

Nesting of the Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) in the Delaware Valley.—The Bittern is erroneously supposed to be a rare breeder in New Jersey, but recent researches by Mr. Richard C. Harlow along the maritime marshes have proven that it is a regular summer resident there; although it seems to be an extremely rare breeder anywhere in the Delaware Valley and particularly in the vicinity of Philadelphia.

On June 5, 1915, while exploring the marshes and swamps along a small creek at Woodbury, Gloucester County, N. J., in company with Turner McMullen, of Camden, N. J., we discovered a Bittern's nest; it was placed flat upon the muddy ground near the edge of a small patch of calamus and contained three nestlings and one rotten egg. The young birds were about a week old and the egg contained a dead chick. The nest was a mass of green and dead reed stalks, unattached to the tules and was fairly well hidden.

Woodbury is about eight miles from Philadelphia, to the south, situated upon Woodbury Creek and about a mile inland from the Delaware River. The nest was at the southern end of the town and is the first one ever found in the vicinity of Philadelphia, to my knowledge.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Chicago.—On Sunday, April 14, 1918, a friend and I were studying the birds in Jackson Park, Chicago, Ill. I was told that a specimen of *Nyctanassa violacea* had been seen in the park. At first I was incredulous, as the occurrence of this species in this latitude so early in the season is extremely unusual. Having approached within fifty feet of the bird I was able to assure myself of its identity. Unfortunately I was unable to secure the specimen. The bird allowed me to study it at close range for several minutes. At the expiration of this time it flew, confirming my opinion that its wings were not clipped. The bird was observed by many others. The next day, although I searched diligently, I was unable to find it.—NATHAN F. LEOPOLD, JR., *Chicago, Ill.*

The Black Vulture (*Catharista urubu*) in Indiana.—Professor Butler, in his 'Birds of Indiana' p. 769, states that the Black Vulture is "Resident in the southern part of the State; generally not numerous, but, in the lower Wabash Valley, at least from Knox County southward, it is common." Mr. McAtee, in his 'Birds of the University of Indiana,' notes the bird as quite rare in the State.

While en route from St. Louis to Washington on May 5, 1918, over the B. & O. Southwestern R. R., about five miles east of North Vernon, in Jennings County, Indiana, I saw two Black Vultures just after they had risen from the ground near the train and were ascending some thirty feet, where they joined a Turkey Vulture which was leisurely sailing around the locality.—R. W. WILLIAMS, *Washington, D. C.*