

Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis Nesting in Holes in Trees.—While collecting birds and their eggs in company with my brother, Capt. B. F. Goss, in the spring of 1884, in the vicinity of Julian, California, we found quite a number of the nests of the Blue-fronted Jay, and in all cases but one in holes and trough-like cavities in trees and stubs, ranging from four to fifty feet from the ground, generally ten to twenty feet up. The nest found outside was built upon a large horizontal limb of an oak close beside a gnarl, the sprout-like limbs of which thickly covered the nest overhead, and almost hid it from view below.

From our knowledge of the breeding habits of the family we looked for their nests on trees and bushes, and spent days in climbing over and up and down the hills and mountain-sides, carefully examining every spot that seemed to us a natural nesting place, but without success, though often finding nests of the California Jay (*Aphelocoma californica*); and I am inclined to think we should have returned without their eggs had I not, in suddenly coming to the top of a hill, discovered a pair of the birds hopping over the ground and picking up bits of sticks, which they dropped on seeing me, and flew away. Here was a pointer, and to remove any suspicion that their actions had been observed, I did not halt for a moment or change my course, but walked leisurely on until well out of sight, then swung back around the hill, and cautiously approached a ledge of rocks over-looking the ground and concealed myself behind them. On peeping out I saw the birds busily hopping about picking up material for a nest; they soon flew with it, both together or nearly so, directly to, or rather into, an opening or hollow near the base of a large tree. After watching them make a few trips I stole away and hastened to inform my brother of the lucky find. It was a surprise to us both.

The nests are quite bulky, made loosely of sticks, stems of weeds, and lined with fibrous rootlets and grasses, and as they are all built at or near the opening, the tell-tale sticks project and make the finding of their nests an easy matter. Measurements of the first two sets of eggs taken, viz., May 19: 1.20 × .87, 1.20 × .88, 1.21 × .88; May 21: 1.22 × .88, 1.15 × .86, 1.19 × .86, 1.16 × .85. Color light blue, speckled and spotted with dark brown, rather thickest at large end. — N. S. Goss, *Topeka, Kansas.*

The First Nest and Eggs of Eremophila alpestris found in Niagara County, N. Y.—If there is one nest which I have looked for more than for another, it is the nest of the Horned Lark. From early in March till late in May, for the past five years, I have searched in vain. On the 17th of June, 1884, while collecting in the town of Porter, Niagara County, I was fortunate in securing the coveted prize. I was in company with a young farmer, and, as we were returning from our forenoon's tramp, he asked what bird it was, with a black throat, which he saw early in the morning and late in the afternoon, running in the road, and which breeds three times a year. I asked him if it ran or hopped, and how he knew