

Following a rumor that the "California Quail" had been introduced I made inquiry of several of the settlers but found nothing to confirm such report.

The Partridge seems first to have appeared on Upper Willow Creek about 10 or 12 years ago and gradually became somewhat common. The hard winter of 1905-06, drove many flocks to the barnyards for food, where it would seem they met with almost universal destruction at the hands of settlers.

For several years they were not seen at all, but are again becoming somewhat common. No specimens have been examined, I am therefore unable to state how the species compares with those from the Cascades and Coast Mts.

The past May a small colony of two or three pairs of Bobolinks were found nesting in a meadow at Ironside, the first record I think for the state, and extending the known range of the species considerably to the westward.—A. W. ANTHONY, *Portland, Ore.*

Additions to Birds of Kerrville, Texas.—In my paper on the Birds of Kerrville, published in 'The Auk' 1911, pp. 200-219, I accidentally omitted the following species.

Charitonetta albeola. BUFFLE-HEAD.—Occasional on the Guadalupe river. A female was shot last December in the neighborhood of Kerrville.

Bartramia longicauda. UPLAND PLOVER.—Formerly very numerous during migration in the more open parts of the country, but rapidly becoming scarcer.

Aquila chrysaëtos. GOLDEN EAGLE.—A young bird taken from a nest near the head waters of the Guadalupe, was kept for several years as a pet in a saloon at Kerrville. Have seen the bird two or three times on Turtle Creek. One was shot near the head of the Guadalupe river some time during last winter and the stuffed skin is in Kerrville.

Haliaeetus l. leucocephalus. BALD EAGLE.—Formerly not uncommon and used to breed on bluffs along the Guadalupe, Frio and Medina rivers. Both of these Eagles are occasionally troublesome to the ranch owners, killing young lambs and kids.

Last year I also added two species to my list of birds of the neighborhood of Kerrville.

Pelecanus erythrorhynchos. WHITE PELICAN.—On April 23, a flock of about eighty were seen along the river about three miles from Kerrville, and one of them was killed and I saw the remains.

Wilsonia pusilla pileolata. PILEOLATED WARBLER.—One male at the ranch on Turtle Creek May 11, 1911.—HOWARD LACEY, *Kerrville, Texas.*

Recent Records from the Valley of the Lower Rio Grande.—Two examples of the Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctanassa violacea*) ♀ Jan.

8, and ♂ Jan. 19, 1912, shot at a point about seven miles up the river from Brownsville, establishes this species as a resident. Of the nine or ten forms of Herons ranging into the Lower Valley, it is the most thinly distributed.

An immature Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) sex unknown, was shot near San Benito, Tex., 19 miles N. W. from Brownsville, early in January, 1912, by H. N. Prentiss. It was mounted and is now on exhibition at a drugstore in Brownsville, labeled as *Mexican Eagle*. The nearest locality known to me where this species occurs as a resident, is in the mountains, some distance south of Monterey, Mexico, approximately 200 miles distant.

On Jan. 4, 1912, I secured near Brownsville an adult female Long-eared Owl (*Asio wilsonianus*) my first record here.

Several years ago (Nov. 1909), I felt certain I had espied a Green-tailed Towhee (*Oreospiza chlorura*) on the ground in the dense chaparral. Now I feel sure that my identification was correct, for on Jan. 7, 1912, I collected an adult female near Brownsville. It may prove to be a more or less common winter visitant, for it is easy to confound it with the Texas Sparrow (*Arremonops rufivirgatus rufivirgatus*) in life. Its superficial appearance in life, and its habits, closely resemble those of the latter, although the Green-tailed Towhee is a much more confiding bird.

The Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*) is again wintering in small numbers. I secured an adult male on Dec. 12, 1911, for specific date. Last year it was noted through the winter months up to March. Several examples secured here during winter of 1910-11 are in the collection of Dr. J. Dwight, Jr.—AUSTIN PAUL SMITH, *Brownsville, Texas*.

The Names "Purple Finch," "Mavis," and "Highole."—In my article on *The Current English Names of North American Birds* ('The Auk,' Vol. XXVI, Oct. 1909, p. 358) I referred to the name "Purple" as applied to *Carpodacus purpureus* as "a monumental witness of an inability to properly discriminate either between two very different shades of color or in the use of the right word." The species in question appears under this name in Catesby (*Nat. Hist. of Carolina*, Vol. I, p. 41). From the letter of a correspondent under date of May 1, 1911, I quote the following—"I copied some of your article and had it printed in a Worcester, Mass., paper—The Telegram, using your name and giving you the credit of it. In yesterday's paper a Webster, Mass., bird-lover takes exception to the statement that the Purple Finch is wrongly named as to color, saying that it is the color of Tyrian purple, and evidently meaning that it was named for an ancient or classic color, and not the modern purple. Do you agree to this?"—I certainly do agree to it, and I wrote my correspondent thanking her for the correction. The gorgeous Tyrian purple, a dye obtained from certain gastropod molluscs (*Purpura* and *Murex*), was a symbol of wealth and rank among the early peoples of the eastern Mediterranean. In Murray (*The Oxford Dictionary*) under the word "purple" there is this definition—"Tyrian purple, which was actually crimson,