

Dr. Witmer Stone, in his 'Birds of New Jersey' (1908) calls this species "A rare migrant, if indeed it occurs at all in the State." It may be that this occurrence indicates a coming return to our shore as a common breeding species, if unmolested. Let us give it a good chance, as it is a most charming little spirit of the sands.—CHARLES H. ROGERS, *Princeton Museum of Zoology, Princeton, N. J.*

Note on the Breeding of the Semipalmated Plover (*Aegialitis semipalmata*) in Nova Scotia.—In the October, 1920, number of 'The Auk,' on page 583, Mr. Harrison F. Lewis reports the finding of the eggs of the Semipalmated Plover and several pairs of this bird at Cook's Beach, Yarmouth County, Nova Scotia, and called attention to the fact that the third edition of the 'Check-List' states that this bird breeds south only to the Gulf of St. Lawrence. On page 597 of the same number of 'The Auk' I referred to my finding of the downy young of this plover at Seal Island off the southern point of Nova Scotia in July, 1920. In the same month on the shore of Barrington Bay near Coffinscroft, I found a Semipalmated Plover performing the wounded-bird act, showing it had young in the vicinity. On July 1, 1921, I found two pairs of this bird at Advocate, Cumberland County, Nova Scotia, whose actions pointed to their breeding at this place. It is evident, therefore, that the breeding range of the Semipalmated Plover includes Nova Scotia.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, M. D., *98 Pickney St., Boston.*

An Unusual Dove's Nest.—While in the little town of Worthington, a suburb of Columbus, Ohio, on May 20 and 21, I observed a Mourning Dove (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*) setting on a nest, built on the pipe leading from the gas range, and within three feet of the range, just below and inside the window. This nest was about the height of a man's head, from the ground.

The original nest was built by a Robin early in the spring, when a rain storm blew it down. It was in rather an insecure place, being built on the top of a four-inch pipe, but the Robin immediately rebuilt the nest, and hatched out a brood of four. Immediately after hatching, the Dove took possession, and I was told by my friend, whom I was visiting, that she had been using it about ten days. This occurrence was rather unique to me. We often here see dove nests on the ground or very near it, but never in situations on the side of a residence as this was.—PETER A. BRAN-
NON, *Montgomery, Ala.*

The Turkey Vulture in Michigan.—Occasional specimens of the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) have been recorded throughout the State, though principally in the southern counties of the Lower Peninsula. Some have, however, been seen as far north as Delta

County, Upper Peninsula ('Michigan Bird Life,' W. B. Barrows, 1912, p. 255).

While trout fishing at Lovells, Crawford County, on the north branch of the Au Sable River, on May 10, 1921, Mr. W. B. Mershon saw a Buzzard flying over at such close range that the crimson of the head and neck could readily be seen. This is a sufficiently northern portion of the State to make this record of interest.—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

Short-eared Owl Nesting at Elizabeth, N. J.—On May 14 the writer found on the salt marsh near Elizabeth, N. J., a nest containing eight young Short-eared Owls (*Asio flammeus*). The birds showed considerable difference in size. Four had the eyes open and measured $4\frac{3}{4}$ – $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length as they squatted in the nest, and besides a coat of light cream or buff down they showed some feathering on the back with primary quills about an inch long. The other four measured $2\frac{3}{4}$ –3 inches, the eyes were shut and they showed only the downy coat. The four larger young were on one side of the nest, the smaller ones on the other.

The nest was at the edge of a scald or bare spot in a stretch of salt hay meadow. It was composed of but a handful or two of matted hay, in fact there seemed to be only a little more dead vegetation under the young birds than was to be found covering all the ground thereabouts. The place was foul with droppings and littered with feathers of various small birds but I found no pellets.

Two adult owls were in the vicinity, one of which I flushed ten yards from the nest and the other directly from the nest. No difference in marking to distinguish sexes was noticeable. The first bird flushed strove vainly by imitating injury and distress to draw me away, these exhibitions including sheer drops or tumbles from the air and flutterings and cries with wings outspread while on the ground. When not thus engaged the bird maintained a position directly overhead facing the wind. The second adult, when flushed from the nest, joined the vigil overhead. A third, attracted by the cries, appeared in the vicinity, but did not approach closely.

On my return on May 21 only four young, evidently the smaller ones of the previous week, remained in or near the nest. They had grown to a squatting length of about $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Three adults were again in evidence, two near at hand, the third appearing later at a distance. Returning on May 28 and June 4 the nest was empty except for one dead young owl and one large Pellet. One adult was flushed and its repeated simulations of injury indicated that the young were hiding in the grass nearby.

That the eight young represented two broods seems probable, but the eggs might not have been hatched in the same nest. On May 4 and 5 a heavy storm and an unusual tide flooded the greater part of this marsh. The spot where the young were found was not inundated and possibly