

Two Additions to the Bird Fauna of Kansas.—I wish to record the addition of two species to the bird fauna of Kansas. They are as follows:

1. **PARASITIC JÆGER** (*Stercorarius parasiticus*).—A young male was captured along the Kansas River near Lawrence on October 10, 1898, by Banks Brown. The specimen was mounted by Leverett A. Adams and is now in the museum of the University of Kansas. This species not having been previously reported as "seen" or "likely to occur in Kansas" is an absolute addition to our avifauna.

2. **WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL** (*Loxia leucoptera*). This species was inserted in my first editions of 'The Birds of Kansas,' in 1872, on the authority of Dr. T. M. Brewer, and was omitted from my fifth edition (May, 1903) because its occurrence in Kansas had not been verified by actual captures. I am glad to report two recent captures. The first was that of an adult male in fall plumage, shot by Leverett A. Adams near Lawrence, in Douglas County, November 4, 1899. This specimen, mounted by E. D. Bunker, is now in the museum of the University of Kansas. The second capture was that of a young male, taken at Hays City in western Kansas, September 15, 1902, by C. W. Miller, who has the specimen in his own collection.

These two additions, together with the three recorded in the January number of 'The Auk,' increase to 347 the number of species and varieties of birds personally known to me as occurring in Kansas. — F. H. SNOW, *Lawrence, Kan.*

Mortality Among Young Birds, Due to Excessive Rains.—During the summer of 1903, prolonged dry and warm weather, lasting through the greater part of May and the first week of June, was followed by an excessive rainfall. From June 6 to 14, inclusive, I was at Demarest, N. J., and from the evidence that there came under my notice, I became convinced that the mortality among young birds in the nest was far beyond normal, owing to the heavy rains which so closely succeeded each other.

Wishing to see how extensive this abnormal mortality might be, I wrote to some thirty ornithologists in various sections of New York, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey, inquiring regarding this subject. To a number who furnished interesting information, I am greatly indebted, as well as to others who courteously replied to my queries, stating that they were unable to furnish any information on the subject.

The deductions which may be gathered from the data thus collected are, first, that there was, at least in some sections, an unusually heavy mortality among young birds as a result of exposure, cold, and in some cases drowning, due to heavy rains, as well as an unusually large number of nests with eggs which were deserted because of the eggs becoming wet and chilled; second, it would appear that in other sections such mortality was not evident. This may be due to the difference in the predominating species of the different localities, or to difference in environment of nests, in the sections covered by the observers so reporting.