

**Catherpes mexicanus conspersus.** CAÑON WREN.—Last spring Mr. C. deB. Green of Fairview, B. C., was convinced that the Cañon Wren was a scarce though regular breeder in the extreme southern portion of the Okanagan Valley in the semi-arid interior. He was unable at that time to place the identification beyond a doubt by the capture of a specimen. I have just received from him a rough skin of a male taken the third week in March of this year at McIntyre Creek, a mountain stream which flows into Okanagan River from the east, some twenty miles north of the International Boundary. It was one of a pair that were evidently nesting at that early date, so the species will probably prove to be a permanent resident in that district. Mr. Green has since located another breeding pair near the north end of Osyoos Lake.—ALLAN BROOKS, *Okanagan Landing, B. C.*

**Some New Birds for Colorado.**—Since unavoidable circumstances have prevented the publication in this issue of 'The Auk' of a lengthy article on Colorado birds, it seems best to present here a short note on the occurrence of four species hitherto unrecorded for the State.

**Sterna hirundo.** COMMON TERN. One was noted May 14, 1908, at New Windsor by Geo. E. Osterhout. The specimen was sent to the Biological Survey for identification.

**Butorides virescens.** GREEN HERON. One at Loveland, July 23, 1895, by Edward A. Preble of the Biological Survey.

**Spizella pusilla arenacea.** WESTERN FIELD SPARROW. One at Yuma, May 9–11, 1908, by Miss Jennie M. Patten, who for the past six years has been reporting bird movements to the Biological Survey.

**Helminthophila chrysoptera.** GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER. One May 25, 1906, at Yuma, by Miss Patten.—WELLS W. COOKE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**Notes concerning Certain Birds of Long Island, New York.**—A few data concerning the occurrence of certain of the less commonly observed birds of Long Island and of facts regarding the time during which others, less rare, extend their stay within our limits, are herewith presented. Most of them have been kindly furnished me by other observers.

**Porzana carolina.** SORA. A specimen of this rail was obtained by Mr. Robert L. Peavey, of Brooklyn, at Seaford on the unusually late date of December 24 (1908). This date is two months later than the previously ascertained limit of its occurrence here in autumn, as given in 'A List of the Birds of Long Island, New York.'

**Coturnicops noveboracensis.** YELLOW RAIL.—Three additional occurrences of this bird for Long Island have been made available through Mr. Robert L. Peavey. All were secured recently, two during the later months of 1908, one in January, 1909. One of the specimens, taken by Mr. Peavey and by him presented to the Museum of the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, has been already recorded by Mr. George K. Cherrie, curator

of ornithology of the Museum. Mr. Cherrie says: "This specimen was collected by the donor at Seaford, Long Island, September, 1908" (Museum News, Vol. IV, March, p. 85, 1909). I learn from Mr. Peavey that it was taken on the bay side of the beach, back of the sand dunes, where the "sedge" grass grew in tufts. In one of these the bird was concealed, and was only flushed on a near approach, so that care had to be exercised in collecting it so that it should not be rendered unfit for preserving as a specimen. It was taken Sept. 20, 1908, and is a male.

A second specimen, also a male, was taken by him at the same place on December 4, 1908. This one was found on the edge of the main creek, in the short salt-meadow grass. A third specimen was obtained on January 10, 1909, at the same place, in a similar location. This specimen, through the generosity of Mr. Peavey, is now in the writer's collection of skins.

**Cathartes aura.** TURKEY VULTURE. A very fine male specimen of this vulture has been added to my collection through the generosity of Mr. Roy Latham of Orient Point. Mr. Latham briefly stated the facts of its occurrence in his record of the species of birds observed by him at Orient Point on Dec. 22, 1907, which was published in the 'Bird-Lore' Christmas bird-census (Vol. X, 1908, p. 29). Mr. Latham informed me that the bird was unable to fly when first discovered by him on the beach. It was at once evident that it was disabled, and it was found that it had some foreign substance in its throat. This had, no doubt, prevented it from eating for so long a time that it had become too weak to fly. The cause of the obstruction in the throat was found to be a bone of an animal of considerable size. Mr. Latham extracted the bone and removed the bird to his home, where it was cared for and protected. He fed the bird, and found that it ate greedily of stale fish. Despite his care, however, it did not survive the following night.

**Catharista urubu.** BLACK VULTURE.—I am indebted to Mr. C. W. Crandall of Woodside for the report of the capture of a specimen of this bird which so rarely reaches us from more southern regions that this may perhaps be regarded as the first specimen authenticated beyond a doubt, or, at least, backed by an authenticated skin, taken within the actual geographical limits of Long Island. As stated in 'A List of the Birds of Long Island,' p. 67, the evidence entitling it to a place in the avifauna of Long Island rests on the authority of Mr. Robert Lawrence who observed it on the adjacent shore of Sandy Hook, and of Mr. deL. Berier, who reported one found dead at Coney Island beach, by Mr. Akhurst. As no authenticated skin of this specimen is extant, that of Mr. Crandall's is all the more valuable. Mr. Crandall was at Plum Island, L. I., on May 19 and 20, 1895, and on exactly or nearly the same dates on the three subsequent years, in the interests of ornithological investigation. It was on the second trip, namely, 1896, on the 19th or 20th of May, or within a day or two of these dates, that the bird was shot. He was in the field, bird-nesting, when, hearing a distant gun-shot he was attracted to investigate the cause. He found that the shot had been fired by a farmer, at a large bird which had

been feeding on a dead sheep. The farmer — a Mr. Clark — finding that there clung to the bird an odor not incompatible with its feeding habits, had consigned his prize to the furrow where the plowshare would shortly have buried it. From this position Mr. Crandall, with prompt and commendable collecting zeal, rescued the specimen and sent it to a New York taxidermist (Murgatroyd) for mounting. Mr. Crandall still has the mounted skin in his possession, and, at his home, the writer recently had the pleasure of examining it.

**Nyctea nyctea.** SNOWY OWL. Mr. Peavey has kindly informed me, and has permitted me to record the fact, that he took a very white specimen of this species on the shore of Flatlands Bay on Feb. 19, 1909. This is a rather later date of occurrence of this species than any previous ones which I have.

**Acanthis linaria.** REDPOLL. It may be worthy of note that Redpolls occurred again on Long Island this winter, although, apparently, less abundantly than last. Though several were seen by others, but a single individual came under my direct observation. It was seen feeding on the ground, among a number of Pine Siskins in Prospect Park on Jan. 30, 1909.

**Dendroica palmarum.** PALM WARBLER. A specimen of this warbler was taken by the writer on Rockaway Beach, Sept. 26, 1908. It was found among the sand dunes on the bay side of the beach on the date mentioned, where numbers of Savannah and other sparrows were also found. Like them it seemed much at home in this open, unsheltered locality. Here the sand is but scantily covered, the sea-side golden-rod at this season being the most conspicuous of the sea-side flora. Thompson, in his 'Birds of Manitoba,' mentions finding this bird, during migrations, far from any wooded land, and Chapman refers to the avoidance of trees by the eastern subspecies, *hypochrysea*, in his 'Birds of Eastern North America.' Since the autumn of 1895, when it was met with repeatedly, as stated in 'The Auk' (XIX, 1902, p. 148), it has not been again met with until this autumn (of 1908).— WILLIAM C. BRAISLIN, *Brooklyn, N. Y.*