

General Notes.

CAPTURE OF THE BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER (*Poliophtila carulea*) IN CONNECTICUT.—A male of this species was killed here May 11, 1883, by a boy with a sling shot, and is now in the cabinet of Mr. Jos. W. Lord. The only previous record for Connecticut that I find is the one given by Linsley (1843), and since quoted by Allen, Merriam, and other writers.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

PARKMAN'S WREN IN ILLINOIS.—On May 7, 1883, while out collecting specimens I discovered a Parkman's Wren (*Troglodytes aëdon parkmani*) on the side of a narrow wood surrounded by a marsh. On looking over the "Catalogue of Birds of Illinois," by Robert Ridgway, I noticed my friend Mr. Cole was the first to discover the Parkman's Wren in this State. I immediately called his attention to mine, and on comparing them we found them identical. In the catalogue referred to, under the title of Parkman's Wren, it says: "Several specimens in the collection of H. K. Coale from Hyde Park." This is a mistake, as he has only one specimen, mine therefore being the second. Author's collection, No. 331. Locality, Wood Lawn, Ill.—JOSEPH L. HANCOCK, *Chicago, Ill.*

BREEDING OF THE SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN (*Cistothorus stellaris*) IN THE HUDSON HIGHLANDS.—In June, 1882, I found a nest in some "cat-tails" and rank grass in the marsh at the mouth of Moodna Creek, at Cornwall on the Hudson. The nest contained three white eggs, one of which is in my collection. This bird, of somewhat local distribution, has not hitherto been reported from the Highlands of the Hudson River.—ETTINGE ROE, *Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, N. Y.*

EARLY CAPTURE OF THE ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER.—As perhaps worthy of mention in the Bulletin I may state that I shot a male *Helminthophila celata* on March 22, 1883, at Haddonfield, N. J., as it was feeding busily in the maples. Although the bird is rare, the date of capture is even more noteworthy than the simple fact of its occurrence.—SAMUEL N. RHOADES, *Haddonfield, N. J.*

OCCURRENCE OF SIURUS NÆVIUS IN GREENLAND.—A specimen of the Small-billed Water Thrush was killed at Nanortalik, Greenland, in May, 1882, and was taken to Copenhagen by Erasmus Müller, one of the Government of Denmark employées in Greenland. It is now in the Royal Zoölogical Museum of that city. This I believe to be the first known occurrence of this species in Greenland.—J. J. DALGLEISH, *Edinburgh, Scotland.*

CAPTURE OF THE YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT AT ALBANY, N. Y.—In the latter part of May, 1882, I observed two birds of the appearance of the Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) in a sunny thicket between two small pieces of woods. But as they were silent and very shy, I was not positive of their identity. On the 19th of May of the present year, while collecting in the same thicket, I heard the unmistakable notes of a Chat. Its cries were very frequently uttered, but so shy was the bird, that, although searching for him nearly every day afterwards, it was not until the 26th of the same month that I secured him.

On the 19th of May I also secured three Northern Phalaropes (*Lobipes hyperboreus*. Cuv.) at a small lake near Albany.—G. A. LINTNER, Albany, N. Y.

NESTING OF CHRYSOMITRIS PINUS AT SING SING, N. Y.—The first of last of October, Pine Finches were first seen by us, in this locality, individuals and small flocks flying over uttering their characteristic and not unpleasant note. By the middle of the month they became common, frequenting the stubble and potato fields, feeding on the seeds of the ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*). Immense flocks, containing hundreds, were often seen. After the middle of December most of these flocks disappeared, a few individuals mixing in with the Redpolls and Goldfinches. About April 20 they began to reappear, and on May 8 I heard a song new to me; following in the direction, I found it to be that of the Pine Finch. The following week the birds were often seen, and their song frequently heard.

May 16 I saw one busily feeding on the buds of the Norway spruce. Now and then he would stop feeding, hop to the end of a twig, shake out his feathers, raise his crest, and then burst forth in song. While watching him and thinking of the probability of a nest near, he flew a short distance and alighted on the top of a red cedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), where he was immediately joined by his mate, her bill containing a quantity of soft, down-like material. After a moment's hesitancy, she settled down into a half completed nest. After depositing the materials for the nest, the female would fly away for more, the male would follow her as far as the Norway spruce above mentioned, where he would await her return; and as soon as she reappeared he would accompany her to the nest, and alight on the top of the tree, but in no way assisting in gathering material or in the construction of the nest. On May 25 I secured the nest. It was situated about two feet from the top of the tree, and about twenty-four from the ground. It contained four nearly fresh eggs. The nest proper, or outside part, is a frail affair, the lining making up the bulk of the nest. The outer part is made of fine twigs from the Norway spruce, loosely placed together, a few rootlets and pieces of string being interwoven. The lining is very compact, made up of hemp-like material, horse hairs, bits of thread, feathers, rootlets, and like substances. The nest measures eight centimeters in breadth by five centimeters in depth; the cavity five centimeters by three centimeters in depth. The ground

work of the eggs is of a light blue green, the spots, which are numerous and somewhat confluent on the larger end, are of a light brown lilac color. A few large and solitary spots of dark brown are dispersed sparingly over the greater part of the egg, diminishing in size towards the smaller end. One egg was unfortunately broken; the others measure as follows: $12\frac{1}{2} \times 16$ millimeters, $12\frac{1}{2} \times 16\frac{1}{2}$ mm., 12×17 mm.—A. K. FISHER, M.D., *Sing Sing, N. Y.*

SUSCEPTIBILITY OF A BIRD TO COLOR.—A curious case of this affection is reported to me by Mr. George F. Crook, of Cambridge, Mass. "I have a caged Red Linnet (*Carpodacus purpureus*), now about two years old—a cheerful fellow, unless anything *blue* should be presented to him or placed near him. Should either my wife or daughter—with whom he is on the best of terms—come near him with a blue dress, ribbon, or handkerchief, he becomes terribly excited and utters painful cries. No other color affects him in this way. About a year ago he escaped from his cage and was away nine days; his cage hung outside, and he returned to it in a very dilapidated condition. Had he been frightened by some Blue Jay? If not, what can be the cause of his 'blue-craze'?"

While we cannot explain the facts, we have no doubt the cause is farther to seek than any such accident. The effect of colors upon animals—as red upon a bull or turkey-cock—is a perfectly well-known fact, though one not satisfactorily accounted for.

This recalls a very curious case once brought to my professional notice, of a little child with some obscure nervous affection of the eyes, which rendered him painfully sensitive to light. This child delighted in anything blue, and the mental impressibility was so great that it was transferred from color to sound. There is a very strange connection, as musicians well know, between the two kinds of impressions derived from light-vibrations and sound-waves. The mother of the child could always soothe and please it by singing or playing "blue music," as it is called; while a few notes of "red music" sufficed to make the child cry out as if in great distress, and if continued, almost threw it into convulsions.

As if the bird's case were not already sufficiently curious and obscure, Mr. Crook later informed me that when his *blue-crazed* Red Linnet moulted, as it did last fall, not a single *red* feather showed itself; the former red feathers all came out *yellow*, as is so frequently the case with these red birds when moulting in confinement. If *Carpodacus* could only tell us, now, all he knows about the three primary colors, and express it in the music of his song!—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

THE LARK FINCH AGAIN IN MASSACHUSETTS.—On the 6th of April last, while "hunting without a gun," I saw for a moment a bird which I was confident was *Chondestes grammacus*. I visited the locality repeatedly after that, but without result until the evening of April 29, when I heard

the hardly-to-be-mistaken song of this bird. Next morning I was on the ground early, heard the song again, and finally obtained a sight of the singer so closely as to render the identification complete; but unfortunately failed to secure him. During the following week I looked for him every morning and evening, but he was no more to be heard or seen.

The record of this bird for Massachusetts (for all New England as well), as given in the latest work (Coues's Stearns of 1881), embraces three examples, no one of which was taken in the spring, unless possibly the first, in 1845, when the month is not given.

I send this note with hesitation, mindful of the ancient comparison of values of "a bird in hand," etc. (a low estimate from an Ornithological point of view!), but as I saw distinctly the white outer tail-feathers so characteristic of *Chondestes*, and heard the remarkable Canary-like notes several times, I consider the identification positive.—F. C. BROWNE, *Framingham, Mass.*

THE MEADOW LARK (*Sturnella magna*) IN VERMONT IN WINTER.—This species generally leaves for the south by the middle of October and I have never, till now, noted them later than this. On December 9, 1882, I shot a male in this vicinity, the ground at the time being covered with three inches of snow. On dissection the crop was found to be filled with an unrecognizable mass of insects, probably beetles.—F. H. KNOWLTON, *Middlebury, Vt.*

GEOCOCCYX AS A VOCALIST.—Whilst out on a ramble a few weeks since in the foot-hills near San Diego, I chanced to make the (to me) interesting discovery of the possession of considerable vocal powers by the Road-runners. I had stopped for a few moments' rest and shelter from a noon-day sun, beneath the scant shade of an elder tree, and as I lay enjoying my "siesta" I heard from a hill-side in front of me what I at first thought to be the cooing of a Dove. I probably would have paid no particular attention had it not been that a friend with me, inquiring what it was that made the cry, I undertook to show him the supposed Dove. Again, and a third time, the cry was repeated before I could discover the originator, and when I did I could not at first credit my eyes when my ears had been so at fault. Not a tree or bush of decent size could be seen as a shelter for my Dove, and I marvelled that it should "coo" so contentedly from such a lonely site, and this it was that stimulated search—ocular search—for the author of the now mysterious cry.

The hill-side being only scantily covered by a scattering growth of cactus and low bushes, permitted a thorough looking over, and yet it was some minutes before I saw its only occupant and the vocalist whose somewhat ventriloquial notes had puzzled me, a male *Geococcyx californianus*.

Standing near the summit of the hillock, amidst his favorite cactus, and with outstretched neck and head bent down, he would utter, as if by prodigious effort, the lugubrious notes I had wrongly thought the cooing of the Dove. At each iteration of the cry he seemed to make a renewed

effort as if to rid himself of the troublesome "whooo," and when finished would stand motionless, perhaps marvelling at the sweetness of his own voice, or more likely awaiting a response. Thinking that this extraordinary exhibition might be for the benefit of his mate, I started up, after listening to several more "encores," and proceeded to investigate the hill-side. I found no bird but the one there, and my approach sent him scurrying across the valley.

These peculiar notes of the Road-runner sound, as near as I can word it, much like the prolonged syllable *whooo*—aspirating strongly the *wh* and giving the vowel as a soft guttural. This note,—not so prolonged as the "coo" of the Dove,—is repeated some five or six times in distinctly separate utterances, and is given with an effort which I can only liken to that exerted by our dung-hill champion when he calls to early matins. Now that I know these facts, I can remember numerous occasions when I heard the same sound, and wondered at not being able to see a Dove, which I naturally assumed to be the author of it. While I feel confident that even a careful ear might not detect the difference in the two sounds—not knowing the facts—yet once known there is little danger of mistaking them if heard near by. The softer Dove's "coo" is also not generally repeated as many times.

It may be that this observation brings nothing new to those well posted, but as it is new to me, and as I learn from residents here that it is a new fact to them, I will make it known, trusting that it may be news to many others. This I would not do whilst so much in the dark as to previous history, but that I am unable to "search the records" in this remote locality, and can only go by my own recollections.

One thing more, lest I mislead, and that is to say that besides this peculiar succession of notes, the Road-runner has a harsh, disagreeable "squawk," which, while not uttered often, is by no means a rare accomplishment or one not apt to be noticed by those who are familiar with the bird in its haunts.—G. HOLTERHOFF, JR., *National City, Cal.*

A PARTIAL ALBINO SHORT-EARED OWL (*Asio accipitrinus*).—I have a female of this species taken here April 29, 1883, in which the entire plumage is suffused with white, the ruff, upper part of neck, the median and lesser coverts, ends of primaries, secondaries, and tail being strongly so.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

GREAT GRAY OWL IN RHODE ISLAND.—A very fine specimen of this species (*Syrnium cinereum*) was killed at Wickford, R. I., March 25, 1883. Mr. Gray, in our employ, heard of it and succeeded in purchasing it. We had a Horned Owl to mount the same day, and also a Barred Owl. The body of the Great Gray Owl was less than half the size of the Horned Owl's, and but little larger than that of the Barred Owl, though the bird itself exceeds the Great Horned in size. The eye is very small, and the breast feathers extremely long. Taken all in all, it is the most bird for the least substance we ever examined.—FRED. T. JENCKS, *Providence, R. I.*

OCURRENCE OF A THIRD MASSACHUSETTS SPECIMEN OF THE LABRADOR GYRFALCON (*Falco gyrfalco obsoletus*).—A Gyrfalcon which I refer to variety *obsoletus* has just come into my possession through the kind offices of Mr. Charles I. Goodale, the well-known Boston taxidermist. It was shot in Stowe, Mass., in 1881, and mounted by S. Jillson of Hudson. It is a male in a plumage agreeing closely with that described by Mr. Ridgway* as the fully adult condition of the male of *obsoletus*. This specimen appears to be only the third which is known to have occurred in Massachusetts.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

INSTANCE OF SEMIDOMESTICATION OF CALIFORNIA QUAIL.—While visiting the Tule River Agency in Tulare County, California, the agent, Mr. C. G. Belknap, learning of my interest in birds, related to me the history of a brood of California Quail (*Lophortyx californica*), which inhabited the near vicinity of the agency buildings. Besides being interesting, the facts narrated appear to me to contain a suggestion that may prove of value to all who are concerned in the domestication of Quail or other game birds. Briefly told the story is as follows.

One of the agent's hens, whose propensity for sitting had been repeatedly checked with a stern hand, suddenly disappeared. After a considerable interval the enterprising madam returned leading in her train—not a brood of chickens but a bevy of downy Quail, consisting of no fewer than fifteen chicks!

It is not difficult to surmise how she obtained possession of her treasures. The California Quail is extremely abundant in this locality, and while wandering about under the pangs of disappointed hopes the forlorn fowl doubtless alighted on a Quail's nest, ensconced in some secluded and inviting nook, with the owners absent. The temptation proved too strong to be resisted. Returning home the mother Quail, backed by her liege lord, doubtless made a stout fight for her own, but found herself utterly unable to cope with her formidable rival and drive her from her newly acquired possessory rights; no doubt *Lophortyx* soon gave up the unequal contest and retired to provide for a new brood in pastures new.

Very likely the misguided fowl supplemented the domestic treasures acquired in this original manner with an egg or two of her own, laid by the side of the stolen property as a sort of concession to outraged maternal instincts. These were forsaken, of course, on the appearance of her adopted nestlings.

Curiously enough the instincts of the wild birds, though but callow, proved stronger than the inherited tendencies of the domestic fowl, and as the brood increased in size and strength their foster-mother grew more and more wild. When the wings of the fledgelings became strong enough to bear them and they were flushed from the ground, the hen made frantic efforts to follow them on the wing. Evidently she became not a little unbalanced under the strain of caring for her strangely acting progeny. Up to the time the nestlings were fairly able to shift for themselves the

* This Bulletin, Vol. V, pp. 92-95.

mother hen showed a disposition to shun the house and the associations of the barn-yard, and in their company to lead a wild and roving life. In due course of time the maternal solicitude weakened, and finally she reassumed her wonted place in the hennery. Strangely enough the Quail now in turn showed the effect of the temporary association, and, unwilling to entirely dispense with the motherly care, followed her to the hennery into which they frequently penetrated and fed. They never roosted there but retired at night to the branches of the nearest trees.

As the fall approached the brood was scattered—perhaps some were killed by Hawks—but at the time of my visit, the following spring, a portion of the number still frequented the neighborhood, and could be distinguished from other Quail by their tameness.

I believe that nearly all the experiments that have been tried in domesticating game birds have been made with old birds which have been allowed to rear their own young. Yet the above facts would seem to indicate that by allowing a domestic fowl to hatch the eggs and assume sole charge of the young, considerable impression may be made on their wildness, even when, as in the case narrated, the birds were left entirely free to follow the dictates of their own wills and instincts. Had the brood in question been deprived of the powers of flight at an early age, and their ability to range about been thus circumscribed in part or wholly, a very much greater effect on their wild spirits would have followed. Whether by the adoption of these or any other measures the California *Lophortyx* or any other of our Quails and Grouse can be fully domesticated is a matter which perhaps admits of much doubt, but which can only be satisfactorily demonstrated by actual experiments more carefully and systematically made than those hitherto attempted.—H. W. HENSHAW, *Washington, D. C.*

THE WOOD IBIS IN MASSACHUSETTS.—Mr. E. C. Greenwood, of Ipswich, writes me that a Wood Ibis (*Tantalus loculator*) was taken "June 19, 1880, at Georgetown, Mass., by the late Frank Hale, which was given to me." This is the first record of the species not only for Massachusetts, but for New England. It has, however, been taken at Troy, N. Y., and Williamsport, Penn. (see this Bulletin, Vol. I, p. 96), as well as at equally northern localities further west.—J. A. ALLEN, *Cambridge, Mass.*

THE SCARLET IBIS IN FLORIDA.—During a recent visit to Charleston, South Carolina, I found a Scarlet Ibis in the Museum of the College of Charleston, which is apparently a veritable United States example. The label bears the simple inscription "Scarlet Ibis, *Ibis rubra*, Florida," in the handwriting (so I was told by Dr. Manigault, the present curator) of Dr. Holmes, the late curator of the collection. Behind this memorandum it is impossible to go, there being no catalogue or other record of the collection of birds. The specimen itself (an adult, mounted) is evidently very old, being faded, dust-stained, and badly moth-eaten. As it must have been placed in the collection well back in the period of Dr.

Bachman's activity, it is strange that so important an acquisition was not announced either by him or his intimate friend Audubon. Still there would seem to be no present reason for doubting that the bird really came from Florida, to which it is now positively accredited for the first time. The only previous records for the United States at large are Audubon's well-known one of a flock seen in Louisiana and Dr. Coues's mention (Key, p. 264) of some fragments of a specimen from the Rio Grande.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

RAILS AND SNIPE IN OHIO IN WINTER.—Page 124 of the April number of the Bulletin contains a note by Dr. Elliott Coues on the wintering of the Sora Rail at the North. The following from my field notes may be of interest in this connection: "Nov. 23, 1880.—Shot two Virginia Rails. Saw one Wilson's Snipe. Weather has been very cold, mercury below zero for three nights, everything frozen, ice on canal 4 inches thick." These birds were not in holes, were not hibernating, nor were they sick. I flushed them from a tussock of dried grass in a marsh along the Ohio canal. They could and did fly well. It is impossible to tell how long they would have remained in this locality had I not killed them, but I trust they would have staid later than December 12.—HOWARD JONES, *Circleville, Ohio.*

BREEDING OF THE MALLARD IN NEW ENGLAND.—With reference to the statement in Stearns's "New England Bird-Life," that the authorities do not appear to be aware of the breeding of the Mallard in New England, I receive a note from Mr. Elisha Slade of Somerset, Mass., to the effect that the bird is a regular breeder in his neighborhood.—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

THE GLAUCOUS GULL (*Larus glaucus*) AT PORTLAND, MAINE.—An instance of this Gull's occurrence in the vicinity of Portland is at last furnished by the capture of a specimen at Peake's Island, April 27, 1883. I examined the bird in the shop of Mr. John Fleming of Portland, to whom it was sent for preservation.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Me.*

THE COMMON CORMORANT ON THE COAST OF SOUTH CAROLINA.—In the collection of the College of Charleston (South Carolina) I have lately examined two specimens of *Graculus carbo* which are labelled as having been captured near that city. The southward wanderings of the species on the Atlantic coast do not seem to have been previously traced beyond the Middle States.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

OCCURRENCE OF THE NORTHERN PHALAROPE AND AUDUBON'S WARBLER, AND NESTING OF THE MOCKING BIRD, IN WESTERN KANSAS.—Fort Wallace, where the following observations were made, is situated on the Kansas Pacific Railway, within twenty-five miles of the west line of

the State, at an altitude of 3,319 feet. May 25, 1883, near the Fort I saw on a pond made by damming the south fork of the Smoky-hill River a pair of little birds swimming near the centre with a small flock of American Eared Grebes. From their motions and position on the water I knew they were Phalaropes, but saw they were too small for Wilson's, which is a common migrant through Eastern Kansas; also I had never noticed the latter birds resting upon the water, or swimming, except short distances on their feeding grounds, or when winged by a shot; but I could not make out with certainty whether they were the Northern or the Red Phalarope. So I laid down in a hollow at the edge of the bank and watched them for a long time, hoping the wind, which was strong and favorable, would drift them within shot, but they kept in the centre of the pond, and when they did rise circled spirally to a height of about one hundred feet, then struck north. *Gone*, and my disappointment was great! As I lay there estimating the distance, and blaming myself for not venturing a shot, my hopes were revived by the sight of a flock of fifteen or sixteen winging their way down the pond and alighting with the Grebes at the place where the others were seen. Instead of quietly resting, like the mated pair, they began chasing each other with tremulous wings and bobbing of heads. The males (the plainest bird, an exception to the rule) were doing their best to appear brave and attractive. Their actions during courtship are peculiar and ludicrous, much like those of Wilson's Phalarope, which I have watched on their love or mating grounds. The birds only remained a short time, arising in a body from the water and circling like the first. I quickly slipped into my gun a couple of shells loaded with No. 6 shot, and dropped five of the birds, which the wind soon brought to the shore; on picking them up they proved to be the Northern Phalarope (*Lobipes hyperboreus*), two males and three females. These birds are found along the coast of the Pacific, as well as on the Atlantic coast, but I think their occurrence so far inland worthy of note. I measured the birds but only mounted one, as I have a pair in my collection, shot in the Bay of Fundy on the tide streaks, known as "rippings," where the birds gather to feed upon the minute snails and other forms of life on the drift. The shrimps, feeding upon the same, herrings feeding upon the shrimps, pollock, like hungry hogs, often leaping out of the water in their eager haste to catch the herrings, and the gulls screaming and swooping down for their share, make up a wild and exciting scene in the never-ending struggle for life, the strong preying upon the weak.

Two days later, in the same vicinity, I saw, on the ground and in the willows and stunted cottonwoods skirting the stream, several Audubon's Warblers (*Dendroica auduboni*). To remove any doubts of their identity I shot one of the birds. I found them in 1882 an abundant winter sojourner at San Diego, California, and noticed their arrival at Whatcom, Washington Territory, the last of March following; and I occasionally saw and heard them singing along the coast of the Straits of Fuca to Neale Bay, a few remaining to breed, but the most wending their way farther north. Dr. Coues, in his "Birds of the Northwest," says of their

range, "east to Fort Laramie," and without doubt we may add, Western Kansas, their extreme eastern limit.

At the same time and place I saw in the cottonwoods two pairs of Mocking Birds (*Mimus polyglottus*). From song and action they seemed to be nesting, and I was informed by a gentleman who had resided in the vicinity several years, that a pair nested and reared their young last season; but they were the first "Mockers" he ever noticed there. The birds are common summer residents in Eastern Kansas, but their nesting, or even occurrence, at so great a height in latitude 39°, must be rare and exceptional.—N. S. Goss, *Topeka, Kan.*

A CALIFORNIA BIRD-WAVE.—In the spring of 1877 I was collecting birds in the neighborhood of Campo, San Diego Co., California. This place is about forty-five miles east of San Diego, and near the summit of the range, which is there low—about 2500 feet altitude. On April 27 I had a very good chance to observe a migration in one particular locality. The place seemed to be a birds' highway. The narrow, brush-covered valley had a strip of evergreen oaks running down the middle. It sloped south, and a couple of miles below fell into a deep cañon crossing it at right angles. On each side were low mountains, contracting the valley to less than a quarter of a mile in width. A strong west wind was blowing across the valley. An almost constant stream of birds was passing northward along the *windward* side of the strip of oaks, keeping close to the tops of the brush.

The weather for several days previous had been cold and stormy, but was now clear and warm, and the migrants seemed disposed to make up for lost time. They flew steadily along at a business gait, seldom stopping to feed, then only hurriedly, making short stops usually of but a few seconds and working north all the time. *Dendroica occidentalis* was perhaps the most numerous, coming by twos and threes, and even half a dozen together. The high wind made their flight very erratic, and I found it impossible to shoot them on the wing. One lit on the ground among some Chipping Sparrows. *D. townsendi* also was present in small numbers. Hummers of several species were especially abundant, but none stopped. Among them were some very small Hummers, possibly *Calypte costae*, but they appeared too small for even this species. I fired several times but got none. The balance of the migrants were various common birds.

From memory I should say that a dozen to twenty birds passed each minute, and at one point practically all passed over a space of less than fifty yards in width. The travelling flight of the Hummers was wavy, similar to that of a Woodpecker, and the flight of all the others seemed to partake of the same undulatory character, although that might have been caused by the high wind.—F. STEPHENS, *San Bernardino, California.*