

from the glass until satisfied. Several times during that day and the next I let the hungry bird feed in this manner. Always it took the largest flies first, cleaning the window completely of one kind before taking any of a smaller size. (I continually moved the bird about to within reach of the prey it indicated as "next" by stretching toward it.) The number of insects eaten at a meal was surprisingly large.

On the third day there was an unusually large number of flies on the window, and I supposed that the horse-flies alone would make a full meal for the bird. But after picking off the ten or twelve large horse-flies, the Swallow cleaned the glass of a much greater number of blow-flies and house-flies, then continued to feed on the smaller kinds. Suddenly it began to fidget, then snuggled down into my hand; within three minutes it was dead.—WINTON WEYDEMEYER, *Fortune, Montana*.

Late Migration of Tree Swallows and Mourning Doves.—While the Tree Swallow (*Iridoprocne bicolor*) is a comparatively late migrant and straggling individuals or pairs occur as far north as New England in winter, the birds are usually gone before the latter part of October. On November 11, 1934, while investigating water-fowl conditions near the mouth of the Connecticut River, Connecticut, I was much surprised to find a flock of more than a hundred of these birds busily feeding over the marsh. On the same day a single individual was seen flying low over the town of Saybrook.

As another late migration date, it may be of interest to report that on November 12, 1933, near Savoy Pond, not far from Plymouth, Massachusetts, I observed at very close range a flock of sixteen Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura m. carolinensis*). These were feeding at a snow clearing near a spring in a heavy though fairly young growth of timber.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *U. S. Biol. Survey, Washington, D. C.*

The Raven in the Virginia Blue Ridge.—In eight or nine years of study of the birds of the Virginia Blue Ridge I have found but one Northern Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*) (cf. The Raven, IV, p. 11, July, 1933). Five additional records have been made this past year. On May 13, 1934, two Ravens were seen at close range directly overhead, far back in outlying ranges of the Blue Ridge, along the St. Mary's River in Augusta County. On September 22 one was recorded at the Peaks of Otter in Bedford County; on September 26 four birds were seen in two places in the Blue Ridge in Amherst County, at the Hog Camp and on Mt. Pleasant and on September 30, another bird was seen on Rocky Row Mountain in Amherst County. A mountaineer who lives at the foot of Rocky Row said that a pair of Ravens had been nesting on the mountain for years.

In addition, Mr. Maurice Sullivan, naturalist assistant in the Shenandoah National Park since July, 1934, told me in a recent conversation that he has frequently seen Ravens in the area since he began his work.—RUSKIN S. FREER, *Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, Va.*

Red Type of Crow Eggs.—After more than fifty years observing and collecting we have, at last, encountered this rare type of egg of the Eastern Crow (*Corvus b. brachyrhynchos*), the reddish tinge being far deeper than that shown in Bendire's work, or in any other illustrations that I have seen of this abnormal coloration.

On May first, 1934, my son-in-law, Minor Cole, shot a Crow as she left her nest. He decided to climb the easy fifteen feet to the nest in a willow and collect the eggs for me.

Incubation had evenly progressed in all the five eggs to about the fourth day. The eggs are rather sharply pointed ovate, of a type approaching elongate, rather than the usual true ovate or rounded ovate as found in the average Crow eggs.

Their sizes (in inches) are: 1.63 x 1.08, 1.68 x 1.12, 1.67 x 1.14, 1.67 x 1.11 and 1.73 x 1.14.

Throughout the whole set there is not the slightest suggestion of the usual greenish-drab shades. The shell, held to the light, appears a rich cream-white such as seen in eggs of the Eastern Sparrow Hawk, and on the whole, resembles in coloration eggs of the latter collected the same day. The smallest egg is less thickly marked and contains sparingly seated bold blotches of mauve and maroon-purple, which tints are brought out by brick-red laid over varying shades of lilac and lavender, the majority of them are on the smaller half of shell. It is a beautifully spotted egg with the brick-red, mauve and maroon-purple about equally apportioned and equalizing the amount of lilac and lavender shades which are untouched by the reddish pigment. The ground color of the other four eggs, originally rich creamy-white, with lavender blendings in paler underlays, is heavily mottled over with brick-red, giving the shells a uniform rich vinaceous appearance, over which are diffused blotches of strong vinaceous-cinnamon blending into the underlays. Thus we have, in these five Crow eggs, specimens appearing like huge eggs of the Cactus Wren but the general red shade is really stronger than that of the Wren's eggs. They present, too, a strong resemblance to some eggs of American Woodcock and a suggestion, in coloration, of eggs of Merrill's Pauraque.—J. WARREN JACOBS, *Waynesburg, Pa.*

A Thrush (*Turdus iliacus*) with Three Legs.—Most of us, I imagine, who have done much tramping on marsh or mudflat, are familiar with the sight of little Sandpipers hopping about on one leg, the other having been shot away by some shore-shooter or punt-gunner. Years ago I saw such one-legged birds on the east coast of England but little did I think I should come across a bird with three legs albeit one a wooden one!

While cataloguing the collection of original drawings in the Emma Shearer Wood Library of McGill University, I came across a volume containing 29 original drawings by various artists—mostly of birds—one example of which was not only of exceptional merit, but of exceptional interest, the inscription being in very old Dutch. There was no mistaking, from the drawing and coloring (equal in every respect to the best examples of the present day), that it represented a Redwing (*Turdus iliacus*) although the inscription does not specifically say so.

This inscription, written in a very small hand, in 17th Century Dutch, was enlarged by photography and translated by Prof. W. L. Graff of McGill University, as follows:—Rocho van Veen, 1681. "A Thrush with a wooden peg, of the color of a cane (bamboo), tightly grown into the body at the front leg, as may be seen from the peg, which lies near by with a piece of flesh grown around it." On consulting the 'Dictionnaire des Peintres,' vol. 3, 1924, by E. Benezit, I found that the artist Rocho von Veen was known as a painter of birds, who died in 1706 and who in 1668 was a student of J. Wiz de Wette at Harlem. As indicated by the drawing, the peg, twig, or whatever the substance may have been, had evidently at some time or another pierced the breast of the bird when alighting, subsequently becoming firmly attached thereto, and being about the same length as the other two legs, it suggested a more or less suitable title for the present note. The only other instance of a somewhat similar nature that I know of, is that of a Woodcock obtained near Bangor, Maine, on October 9, 1880, which had a piece of golden-rod stem about five inches long embedded across its breast, and which I have referred to elsewhere, together with a reproduction of the drawing made at the time the bird was shot and mounted (Canadian Field Naturalist, 49, pp. 1-28, 1935).—HENRY MOUSLEY, 4073 *Tupper Street, Montreal, Canada.*