

exclude them. The manner of hunting corresponded exactly with that described by Eaton in his 'Birds of New York.'—S. C. BROOKS, *Rutgers University, New Brunswick, N. J.*

Hawk Owl in Vermont.—Mr. Arthur H. Hardisty of Shelburne, Vt., writes me that he shot a Hawk Owl (*Surnia ulula caparoch*) on November 19, 1926. "It was apparently hunting along the roadside when killed and proved to be a male in perfect plumage. It contained a meadow mouse (*Microtus*)—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, *East Westmoreland, N. H.*

The Carolina Paroquet in Western New York.—In tabulating recently, some data from notes made many years ago while residing in Buffalo, N. Y., I came across the subjoined item, which in some way had escaped my attention and remained unrecorded until now. While it is of historic value only, it will help round out the rather fragmentary knowledge of this little "parrot."

"Mr. David F. Day informed me to-night (Dec. 20th, 1889) that he once saw thirteen Carolina Paroquets light on the old City Buildings, Cor. of Franklin and Eagle Streets, and that he knew of a lot being captured at West Seneca (N. Y.) many years ago."

Mr. David F. Day was a practicing attorney in Buffalo; his avocation was botany and his knowledge of the flora of western New York was most profound, so much so that Gray drew heavily on it in preparing his 'Manual of Botany.' Mr. Day was also keenly interested in birds, knew most of the local species very well, though he did no special work in ornithology. My experiences with him in the field leads me to put full trust in his bird identifications, a trust I see no reason even at this late date, to question.—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver, Colo.*

Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker at Guelph, Ontario.—On November 20, 1926, within the city limits of Guelph, Ontario, my attention was directed by a loudly repeated bird-call which I immediately recognized as that of some species of Woodpecker I have never before heard. The bird approached in rapid, but deeply undulating flight, uttering its loud cry at each undulation, and alighted in typical woodpecker fashion on the bark of one of the larger branches of a white elm from 15 to 20 feet from the ground and not more than 20 yards from me. It clung there, head up, for about five minutes without moving its body; nor did it tap on the bark in search of insects. Once or twice it turned its head to one side to look behind, but seemed to be resting. I made a careful examination with the aid of 8 × prismatic binoculars, and its size, about that of a Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus*), shining black upper parts and white under parts, proclaimed it a female Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*). There was a north-westerly wind blowing, the temperature being slightly below freezing, and about an inch of snow lay on the ground. The bird had chosen as its resting place the south-easterly side of the tree and bough.

Mr. R. E. Barber of Guelph, an ornithologist who has been observing in this locality for many years, tells me he saw a female of the same species about the end of October, 1926, and that she remained almost motionless on the sunny side of the bark of a tree, but he did not note the direction of the wind. He had never seen the species before in this locality.—HENRY HOWITT, *Guelph, Ontario*.

Early Singing of the Horned Lark.—On January 10, 1927, I heard the first Horned Lark's song of this season. Later on the 23rd of January I heard it again. Both birds sang a number of times. Possibly it was the same one, as they sang in the same place, I have never heard this song so early in the year before. February 12th to the 28th is the usual time. Both of these songs were given on a mild sunny day following several days of stormy weather.—ADELE P. SCHROEDER, *White River, S. Dak.*

The Rusty Blackbird in Colorado.—On November 14, 1926, while on the South Platte River in company with two friends, in an area about eight miles south of Littleton, I saw four individuals of this species (*Euphagus carolinus*); they were busy *wading* in the shallow waters of an irrigating ditch apparently gathering food of some sort, and were very tame, so much so that we were able to approach within six feet of one bird, giving unexcelled opportunity to note color, color pattern, size, shape of bill, etc. There were three males in winter plumage and one female in the group.

This record adds another to the brief list of the occurrence of this Blackbird in Colorado, a list embracing about seven records, not counting one or two which have been questioned. It helps to substantiate the belief that the Rusty Blackbird occurs in Colorado only as a winter visitor, there being but one exception to this rule.—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver, Colo.*

Snow Buntings in the North Atlantic.—On October 7, 1926, when crossing from Liverpool to Montreal on the S.S. *Doric* I saw a party of about twenty Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) flying close over the water. I first observed them about 10 A.M. on the starboard (northern) side of the ship and watched them for over a quarter of an hour. Our noon position was given as 53° 25' N., 51° 50' W. so that the point where the birds were seen is on a direct line from Cape Farewell, Greenland, to the coast of Newfoundland. The little party of birds kept coming close to the side of the ship, then gradually shearing away to the north-west then approaching the ship again. Each time during a quarter of an hour that they came alongside they were in almost exactly the same relative position so that their speed must have been just that of the ship, about 14.5 knots. Their behaviour suggested that they were flying from Greenland to Newfoundland when an unexpected cliff appeared directly on their course, flying out in a westerly direction for a short distance to avoid it they then resumed their true course only once again to meet with the same obstacle. This happened several times until they flew so far that on their next return the ship was no longer in their way.—W. B. ALEXANDER, *Croydon, England*.