

Rare Birds on Eastern Long Island.—**AMERICAN BARN OWL** (*Strix pratincola*). On Sept. 30, 1898, a fine specimen of this bird was sent me to mount from Gardiners Island. It had been caught in a steel trap, and was in good condition. On October 12 another specimen was sent me from East Marion, L. I., which had also been caught in a steel trap. This was a male—the former a female. The stomachs contained the remains of field mice.

DUCK HAWK (*Falco peregrinus anatum*). A specimen of this bird, in juvenile plumage, was shot on Shelter Island on Oct. 2 and sent me to mount. It was a female, in good condition, but had scaled down on the bill of fare, from ducks to dragon flies—as the stomach contained the remains of several of these insects.

FLORIDA GALLINULE (*Gallinula galeata*). A specimen of this bird was shot on Shelter Island on Oct. 28, by a gunner, being the first instance of its capture here that has ever come to my notice. It was feeding and swimming amongst the reeds in a rather open pond, and was approached and shot without difficulty, exhibiting little shyness.—**WILLIS W. WORTHINGTON**, *Shelter Island Heights, New York*.

Notes on Two Rare Birds from Long Island, N. Y.—**MOURNING WARBLER** (*Geothlypis philadelphia*).—Giraud, in writing of this species in 1844 (*Birds of Long Island*, p. 65) says: "A few years since, a specimen was obtained by Mr. Bell on Long Island, the only one which I have known to have been procured here." So far as I am aware, there is no other published record of the occurrence of this species on Long Island, so I wish to place on record a specimen, now in the collection of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, taken at New Lots (now a part of the city of Brooklyn), in June, 1862, by George B. Brainerd.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH (*Turdus aliciae bicknellii*).—Since my previous records of this bird (*Auk*, Vol. X, p. 91), I have discovered four additional specimens. Three of them are in the Brooklyn Institute collection, and were collected at Parkville, Kings Co., L. I., by E. F. Carson and Frank Suydam—two of them on Oct. 12, 1892, the other Sept. 30, 1893. Dr. Wm. C. Braislin, of Brooklyn, also has a specimen which he has permitted me to record, collected by himself at Parkville on Oct. 3, 1894.—**ARTHUR H. HOWELL**, *Washington, D. C.*

Springfield, Mass., Bird Notes.—**Sturnus vulgaris**.—During the spring of 1897, nearly a hundred Starlings were liberated near Springfield, some of which survived the following winter, which was one of about the average in point of severity.

Otocoris alpestris praticola.—A flock of about twenty-five Prairie Horned Larks passed last winter in Longmeadow, just south of Springfield; their presence in this vicinity has never been recorded before.

Falco sparverius.—About the middle of last March, a pair of Sparrow

Hawks took possession for breeding purposes, of an apartment in a dove-cote at my farm in Tatham in West Springfield, driving out a pair of Doves that were there in possession and destroying their nest. Their first egg was laid April 17, the second after an interval of two days, and three others, each, after an interval of one day. Incubation commenced after the fourth was laid. The male was at this time killed, but the female remained devoted to her work and on the 27th of May three Hawks were hatched, and the following day, another. One of the eggs proved not to be fertile. Incubation lasted thirty-four days, a period much longer than heretofore reported. During the whole of the time of incubation and the rearing of the young, the mother Hawk did not interfere with the wild birds that had adopted the territory in the vicinity of the dove-cote for their home.

A pair of Bluebirds nested in a bird-house within thirty feet, and Robins, Phœbes, Vesper Sparrows and other kinds all remained undisturbed in the immediate neighborhood, and the pair of Doves that were first made to give way for the Hawks, were permitted to rebuild in a place adjacent to their first home. The young of the Hawks were all successfully raised and are now well and happy in confinement.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

Xema sabinii and **Chordeiles virginianus sennetti**—Two Additions to the Iowa Avifauna. — My collection of Iowa birds contains two immature specimens of Sabine's Gull, both of which were taken on the sandbar immediately above Burlington, Iowa. No. 50, (S. U. I. No. 15981) ♂, was shot Oct. 15, 1891; No. 51, (S. U. I. No. 15982) ♀, Oct. 12, 1894. These I believe are the first records of this species for Iowa. The specimens are deposited at the State University of Iowa at Iowa City.

The Smithsonian Institution recently received a specimen of Sennett's Night Hawk from Mr. C. F. Henning of Boone, Iowa, shot four miles southeast of that place. This variety seems so far to have escaped Iowa observers and it gives me pleasure to add it to our list.—P. BARTSCH, *Washington, D. C.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

Torrey's 'A World of Green Hills.'¹—The subtitle of Mr. Torrey's

¹A World of Green | Hills | Observations of Nature | and Human Nature | in the Blue Ridge | By | Bradford Torrey | . . . [Motto, = 2 lines and Seal] Boston and New York | Houghton, Mifflin and Company | The Riverside Press, Cambridge | 1898—16mo, pp. 285. Price, \$1.25.