

with mild anxiety. But throughout my stay near her she did not move ten feet from the spot where I first saw her.

On July 18, 1909, about a quarter of a mile below the timber line, I found a female Spruce Partridge lying in the same path. When I had approached within a distance of about twenty feet, she raised herself slightly and four young, looking like average domestic chicks on the day of their hatching, ran out into the path. To my surprise they soon took flight, and with very rapid wing strokes and with dangling legs they quickly disappeared amongst the trees. The mother bird was more agitated than the one I had seen the year before, but showed none of the excitement so familiar in the mother Ruffed Grouse. I repeatedly stroked her back with my umbrella, and she seemed absolutely indifferent to this treatment.

Since the Crawford bridle path is one of the most frequented of the White Mountain trails and is travelled every season by hundreds of tourists many of whom camp and too many of whom are ruthless destroyers of wild life, it is remarkable that the Spruce Partridge retains its racial tameness in this region and, indeed, that it survives near the path at all.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

**The Passenger Pigeon — Only One Pair Left.**— Still clinging to my belief that the Passenger Pigeon will never again be seen in its wild state, I have felt a special interest in the remaining birds belonging to the Milwaukee and Cincinnati flocks which have been in confinement for many years. In my last remarks on this species (*Auk*, Vol. XXV, 1908, p. 18) I stated that the remnants of these flocks then numbered but seven birds (6 ♂, 1 ♀), with little or no chance of further reproduction. This number is now reduced to a single pair, and doubtless the months are numbered when this noble bird must be recorded as extinct.

Under date of August 9, 1909, Mr. A. E. Wiedring, who has had charge of the Milwaukee birds, writes that the remaining four males, which I saw in 1907, died between November, 1908, and February, 1909, and that he attributed the cause to tuberculosis. The specimens were not preserved, they being in very poor plumage and apparently going through a belated moult.

On July 29, 1909, Mr. S. A. Stephen, General Manager of the Cincinnati Zoölogical Company, wrote me that one of the two old males in the Gardens died in April, 1909, leaving one male, about twenty-four years old, and the female which came from Prof. Charles O. Whitman's flock in 1902, and now about thirteen years old, and unquestionably infertile. Mr. Stephen thought that the bird died simply of old age, there being no apparent signs of disease. The specimen was moulting and in too poor a condition to be saved.—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

**The Black Gyrfalcon in Connecticut.**— A fine female *Falco rusticolus obsoletus* was shot at Durham, Conn., Jan. 27, 1907, and sent to me and is

now in my collection. This specimen appears to be the only one known to have occurred in Connecticut.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

**The Acadian Flycatcher in Ontario.**—The discovery of this bird (*Empidonax virescens*) in Ontario has long been expected by bird students and reports have at times been made of its occurrence only to be disproved when investigated. It is therefore perhaps a little strange that it should turn out to be probably a not uncommon resident of certain parts of the western peninsula of Ontario.

About fifty miles southeast of Detroit and only a few miles from Lake Erie there was formerly an immense black ash swamp, portions of which are still in existence, and it was in these, where the mosquitoes were of sufficient quantity to feed a large number of Flycatchers, that I found the Acadians on June 8 and 9 of this year. There was an undergrowth of saplings in the swamps and the birds apparently spent their time near the ground. Their conspicuous note attracted my attention at once and it was quite easy to secure specimens for identification.

I was walking through the country from west to east and as my plans included the covering of about fifteen miles a day, I had not much time for explorations on the side, but after finding these birds in two places about ten miles apart, I am convinced that there must be many other localities in that district where they nest. One of the specimens taken was a female with an egg almost ready for extrusion.—W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ont.*

**European Starling Nesting at Princeton, New Jersey.**—A pair of European Starlings (*Sturnus vulgaris*) nested in a large willow by the side of a tiny stream where the latter crosses Moore Street in Princeton. The young are now (July 7, 1909) out of the nest. I have not been able to get any further data concerning them but as I believe this to be the first record from this locality the fact is worth noting. My attention was first called to them by the peculiar purring sounds from the youngsters when a parent bird was near; having raised several broods by hand the sound was a familiar one to me. The old birds are very shy.—BRUCE HORSFALL, *Princeton, N. J.*

**The Meadowlark in Maine, and Other Notes.**—The Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna*) has arrived here and is breeding (June 15, 1909) on this side of the Penobscot. It is one of the group of Alleghanian birds which are steadily pushing their way eastward across what was formerly a forest portion of the State. The advance of these birds is curious and should have been studied much more closely than it has been so far. The important point is the determination of how long one of our north-and-south flowing rivers like the Kennebec and the Penobscot holds a species in check. They seem very reluctant to cross a stream like the Penobscot,