, sometimes thousands in a flock, could be seen flying to these places. About six or seven years ago this ceased and there were only a few scattered individuals where there were hundreds before. What caused this, I was never to learn, as they were not hunted to any extent, and there seemed to be no natural reason for it. However they returned this year and there were fully as many as before, all going to the old roosting places. Perhaps other readers of THE OOLOGIST have noticed the same thing and can give some explanation.

On August 15th, 1910 I saw an Al-bino Blackbird. It was with a flock of Red-winged Blackbirds, and being the same size I supposed that it was the same species. I was within about two hundred feet of it and it was pure white, as nearly as I could make out.

The next day I saw an English Sparrow in town that was about half white. It was in the street with a number of others, and I got within about twenty-five feet of it.

EARLE R. FORREST.

A Ground Nest of the Brown Thrasher.

In the June OOLOGIST the editor and publisher recorded the unusual

discovery of a Brown Thrasher's nest on the ground. I have found several such situated nests and all in well wooded country where bushes, briars and brambles abounded. The last one found, however, is worthy of remark for several reasons.

It was found on June 17, 1910, at Blue Grass, Philadelphia County, Pennsylvania, and contained four half-grown young birds, though I first discovered the site on May 15th, but couldn't then guess what kind of a nest it was going to be. It was placed in a depression two inches deep in the ground in a bunch of Silidago weeds two feet high and a foot thick, beside a thin cluster of black alder bushes three feet high, in a field, close to an alder thicket, and within thirty feet of a railroad. On June 25th, the nest was empty. It was made of daisy stalks, grass stems and some dry leaves and seed strips, lined with grass stems and vine tendrils, loosely constructed and is one of the very few Thrasher's nests I have ever seen without a foundation of twigs or sticks. It is the only ground nest of *Toxastana rufum* I have ever found not under a clump of bushes or briars. Its situ resembled a Chewink's more than a Thrasher's and it also looked like a Towhee's nest.

R. F. MILLER.

Notes on the Night Hawk.

On July 24th while walking through a corn field, I flushed the mother bird from the nest. She went through the usual antics trying to draw me away from her eggs. I took a photo of the eggs in situ, and came back the next day and secured two negatives of the mother bird on the nest. I did not get to see the nest again until August 5th, making two weeks' absence. Found the two young birds as shown

in photo. Owing to very hot weather, the small birds seemed to be suffering from the heat. The ground being very hot, and as the nest was in quite an opening, corn stalks did not make much shelter. Quite a few weeds had grown up since the picture was made of the mother birds. I tried to get a negative of her fluttering along the ground, but found it a very difficult matter.

I nearly always find them nesting on side hills in this locality, this being the first I have found nesting in a garden.

HENRY J. RUST.

Winter Months.

The long winter evenings are with us. This is no reason why the woods do not at this time of year contain much that is interesting and instructive to the ornithologist.

Our resident birds can now be seen contending with the rigors of the elements. The great numbers of winter visitants from the far Northern climes furnish a new source of investigation. Many new records and observations will come under the eye of the naturalist who spends a few days in the field or timber during the coming winter.

The evenings can be well spent in re-arranging, straightening up and classifying the collection, closing up old accounts and making new exchanges and visiting with the specimens in the cabinet as you live over the hours and days of the past in which you got them.

Personal.

Owing to circumstances over which we have no personal control, the Editor has been unable during the past sixty days to keep up with his oological correspondence. Many letters remain in the file unanswered and much is undone that should have been done by this time. We trust our friends will bear with us a little longer and in the course of a short time we hope to be "out of the woods" and again abreast of the times. Of all cranks that abide within our anatomy, that relating to promptness is perhaps as pronounced as any, and it is with regret that we have to confess that we have been unable during the past sixty days to keep up. But this lack of promptness on our part is no evidence of a lack of interest, and as soon as other matters which demand precedence, are pushed out of the way, we will again be in the game.

For Christmas.

The December issue of THE OOLOGIST will go to press about five days earlier than common, and will be truly a holiday number containing more interesting ornithological material than any issue of the year, and some splendid plates. It is our purpose to issue an edition that will be mailed as a sample copy so as to reach every known bird student, fancier and lover in the United States.

All copy for this number should reach us prior to December 1st. As an advertising proposition this issue cannot be excelled. If you have anything which an ornithologist, either scientific or amateur or a mere lover of birds would want, need, or could use, we will reach the people that you want to sell it to.

Next Year.

It is our purpose to make THE OOLOGIST during the ensuing year better than ever. In order to do so, we must of course have the support of our subscribers. The larger the subscription list, the better magazine we can furnish you. Our readers have been exceedingly loyal to the little OOLOGIST during the months since we took it over.

We trust their loyalty will extend into next year, and any effort that they can make between now and January 1st to increase our subscription list, either by sending THE OOLOGIST to some friend as a Christmas present, or otherwise, will surely be appreciated; and will, we trust, in a measure, re-bound to their own benefit by assisting in giving them a better magazine than ever.

About the 24th of March in 1903 a friend found what appeared to be three Killdeer's eggs. They were lying several feet apart beside a small pond made by melting snow in a pasture near Lacona, N. Y. Snow was all about in patches on the knoll-tops. The eggs could not have been there but a few hours or they would have frozen. Killdeers had just begun to migrate; but here in northern Oswego county they do not begin to nest before the first week of May. For some reason the eggs were not preserved—but I saw them then.

A considerable decrease in numbers of cedar Waxwing, Barn Swallows and Nighthawks in this locality for 1910. Is the first growing less all over the East?

R. T. FULLER.

EGGS FOR EXCHANGE.—A few sets each of the following to exchange for other sets: Nos. 49, 120c, 122, 127, 294a, 360a. Send full list. J. S. APPLETON, Simi, Ventura Co., Cal.

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The demand for December, 1909, Bird-Lore has so exceeded our estimate that, in spite of the fact that we printed an unusually large edition, the supply is now exhausted. We will, however, send a copy of the Sparrow plate (the first of the Sparrows of North America in color) which appeared in that number, to all subscribers to Bird-Lore for 1910 (Vol. XII), in order that their series of these plates may be complete.

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Examine the number on the wrapper of your Oologist. It denotes the time your subscription expires. Remember we must be notified if you wish it discontinued and all arrearages must be paid. 281 your subscription expires with this issue. 281 your subscription expires with December issue 1910. Other expirations can be computed by intermediate numbers at the rate of one number per month.

Entered as second-class matter December 21, 1903, at the post office, at Albion, N. Y., under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

In answering advertisements in these columns mention "THE OÖLOGIST," and thereby help us, as well as the advertiser and yourself.

BIRDS

WANTED.—A few good skins of the Aleutian Tern (*Sterna aleutica*) Thayer Museum, Lancaster, Mass.

WANTED.—A few good skins of the Dakota Song Sparrow. (*Melospiza melodia juddi*) THAYER MUSEUM, Lancaster, Mass.

WANTED.—One first set each of Sandhill and Whooping Crane, one pair of skins of Whooping Crane. Will exchange specimens from Northwest Canada. MACKAY & DIPPIE, Calgary, Alberta.

WANTED.—Skins of birds of the Rocky Mountain and Gulf states, also a few rare Eastern. Can offer material from Baja California (Mexico) and good exchange in well made Western skins. Please send complete lists. PINGREE I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Cal.

TO EXCHANGE.—Finely mounted birds and deer heads, several hundred Natural History and Sportsman's magazines, for bird and mammal skins. GEO. F. GUELF, Taxidermist, Brockport, N. Y.

Any collectors having a few good labeled specimens of foreign birds, send list. I will give A 1 skins of Illinois and California birds. Also offer skins of common specimens from Illinois for nests and sets of small species. HENRY K. COALE, Highland Park, Lake Co., Ill.

TO EXCHANGE.—Bird skins from north-eastern United States for specimens from other parts of North America. Collectors send their lists in exchange for mine. J. A. WEBER, Palisades Park, N. J.

I want 1 perfect skin in full breeding plumage of each of the following species: A. O. U. No. 396, 454, 456, 460, 468, 470a, 471, 477, 483, 485a, 498, 506, 515, 511b, 528, 530b, 534, 542c, 557, 558, 581d, 583, 585, 593c, 594, 641, 643, 644, 646, 651, 655, 657, 659, 660, 675, 679, 680, 681, 683, 685, 715, 757, 758a, 761, 725. I have duplicates for exchange of A. O. U. No. 373, 495, 498, 507, 529, 558, 559, 601, 608, 636, 648, 662, 594. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED.—First class skins of Murrelets, Gulls, Shearwaters, Rails, Shore Birds, Grouse, Hawks, Owls, particularly Snowy and Great Gray, and certain small land birds. Offer representative Southern California species, also fine sets of personally taken Heermann's Gulls and Blue-footed Boobies. All reliable collectors send lists. PINGREY I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Calif.

THE CELEBRATED HUNGARIAN AND ENGLISH PARTRIDGES AND PHEASANTS, capercaillies, black game, wild turkeys, quails, rabbits, deer, etc. for stock purposes. Fancy pheasants, peafowl, swans, cranes, storks, ornamental geese and ducks, foxes, squirrels, ferrets, and all kinds of birds and animals. WENZ & MACKENSEN, Dept. H, Pheasantry & Game Pa. 1910.

Is your subscription paid up?

EGGS

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

FOR EXCHANGE.—First class Eggs in sets. C. S. RUTHERFORD, Revere, Mo.

Send exchange lists of first class sets for mine.—J. W. PRESTON, 1411 13th Ave., Spokane, Wash.

I offer 1-3, 2-4 Fish Crow, 1-5 201, 1-5 194; all for a set of Bartman's Sandpiper 4 or 5 eggs. W. B. CRISPIN, Salem, N. J.

WANTED.—Eggs in sets with original data. Send list of everything you have. GEORGE SETH GUION, Napoleonville, La.

Are you interested in North American Water-birds' eggs? Send for list, 225 species. THOMAS H. JACKSON, West Chester, Pa. (4)

WANTED.—Good eggs, Indian relics, and Catocala. I have California butterflies, sea curiosities and stamps. R. E. DODGE, 552 Bay street, Santa Cruz, Cal.

EXCHANGE.—A fine series of ten of the Pallas Murre from Cape Hope, Alaska. I want 188, 332, 343, 348, 362, 364 and many others. D. E. BROWN, 6044 1st Ave., No. W. Sta. F. Seattle, Wash.

FOR EXCHANGE.—A few choice sets of glaucous-winged gull, black oyster catcher, ring-necked plover, Kodiak fox sparrow, Pacific murre. All collected by myself. G. W. STEVENS, Alva, Okla.

TO EXCHANGE.—For A1 sets new to my collection, an extensive list of sets including three species Loons, several each of Gulls, Ducks with down and Shore birds; Jacona, Messina, Partridge, Ptarmigans, 30 species Vulturcs, Kites, Hawks, Eagles, Gyrfalcons, Falcons, Owls, Gnatcatchers, Humming Birds, Ravens, Warblers, etc. Also many common sets for same. All answered. A. E. PRICE, Grant Park, Ill. [1]

WANTED.—Sets of 351, 352, 352a, 206, and many common sets; have to offer choice sets 679 1-4, 417 1-2, 419 1-2, 337, 339, 375, 263, 261, 273 and many other choice sets; send list and receive mine. RAY DINSMORE, Perry, Ohio

FOR EXCHANGE.—Fine sets of Least Tern, Black Skimmer, Louisiana Heron, Wayne's Clapper Rail, Florida Burrowing Owl, and others. For particulars address W. W. WORTHINGTON, Shelter Island Heights, New York.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in fine sets, beautiful minerals, butterflies and moths in dust and insect proof cases, and other natural history specimens. Want all the above. Send lists and receive mine. LEWIS C. SNYDER, Lacona, New York.

FOR EXCHANGE.—One set of Eleven Wood Duck, taken in 1904 by Verdi Burch in New York for a good set of three of Golden Eagle. This duck is rapidly becoming extinct and these eggs are now rarely offered. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

TO EXCHANGE.—Sets with data, North American and Foreign. Can use many common kinds of both. Dr. T. W. RICHARDS U. S. Navy, 1911 N. St., N. W., Washington D. C.

I HAVE 273 3-4, 360a 2-4, 365 2-5, 375d 2-2, 476 1-6, 715 4-4, etc. U W A B T 2-3 5-12-30-32-63-67-70-(76) -90-92 -106-108-120a-120c-128-258-318-319-320a-412-421 with nests; 428-432-433-434-436-439-466-466a-467-506-507, FRED TRUESDALE, Shandon, Cal.

FOR SALE.—Some rare single eggs from Iceland Loons, Sjaa, Glaucous Gull, Oldsquaw, Northern Eider, Bean Goose, Whooping Swan, Golden Plover, Dunlin, Godwit, Ruff, Snowflake, Iceland Falcon, and others. Send for full list to H. WARREN, Room 215 St. James Chambers, Adelaide St., E., Toronto, Ont.

"I have perfect sets of Mourning, Cerulean Black throated, Blue and Black throated Green Warbler, American Woodcock, Bartramian Sandpiper, King Rail, Canadian Spruce, Grouse and Sharp Shinned Hawk for exchange. I desire sets of American Flamingo, Long-billed Curlew, Semipalmated Plover, Franklin's Grouse, Bonaparte's Gull, Williamson's Sapsucker, White-headed and Red Cokaded Woodpecker, Pink-sided Junco, Hutton's and Black Capped Vireo, Sennett's Orange-crowned and Connecticut Warbler and Canada Jay. GERARD ALAN ABBOTT, 945 Marquette Bldg., Chicago.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Eggs in sets with full data. A. O. U. No. No. 11-3, 61-5, 131-1, 161-1, 271-2, 291-2, 30a 1-1, 321-1, 40 1-3, 43 1-1, 49 1-2, 51 1-3, 53 1-3, 56 1-2, 54 1-3, 58 1-3, 64 1-3, 67 1-1, 70 1-3, 72 1-3, 75 1-1, 77 1-2, 79 1-1, 80 1-4, 86 1-1, 106 1-1, 117 1-1, 120 1-3, 184 1-3, 191 1-5, 194 1-4, 200 1-3, 201 1-5, 202 1-4, 226 1-2, 271 1-1, 320a 1-1, 325 1-2, 326 1-2, 333 1-4, 337 1-2, 339 1-3, 348 1-2, 364 1-2, 378 1-1, 431 1-2 with nest; 506 1-2, 519b 1-1, also blow pipe, embryo shears and hook and set of cut the lining egg drills. Will exchange all of the above for best offer of Indian bird spear points and other flint and bead relics. Write me and send outlines. HENRY J. RUST, Box 683, Coeur d' Alene, Idaho.

I want sets of following North American birds' eggs: A. O. U. Nos. 4, 5, 7, 40, 49, 51, 53, 70, 77, 125, 132, 140, 190, 196, 208, 224, 258, 261, 269, 280, 305, 325, 326, 332, 337, 343, 349, 352, 360, 362, 364, 368, 373, 375, 393, 394c, 402, 406, 416, 423, 428, 429, 452, 461, 464, 466, 466a, 477, 490, 494, 497, 506, 507, 517, 540, 546, 549, 550, 554, 558, 595, 604, 608, 611, 622, 627, 628, 631, 637, 648, 681, 702, 727, 735, 736, 746, 751, 758a, 759b. For any of these I will give full even rates in exchange, using the Lattin-Short 1905 Catalogue. I can offer A. O. U. Nos. 30a 6-1, 32 6-1, 79 1-1, 184 2-3 2-4, 187 2-3 2-4, 199 2-5, 313 1-2, 378a 2-5, 447 2-4, 448 2-4, 505a 1-3, 513 2-3, 528 1-4, 531 1-5, 542c 1-4, 552a 2-4, 578 1-2, 580a 1-2, 593a 1-4, 710 1-3, in sets. Also some desirable singles; a large list of Shells, Minerals, Fossils, and curios and a few good books. If you have others to offer than those I mention above write me. I may be able to make you an offer. ERNEST H. SHORT, Box 173, Rochester, N. Y.

Is your Subscription paid up ?

EGGS, Continued.

EGGS FOR EXCHANGE.—A few sets each of the following to exchange for other sets: Nos. 49, 120c, 122, 127, 294a, 360a. Send full list. J. S. APPELTON, Simi, Ventura Co., Cal.

WANTED.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Abion, N. Y.

WANTED.—Birds stuffed and skins, nests with and without sets. Can offer sets; also old and rare postage stamps, JOS. P. BALL, M. D., 4445 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. (4)

FOR EXCHANGE.—First class sets with data: Mexican Goshawk, series of Desert Sparrow Hawk, Pacific Horned Owl, Elegant Tern, and many others. Send lists. EVAN DAVIS, Orange, Cal. (1)

WANTED.—Have good series of East coast Sea Birds, many land birds, in sets to exchange for sets. Also want Vols. I to XII, Auk; Condor Vol. I. H. H. BAILEY, P. O. Box 154, Newport News, Va.

FOR EXCHANGE.—Have a few desirable sets of Great Blue and Black-crested Night Heron for eggs, or a good second hand 22 repeating rifle. W. B. CRISPIN, Salem, N. J. (4c)

FOR SALE.—Some sets and single eggs of Arctic Sea Birds such as Pacific Loon, Pacific Kittiwake, Pacific Eider, Ancient Murrelet, Parasitic Jaeger, Iceland Gull, Glaucous Winged Gull, Short-billed Gull, Red-faced Cormorant, Harlequin Duck, American Scoter, Willow Ptarmigan. Send for full list to H. WARREN, Wilton Ave., Toronto, Can.

I desire sets of 5, 12, 30a, 49, 64, 77, 200, 213, 224, 258, 273, 278, 292, 300, 331, 339, 342, 360, 360a, 368, 373, 375, 388, 390, 394, 406, 408, 409, 414, 418, 474b, 478a, 481, 401, 540b, 549, 567d, 570, 588d, 590, 592, 594a; 603, 611, 619, 624, 639, 646a, 681c, 701, 702, 712, and many others. I can offer sets and singles of Arctic Sea Birds' Eggs, such as Divers, Aukslets, Gulls, Geese, Ducks, Plovers and Sandpipers. Send your exchange list and receive mine. H. WARREN, 140 Wilton Ave., Toronto, Canada. (1)

I desire sets of 5, 12, 30a, 49, 64, 77, 200, 213, 224, 258, 273, 278, 292, 300, 331, 339, 342, 360, 360a, 368, 373, 375, 388, 390, 394, 406, 408, 409, 414, 418, 474b, 478a, 481, 501, 540b, 549, 567d, 570, 588d, 590, 592, 594a, 603, 611, 619, 624, 639, 646a, 681c, 701, 702, 712 and many others. I can offer sets and singles of Arctic Sea Birds' eggs, such as Divers, Aukslets, Gulls, Geese, Ducks, Plovers and Sandpipers. Send your exchange list and receive mine. H. WARREN, 140 Wilton Ave., Toronto, Canada.

RARE N. A. SETS AT LOW RATES.—I offer, at a bargain, a number of sets and singles of such species as Northern Phalarope, Semipalmated Plover, Am. Rough-legged Hawk, Snowy Owl, Raven, Snowflake, Lapland Longspur, Tree Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Am. Pipit, Gray Cheeked Thrush, etc., etc., because one or more eggs are imperfect or a part of the set has been destroyed. I collect SETS of birds of prey ONLY, but also desire living turtles and certain other reptiles. J. D. SORNBORGER, Rowley, Mass.

FOR EXCHANGE.—First-class set eggs with datas, for folding kodak 5x4, or smaller. LEWIS B. BROWN, City Hall, Toronto, Canada. (1)

WANTED.—Eggs in sets of Scott's & Sennett's Oriole, Oregon and Green Jay, Mountain Chickadee, Derby Flycatcher, Aplomado Falcon, Water Thrush. Old Bird Magazines. C. M. CASE, 7 Holcomb street, Hartford, Conn. (1)

TO EXCHANGE.—27 1-2, 28 1-2, 71 2-2, 106 1-1, 226 1-4, 258 1-4, 320 1-2, 325 1-2, 326 1-2, 329 1-2, 333 1-5, 1-4, 339 1-3, 674 1-5. I want first-class bird skins or possibly a few sets. B. G. WILKARD, Millis, Mass. (1)

I have some 50 odd clutches with data of Australian birds eggs and fine clutches of Black-crowned Night Heron to exchange for sets containing Corbirds, or any Cuckoo sets. EDWARD J. COURT, 1723 Newton street, Washington, D. C. (1)

WANTED.—First class bird skins and eggs, ornithological magazines, etc., in exchange for bird skins and eggs. Offer fine assortment from Arizona and Mexico. H. H. KIMBALL, 1527 Main St., Fresno, Cal. (4c)

FOR SALE.—As a whole only, private collection of 2,500 accurately labeled, well prepared, North American Bird Skins. Price \$750 delivered, securely packed, anywhere in U. S. prepaid. W. E. SNYDER, Beaver Dam, Wis.

I have a lot of good Eastern skins, cabinet specimens, to exchange for skins of the smaller birds. Sparrows especially desired. R. P. SHARPLES, West Chester, Pa.

WANTED.—Fresh skins of Bohemian Waxwing, Baird, and Leconte Sparrow, American Three-toed Woodpecker, Evening Grosbeak, Sage Grouse, all varieties of Leucosticte and Ptarmigan. Exchange in representative Lower Rio Grande skins and sets, either in hand or collectable. Please do not offer common species. Only perfect material can be considered. AUSTIN PAUL SMITH, Box 141, Brownsville, Texas. (1)

FOR EXCHANGE.—Personally taken recently in Lower California. Fine sets of Xanthus Murrelet, Black Petrel, Socorro Petrel; also Heermann's Gull and Blue-footed Booby. Want only absolutely perfect sets and skins. Water birds preferred. PINGREE I. OSBURN, Pasadena, Cal.

The following nests and eggs to exchange for skins: 30a, 32, 53, 72, 74, 58, 79, 80, 75, 77, 190, 191, 126, 199, 200, 201, 203, 214, 263, 289, 316, 333, 390, 339, 434, 423, 412, 444, 456, 467, 498, 474b, 465, 477, 488, 506, 501, 511b, 529, 540, 552a, 567, 581, 595, 598, 569, 584, 601, 610, 613, 612, 614, 616, 622b, 619, 624, 674, 628, 652, 686, 687, 681c, 704, 761, 756, 761, 766, 705, 725, 721, 755, 759b, 703, 735, J. A. MUNRO, 55 Hantley street; Toronto, Ont. (1)

FUN EXCHANGE.—Typical nesting site of Starling in tree, with set of four eggs. Full data including framed photograph showing limb before it was taken from tree. The whole is mounted on a heavy black wooden base 12 inches square. Mount stands 24 inches high. Eggs can be seen from mouth of cavity. Will exchange for sets with full data of Sandpipers with exception of 263 and 273. Make me an offer. P. G. HOWES, Stamford, Conn. (1)

FOR EXCHANGE.—From one to twenty full sets each of the following: 58, 63, 64, 65, 75, 80, 85, 125, 126, 132, 194, 199, 201, 221, 226, 258a, 273, 289, 311, 313, 321, 325, 326, 330, 335, 337a, 337b, 339, 339b, 341, 345, 346, 355, 359, 369a, 362, 364, 365, 373b, 375d, 376, 380, 385, 387, 389, 391, 396, 410, 419, 420a, 421, 443, 449, 453, 471, 483, 486, 487, 496, 505, 573a, 552, 573, 586, 593a, 593c, 631c, 703, 706, 707, 713, 715, 719, 719c, 732, 746, 752, 766. Also beautiful sets of Blue Vested Motmot, Lesson's Oriole, Brown Jay, Mex. Crow, Mex. Tree Duck, Central Am. Pileolated Woodpecker. Many sets only one egg broken or gone; only HALF PRICE. Send list. Large exchanges preferred. J. M. CARROLL, San Marcos, Texas. (2)

MISCELLANEOUS.

TO EXCHANGE a very fine Premo Supreme camera, 5 x 7, for a motoroyle in GOOD CONDITION. Write G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

Wa ed.—Northern and southern raw furs. Highest market price paid. All goods held subject to approval of valuation. Price list free. GEORGE J. TILLS, Albion N. Y.

Wanted: A buyer for fine camera. Premo Supreme, 5 x 7, practically new; it has all attachments and adjustments found on a first class camera. G. W. Stevens, Alva, Okla. (2)

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

FOR SALE.—One Myer System, Cloas Flute, 11 keys, low pitch in case. Used three months. Will sell at very reasonable price. Will send on approval. L. V. MEDICUS, 3002 Chestnut St., Kansas City, Mo.

FOR EXCHANGE — Sets of Red-footed Booby, Black-vented Shearwater, and Ridgeway Noddy, collected by A. W. Anthony; and many others. I want especially, good sets of 328, 339a, 343, 355, 356, 357. ALFRED B. HOWELL, 250 N. Orange Grove Ave., Pasadena, Cal.

IMPORTED COCOONS.—Atlas, Mylitta, Roylei, Selene, Trifen-estrata and other Indian pupae for Regalis, Versicolora and other desirable native pupae and eggs. JAMES L. MITCHELL, Indiana Trust Building, Indianapolis, Indiana.

WANTED.—Position as vertebrate zoological collector. Write for references, etc. ERNEST P. WALKER, Montrose, Colo. [1]

RARE LIVE IMPORTED COCOONS.—Atlas, Mylitta, Ricini, Roylei, Selene, Trifenestrata, Leto, Edwardsi and others from India, for Regalis, Versicolora, Pandorus, Achemon and other native pupae and desirable birds eggs in sets; Century, Harper's, McClure, Munsey and Collier's magazines also offered in exchange. JAMES L. MITCHELL, Indiana Trust Building, Indianapolis, Indiana. [1]

FOR SALE.—Moose, Elk, Caribou, Deer and other game heads in perfect condition to mount. Also skins of bear, wolf, coyote, deer, with heads on for rugs and hangers. I carry only picked stock and my prices are the lowest. Write and get acquainted. You will profit by it. EDWIN DIXON, dealer in game heads, Unionville, Ont. [1]

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—A fine young male bob-cat, and a female coyote; also a mandolin and pair of field glasses. Will sell or exchange for guns, camera, taxidermy and collecting tools or books. ERNEST P. WALKER, Montrose, Colo. [1]

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—Over 775 scientific and showy shells representing 321 species, named, packed ready to ship. List upon request. Price \$15.00, or will exchange for ornithological books and sets of birds' eggs. If you are interested in shells do not fail to inquire into this collection. Also 30 species of birds' eggs in sets at a bargain. CLARENCE F. STONE, Branchport, N. Y.

Students, Sportsmen, Naturalists.—Let Mullen mount your trophies, standard Museum methods in taxidermy, all branches, Tanning, Lap Robes, Fur Coats. B. F. MULLEN, Taxidermist, Tanner, 509 N. 25th St.



Perfection Bird Houses for the Purple Martin.

Why not help your bird friends by putting up one of our fine martin houses?

Nesting Boxes for Wrens, Bluebirds, and Swallows.

Send 10 cents for new 1911 catalogue of bird-houses and we will present you with a copy of the "Second Supplement to Gleanings No. 5, The Purple Martin and Houses for Its Summer Home," contains reports from persons who put up our Martin houses during 1910. Twenty-two fine half-tone reproductions of Martin houses in position.

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BOOKS.

I will give \$1.00 for No. 6 of Vol. 5 of THE OOLOGIST in the original covers and in good condition. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

WANTED FOR CASH.—Bird Lore Vol. I—2, 6; Vol. II—2; Vol. III—1; VII—1. LOUIS S. KOH, ER Bloomfield, N. J.

WANTED.—The Auk, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. IV, Nos. 2, 4, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3, 4, Vol. VI, Nos. 1, 3. For cash or exchange. LOUIS A. FUERTES, Ithaca, N. Y.

WANTED.—Back numbers of The Auk, Nuttall's Bulletin and other bird magazines, also on insects. Have numbers to exchange. G. W. HUMPHREY, Dedham, Mass.

WANTED.—Books on birds. Will pay a reasonable cash price for those that I desire. State title and author, condition, etc. CHAS. F. CARR, (Personal), New London, Wis.

Have your Oologists or other magazines, bound by a careful, painstaking hand process. Write what you have and get styles. Prices reasonable. Exchange considered. HOWARD W. McMILLEN, Ada, Ohio. c

FOR SALE.—In perfect condition, "The North American Birds" by Henry Nehrling, German text, cloth bound, gilt edge, 668 pages and 36 plates, showing 137 species in natural color. Original price \$15. Sells for \$7. ERICH DIETRICH, Canby, Oregon.

FOR SALE.—The following books: Birds of North and Middle America by Ridgway, Parts I, II, III, and IV, Birds of Wyoming 1902, by Knight, Our Northern and Eastern Birds, by E. A. Samuels, Nuttall's Ornithology, two volumes, The Auk, Vols. 16, 21, 22, 23 and 24. All in excellent condition. Will sell cheap. F. C. HUBEL, Clarkston, Mich.

BIRD MAGAZINES.—I have about 500 old bird magazines for exchange, including complete volumes of Auk, Condor, Nidologist, Osprey, Oregon Naturalist, and odd numbers of all of these. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal.

BIRD-LORE AND OOLOGIST WANTED.—I will give highest market values, cash or exchange, for Bird-Lore Vol. I, Nos. 2, 4, and 6, with index; Vol. 2, Nos. 1, 2 and 3; Vol. 3, Nos. 1 and 2; and Vol. 7, No. 1; or bound volumes of Vols. 1, 2, 3 and 7. Send your list of oologist previous to No. 222. CHAS. A. HEWLETT, Woodmere, N. Y.

"A catalogue of books relating to Ornithology, Entomology, Zoology, Botany, Horticulture, Agriculture, Geology, Mineralogy, Astronomy, Electricity and Scientific Research is just off the press. Mailed free to any address on request. Old and rare book department, FREDERICK LOESER & CO., Brooklyn, N. Y." Yours very respectfully, Frederick Loeser & Co. [1]

In sending in your exchange notices for nests, skins and eggs, we would appreciate it if you would arrange the numerals in your exchange notice in their numerical order, and not tumble them together hit and miss, as some of our readers are complaining, and we think justly so.

FOR SALE.—My entire Ornithological Library, either as a whole or by separate volumes. Address S. B. LADD, 215 Walnut St., Reading, Pa.

WANTED.—The Bulletin of the Cooper O. Club Vol. I complete; Wilson Bulletin Nos 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 24 for cash. LOUIS S. KOHLER, 98 Watsessing Ave., Bloomfield, N. J.

WANTED.—Robert Ridgway's Birds of North and Middle America; Parts 2, 3, and 4. Paper cover preferred. OSCAR T. WILLARD, Jr., 5481 Jefferson Ave., Chicago, Ill.

WANTED.—Odd volumes, plates or parts of any octavo edition of Audubon's Birds of America. Good price given; especially for plates Nos. 40, 73, 118, 283, 284, 346, 359, 375, 488, 490, 491. S. N. RHOADS, 920 Walnut St. Philadelphia.

OLD MAGAZINES WANTED.—The Oologist by Lattin, Vol. V complete. The Oologist by Willard, Vol. I, complete; Vol. II, Nos 1, 2, 3. Also some of older Wilson Club publications. DR. GUY C. RICH, Sioux City Iowa. (1)

WANTED.—The following back numbers of THE OOLOGIST for the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. Vol. 2, No. 2; Vol. 3, No. 4; Vol. 5, No. 6; Vol. 6, No. 4; Vol. 13, No. 5; Vol. 14, No. 3 and 10. Vol. 15, No. 7. R. M. BARNES, Lacon, Ill.

FOR SALE.—Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition. Published by H. R. Taylor, Alameda, Cal., 1904. 25c. per copy, 3 for 50c., 7 copies for \$1.00. All prepaid for the price. Every egg collector in America should have a copy. W. LEE CHAMBERS, 1226 11th St., Santa Monica, Cal. (2)

For sale or to exchange for books, magazines or bird skins. O & O vols. VI, VII, VIII, XVI, XVII. Nidologist vols. II, III, IV. Trans Wis. Acad. Odd vols.; Auk XI, 3 and 4; XII, 3; XX, 2; Capens Oology; Oologist, vols. VII to XVII inc. bound. Hardwick's Science Gossip. F. B. McKECHNIE, Ponkapog, Mass.

WANTED.—COSMOPOLITAN MAGAZINE requires the services of a representative in to look after subscription renewals and to extend circulation by special methods which have proved unusually successful. Salary and commission. Previous experience desirable but not essential. Whole time or spare time. Address, with references, H. C. CAMPBELL, Cosmopolitan Magazine, 1789 Broadway, New York City.

BIRD BOOKS

Second-Hand Books and Excerpts Relating to Natural History.

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CATALOGS

TO EXCHANGE.—Magazines, novels, songs and papers, for bird eggs; sets with full data. W. A. STRONG, 41 Grand avenue, San Jose, Cal. [1-11]

FOR SALE.—Cavies all solid colors. Foreign and United States coins. Book treating entirely on the Skunk. Price 50 cents. ALMON KIBBE, Mayville, N. Y. [1]

FOR SALE OR EXCHANGE.—Bendire's Life History N. A. Birds, Vol. 2, unbound; Wilson's American Ornithology, published about 1840, in good condition. Will exchange for good sets. S. S. DICKEY, Waynesburg, Pa. [1]

WANTED.—O. & O. Vol. VI., Oologist, No. 6, 8, 9, Vol. V., Vol. XXVI complete. Have odd numbers and Vol. IX Oologist; Nid. Vol. 3, 9; IV, 1, and Vol. VII. Archaeology of U. S. Geol. Survey W. 100 Meridian. Birds of Lake Side & Prairie. GEORGE W. H. VOS BURGH, 284 Riverside street, Janesville, Wis. [1]

BARGAINS.—One 12-gauge Forehand single-barrel shot gun, new, with jointed cleaning rod and leather cartridge belt, canvas case, \$5.50; 122 cal. Stevens tip up target pistol, good as new, \$1.50; 1 field glass with case, cost \$10.00, sell for \$5; 1 Stevens No. 44, 22 cal. rifle, good as new, with case, cost \$11.50, for \$6. Will exchange for books and magazines on birds. H. E. NEUMANN, 1018 Main street, Watertown, Wis. [1]

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The demand for December, 1909, Bird-Lore has so exceeded our estimate that, in spite of the fact that we printed an unusually large edition, the supply is now exhausted. We will, however, send a copy of the Sparrow plate (the first of the Sparrows of North America in color) which appeared in that number, to all subscribers to Bird-Lore for 1910 (Vol. XII), in order that their series of these plates may be complete.

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THE OOLOGIST—this magazine—many back numbers. Send me your full list.

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Back Numbers.

January 1, 1911 there will be a radical change of price of back numbers of the OOLOGIST. The demand has been so large that we are nearly out of many issues. Complete files are almost ungettable, and the price of all remaining back numbers on hand will be increased January 1, 1911. This is fair notice to everyone who desires to complete their files of this magazine before that time.

R. M. Barnes.

Important Notice.

With this issue we drop from our subscription list all subscribers whose numbers are below 269. We should be glad to have your renewals by a very early mail, as it is not our purpose to send the magazine to any person who does not think enough of it to pay for it. It is a common street saying that "money talks," but in this case, it is necessary to make the wheels of the printing press go around.

R. M. Barnes.

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THE OÖLOGIST.

VOL. XXVII. No. 12. ALBION, N. Y. DEC. 15, 1910. WHOLE NO. 281

Published Monthly, by R. M. Barnes, Albion, N. Y., and Lacon, Illinois.



T. H. Jackson of West Chester,
in Florida.

In Florida.

What collector is there who has not built air castles for future visits to Florida, California, Northwest Canada and Arizona in search of treasures for his cabinet? If such there be, he is indeed a rarity and a person lacking

the lively imagination necessary for the proper enjoyment of life.

We present herewith (Without permission, however) a snapshot of the well-known oologist, Thomas H. Jackson, as he appeared at least on occasion during a visit to Florida last spring.



No. 61—Location of Hermit Thrush Nest, Shown in No. 50.

—Photo by Verdi Burtch.

Nesting of the Hermit Thrush.

In nearly all of the larger gullies that cut the hills about Branchport and the shores of Lake Keuka, N. Y., the Hermit Thrush can be found making its summer home. The nest will be found in a little hole in the bank or on a ledge of rock near the rushing and tumbling water. It is a bulky affair composed of dead weeds, grass and dead leaves with which is mixed a few dead hemlock twigs and lots of green moss, the whole blending with the moss and dead leaves on the bank in such a manner that it is hardly distinguishable, but to the practiced observer there is a certain characteristic about it that gives it away every time. Sometimes a nest is placed up from the ground a little, a nest found

July 2, 1905, was in a tangle of blackberry bushes, two feet from the ground and on a rather level place near the mouth of a gully. It was composed of dead weeds and grass with which was mixed a few hemlock twigs and green moss and was neatly lined with dead pine leaves. It was bulky and deep, and nearly as large as a Grackle's nest. It contained three eggs, greenish blue in color slightly lighter than those of the Wood Thrush or more like those of the Robin. Later, July 9, I found the nest tipped over and the eggs gone, and the birds were not seen at all.

Another nest found June 27, 1909 in the Chidsey gully could be easily seen from a short distance. It was placed in a lot of dead leaves that had lodged

THE OOLOGIST

against a small piece of brush on the gully bank about six feet above the bed rock. The female was on the nest and allowed me to get close enough to get a fairly good picture before she left, but as I moved up to get a better view she slid from the nest and flew up the gully bank. The nest contained two eggs of the thrush and one of the parasitic Cowbird. I made another exposure showing my friend, Dr. McNaughton pointing out the nest to my friend C. F. Stone. This photo gives a good idea of the location of the nest. Four days later (July 1st) I got quite close and got a good picture of the female on the nest and showing the immediate surroundings in detail, then I moved up to within about 30 inches, without dis-

turbing her, and got a picture of her on the nest, using a Cramer Iso plate and a four second exposure. This time when I started to change the plate she left the nest, flying up the gully bank. Then I built a platform, raising the camera so that it looked down on the nest and got the picture showing the nest and eggs (Cowbird egg at the right).

On July 27th I was coming down the gully bank from a Black-throated Green Warbler's nest when I slipped and fell, sliding down the bank and a Hermit Thrush flushed almost from in under me and I found her nest there in the bank. This nest contained three eggs of the Thrush and one of the Cowbird. The nest was composed of dead leaves and hemlock twigs,

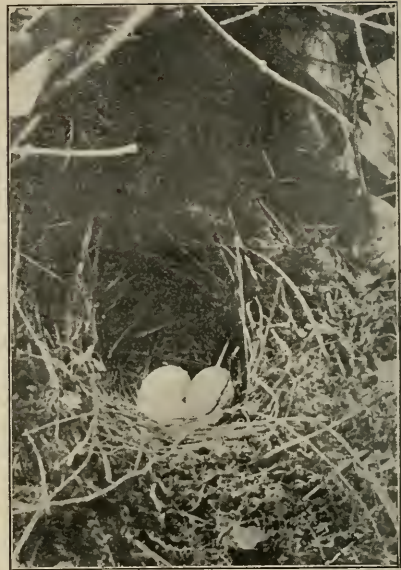


No. 62—Hermit Thrush on Nest. See No. 50.

—Photo by Verdi Burtch.



No. 4♂—Hermit Thrush on Nest
—Photo by Verdi Burtch.



No. 4♀—Nest and Eggs of Hermit Thrush
—Photo by Verdi Burtch.

lined with dead pine leaves and fine black rootlets, with green moss woven in around the edge. It was placed in the dead leaves ten feet from the gully bottom and was so well concealed that I would not have seen it had the bird not flushed.

Verdi Burtch, Branchport, N. Y.

Sample Copies.

A copy of this issue is mailed to every known bird student in the United States whose post office address we have been able to get. This is a prodigious undertaking. Many without doubt will receive two copies, these and also those who have no further interest in the copy received, we request to hand the sample copy to some other friend who is or might be interested in birds.

Birds of California in Relation to the Fruit Industry.

F. E. Beal, Part 2.

We are in receipt of Part 2 of this valuable work from the Department of Agriculture. This reviews the California Quail, the Woodpeckers, the Flycatchers, the Horned Lark, the Jays, the Blackbirds, the Sparrows, and contains six high grade colored plates of the California Quail, the Arkansas Kingbird, California Jay, Brewer's Blackbird, Bullock Oriole and Green-backed Goldfinch. It is a splendid resume of the subject sought to be covered, and is a credit to those responsible for its appearance; something which cannot be said of all government publications.

A Collecting Trip Into Mexico.

By Dr. John Hornung.

It was at the end of December last year that I found myself with a complete collecting outfit on the banks of the Aceponeta river, Territory Tepic, Mexico.

As the railroad had barely opened this until now, absolutely secluded spot of picturesque Mexico, I thought it a good collecting place; at any rate, I determined to investigate. When the train from Magellan, Sin, which about half way south was substituted by a construction train pulled in the "station" of Aceponeta and dropped me and my outfit off, it was with some misgivings as to the outcome of the trip, a feeling superinduced probably by the possession or rather lack of a not overrich vocabulary of the Spanish language. However I got along fairly well.

Aceponeta is quite a little town. The half a dozen or so Americans who are here only since the railroad sent their glistening steel bars through this fertile stretch of land, are all connected with the railroad service. The population itself is so mingled, that you can see all colorshades from olive to dark copper, specially when you choose one of the benches, in the Plaza, where everybody seems to congregate after sundown, bent on enjoying himself or herself by listening to the soft melodies of the Southland, which a native band offers.

A provisional trip undertaken the next day to reconnoitre, convinced me that it would be best to go along the river for ten miles or so and camp there.

With the help of a negro, who spoke both languages, I secured an assistant and two burrows to bring me and my belongings to a place which seemed most likely promising. With the

liberal exercise of a good deal of patience and after some trivial misunderstandings, the burrows were finally packed and off we went; I myself preferring to walk. I had so far managed to do all transactions with gesticulations and when the assistant, taciturn perhaps by nature, preferred to keep the silence up indefinitely, it didn't matter much, as I would not have understood him anyway; and aside from this, there were many things now well worth observing, and new to me which now attracted by attention.

The town left, we started in a North-easterly direction, leaving the river to the right. On the end of the town where the stockyards and hundreds of Black Vultures (*Cathartes atratus*) were sitting on posts, fences or tile roofs waiting for refuse. Here and there carcaras (*Polyborus Aureb*) were to be seen busily engaged in devouring the entrails of a dead pig or dog, and seemingly peacefully sharing their disgusting diet with ravens and grackles.

There is only one bird in this stretch of the country which outnumbered the Black Turkey buzzard; this is the Grackle (*Quiscalus macrourus*). Everywhere you see this pretty busybody; the males with their steel blue glossy coat and their more somber colored helpmates unperturbed by pertinacious dogs or cats.

You eat something and you are suddenly aware of his presence between your shoes, picking up the crumbs which you scattered. They are exceedingly tame; no wonder—nobody disturbs or bothers them. There are no game laws to speak of in Mexico (I saw doves every day in the market, and fishing with dynamite is the rule) but the chief of police of Acaponeta informed me that Caracara and black vultures were protected.

The road is bad and rocky. On both sides you have the tropical Djaigel, in which thorny vegetation prevails. Only here and there a cleared spot, but cleared not according to our way of doing things. If a Mexican clears the land, he chops off the larger trees and shrubs without taking the roots out at all; then he plows with a little hand plow, the ground, maybe two or three inches deep and sows his corn. In consequence of this you find many places where the corn never had a chance to outgrow the second shot from the remaining Djaigel; the enormous heat and moisture contributing greatly to this excessive growth. We met a few Indians on the way and their sinister looks showed clearly that the anti-American feeling is still predominant.

The sun stood well in the zenith, when I saw what appeared to be an ideal camping place. We crossed the river on this place and erected camp on the opposite shore. Great trouble I experienced only to find poles for the tent; every stick or branch had thorns from one-half to two inches and was bent or unsuitable from various reasons. Finally I had to be satisfied with wrapping two strong branches together to secure the proper length and height. I was careful to chop the growth off in the immediate vicinity of the tent on account of the heavy dew during the night, but after one hour or so everything was ready to start in work.

On my way to this place I had noticed aside from those named before, quite a variety of birds. There were five different species of Columbine birds which I secured all during my three weeks stay. The white-winged, the mourning, and ground doves most common. Only one *Columba flavirostris* was secured; several seen however.

The Vermillion Flycatcher was very abundant; one could hardly look around without noticing three or four of those magnificent birds. I believe it is one of the prettiest sights to see an adult male sitting on a dry perch in the morning or evening specially, when the subdued tints of the surroundings form a splendid setting for this little live gem. Derby Flycatchers were fairly abundant, also Couch's Kingbird. The black and white flycatcher seemed to be here in this cactus world just as well at home as up north on his barn and coral posts.

The noisy long-tailed, long-crested Jays were not so easy to secure I watched a couple of them one morning on a dry tree, moving their tails like squirrels. It is astonishing how well they know how to take care of their enormous tails. Of all I shot the tails were absolutely perfect; a wonder, when you consider the rank thorny vegetation through which they fly and move.

Chordeiles ten. acatipeanis was very conspicuous at sundown, sometimes fifty or sixty were right in front of the tent. Spending the day in the brush under roots or rocky shelters, they came down in the evening to the river to drink, flying half like a hawk, half like a bat, they are not easy to secure, bending oft in their flight right at the critical moment; the dusk making your efforts still more difficult.

Trogons (2 species) were seen early in the morning or afternoons quite often, sitting patiently in the dense foliage waiting for insects.

Interesting are the parrots of which one meets five different species. They come every morning from the higher mountains down to the foothills, to feed on the buds of some trees in the Djuager, thereby sometimes

doing great damage to their gorgeous plumage. They are rather slow flyers, and move about in pretty good sized flocks with the exception perhaps of the longtailed Macaws which prefer as only companion, their mate. Contrary to expectations, the parrots are easily approached and shot.

On the few places where the Djua-gel is not so very dense and where grass and weed patches have formed, a great variety of bird life can be observed. Tanagers, varied Buntings, Painted Buntings, Grass Finches *amodramus*, *meloxpiza*, *lincolai*, *chondertes*, *Phyrrhalizia*, *zonotrichia* were seen here and collected. It was on one of these places that I secured also one *oreopiza chlorura*, the green pipits.

A bird not so very common in Southern California, but plentiful here was *guirace lazula*, the Western blue grosbeak. One day I found in a dry colored birds, and the top was occubush, a small flock of these dainty pied by their cousin, the big black-yellow grosbeak of Mexico with white wingbarbs. This is only natural that so many small birds attract a good many hawks and I must say there is an astonishing variety of the latter to be found here. Marsh hawks, black, Mexican gooseshawks, Kites, Peregrine falcon and Sparrowhawk (the desert form) were seen every day to roost on a big dry tree right opposite my camp on the other side of the river. This tree was never without any birds.

The river early in the morning, specially offered a wealth for the hidden observer, in number as well as in variety. White and glossy Ibis, the Wood Ibis with all his assured dignity, those splendid Roseate Spoonbills, white and blue herons, egrets and little blue herons, An-

ingas and cormorants fished the borders of the water for minnows, frogs, water insects, etc. while the shore with its sandy flats was populated with curlews, greater yellow legs, black and white stilts, spotted and semipalmated plovers, not at all embarrassed to wander in their every day garb among royalty. The trees which lined the rocky shore opposite camp across the river were the feeding ground of lots of *fyunaas*, which had their hiding places under the giant boulders below. During the noon hour when the sun was hottest, I could see with my glass the gigantic *faurians* creeping around and feeding on tender shoots and buds.

Here also I had the chance to observe and secure all three kingfishers. The river was here not over three or four feet deep, so that I never lost a single specimen which fell into the water. A different story might be told about the birds of exclusively sylvicoline character. Sometimes it was well nigh impossible to secure a fallen bird. The machete had to come in action, sometimes for fifteen minutes or more. Appended I will give you a list of the specimens secured on this three-week trip. Lack of time prevented me from going into higher territory. On the whole I will say this—while the country abounds on interesting forms, it is a difficult territory to work. If one goes out before 9:00 o'clock in the morning, the humidity is so great that it simply sticks to your clothes and you return to camp as if you had fallen into the water. After this hour the heat is excessive even in January, while I was there, at least in the *djua-gel*, where small stagnant pools form an unsurpassed breeding ground for millions of mosquitoes. Cornmeal and cotton have to be taken along as

you can't purchase them. Arsenic and alum are pretty high priced. Cartridges cost twelve to fourteen centavos, (six to seven cents gold.) The most common staple articles, sugar, salt, peper, coffee, etc are high. Butter is unknown, except you prefer a white cheesy stuff native made or an imported tin with some evil rancidly smelling grease to call by that name. The only thing cheap down there seemed to be to me the tobacco, which would taste a good deal better than it does if it was properly cured.

A Correction.

In my paper on the "Summer Residents of Philadelphia County, Pa." in the October OOLOGIST, there occurred the following mistakes, which I will thank you to correct:

For "Jonesdale" reads Torresdale; for "Verusville" and "Cercesville read Vereesville, and for "Willahichon" read Wissahichon.

The printer in the make-up, cut out part of the paragraph accompanying the remarks about the White-eyed Vireo and left out most of that of the Black and White Warbler. To be correct these should read:

"631. White-eyed Vireo: — Three eggs and a Cowbirds's.

636. Black and White Warbler; rare. Flushed one May 30, 1898, in a woods at Frankford, but failed to find its nest, etc., as printed.

The bad mistake of Jonesdale for Torresdale is entirely my fault due to carelessness in writing the word, by joining the loop-less T to the other letters of the word, and by making my r's look like an n. I do not wonder, on this account, that the printer thought the word was "what it wasn't".

R. F. Miller.

My First Acquaintance With The Pine Grosbeak.

I first saw a few of these birds in the cemetery at Columbus, Wisconsin, in the very tips of the evergreens. They seemed to be feeding on the buds. They were quite uneasy and soon left. I don't remember the date more than it was sometime late in the 90's. I saw a small flock, and a larger flock at this place a season or so later, both times in the winter. In 1896-7 during the winter, I spent six weeks in central Minnesota, where I saw large flocks of them, sometimes several hundred in a flock. They feeding a great deal on the red berries on the tree commonly known as Mountain Ash.

I got to see a number of the old red males; they were very tame and I could walk right in among them. Those in the largest flock kept near the ground. There was more or less twittering and chirping going on.

Geo. W. H. vos Burgh.

The Swallow Tailed Gull.

(*Creagrus furcatus*)

Inadvertantly at page 108 of the present volume of THE OOLOGIST, the statement was made that the pair of skins and egg of this species received by the Editor with the Charles K. Worthen collection came from "Guadaloupe Islands"—it should have read "Galapagos Islands." The error being specially serious in that the first named locality would bring this species within the territory of the A. O. U. list, while the latter locality excludes it therefrom.

A Large Set of Red Winged Black-bird's Eggs.

On June 20, 1909, at Ocean View, Cape May County, New Jersey, I collected the unusual number of six eggs from a Red-winged Blackbird's

nest—a complete set, as indicated by their similarity in shape and size. They are also typical in coloration, but smaller than normal eggs of *Agelaius phoeniceus*, being about the size of those of the Florida Redwing.

Never before or since have I found nests of this species containing over four eggs, and know of but one set of five being taken here, and this set was collected by my friend Richard C. Harlow, but I have read of sets being collected consisting of five eggs—never any of six.

Most books say the Red-winged Blackbird lays from three to five eggs, but we oologists all know that the usual complement is generally three or four eggs, rarely five, as given by Davies. Warren, in his "Birds of Pennsylvania", 2nd edition, says the eggs are from four to six in number, but he is the only ornithologist whom I can recollect of as crediting this bird with laying the latter number of eggs.

There are, however, I believe, several records of five eggs mentioned in articles contained in the volumes of our beloved OOLOGIST, but I do not remember having ever read of a set of six in any of them.

Let us hear from others in regard to big sets of the Red-winged Blackbird or any other species for that matter. In a future paper I shall tell you about my experience with big sets of our plebian Blackheaded Thrush—I mean Robin.

R. F. Miller.

Dr. Guy C. Rich, of Sioux City, one of Iowa's well known ornithologists has recently returned from a trip to the Pacific Coast on which he reports much interesting bird observation, including a visit with our old friend, Professor Grinnell, at Berkeley, California.

An Artist.

We have just received a copy of the exceedingly rare "Cooper's Birds of California" with the heads of all species illustrated there in by our old friend, W. Otto Emerson, done in water colors. The character of this work truly stamps Professor Emerson as an artist of the first class in our estimation.

Editor.

White Blackbird.

While out hunting Sunday, John Dorstler and William Dixon secured a white blackbird which was in a flock of blackbirds and is exactly like the darker hued ones with the exception of colors. The only spot except white on the bird is yellow, under the throat, similar to the colors of the canary. The bird was brought to Sterling and was shown to many people.—Sterling Standard.

The Northern Shrike.

At Bloomfield, N. J., on February 7, 1906, I found the only Northern Shrike I have record of in this section. The bird was perched in a decayed beech tree near the roadside and was apparently on the lookout for some smaller bird to pass and give it an opportunity to pounce upon it as I found the carcasses of two freshly killed English sparrows impaled upon the thorns of a neighboring Honey Locust as evidences of its previous depredations. The bird remained on this perch for about ten minutes and afforded me quite sufficient time to get its markings and habits while perching firmly fixed in mind. The bird then flew off in a southerly direction and was not again seen.

L. S. Kohler.



No. 58.—Section of the Collection of Mounted Birds of Jesse T. Craven
of Detroit, Mich.
—Photo by Craven.

Jesse T. Craven.

This name is well-known to all the older readers of this magazine. Mr. Craven for many years was active in the field, exchanged much and built up a large and well assorted collection of the birds of North America.

It is a pleasure to present to our readers with this issue, a plate (58) showing a section of the collection of Mounted Birds of Mr. Craven.

Of late years, we have seen little from him in print. We trust that the old spirit will seize him, that some day he will "come back" and illuminate these pages with much information that we have no doubt is now his alone.

Yellow Warbler.

Noticing your paragraph in THE OOLOGIST asking for notes of interest, I thought I would write and tell you about a peculiar discovery I made last summer. I was out hunting for birds nests in Harmarville, Pennsylvania, June 4, 1910, when I found a Yellow Warbler's nest in an elderberry bush about three feet from the ground. In it were three eggs almost hatched and on picking one of them up I saw what looked like an egg sticking a little above the bottom of the nest. On examining it I found a Yellow Warbler's and a Cowbird's egg buried almost completely with down. The bird had evidently done this to get rid of the Cowbirds's egg. Did you ever hear of a case like that before?

Thos. D. Burleigh.

This is by no means uncommon. The Yellow Warbler is the only bird known which pursues this method of avoiding the consequences of being imposed on by the Cowbird. Occasionally Yellow Warbler's nests

are found two, and even three stories high, showing the building of a new floor over one or two different layers of eggs. This Warbler will sometimes even sacrifice one or two of its own eggs in this manner in order to get rid of the unwelcome egg that has been deposited in its nest.

Editor.

Three Crops.

Last March a pair of Crows nested in a grove near town, the nest being placed about thirty feet from the ground in the top of a box elder.

In May a pair of bronzed Grackles built their own nest inside of it and reared a family of four.

September 12th I again climbed the tree and found it contained two young Mourning Doves a few days old.

This is the highest I have ever found their nests; often they nest on the ground. The latest record I have for bird nesting in Dakota is September 15, 1909, when I found a Mourning Dove nest with two eggs. Many of the doves were flocking together at this time for migration.

Alex Walker.

The Northern Pileated Woodpecker.

(*Ceophloeus pileatus albaticola*).

The Pileated, the king of our northern woodpeckers, is a bird of the forest. The larger the timber and more extensive the forests, the better he likes it. In fact the pileated does not seem to be found in settled or farming districts except as a straggler. In the mountains of Warren, Forest, Elk, McKean and several other of the counties of northwestern Pennsylvania, there are large areas of practically uninhabited wild land.

At the present time the greater part of these wild lands have been lumbered over. The deforested regions are a wilderness of briars, laurel

beds and almost impenetrable jungle. Where the fires have not swept over a second-growth forest of mostly hardwood is replacing the original coniferous growth.

With the destruction of the big woods the first bird to leave is the Raven followed by the Pileated.

In this general region are still many small and a few large bodies of virgin forest still standing. One large tract near Warren is over five miles through one way and contains over 10,000 acres.

In the larger bodies of timber, the pileated is not hard to find. Their presence is to be seen in the shape of huge old hemlock stubs stripped of their bark from top to bottom. Large holes are cut into logs and fallen timber in quest of ants and grubs. I have seen where they have dug holes from one to two feet long and three inches wide into the very heart of large and ant infested timber, and when such trees happen to be oak or chestnut, the work must take some time.

They are great wanderers and roam over considerable territory. I often see them flying from one mountain to another and at considerable elevation. Their call is very much like a Flicker's, only louder and more cackling. This cackling is uttered when in flight, as well as when at rest. When at rest though the call is usually given without interruptions between notes while during flight only two or three notes are given at a time.

The Pileated is a wary bird and not easily approached and when followed up will usually take a long flight and leave the pursuer behind. It was not so difficult to get specimens of the bird itself but I soon discovered that to get eggs was a different proposition.

I could find no accounts of this wood-

pecker breeding in this state so was at a loss to know at what date to expect eggs. I could find no woodsman who had ever seen a nest nor did I know in what sort of timber to search.

As season after season passed I realized that the Pileated was gradually growing scarcer and the chances of finding a nest becoming less.

During the seasons of 1908—1909 I made a hard search for the now much-coveted prize. I found it impossible to confine them to any one place owing to their wanderings and of course I could not thoroughly search over an extensive territory owing to the great amount of hemlock which shuts off the view.

A person can spy on the movements of many birds and by watching and following around can often either find the nest or get a very good idea of where to look. Spying on the movements of the Pileateds I found wouldn't work because they were too shy.

About five miles from town along the river is a large tract of wild land that has always been a favorite hunting and collecting ground with me. There is a large body of heavy timber there and in this woods Pileateds are always found. Horned and Barred Owls nest there and yearly several pairs of Red-shouldered Hawks nest near the river.

Last spring early while looking up the hawks and owls I saw an unusual amount of signs of the Pileateds near a thick swamp of hemlock and laurel. I remembered that I almost always saw or heard them near this swamp whenever I went that way, so while gathering in the raptures, I kept a sharp lookout for a promising looking hole for pileatus. Not until the first of May did I see anything in that line.

Then I found three large good looking holes in as many stubs and from the quantity of chips on the ground I knew these excavations were deep. I didn't have much hope as I was afraid it was too late in the season, but May 16th a friend and myself spent part of the day in that region. Just before reaching the Pileateds home I looked at a large hawk's nest in a tree near a pond in the deep woods and flushed a Cooper's Hawk. A climb rewarded me by a nice fresh set of five.

At the first stub a jar from a heavy rock started a black squirrel who made a flying leap and disappeared into a hemlock. At the second and best-looking stub we found a family of flying squirrels at home. This was discouraging but we went to the third and largest stub.

A couple of thumps and out came a scarlet-crested head. It took considerable pounding to make her leave. As we stood there sizing up the tree she came back and alighted directly under the opening, but changed her notion about entering and flew off into the swamp. During the time we were there she stayed nearby and frequently cackled but we saw nothing of the male. The tree was an oak three feet through and broken off forty-five feet from the ground. Only one side of the tree was alive and twenty-five feet from the ground this living wood branched off into a large limb a foot through. The rest of the stub was bare and dead and very punky and soft. This big limb left the stub at right angles, then turned and grew straight up and about four feet from the stub itself. The green wood bulged out from the stub and by hanging to this bulge I managed to drag myself up to the limb. I then climbed up even with the hole which

was on the opposite side.

With a heavy knife I soon cut through into the excavation and removed the four crystal-white beauties at the bottom. The opening to the nest was four inches in diameter and not perfectly round. The excavation was twenty inches deep and ten in diameter making quite a large roomy nest. The eggs were deposited on a few fine chips. They measure 1.50 x 1.06, 1.05 x 1.00, 1.50 x 1.06, and 1.45 x 1.06. Incubation 1-2.

Being such a large and conspicuous bird the Pileated is never spared when it gets in range of gunners and this is the principal cause of its decrease. I once shot a Sharp-shinned Hawk that was making a desperate attempt to catch a Pileated, and hawks no doubt get one sometimes. A year or two ago in summer along a trout stream in virgin forest back in the mountains, I came to a mossy spot where a pileated had been wrecked and a close inspection showed the tracks of a huge wildcat who had no doubt caught the big woodpecker on the ground or on a log. Last fall very close to this spot I trapped one of the largest and finest Bay Lynx I ever saw and hope I got the culprit who made away with one of my Pileateds.

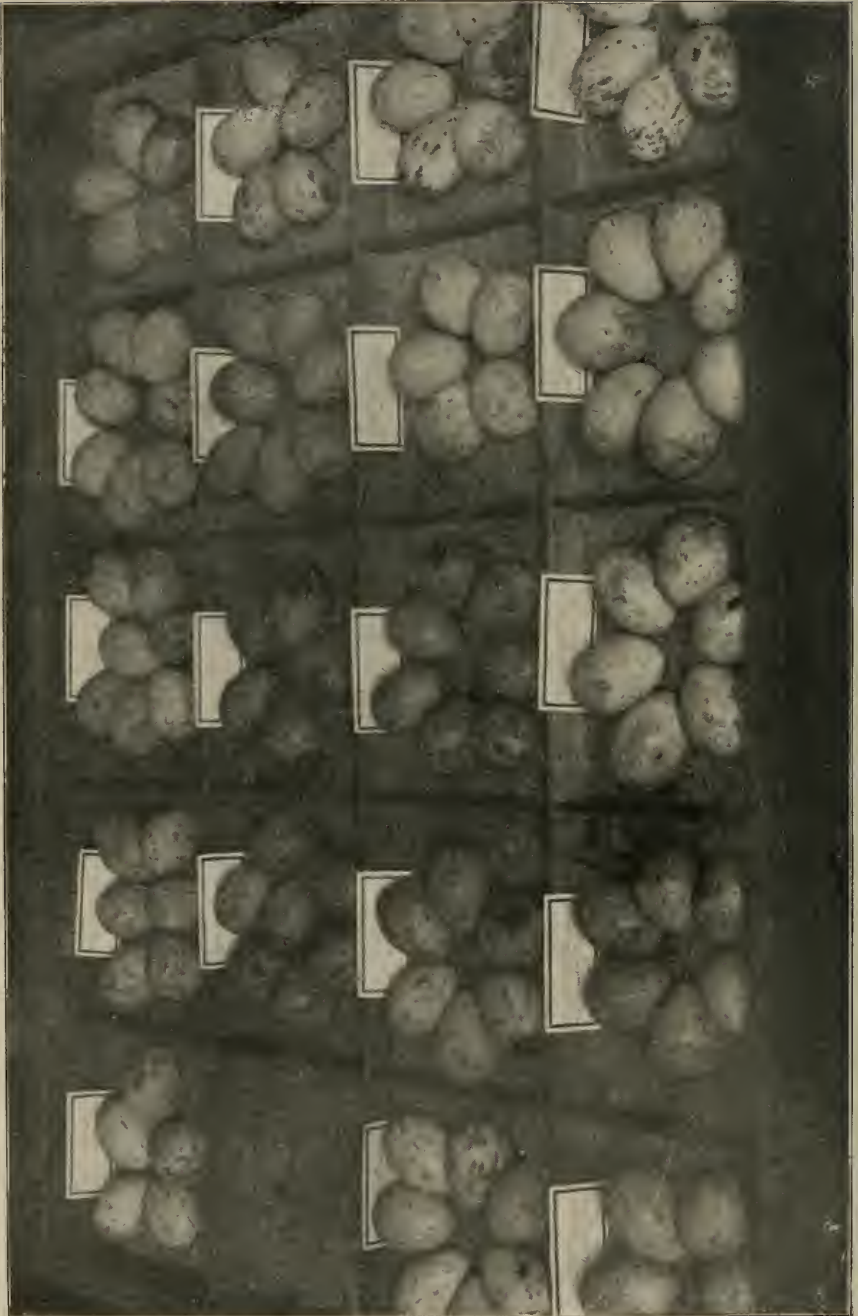
At present I know of several pairs nearby, but the bird is undoubtedly growing scarcer.

R. B. Simpson.

This Issue.

This issue of THE OOLOGIST is the largest in point of size and in volume of advertising, and in quantity of reading matter, as well as one of the best in quality that has ever been issued since the first issue of this journal. We appeal to all old time subscribers to compare this issue of THE OOLOGIST with any they can recall in the past. We are demonstrating to you that THE OOLOGIST is getting bigger, brighter, newsier and is growing in size, popularity and in influence. Everyone of you can help the work along a little if you will.

Merry Christmas.



No. 55—Series of eggs of The Limpkin, From Thomas H. Jackson's Collection. —Photo by Jackson.

The Limpkin.

(*Aramus vociferus*)

The Limpkin—a sort of connecting link between the Cranes and the Rails—is the only representative of its family found in North America.

The natural habitat of this peculiar bird, so far as the United States is concerned, is Florida, though it is occasionally found as far North as South Carolina, and is accidental in Texas. It ranges throughout portions of the West Indies and Central America. In some places it is regarded as a game bird; in others the natives have a strongly seated prejudice against using it for food. The general color is olivaceous umber brown. It is about 26 inches long, and has an extent of wing of about 40 inches. It varies much in size and proportions.

The natural home of the Limpkin is in the swamps, and its ordinary habits are similar to the Rail. Its food is mostly snails. Its nest is composed of weeds, grass and the like, forming a large mass with a depression in the center. Generally placed among the tallest grasses not far from the water.

The eggs number from seven to a dozen; though eight or nine is the usual number. They are large beautiful specimens, averaging 2.4 by 1.5-8 inches. The ground color is rufous splashed usually at the larger end with small burnt ochre spots.

Formerly this bird was exceedingly common in parts of Florida. There are now but few specimens in most parts of Florida where it was formerly very common. One of our correspondents, writing in regard to this bird a few days ago stated, "The Limpkin is now nearly gone. Where formerly my collector could procure several hundred eggs each season, a bird is

now rarely seen, and the eggs are practically unknown.

The eggs of this species are among the most beautiful and attractive that the oologist can place in his cabinet, and we are illustrating in this issue, one of the finest series of eggs known at present, in the cabinet of Thomas H. Jackson, at West Chester, Pennsylvania.

Announcement, 1911.

During 1911 THE OOLOGIST will be published as it has been during the past year. We promise no more for 1911 than we promised for 1910, viz: eight pages of reading matter and one half tone for each issue. Anything more must be regarded as a gratuity tendered by the present management to its patrons. We expect to be able to continue along the lines that we have followed since we bought the magazine and do more than we promise; but we do not undertake so to do.

However beginning with the first of January, if we can accumulate sufficient copy through the courtesy of our contributors, we propose devoting separate issues of THE OOLOGIST to separate families of birds, grouping all articles as near as may be relating to each separate family of birds in different issues.

At present it is our purpose to issue the January number devoted almost entirely to the birds of the Isle of Pines, concerning which little has been written and almost nothing published except what has appeared in the columns of THE OOLOGIST.

The February issue will be mostly devoted to the native Wild Fowl of the North American continent and the March issue to the Birds of Prey.

Address all subscription correspondence to Lacon, Ill.

Any observations that our readers may have along these lines will be gladly received.

THE OOLOGIST.

Send THE OOLOGIST to some young or old friend as a Christmas present.

Comparatively Rare Species at Coronado, Florida.

(From notes taken during 1907, 1908, 1909 and 1910.)

Loon, Dec., 1907; Jan. 30, 1910.

The one in 1907, was wounded by a fisherman, with his rod, and then captured and given to me. In 1910 I saw two just outside the breakers in the ocean, and one specimen, shot somewhere out at sea washed ashore.

Long Tailed Jaeger, Apr. 11, 1910.

Black Tern, Aug. 15, and Oct. 18, 1910.

One seen in August, and several during the last gale.

Audubon Shearwater, Aug. 9, 1909.

Nearly dead, when picked up after a big blow.

Man O' War Bird, July 3, 1909.

Three seen during a big storm.

American Merganser, Nov., 1907.

Harlequin Duck, Nov. 18, 1910.

Two females on the Indian River.

White Ibis, July and August, 1908.

A small flock of immatures in the flat-marsh.

Virginia Rail, Oct. 18, 1910.

Killed during the recent hurricane.

Dowitcher, Sept. 24, 1910.

Greater Yellow Legs, Sept. 27., 1909.

Found after a storm, with large wound in the breast.

American Golden Plover, Sept. 24, 1910.

Broad Winged Hawk, Dec. 30, 1908.

Audubon Caracara, Oct. 1, 1910.

Great Horned Owl, June 1907, Oct. 22, 1910.

One shot in 1907.

Southern Downy Woodpecker, Aug. 30, 1908.

Pileated Woodpecker, Apr. 23, 1910.

Cowbird, Sept. 13, 1910.

One female only.

Dusky Seaside Sparrow, June, July, 1908; Sept., 1909, Oct. 1910.

Mr. Chapman, in the May-June "Bird Lore" 1910, says of this sparrow that it "has never been seen, he believes, north of the Handover Canal." Coronado is but three miles from Mosquito Inlet, and as I noted, I have seen them here in the salt-marshes, several times.

Cliff Swallow, Sept. 22, 1910.

Worm Eating Warbler, Aug. 30, and Sept. 10, 1908, May 9, 1910.

Magnolia Warbler, Oct. 15, 1910.

Black Throated Green Warbler, May, 1908; Oct. 20, 1910.

Blackburnian Warbler, Sept. 25, 1910. Two females.

Carolina Chickadee, June 5, 1910.

The mile of water and march, which separates this island from the mainland, seems to keep all Red-headed Woodpeckers and Quail, and practically all Blue Jays away, and therefore the rarity of Audubon Caracaras Downy Woodpeckers, and Carolina Chickadees may be ascribed to this same barrier. Peculiarly also Mocking birds, though represented here all the months of the year, never in my observation, have nested this side of the river, and White-winged Doves and Mourning Doves are only here for a few weeks in the Fall.

R. J. Longstreet.

A CUBAN CORRECTION.

"In THE OOLOGIST of April 15, 1910, you put me down as 'I found a nest of Spindalis petrei referred to by Mr. Read as the Isle of Pines, Trogon, etc.' Now I do not wish to go down as confounding Spindalis petrei, a Tanager, with Priotelus temurus, a Trogon, and hence correct the same myself.

"Again in speaking of the Ruddy Quail Dove, there is a misspelling of the local name of the Western end of our Island, which should be 'Boyero,' and not 'Boney's,' as it is spelled in the article referred to."

CHARLES T. RAMSDEN.

The Woodpeckers.

We would appreciate it if our readers would forward to us any and all readable notes that they have relating to this interesting family of birds.

Old Magazines for Sale

ROD AND GUN IN CANADA,—Vol. 1, No. 3.

AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGY—Vol. 1, No. 1; Vol. 2, No. 1-6; Vol. 3, No. 3-8; Vol. 4, No. 1-3-12; Vol. 5, No. 4; Vol. 7, No. 1.

ATLANTIC SLOPE NATURALIST—Vol. 1, No. 3-5.

BIRDS—Vol. 2, No. 6.

BIRDS AND ALL NATURE—Vol. 4, No. 1.

BIRD LORE—Vol. 1, No. 1; Vol. 4, No. 6 (2 copies).

BULLETIN COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB—Vol. 1, No. 1-2 (2 copies each), Vol. 2, No. 5 (2 copies).

BULLETIN MICHIGAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB—Vol. 1 complete; Vol. 1, No. 3-4; Vol. 2, complete; Vol. 3, No. 1-2; Vol. 4, complete (2 copies); Vol. 4, No. 1; Vol. 5, complete; Vol. 5, No. 1-2-4; Vol. 6, No. 1-2 (2 copies).

THE CONDOR—Vol. 7, No. 4 (torn); Vol. 10, No. 2.

THE HAWKEYE O. & O.—Vol. 1, No. 3; Vol. 2, No. 1.

THE HOOSIER NATURALIST—Vol. 2, No. 3.

THE JOURNAL OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CHAPTER OF A. A.—Vol. 1,—1893 complete (2 copies); Vol. 2—1893 complete (3 copies).

THE WILSON QUARTERLY—Vol. 4, No. 2 (2 copies).

THE NIDIOLOGIST—Vol. 2, No. 4; Vol. 2, No. 12 (2 copies).

THE OOLOGIST, by J. M. Wade and S. L. Willard, Utica, N. Y.—Vol. 4, No. 5; Vol. 5, No. 6.

THE OOLOGIST'S ADVERTISER, by Chas. H. Prince at Danielsville, Conn.—Vol. 1, No. 3.

THE OOLOGIST'S JOURNAL—Vol. 1, No. 1; Vol. 2, Nos. 1-2-3.

JOURNAL MAINE ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY—Vol. 1, Nos. 1-3-4; Vol. 3, No. 3; Vol. 11, No. 4.

THE ORNITHOLOGIST AND OOLOGIST—Vol. 16, No. 7; Vol. 18, Nos. 3-6.

THE O. & O. SEMI-ANNUAL—Vol. 3, No. 1 (2 copies).

THE OSPREY—Vol. 3, No. 1; Vol. 5, Nos. 1-36; 1. N. S. No. 1.

RHODE ISLAND ORNITHOLOGY—Vol. 1, No. 3; Vol. 2, complete.

THE WESTERN ORNITHOLOGIST—(Formerly The Iowa Ornithologist)—Vol. 5, No. 1.

WILSON BULLETIN—Nos. 39 and 45.

REPORT ON BIRD MIGRATION, W. W. Cook, 1888.

DISTRIBUTION OF NORTH AMERICA DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWAN, by W. W. Cook, 1906.

PACIFIC COAST AVA FAUNA, Nos. 5-6.

If you can use any of these, write for price.

THE OOLOGIST

Since assuming the publication of our little bird magazine, the Editor has received many suggestions as to its publication and management. Some of them highly beneficial. We likewise have received criticism from a few of our subscribers, much of which we are sorry to say was probably well merited.

We have endeavored to furnish a magazine that was not only interesting to bird students, but likewise of value as an exchange medium. Also to bring the exchange of skins and eggs to the same basis of mutual fair dealing upon which ordinary business is transacted. The production of the magazine has taken much of our time, and into it we have put more money than we have received. That our feeble efforts have been appreciated may

be seen from a perusal of the following excerpts from many other communications containing similar sentiments.

Of course we cannot exist as a magazine without the support both moral and financial of our subscribers. We are not publishing THE OOLOGIST as a money-making proposition, but of course we appreciate all that our patrons can do to further enlarge our subscription list. The larger the list the better magazine we can give you.

Read the following, show it to your bird friends, and see what you can do towards adding a few names to our subscription list for 1911. We are sure you will recognize many of the names attached thereto as being ornithologists of rank who know a good bird paper when they see it.

"THE OOLOGIST is getting to be too good to be without."

Carl Wright, Dec. 7.

"I wish to congratulate you on the way you are bringing THE OOLOGIST to the front as a representative eastern bird paper."

B. R. Bales, Dec. 8.

"I fully appreciate the great improvement THE OOLOGIST has experienced since it is in your hands, and heartily wish you all further success in its management."

Erich J. Dietrich, Dec. 6.

"Seems rather good to have THE OOLOGIST coming right on time, and so much improved too."

Ray Densmore, Dec. 10.

"You are to be congratulated for the way in which you have improved THE OOLOGIST."

Wm. G. Pitcairn, Dec. 14.

"There is certainly a wonderful improvement in THE OOLOGIST since you took it up."

H. K. Coale, Dec. 20.

"Am much pleased with the improvement you are making."

J. P. Ball, M. D., Dec. 20.

"Allow me to congratulate you on the great improvement to date: THE OOLOGIST is getting back again to where it used to be."

Dr. W. I. Mitchell, Dec. 23.

"Am much pleased with improvement you are making."

J. W. Ball, M. D.

"Since coming into your hands the paper has improved wonderfully."

Stanley G. Jewett.

"You have certainly brought THE OOLOGIST right up to date and I don't see how I can get along without it."

Ora Willis Knight, Dec. 31.

"I like THE OOLOGIST very much; it is bigger and better and very interesting under the new management, and comes more regularly."

W. A. Strong, Dec. 29.

"I wish to compliment and congratulate you in the improvement in THE OOLOGIST."

B. S. Bowdish, Dec. 29th.

"Allow me to congratulate you on the great improvement to date; THE OOLOGIST is getting back again to where it used to be."

W. I. Mitchell, M. D., Dec. 23.

"I am pleased to see THE OOLOGIST improving; it has stood the test many years and I should feel lost to lose it."

W. G. Savage, Jany. 1.

"Let me congratulate you on the way you have brought THE OOLOGIST up to its present goodness."

Earl S. Price, Jan. 6.

"I have watched its career with great interest and was very much pleased to hear that so good an ornithologist had taken it over and already I can see a great improvement in the magazine."

J. G. Gordon, Nov. 14.

"Would not be without THE OOLOGIST if the price was double the amount."

Chas. W. Gothke, Mar. 21.

"I hope the great improvement in THE OOLOGIST under its new management will bring it back its old time circulation."

J. H. Fleming, Jan. 20.

"THE OOLOGIST is very much improved; in no way could I get along without it."

Edward R. Addams, Dec. 26.

"Please send me the January number; I can't do without the little OOLOGIST."

Logan Evans, Jan. 10.

"Accept my sincere appreciation of the improvements which are evident under the new management."

Howard N. McMillan, Dec. 30.

"I have been pleased to note the improvement in THE OOLOGIST since it came into your hands."

Dr. F. P. Browne, Jan. 21.

"THE OOLOGIST is a 'Cracker Jack' as an exchange medium."

F. T. Corless, Jan. 2.

"I congratulate you on the improvement in the paper."

John L. Nichols, Dec. 24.

"Let me congratulate you on the way you have brought THE OOLOGIST up to its present goodness."

Earl S. Price, Jan. 6.

"I want to say I enjoy THE OOLOGIST about as much as any journal I get. It seems to take me back to those days of keen enjoyment when as a youngster I would ramble over field, and through the woods without the present day too much scramble for the almighty. A little more of this today would do away with many of our patent medicine houses and would give us the health we desire."

Dr. E. S. Schmidt, Feb. 2.

"I have taken THE OOLOGIST since 1893 and would not care to be without it."

G. F. Dippie, Jan. 6.

"Please accept my congratulations upon the improved appearance of the magazine."

W. Leon Dawson, Feb. 17.

"I like the magazine very much."

Earle Cassidy, Mar. 17.

"You are making THE OOLOGIST a fine paper. I have taken it for 24 years and it has always been worth 50c. Enough said."

J. W. Sugden, Feb. 20.

"Perhaps it will not be out of place here to speak a word of praise. The pictures are fine and add much to the paper. The quality of the paper upon which it is printed is the very best and gives it a fine appearance. Everything considered, it is by far the best bird paper published."

John T. Parsons, Jan. 8.

"THE OOLOGIST is getting better every month and is sure worth double the price."

M. A. White, Feb. 16th.

"THE OOLOGIST has certainly improved since you have taken hold. It is a fine little magazine."

J. J. Schneider, Jan. 9.

"THE OOLOGIST is better than I have ever seen it before, and hope it will continue to be as good if not better than it is now."

S. S. S. Stansell, Mar. 3.

"The little paper certainly is improving; my only fault with it is that it does come oftener and that there is not more of it."

E. P. Walker, Jan. 24.

"THE OOLOGIST looks much better than it ever has since I became a subscriber about ten years ago; I wish you all kinds of success and good luck."

Stanley Y. Jewett, Feb. 28.

"I wish to congratulate you on the appearance of the magazine since you have taken hold and the energy you display in handling it."

H. W. Roberts, July 21.

"I have to speak a few words of praise for THE OOLOGIST; it is improving with every issue."

Ray Densmore, Mar. 7.

"I very much desire to get THE OOLOGIST as soon as issued each month; as I feel lost without it."

Oscar E. Baynard, Mar. 14.

"I do not wish to miss any numbers of the paper since it has changed hands and is increasing in interest and valuation."

Pingree I. Osburn, Mar. 16.

"I am greatly pleased to note the great improvement in style and quality of THE OOLOGIST since it came under your management."

Robert B. Rockwell, Apr. 17.

"I am greatly interested to know of your purchase of THE OOLOGIST and wish you every success with the management of this magazine."

Frank M. Chapman, April. 18.

"Please 'cut out' my Wanted notice in OOLOGIST, for Goss's 'Birds of Kansas,' as I secured the book three days after my OOLOGIST reached me and have been receiving replies ever since. That's 'going some.' I claim you sure are making the paper sit up and take notice."

W. F. Mitchell, M. D., Apr. 19.

"I note that you have become Editor and Publisher of THE OOLOGIST. I am glad of this for I am sure there is a field for the publication and that you will make it a success."

John Lewis Childs, April 19.

"I must say I think THE OOLOGIST has improved."

Almon E. Kibby, July 21.

"Permit me to say how much THE OOLOGIST has improved and is improving each month. I believe there is a big demand, and that it will grow, for a publication such as you are producing."

B. G. Willard, Apr. 27.

"I wish to congratulate you on your taking over of THE OOLOGIST."

Henry F Duprey, May 23.

"I wish you success, and may THE OOLOGIST always lie upon my desk."

E. R. Adams, May 26.

"THE OOLOGIST has improved very, very much since you took hold of it."

H. J. Kofahl, May 28.

"You have improved the magazine very much indeed."

Joseph Parker Norris, Jr., May 30.

"Was very much pleased with our little paper, cannot begin to tell you of the benefit derived from same."

R. F. Mullen, June 2.

"Find enclosed 50c for which mark me up on THE OOLOGIST. I can't do without it. I was busy with closing exercises and neglected to renew. The May issue, sent complimentary, was a 'cracker.' It is worth more than the 50 cents."

Prof. C. W. Prier, June 3.

"Will close with congratulations on the fine little magazine you are putting out and wish you much success with it."

H. W. Roberts, June 8.

"THE OOLOGIST is the finest bird magazine I have ever struck."

Isaac Van Kammen, June 20.

"This is the third letter I have started to write you since receiving the April issue of THE OOLOGIST. I was very much pleased with that issue."

Howard E. Bishop, June 25.

"The magazine seems much better and bigger since I first began taking it."

O. A. Renahan, June 30.

"You are improving THE OOLOGIST, substantially so with every issue."

B. S. Bodish, August 3.

"THE OOLOGIST is doing well; it is a magazine closely associated with my ornithological career."

Edward R. Adams, July 6.

"I consider there is a great improvement in each succeeding issue after you took charge of the paper."

McCormick Jewett, July 21.

"I hope that you will continue to improve as finely as you have already."

H. S. Hathaway, July 21.

"I am very well pleased with the way you start out with the publication which I have been interested in for many years and if you continue along the same lines, you may count on me."

B. S. Bodish, July 28.

"The tone and new life put into THE OOLOGIST is just what we wanted."

W. J. Brown, August 2.

"Am glad to see the constant improvement in the little monthly. It has come to me for more than 20 years and would hardly know how to do without it."

H. C. Higgins, Aug. 3.

"I have found THE OOLOGIST much improved under its new management."

Frederick A. Hemphill, August 3.

"THE OOLOGIST grows better with each issue."

Jas. Carter, Aug. 15.

"I am glad you have rescued our magazine from disaster and wish you unprecedented success with THE OOLOGIST in its new field."

R. G. Pape, August 19.

"I congratulate you on your worthy success."

R. F. Fuller, August 20.

"I think the paper has improved."

Lawrence Peyton, July 6.

"It is pleasing to have THE OOLOGIST fall into good hands; people will have more confidence in it in the future."

C. M. Chase, Oct. 1.

"I have just finished reading THE OOLOGIST for September and feel as though a word of praise, although perhaps not especially needed, is due for the improvement in the welcome little journal; especially would I call attention to the exceptionally fine cuts which alone are worth several times the insignificant subscription price."

L. B. Howsley, Oct. 2.

"Wishing you continued success in the management of THE OOLOGIST that for a certainty has improved greatly."

Louis B. Brown, Oct. 15.

"THE OOLOGIST grows brighter with each number; may it still grow and become the leading magazine, is my sincere wish."

Troup D. Perry, Dec. 3.

"THE OOLOGIST is dear to the hearts of we old timers and I had feared that it would go the way of so many of the bird publications which have started since 'we were boys'; and I am glad to see its improved condition. I always welcome the arrival of every number."

H. C. Higgins, Oct. 18.

"I hope you are doing well with THE OOLOGIST; I think it has been improved since you have had it."

John Lewis Childs, Oct. 19.

"I am glad to see the improvement in the paper and wish both you and THE OOLOGIST long continued success."

Burtis H. Wilson, Oct. 20.

"The last number of THE OOLOGIST is fine; the best yet; and I believe it is now in the right hands."

O. E. Baynard, Oct. 20.

"You are certainly making a real bird magazine out of THE OOLOGIST."

J. Parker Norris, Oct. 20.

"I do not want to lose a single number as I consider THE OOLOGIST the best periodical published in its field of work."

John J. Boyle, Nov. 3.

"You have certainly made a big improvement in THE OOLOGIST. I hope the good work will go on."

C. S. Sharp, Nov. 14.

"THE OOLOGIST is showing marked improvement each month."

W. Lee Chambers, Nov. 18.

"You are improving the magazine very much and I wish you a successful future."

D. D. Stone, Oct. 31.

"Since you acquired THE OOLOGIST it is beginning to assume the style of former days, both in size and value of its contents, but with better plates than it ever contained. May the good work go on."

Richard F. Miller, Nov. 20.

"I wish to congratulate you on the improvement in the paper and hope that it will meet with the success it deserves."

Alex Whitmore, Nov. 22.

"I think you have greatly improved the magazine and I wish to congratulate you."

John Lewis Childs, Nov. 30.

"Am pleased to note the awakening of the Exchange Department."

Charles R. Keyes, Dec. 1.

"Please send me my old friend and visitor THE OOLOGIST; it is the best ever."

George W. H. von Burgh, Dec. 1.

Volume 27.

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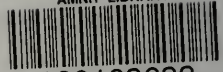
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