

During the nesting period the bird would eat from one to three moderate sized angleworms a day. It did not bolt them down after the manner of the robin but bit off small pieces and chewed them before swallowing. Cattle bone was also in demand. This feeding continued for perhaps three weeks and again during the moult in September and October. At other times the bird would take no animal food although insects and worms of various kinds were offered. Its staple food was canary millet, rape, oats and a little sunflower seed with plenty of fruit and succulent grass, lettuce, cabbage and apple cores. The past winter the cage has hung outside with a hood of transparent celluloid to cover the upper two thirds for shelter and wind break. I hoped that the Pine Grosbeaks would visit us again and that my lady bird by calling might help me to obtain a mate for her. None visited this part of Connecticut the past winter, however, and I think but very few came below latitude 45°. I still have hopes of breeding them in captivity as they very soon become tame and contented with cage life. My bird did not mind the cold of the zero week during which she had an extra allowance of hemp and sunflower seed and a bit of suet. She began singing February 1 and at present writing, March 24, 1918, is singing much of her time, using her whistling call notes when Robins or Starlings fly near. Her song is identical with that of the male and rather reminds one of the song of their pigmy representative the Purple Finch but lacks the ringing quality.

If I obtain a male to mate with my bird another year and should succeed in breeding them, there are several experiments to be made. One is to see if birds raised here and given their liberty would remain throughout the year and another in regard to color changes in the male.—GEO. M. MARCKRES, *Sharon, Conn.*

**The Systematic Position of *Calyptophilus*.**—One of the most peculiar of the many aberrant Antillean forms is the monotypic genus *Calyptophilus* of Haiti. This form was originally described by Cory in 1883 as *Phœnicophilus frugivorus*, and the following year the describer proposed for it the generic name by which it has since been known.

Selater (Cat. Bds. Brit. Mus., XI, 1886), considered the two genera *Phœnicophilus* and *Calyptophilus* to form a subfamily of the Tangaridæ confined to the island of Haiti. At the same time he remarked, "I have some doubts whether the Phœnicophilinæ ought to be included at all in the Tanagrine series."

Notwithstanding its peculiarities *Calyptophilus* was allowed to remain in the Tangaridæ until 1902 when Ridgway (Bds. N. and M. Amer., III, p. 1), after enumerating several genera that he considered out of place in the Tangaridæ added, "Another genus must also be removed. This is *Calyptophilus* Cory, usually placed next to *Phœnicophilus*; but being a 'ten-primaried' bird, it obviously does not belong here. *Calyptophilus* is of very doubtful position, but probably is a member of the Mimidæ." Accordingly in Part IV (1907) of the same work we find *Calyptophilus* as a

doubtful member of the Mimidæ, constituting the subfamily Calyptophilinæ.

Cory, in the recently issued Part II, No. 1, of his 'Catalogue of Birds of the Americas', has raised the subfamily to family rank as "? Calyptophilidæ" with the comment that "the monotypic genus may later be considered to represent a subfamily."

I have recently had the opportunity of examining nine perfect skins of this species in the collection of Dr. L. C. Sanford. These prove that *Calyptophilus* is not ten-primaried as stated by Mr. Ridgway, but typically 'nine-primaried,' the tenth primary being a minute concealed vestigial quill varying from 4 to 8.5 mm. in length. There is no longer any reason for retaining this genus in the Mimidæ, and I believe that for the present, at least, it should be restored to its former position in the Tangaridæ next to *Phænicophilus*, and in the neighborhood of *Tachyphonus*, *Mitrospingus* and *Rhodinocichla*. I would also suggest that the name of Chat-Thrasher bestowed by Mr. Ridgway be emended to Chat-Tanager.—W. DEW. MILLER, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

***Junco aikeni* in New Mexico.**—In the last (1910) edition of the American Ornithologists' Union 'Check-List of North American Birds,' *Junco aikeni* is reported as of casual occurrence in New Mexico. Since there is no previous printed information that authenticates this statement, it seems worth while to place on record the single specimen that forms its basis, and this more since it forms the only record for New Mexico, and, furthermore, represents the southwestern limit of the known winter range of the species. This individual is now in the Biological Survey collection (No. 192902, U. S. Nat. Mus.) and is a female in juvenal plumage, collected two miles north of Arroyo Seco, New Mexico, at an altitude of 8000 feet on January 20, 1904, by Mr. M. Surber.—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C.*

**Notes on Some Bird Fossils from Florida.**—On May 15, 1918, Dr. E. H. Sellards, State Geologist of Florida, sent me a small lot of fossil bird bones from Tallahassee and they were received a few days after that date. In the letter of transmittal Dr. Sellards states that one of these specimens is "a bird bone that came from an Indian mound. This bone is marked merely x, no other number." I find it to be the left humerus of a Florida Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax a. floridanus*), nearly perfect, and in a subfossilized condition, being of a rather pale earth-brown color and very pliable.

In referring to these "scraps" in his letter of the fourteenth of the same month Dr. Sellards says that "The one small piece of bone differing from the others in color is from a different locality. I find it in a collection from the Pleistocene at Camp Dam on the Withlacoochee River, and presumably it was taken in that locality although it seems to have escaped getting a number assigned to it." This bone is the distal end of a right tarsometatarsus.