

We wrote for details and in February, 1935, received word from the collector: "that Kittlitz's Murrelet was found above the old mission manse near the top of the mountain not far from the trail which most of the women used to travel to pick leaves the other side of the point. As I remember the location of the nest was about 250 to 300 yards from the water. The bird was wild. When it flew from the nest it just seemed to slide down to the sea. The old folks say that nests used to be found, too, on top of the mountain near Lopp Lagoon."

In March we wrote to the native asking him to try to get us another bird with the egg.

Hence, August 10, 1935, we received our first egg of Kittlitz's Murrelet. The letter which accompanied it says: "I found the one you wanted much but the set was not complete. When I found the nest of Kittlitz Murrelet there was only one egg. I waited two days for the other to be laid and finally just before I went up to the Inlet, I tried to get hold of the bird for the set but it was wild. I saw it only three times, first without my gun. Twice again I tried to get it but it was too wild. I took the egg and blew it. I found it was incubated already."

The label sent with the egg reads "Top of mountain, Wales, Alaska, June 29, 1935."

The specimen measures 62.1 x 36.8 mm. It is cylindrical ovate in shape. Its texture is "waxy" smooth except that it is slightly granulated at the ends. It has the ground color of the Xantus's Murrelet egg figured as No. 6 on Pl. 49 of Bent's 'Diving Birds of North America.' The markings are similar too, in character, but in color are black or very dark brown. In shape it is exactly like the Marbled Murrelet's egg shown as No. 5 on Pl. 48 of the same work.

In thirteen years of collecting in Alaska, we have obtained four specimens of *brevirostris*—four from Barrow and the female, noted above, from Wales. No Murrelets of any other species have been obtained. A. M. Bailey (Condor, Vol. 27, p. 65) writes "The bird seems to be a species of the ice floes" and records that Hendee took specimens off shore from Wainwright. He adds "On April 28 I took one in the winter plumage at Cape Prince of Wales. It was feeding along the broken shore ice, and the next day I saw two others of which I secured one in the typical spring plumage. The Wales natives called it "ey-ah-azruk" and said the birds nested on Wales Mountain, but I did not see a bird after the above date on the American side of Bering Strait. On June 3 when we were drifting with the pack ice along the Siberian shore near East Cape, two of these Murrelets were flushed. They uttered alarm notes similar to those of baby chicks."

It is of considerable interest now to have confirmation of the natives' statement that the birds "nested on Wales Mountain."—EDWARD R. FORD, *Chicago Academy of Sciences, Chicago, Ill.*

**A New *Ciccaba* from Southeastern Mexico and Northern Guatemala.**—Upon examination and checking of localities, it appears that certain light-colored specimens of *Ciccaba virgata* are found only in particular areas and are different from previously described forms of the species. They are therefore characterized as a new race.

***Ciccaba virgata eatoni*, subsp. nov.**

*Subspecific characters.*—Nearest *Ciccaba v. centralis*, but lighter on upper parts in both phases; back and wing coverts more numerous and more finely barred and vermiculated with dull buffy white to grayish; superciliary area always with a broad, prominent, pure white stripe in the male; chest and breast with white ground color predominant, never numerous barred or splotched with brown; ground color of

sides, abdomen, and tibial feathers mostly pure white, never heavily washed with buffy, never strongly mottled with dusky at the tips of the feathers in dark phase; under tail coverts pure white, never heavily barred or streaked with dark brown; differs from *Ciccaba v. squamulata* in having the upper parts darker and duller grayish brown with less of a fulvous or buffy cast; and the crown, hind neck, and back barred and vermiculated instead of spotted; differs from *Ciccaba v. tamaulipensis* in having the light markings of the upper parts finer and whiter.

*Type*.—Adult male, U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 167,729, Apazote, Campeche, Mexico, December 26, 1900, collected by Nelson and Goldman, original No. 7411.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 225; tail, 130; culmen, from cere, 18.5 mm.

*Range*.—Tropical Zone, Apazote and Champoton, Campeche, Mexico, to northern Peten, Guatemala.

*Remarks*.—Twelve specimens of this new form and twenty-five specimens of *Ciccaba v. centralis* have been examined. Females, which usually have a darker ground color on the upper parts than the male, may have the light superciliary area tinged with dark brownish.

This form is named for the late Warren F. Eaton, who rendered noteworthy service in the protection of Hawks and Owls.—LEON KELSO AND ESTELLE H. KELSO, Washington, D. C.

**Chimney Swifts Nesting in a Barn.**—In a barn near my home, Cattaraugus Co., N. Y., a pair of Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) have nested for fifteen years, perhaps longer. The nest is fastened to the end wall, near a six inch square opening made for a hay rope, but used for entrance by the Swifts. Only two birds return each year. New mates may have replaced one or both of the original birds, but the young, apparently, have found other haunts. The Swifts have usually nested with success. One season, however, a "rest" was taken, and though the birds started a nest, and continued to roost on the adjacent wall for some time, no eggs were laid.

The rigors of winter often injured or destroyed the old nest, and the birds usually rebuilt each year, but the 1934 nest, which remained intact, was reused in 1935. The Swifts strengthened it by adding a dozen twigs below, as a prop-like support, and cementing again the points where the nest rim met the wall.

Other duties precluded a careful study of the nesting in 1935, but a few observations of possible interest were made. Four eggs were laid from June 9 to 15 on alternate days. On the 13th, and thereafter a bird occupied the nest at every inspection, and incubation, I believe, was started that day. The pair were frequently at the nest together. Twice I observed one clinging to the nest edge while its mate incubated. At night a light revealed one on the nest and the other roosting nearby but not, to my knowledge, incubating side by side as noted by Miss Stella M. Davis, (Forbush, Birds Mass., v. 2, p. 312).

During the day the incubating bird permitted a close approach, at times within a foot or two. It then left the barn, or, quite frequently, moved to the wall near the nest. When the latter occurred, the Swift often flew nervously from place to place on the wall in a peculiar manner. Slowly elevating the wings to their fullest extent above the back, the bird then snapped them down and fluttered to a new position three or four feet away.

After a two day absence, I found three young in the nest on July 2; by the following day the fourth egg also had hatched. When bringing food, the parent entered the opening and alighted a foot or two below the young. After some hesitation the bird, with wings beating and tail spines scraping the boards, "taxied" to the nest. There also the parent maintained its position on the edge of the nest platform by use of the