

but I never saw one swallowed. Watching more closely I found that they would roll the acorn around and bear down upon the shell until it was severed and then eat the meat. If the nut was too well matured it was dropped and a more tender one chosen. The birds were cautious and only one at a time would drop to the ground until nearly the entire flock alighted but several remained in the tree probably as outlooks. They would sever and eat the acorns on the ground or pick up one and fly to a limb, using the feet to hold it. Those feeding in the tree would go out to the end of a limb, pick off an acorn, and return to a substantial limb to break it open.—DONALD J. NICHOLSON, *Orlando, Florida.*

Yellow-headed Blackbird in Pennsylvania.—Mr. Sutton's note in the January 'Auk' (Vol. XLVI, p. 119) has no doubt aroused in an ornithologist now in Africa the same memory, of a rainy Pittsburgh morning that comes to me in South America. When the Yellow-headed Blackbird of Turtle Creek was reported to the Carnegie Museum, Mr. Rudyerd Boulton and I went out to investigate, although we knew Turtle Creek to be one of the worst mill towns in the Pittsburgh district, with all that this connotes of smoke, grime, and vile chemical fumes. A less likely place to find a wandering Yellow-head could hardly be imagined. Nevertheless we searched the region diligently—without finding the bird.

It may be added that at this time the days were very dark with heavy, low-lying clouds, mist, and with smoke held in by the clouds, so that errors in distinguishing color and even size and form could easily have been made by the gentleman reporting the unusual bird.

Of course there is nothing inherently impossible about any record of occurrence of a bird possessed of full powers of flight, but it would seem the better part of wisdom to omit from our serious literature records that are at all open to question.—ERNEST G. HOLT, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.*¹

Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus in Southern Mexico.—In the collection of the Field Museum of Natural History is a female Yellow-headed Blackbird (no. 12444) taken at Iguala, Guerrero, Mexico, February 27, 1902, by Geo. F. Breninger. It is apparently a bird of the previous summer.

Dr. Harry C. Oberholser writes me: "There are, so far as I am aware, no records for *Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus* from the State of Guerrero, Mexico. There are published reports from the States of Guanajuato, Puebla, and Tlaxcala, and there are specimens in the Biological Survey collection from Jalisco, Michoacan, and the State of Mexico."

¹ The Editor welcomes such additional information as the above. When records are submitted by reliable members of the Union, he naturally infers that everything affecting the observation has been considered and submitted. It is manifestly impossible in these days to disregard sight records but it should be the duty of everyone submitting them to exercise the greatest care in verifying them and in presenting all the facts in the case.—W. S.