

an hour in the dense chapparal below, but found nothing. Probably, the shot being small, it was but slightly hurt. Neither of us had ever seen this species before in the wild state, although Mr. Hawley is a native of Southern California and has been often in these mountains.

In this connection I beg to correct a mistake in my note on *Fregata aquila*, published in 'The Auk' for October, 1893 (p. 362). In my reference to the Humboldt Bay specimen, I should have quoted Mr. T. S. Palmer instead of Mr. Anthony as the authority for the record. — R. H. LAWRENCE, *Monrovia, Cal.*

Capture of the Golden Eagle at Covington, Virginia. — It gives me pleasure to record the capture of a fine male specimen of the Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaëtos*) at Covington, Alleghany County, Virginia, on Oct. 28, 1893. It was shot by Derry B. Smith, Esq., who kindly sent me the specimen for mounting. On skinning I found it very fat. It measured as follows: Length, 33 inches; extent, 78 inches; wing, 24 inches; tail, 14 inches. This is the first specimen, to my knowledge, that has ever been taken in this immediate vicinity. — THADDEUS SURBER, *White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.*

Another Record of the Breeding of the Saw-whet Owl (*Nyctale acadica*) in Eastern Massachusetts. — As there are still but few records of the breeding of the Saw-whet Owl in eastern Massachusetts, I take pleasure in adding one more.

On July 3, 1893, Mr. Gerrit S. Miller, Jr., and I were setting a line of traps in a heavy white pine swamp that lies along Red Brook in the town of Wareham, Mass. We noticed a large old pine stump which was broken off at about 25 feet above the ground and full of Woodpeckers' holes, and pounded on it. We had pounded but once or twice when a Saw-whet Owl popped her head out of the uppermost hole and kept it there motionless, although I fired at her three times with my pistol. The third shot killed her and she fell back into the hole.

On taking the bird out, I found there was a nest containing seven eggs. The nest was quite bulky and composed of gray moss (*Usnea*) interwoven with small pieces of fibrous bark, a few pine needles, small twigs, and feathers of the bird herself. The hole in which the nest was found was 18 feet from the ground and about 8 inches deep.

In the nest besides the eggs was a half eaten red-backed mouse (*Evotomys gapperi*).

Three of the eggs were in various stages of incubation, one being on the point of hatching, — in fact the young bird had already cracked the shell. Three were addled, and one was perfectly fresh.

On dissecting the old bird we found that she had laid her full set of eggs. Her stomach contained the other half of the *Evotomys*, which she was apparently eating when we disturbed her.