

(which is almost certainly an overestimate), this would give at least 43,000 pairs. There are also vast colonies in Pembrokeshire and still more on the west coast of Ireland, where the eggs are rarely taken, if at all.

I think it would be difficult to find four hundred skins in the British Isles, and these have been collected at various dates during the last sixty years. Hardly any identified eggs of the ringed form exist, as no one regards it as a species, and on crowded ledges identification is impracticable.

The chief cause in the diminution of the species is the mortality caused by floating oil. This is a non-selective agency. There is now no shooting on the breeding grounds and it is only here that it would be possible to pick out any appreciable number of ringed birds. In 1864, there was a good deal of indiscriminate shooting at Planborough and it was easy for a collector to look over a boatload of slaughtered birds, but the shooting was non-selective and the demand for 'white-eyed' birds soon died out.—F. C. R. JOURDAIN, *Southbourne, Bournemouth, England.*

Early date for the White-crowned Pigeon on the Florida Keys.—On March 9, 1938, we saw a White-crowned Pigeon (*Columba leucocephala*) on Key Largo, Florida, about seventeen miles northeast of Tavernier. The bird, a female with ashy crown, was perched in a small tree near the road and gave ample opportunity for observation. This seems to be the earliest dated record for the State, although Howell ('Florida Bird Life') gives some undated winter reports from Cape Sable. It is also of interest as being from one of the uppermost keys. We saw no other pigeons on the trip which took us through to Key West.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia*, AND ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *Charleston, South Carolina.*

The last Passenger Pigeon killed in Wisconsin.—It would be difficult to find more contradictory and indefinite statements than those regarding the last Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*), supposedly, killed in Wisconsin. W. B. Mershon ('The Passenger Pigeon,' p. 154, 1907) cites a letter from Neal Brown, dated May 20, 1904, in which the latter says: "It was, I think, three or four years ago, in hunting with Mr. Emerson Hough near Babcock in this State in September, we killed an unmistakable Wild Pigeon." On page 223, however, appears the categorical statement: "In 1900 Neal Brown of Wausau, Wis., killed one near Babcock, Wis., in September." In an unsigned article in the 'Saturday Evening Post' (October 15, 1910, p. 30), Hough states that "about ten years ago while hunting with two friends at Babcock, Wisconsin, one of the party killed a Passenger Pigeon." In the 'Passenger Pigeon in Pennsylvania' (1919), by John C. French, there is a note on page 189 by Henry W. Shoemaker stating that he was told by Emerson Hough "that the last Passenger Pigeon which he saw was killed by a retired railroad conductor, in Wisconsin, the first week in September, 1897. The conductor while journeying along a railroad cut, saw a large bird perched on a tree among a band of Mourning Doves." More recently (Aldo Leopold, *Trans. Wisconsin Acad. Sci.*, 30: 72, 1937) it is said: "The record ends with a single bird killed by Emerson Hough at Babcock about 1900."

Recalling that, at the time, Hough had a weekly column, "Chicago and the West," in 'Forest and Stream,' it seemed probable that more exact information was available. In fact, the details of the incident are given in volume 53, p. 148, September 23, 1899, of this publication. The bird was shot by the guide Varney, of Babcock, from a group of Mourning Doves sitting in a tree, while the party was hunting Prairie Chickens. It was recognized as a young Passenger Pigeon by Neal Brown. Hough states further: "The bird was about two-thirds grown and the plumage was pale and devoid of