

Sparrow Hawks Nesting in a Bird House.— A pair of Sparrow Hawks have nested in a sort of a pigeon house that was built by a man on my place and fastened on top of a pole about 18 feet from the ground and placed in the middle of the chicken yard. It somewhat resembles a martin house, though the holes are larger. Of course, they have the house to themselves. It is located within 200 feet of a Martin house occupied by a large colony of these birds which are continually worrying the hawks when they return with food for the young. A week ago when I looked in the box there were three or four young ones covered with white down.— WM. H. BROWNING, *New York, N. Y.*

Black Vulture in Massachusetts.— A female Black Vulture (*Catharista urubu*) was shot by Archer L. Pierce, Aug. 20, 1917, on the Burnham estate at the west end of Wenham, Mass. The bird was eating from a garbage pail at the time. The specimen has been sent to the Boston Society of Natural History.— JOHN C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

Crow Roost near Boston, Pennsylvania.— For more than fifteen years there has been a large crow roost in the hilltops adjoining the borough of Boston, Pa. Recently a few hunters with shot guns have compelled the Crows to change their roost a distance of one fourth of a mile north to the hilltops of "Deadman's Hollow" which brings it within about half a mile of the city limits of McKeesport.

The writer succeeded in making a fair estimate of the number of birds gathering at the roost. Acres of trees blackened by masses of noisy crows is the usual impression that one gets from a visit to the winter night rendezvous. On March 10, 1916, the crows were driven out of the woods as they were gathering to roost whereupon they settled down over about 100 acres of snow covered fields. There they were visible and estimating one crow to every 200 square feet, a very low safe estimate, an approximate number of 20,000 crows was the result.

The ground covered and other factors entering into the estimate depends upon the writer's judgment as a civil engineer and surveyor.

This year while taking our Christmas bird census for 'Bird-Lore' 1,500 crows were counted flying overhead down the Youghiogheny River to the roost. The vast bulk of the crows came from the other directions and the 1,500 counted represent but a small percentage of the total number of crows.— THOS. L. MCCONNELL, *McKeesport, Pa.*

Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*) at Springfield, Mass.— For the last few years the Evening Grosbeak appears to be a regular winter visitor to this region. If this bird is to continue to appear here during the colder months, it will be interesting to know when its coming and going may be expected. Last season in central Massachusetts