

to work at those bushes, pulling them apart when suddenly I saw him standing upon the top of a fence post and still crowing.

I picked up the gun and placed it to the shoulder and old hunter and old trapshooter as I was I could not hold the gun still I trembled so. But I took a trap-shooter's chance and got the bird."—S. C. BISHOP and A. H. WRIGHT, *Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.*

Feeding Habit of the Sparrow Hawk.—The month of March, 1916, was spent by the writer in the longleaf pine forests of northern Louisiana. In the region of lumbering operations fires were of frequent occurrence. The hawks took full advantage of the action of the fire in driving out insects, small reptiles, and rodents, and, in spite of the great heat and intense black smoke arising from the resinous wood, the birds would not only dash past within a few feet of the flames, but would actually alight on stubs and fallen branches in smoke so thick that they were frequently lost to view. In the vicinity of every fire observed hawks were present and as many as twenty individuals were noted at one time.—A. W. SHORGER, *Madison, Wisc.*

The Barn Owl (*Aluco pratincola*) in Western New York.—The writer wishes to record the capture of the Barn Owl in the town of Eden, Erie Co., N. Y. Noting a mounted adult specimen of this species in the taxidermist's shop at Hamburg, he was surprised to learn that the bird was taken on a large produce farm about fifteen miles southwest of Buffalo. Subsequent correspondence with the owner of the farm revealed the fact that it was captured alive in a silo during the month of April, 1916. The bird was first seen in the barn about 5 o'clock in the afternoon, but flew into the silo when attempts were made to catch it. Here it was easily procured by closing a small door.

Rumors of the occurrence of this species in the town of Eden have come to the writer's attention several times within the past ten years. However, Mr. Wm. D. Henry, the owner of the present specimen, states that he never saw a bird of this kind before and is inclined to regard such statements as erroneous.—THOMAS L. BOURNE, *Hamburg, N. Y.*

An Unrecorded Bird from the Bahamas.—When compiling my list of Bahama birds (Shattuck, *The Bahama Islands*, 1905, pp. 347-368), I overlooked a specimen of the Kingbird (*Tyrannus tyrannus*) taken at Nassau, New Providence, April 22, 1864, by Lieutenant Fitzgerald and now in the U. S. National Museum, No. 33171. Mr. Ridgway also failed to record this specimen in Bull. U. S. Nat. Museum No. 50, Part IV, 1907, 689, and as it has not been previously or subsequently recorded from the Islands to my knowledge, I have thought it best to put the specimen upon record.—J. H. RILEY, *Washington, D. C.*

Blue Jay in Jefferson Co., Colorado.—I was startled on the morning of Sept. 24, 1916, to hear the calls of Blue Jays (*Cyanocitta cristata cristata*)

in the orchard of our farm in Jefferson County, Colorado, located a mile and a half south of the little town of Broomfield. I hurried to the spot whence the cries came and found that I was not mistaken in the notes with which I was familiar in my boyhood days in Illinois, for, there in a high cottonwood tree in the midst of the orchard were two Blue Jays. They were wild and restless and flew off at once in a southwesterly direction, passing near enough, however, for positive identification. The following day my son saw one in the same tree and it flew in the same direction.

Blue Jays have previously been observed around Wray, in the eastern part of our State but it is my impression that this is an extreme western record.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Colo.*

Note on the Bronzed Grackle in Maine.—Mention should be made, I think, of the increase in the numbers of the Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus quiscula œneus*) in and about Portland, Maine, since it was recorded,¹ many years ago, as "rare,—even in the migration uncommon." It is nowadays one of the common species of this part of southwestern Maine, and during the migration periods sometimes occurs in large flocks. On April 13, 1915, I saw at least six hundred birds together in the town of South Portland. The possibility suggests itself that more than one geographical race may be represented in such an increase. Recent specimens in evidence are lacking.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

A Bird new to the North American Fauna.—The Bureau of Fisheries has transferred to the collection of the U. S. National Museum a fine adult male Pine Grosbeak taken on the tundra of St. George Island, Pribilofs, Alaska, Oct., 1915. This specimen proves to be *Pinicola enucleator kamtschathensis* (*Corythus enucleator kamtschathensis* (sic) Dybowski, Bull. Soc. Zool. France, 8, 1883, 367; founded on Taczanowski, t. c., 7, 1882, 394), and measures as follows: wing, 112; tail, 92; culmen, 14.5; depth of bill at base, 11.5; width of bill at base, 9.5; tarsus, 21.5; middle toe, 15 mm. These measurements are almost exactly duplicated by a specimen taken by Mr. A. H. Clark at Petropaulski, Kamchatka, June 17, 1906 (Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, 38, 1910, 64).—J. H. RILEY, *Washington, D. C.*

The Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*) in Southern New Jersey and Pennsylvania.—On January 29, 1917, at about noon in the midst of a cold rain I was walking along a road which passed by a little clearing near a saw-mill at New Lisbon, New Jersey. I heard a series of loud chirpings, something like the chirping of English Sparrows only more resonant. On looking up I saw a small yellow locust tree by the side of the road almost filled by a flock of Evening Grosbeaks. The birds kept motionless for some time and I had an opportunity to count them three times in succession and found that the flock consisted of seventy-four.

¹ Proc. Portland Society Nat. Hist., Dec. 4, 1882, p. 16.