

The American Egret in Connecticut.— On the 28th of July, 1899, a fine specimen of the American Egret, *Ardea egretta*, was brought me, having just been shot from a tree on the shore of a small pond in this town, Kent. As the person in question passed near the pond, the great white bird flew up from the shore, alighted on a low tree close by, remaining until he returned from the house with a gun, and manifesting no shyness. It was a male, but whether old or young I could not decide, as, though without plumes or long feathers, it was of full measurements, and showed no lingering adolescence. This occurrence, forty miles inland, is probably much more unusual than the appearance of this species on Long Island Sound.— REV. HERBERT K. JOB, *Kent, Conn.*

Notes on the Nesting of the Blue-throated Hummingbird.— On February 16, 1899, while at a place called Las Minas, which is about five miles north of Las Vigas, Vera Cruz, Mexico, I found the nest of a Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Cæligena clemenciæ*). The place was in a cañon and the elevation was about 4500 feet.

On February 12 we had snow, with thermometer down to 32° F. at 4 p. m., and on February 13, at 7 a. m., down to 29° F. All the plants and trees were covered with ice, and the leaves of almost everything were killed; we found many frozen birds, and that was the fate of the owner of this nest. We only had two cold days, but that was enough to destroy many birds.

The nest was fastened to a vine one tenth of an inch in diameter and about three feet above a small stream of water. The vine hung from a large rock and the nest was one and a half feet from the rock, and would have been sheltered from rain by the overhanging rock. The nest is of bulky structure, and is perhaps a new nest built on top of an old one. It is composed of fine moss massed together, and bound with spiders' webs or similar material. It measures, outer diameter, 2¾ inches, depth 4 inches; inside diameter, 1¼ inches; depth, ¾ inch. There is very little lining, only enough for the eggs to rest on, consisting of down from some fern.

The two dull white eggs, elliptical oval in shape, measure .61 × .35 and .62 × .40 inch. The nest and eggs are now at the Smithsonian Institution.— JOSIAH H. CLARK, *Paterson, N. J.*

Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*).— This beautiful and dignified looking bird was exceedingly common in the city of Milwaukee, during the months of February and March, as many as thirty and forty often being seen in one flock. They frequented the box elder trees, which were covered with an unusual supply of seeds even in the densely populated parts of the city. One morning — the thermometer registered 20° below zero — while walking down Cedar Street I found the whole sidewalk underneath a fine old box elder covered with the broken parts

of the seeds. Almost at the same moment I heard a soft and very melodious *cheep*, and on looking up into the tree I beheld a flock of thirty-nine of these strangely beautiful birds. They were very silent and quite unsuspecting. Only now and then a soft *cheep-cheep* was uttered by one or the other of the party. When they were alarmed they uttered a rather sharp and quick *chip* and then all took wing. One morning I found a few on a mountain ash where they evidently were feeding on the seeds of the dry fruit. They were only seen early in the morning, never later in the day. In the West Park, a place where the birds are always protected, they were rather abundant during the months mentioned.—H. NEHRING, *Milwaukee, Wisc.*

Feeding Habits of the Pine Siskin.—Mrs. W. C. Horton, president of the Brattleboro, Vt., Bird Club (a branch of the American Society of Bird Restorers), and a member of this Society's patrol, reports that on April 14 of this year, Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) were observed feeding on the seeds of cones in a pine grove near her Brattleboro home. Two young Siskins were also noted, apparently just out of the nest. These youngsters were assiduously fed by at least one of the parents, but with *what* was not clear. Several feedings occurred and between them the parent procured no visible supply of food. To the observers it seemed highly probable that the feeding was done by regurgitation.—FLETCHER OSGOOD, *Boston, Mass.*

Large Flight of White-winged Crossbills on Long Island, N. Y.—The Red Crossbills, *Loxia curvirostra minor*, are more or less regular in their appearance on Long Island each year and occasionally breed there, but the presence of the White-winged Crossbill, *Loxia leucoptera*, is of such rare occurrence, that I consider their appearance in such large numbers during the past fall and winter worthy of note.

Capt. James G. Scott presented me with a fine adult male of this species that he shot on the 7th of November from a flock of seven or eight at Montauk Point, L. I. The next evidence of their presence that came to my notice was on the 20th of November, when I met with them in large numbers. Between Mount Sinai Harbor and Long Island is a long strip of beach and low sand ridges; on the harbor side these are covered with a scattering growth of bushes and dwarfed red cedars. The hills on the eastern side of the harbor are covered with a thick growth of red cedars, and it was in this vicinity that most of the birds were noticed. There was a strong northwest wind blowing at the time and the birds were flying very low, many of them just clearing the tops of the trees and bushes. Most of the birds were noticed between 9 A. M. and 12 M. During this time thousands of Pine Finches, Goldfinches and White-winged Crossbills were passing westward, occasionally in mixed flocks, but each species appearing to keep in groups by themselves. Between the hours men-