

in a little close shed, from which he escaped through a broken window-pane. He alighted on a limb of a tree only three or four feet from the window, and I had a good look at him. He seemed to be shivering with cold, but still active. He is quite tame, and very freely goes about among the cattle and hogs searching for food. If we could only get hold of him we would give him better quarters within doors, for it seems scarcely possible that he can long survive such temperature. He evidently 'got left' when the autumn migration took place, and his 'inherited experience' was too limited to prompt him to attempt the journey alone.

P.S.—Jan. 2, 1885. The Chewink is still here. This afternoon I caught him in an out-building. We looked him over and let him go. He is in good condition—sound and plump—despite our -40° temperature! He is solitary and alone, no birds of any species being about.—CHARLES ALDRICH, *Webster City, Iowa.*

Cowbird Wintering in Western New York.—A few weeks ago my attention was called to a strange bird which was feeding on the street with *Passer domesticus*. On getting a good view I saw it was *Molothrus ater*. The egg from which it was hatched was probably laid and hatched in a Sparrow's nest, and the bird, reared by the Sparrows, failed to mingle with the rest of its species. I have seen it a number of times since, and a young man told me last week that he saw it nearly every day. I am quite anxious to know if it will survive through the winter with its foster parents. Being itself a vagabond, it is a fit companion for *Passer domesticus*.—J. L. DAMON, *Lockport, N. Y.*

Nest and Eggs of *Calypte costæ*.—In a paper read before the January meeting of the Ridgway Ornithological Club, descriptive of the Californian Trochilidæ, reference was made to the finding of a nest and eggs of *Calypte costæ*. Considering the rarity of the nests and eggs of Costa's Hummer, perhaps a description of them may not fail of interest to the readers of 'The Auk.'

Three nests of this bird were found by the writer at Arrow-head Hot Springs, San Bernardino County, Cal., May 15, 1883; but unfortunately but one set of eggs was secured. One set was accidentally shaken from the nest; the other nest was out of reach.

Finding no account of the breeding habits of the bird in question in such books as are at my disposal, I wrote to Mr. H. W. Henshaw for information, who regretted that he could not enlighten me, not having met with the bird in any of his wanderings; but he was of the opinion that nothing had been recorded respecting the nest and eggs of this species. He, however, kindly forwarded my letter to his friend Mr. L. Belding, of Stockton, Cal., with request to send what information he could bearing on the subject. Mr. Belding writes concerning *Calypte costæ* as follows:—

"I have met it at various places, — Guaymas, on the east side of the Gulf of California, at La Paz, Cape St. Lucas, Cerros Islands, and other localities on the west side of the Gulf, but never recorded much concerning