

Where the *author, editor*,<sup>6</sup> or *compiler* got authority for the above statement is to me a question. In 1876 I published a list of Michigan birds; it is not included in this list. In 1878 I prepared a MSS. list; it is not in this list. In 1881 I published my last list, and it is not in this. Will some one tell me where the aforesaid author found his authority for the above statement? Now the fact is, I did kill *Tringa bairdii*, in Michigan, on Aug. 15, 1893,—a male bird, at 'The Over-flow,' four miles east of Ann Arbor, which specimen was presented to Michigan University Museum, and can be seen there at any time.—ADOLPHE B. COVERT, *Ann Arbor, Mich.*

**The Belted Piping Plover in Massachusetts.**—During a trip to Marshfield, Mass., on April 20, 1896, I started two small Plovers from a sandy beach. They were very wild and difficult to approach but after several attempts I managed to secure one of them.

The bird proved to be a male Belted Piping Plover (*Ægialitis meloda circumcincta*), the band across the breast being very dark and well marked. This is the first time I have met with this bird in the spring, although it occasionally occurs during the fall migration.—FOSTER II. BRACKETT, *Boston, Mass.*

**Discovery of the Eggs of the Belted Piping Plover.**—As I am not aware that the nest and eggs of this species (*Ægialitis meloda circumcincta*) have been previously recorded, perhaps the following notes will be of interest to oölogists.

Mr. Oliver Spanner of Toronto after reading 'Bird Nesting in North West Canada' decided to make a trip to Lake Manitoba and while there secured eggs of this species. On June 19, 1895, he found a nest on Birch Island near the west shore of Lake Manitoba. The nest consisted of a depression in the sand lined with bits of drift weed, and contained three eggs which are similar to those of the common Piping Plover; the ground color is pale buff and they are finely spotted with black and purple gray, averaging in size  $1.25 \times 1.00$ . Both eggs and skin of the parent are now in my collection. Mr. Spanner also obtained young birds in the down at the same time, and as he saw several pairs of these Plovers, together with solitary Sandpipers, no doubt these were nesting in the vicinity.—W. RAINE, *Toronto, Canada.*

**Recent Capture of the Golden Eagle near Portland, Maine.**—The Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaëtos*) is so rare in the neighborhood of Portland that a recent capture should be recorded. I have an adult male specimen, sent to me in flesh, which was shot at Duck Pond, Windham, October 14, 1891.—HENRY H. BROCK, *Portland, Me.*

**Golden Eagles in Virginia.**—Mr. David N. McCadden, taxidermist at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, received three Golden Eagles

from Looney, Craig Co., Va., December 18, 1895, two of which were shipped alive. Mr. J. B. Ruble, who secured the birds, writes the following particulars concerning their capture: "Mr. John Myers, who lives near the top of the mountain here, saw the Eagles feeding on a dead sheep; he set a trap and caught four of them from the one sheep. There are more Eagles in this county than I ever saw before. Mr. John Looney told me that about a week ago he saw thirteen in one flock, and there have been eight or ten in all taken in Craig County this winter." In answer to further inquiry Mr. Ruble writes that he considers that all the Eagles were of the same kind. Gentlemen who have been going down to Craig County for deer, for a number of years past, say that they never heard of any Golden Eagles there before, and Dr. Rives, in his 'Birds of the Virginias,' only gives a few records for this species. The occurrence of the bird in such numbers therefore seems to be well worth recording.—WITMER STONE, *Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Nidification of the Dusky Horned Owl.**—According to the few records of the eggs of *Bubo virginianus saturatus* in Bendire's 'Life Histories of North American Birds,' it appears that the eggs of this species are very rare and that none have been obtained for many years. Capt. Bendire records a set of two eggs that were taken by Kennicott in Alaska, April 16, 1862, and also another egg taken by H. Connelly in Labrador in 1863.

I therefore have pleasure in recording a set of two eggs that were taken recently. Although I have once or twice received eggs from the North supposed to belong to this species, it was not until last season that I was able to obtain the parent with the eggs. The nest was found by my collector at Sandwich Bay, Labrador, April 17, 1895, and the label says: "The nest was built in a spruce 15 feet from the ground, and made of twigs and coarse grass." The female was shot as she left the nest and is an exceptionally dark specimen. Both eggs with the parent are now in the collection of R. S. Sharples, Esq., of Elgin, Ill.—W. RAINE, *Toronto, Canada.*

**Four Winter Records of the Short-eared Owl on the Massachusetts Coast.**—I have a female Short-eared Owl (*Asio accipitrinus*) in my collection which was taken at Orleans, near Chatham, Mass., on February 23, 1896, by Mr. Charles J. Paine, Jr.; and I also know of a female (?) taken at Ipswich, Mass., on December 31, 1895, by Mr. Ralph W. Gray; and a male taken at the same locality by Mr. George C. Shattuck on January 1, 1896; also a female taken at the same locality on February 12, 1896, by Mr. W. S. Townsend.

I also know of a number of specimens taken at Middletown, near Newport, R. I., in winter.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

**The Roadrunner as a Rat-killer.**—This forenoon (May 7, 1896), I came suddenly upon a Roadrunner (*Geococcyx californianus*) that had just