

about within twenty yards of a number of observers, some of whom were familiar with the species in the South.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Buteo borealis harlani in Minnesota.—On April 12, 1893, I secured a beautiful specimen of this Hawk on the prairies of Lac Qui Parle County, near Madison, this State. Mr. Robert Ridgway has examined it and pronounced it not quite adult. He considers this the most northern capture of this species. The following are the data: No. 1500. Collection Albert Lano. Length, 22.50; extent, 54.00; wing, 21.00; tail, 10.00 inches. Weight, 2 lbs. 12 1-2 oz. Ovaries size of no. 4 shot. Stomach empty.—ALBERT LANO, *Aitkin, Minn.*

A Note on Buteo borealis lucasanus Ridgway.—This form is usually cited as a 'var.,' and occurs as such in both the old and new A. O. U. Check-Lists, where it is based on "*Buteo borealis* var. *lucasanus* Ridgw. in Coues's Key, 1872, 216." The only reference to this bird at the place cited is: "An unpublished variety from Cape St. Lucas is *B. lucasanus* Ridgway, Mss." It will be noticed, first, that Dr. Coues names the form as a species; second, that the name is a manuscript one, hence under the new practice should be credited to Coues if otherwise correct; third, there is no description, unless the words "Cape St. Lucas" be considered such, which would hardly be justified under either of the three bases given in Canon XLIII of the Code. The correct citation appears to be, Ridgw. in Hist. N. Am. B. III, 1874, 258, 285.—WILLIAM PALMER, *Washington, D. C.*

Feeding-habits of Purple Finches.—The following interesting observations on the manner in which Purple Finches (*Carpodacus purpureus*) feed their young are communicated by Mrs. A. C. Davenport, of Brattleboro, Vt. She writes: "During the time the young were in the nest the parents came continually to my window for hemp seed, eating rapidly for ten minutes at a time. They then usually sipped a little water, flew away, and returned in a few moments.

"As soon as the young left the nest, they were brought to my window, and until they could care for themselves, or until a new brood was raised, were still fed by the food being ejected from the crops of the parent birds.

"I never saw any live food given them, though I watched closely, but of course I cannot say decidedly of this. Neither did I see the old birds 'budding' any during this period."—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

First Occurrence of the Blue Grosbeak in New Hampshire.—On May 26, 1894, an adult male Blue Grosbeak (*Guiraca caerulea*), in full plumage, was seen near the house for about twenty minutes; I succeeded in getting within ten feet of the bird, so that I could see all the markings

distinctly without the aid of a glass. I had no means of securing the specimen, but there can be, I think, no doubt as to the identification.

The probability that this was an escaped cage bird at once suggests itself, but it is safe to say that the bird did not belong to anyone in this town or immediate neighborhood. Moreover, the feet and plumage seemed in too good condition for a newly escaped captive.¹—MABEL C. BERRY, *East Derry, N. H.*

Solitary Vireo (*Vireo solitarius*) nesting in Connecticut.—June 8, 1894, I found a nest of this species suspended from an alder bush, seven feet from the ground, in a swamp, near West Simsbury, Conn. It contained four eggs.—C. M. CASE, *Hartford, Conn.*

Dendroica palmarum in New York City.—An individual of the Palm Warbler was seen by the writer, September 2, 1896, in West 129th Street, New York City, at the base of the prominence upon which stands the Claremont Hotel. The bird is not only rare in this vicinity but the record is an unusually early one. Three of the five recorded instances of its occurrence are based on spring captures at Sing Sing (Fisher) and Riverdale (Bicknell). The two previous fall records are, Fire Island Light, L. I., Sept. 23, 1887 (Dutcher) and Red Bank, N. J., Sept. 28, 1889 (Oberholser).—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Breeding of the Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) in Virginia, near Washington.—Since 1889 (Auk, 1889, p. 339), this species has been frequently taken in Alexandria County in July and August. The writer has also taken it in Fairfax County, near Mount Vernon (May 13, 1894; June 4, 1893; June 11, 1893), and has often observed others. He has now to record that Mr. Stephan Rocyski, of Washington, took a set of five eggs on May 2, 1896, about a mile north of Mount Vernon. The nest was found on April 19, about one-fourth built, and was situated on a sloping branch on the south side of a cedar, twelve feet from the ground and forty feet from the south corner of a farmer's porch. It is composed of bits of bark, old grass stems and leaves, small vine tendrils, pieces of string and masses of spider webs. The rim is made of grass stems and the opening is thickly studded with white and gray feathers, so that little of the cavity is seen. Exteriorly it is cup-shaped, four inches deep by three in diameter, and hollowed where it rested on the sloping branch. This is probably the most northern record for the nesting of this species. Mr. Rocyski secured the female and kindly presented it to me.—WILLIAM PALMER, *Washington, D. C.*

¹ Previous New England records are: Boardman (Proc. Boston Soc. N. H., IX, 1862, p. 127), near Calais, Me.; Plummer (Bull. N. O. C., V, 1880, p. 184), Brookline, Mass.; and the Grand Menan, N. B., record by Herrick.