

Nelson and we watched the fledglings for half an hour at the close of their third day. They were in a pitch pine tree across the driveway from the roost. One or both parents brought food to them every five or ten minutes. These visits occasioned a lively chattering which resembled the clucking of Red-winged Blackbirds on a small scale. After the parent's departure the young birds quieted, although they often continued to give single, double, or triple clucks for a minute or two. Finally, as it was growing dark, about 6.45, all the young birds (five of them) fluttered across the drive and joined their parent. As the little, tailless birds flew overhead in quick succession, they appeared against the sky like tiny Woodcocks rising for a song flight. Nothing could be plainer than that the flight was in obedience to a command from the old bird,—the fledglings started at almost the same instant and hurried off all together. Tonight, under the guidance of the parent, they took a direction away from their former roost. We followed and found three of them in the abandoned nest which they visited last evening. On our arrival they came out and with much chattering withdrew. Twice a bird returned, hopped about the nest for a moment and then flew away. The family settled near, just where we could not see. On the following evening we saw or heard nothing of the brood at twilight.

It would be of interest to learn whether this use of abandoned nests of other birds is a common practice with the House Wren, especially when we recall that the male of some species of wrens builds seemingly useless nests while the female is sitting.—WINSOR M. TYLER, M. D., *Lexington, Mass.*

**The Labrador Chickadee (*Penthestes hudsonicus nigricans*) at Cohasset, Mass., late in May.**—From May 19 to 23, 1917, inclusive, a Brown-headed Chickadee, probably the Labrador form, was seen several times each day in the garden. The bird was very tame and easily recognized. The peculiar note first attracted my attention, and after once seeing the bird it was easy to find it at any time during its stay with us. Usually it was with a small flock of the Black-capped Chickadee (*Penthestes a. atricapillus*) and was as easily approached and as tame as is its more southern relative. A thick row of spruces bordering the garden seemed to be its favorite haunt. Neither species remained on the place during the summer.—ARTHUR P. CHABOURNE, M. D., *Jerusalem Road, Cohasset, Mass.*

**Labrador Chickadees at Hatley, Stanstead County, Quebec.**—It is with pleasure that I record a visit of Dr. Townsend's new subspecies the Labrador Chickadee (*Penthestes hudsonicus nigricans*) to Hatley, on its return journey to its breeding grounds. The birds were first observed on May 14 and between that date and the thirtieth on which the last was seen, seven examples were secured, three being sent to Dr. Townsend, and the other four to the Victoria Memorial Museum at Ottawa. The former

consisted of two adult males and one female, the latter of two males and two females. They were generally alone or in the company of Golden- or Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and were somewhat shy and difficult to approach, which made their exact number not easy to estimate. Besides the seven obtained I can only positively assert to having seen four other examples, although I know there were several more that I was unable to follow up.—  
H. MOUSLEY, *Hatley, Que.*

**Rare Winter Visitants in Northern Indiana.**—1. ***Astur atricapillus atricapillus***. GOSHAWK.—One seen carrying a rabbit in its talons at Mineral Springs, Porter County, Ind., Feb. 17, 1917.

2. ***Picoides arcticus***. BLACK-BACKED THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.—A fine male of this species was taken near Millers, Lake County, Ind., on March 11, 1917. When first seen the bird was busily engaged in digging larvæ from under the bark of a dead northern scrub pine, in a small grove of these trees a short distance from the shore of Lake Michigan. It was very tame and appeared rather sluggish and clumsy in movement.

The stomach contained nearly complete skins with heads of eleven wood boring larvæ, and heads only of twelve more. These larvæ were identified for me by Mr. A. B. Walcott of the Field Museum as *Monohammus titillator* var. *carolinensis*, Oliv. This is the first Indiana record for this woodpecker.

3. ***Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina***. EVENING GROSBEEK.—Present in small numbers in the dune region, although not nearly so numerous as during the previous winter. A flock of fourteen were seen feeding on poison sumac berries at Mineral Springs, Porter County, on Nov. 25, 1916. A single bird was noticed at the same place, also feeding on these berries on Dec. 23, 1916. My last record was March 24, when five or six were seen.

4. ***Acanthis linaria linaria***. REDPOLL.—Unusually abundant throughout the winter, appearing in large flocks about the middle of November and remaining until late in March, a small flock being seen on March 24. Many hundreds of these birds were seen migrating northward along the lake shore on the evening of March 11, 1917.

5. ***Acanthis hornemanni exilipes***. HOARY REDPOLL. Four or five very light colored redpolls were seen feeding by the roadside with a large flock of *linaria* at Mineral Springs, Porter County, Ind., on Dec. 23, 1916. One of these which was collected and compared with specimens in the Field Museum proved to be the Hoary Redpoll, *Acanthis hornemanni exilipes*, a new record for the State. The specimen is perfectly typical in every respect, with the exception of the rump which is not as white as is usual in this variety. The skin is in the Harris Extension collection.—H. L. STODDARD, *The N. W. Harris Public School Extension of Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois.*