

when within fifty yards of the fence, the larger one of the two swooped down at the rabbit, and when he dodged the Eagle pursued him, flying at a height of about three feet above the ground. The rabbit redoubled his speed and made straight for the fence, the Eagle following and both doing their best; the one fleeing for his life, the other pursuing to satisfy the cravings of an empty stomach.

This unequal race was kept up until the fence was reached, the Eagle having gained until she was but two or three feet behind the rabbit. When the rabbit passed through the fence, I expected to see the Eagle give up the pursuit, but she had no intention of doing so, for without slacking her speed she raised herself just enough to clear the fence, and, dropping down behind the rabbit, continued as before. Still I thought that he had a good chance to escape, for he had gained a little ground in passing through the fence, but instead of dodging around through the trees, which is something the rabbit always does, when pursued by dogs, he was so crazed with fear that he ran in

a straight line down through the orchard.

The velocity with which the Eagle flew at this stage of the chase was something wonderful. Fast as the rabbit ran, the "great black shadow" behind him drew nearer and nearer, until, poising an instant over its victim, the Eagle pounced upon him. A short struggle, a cry or two from the rabbit, and all was still. I hastily ran toward the spot, and had approached nearly to the Eagle when it took wing and joined its mate, which was wheeling around above me. After a few turns they mounted up into the heavens and in a short time disappeared.

The rabbit was a large "Jack," and was in a perfectly healthy condition. A row of deep gashes on either side of the backbone marked the spot where the Eagle had struck him with its talons, and his head was almost severed from the body, the throat being cut almost as cleanly as could have been done with a knife. The gash extended from the jaw bone on one side of the neck, to the ear on the other.

Echoes from the Field.

The Old-Squaw and Fulvous Tree Ducks at Alviso, Cal. During the first week in February of this year I received from Alviso, in this [Santa Clara] county, a specimen of the Long-tailed Duck or Old-Squaw, a female in winter plumage. So far as I know this is the first instance of this species being taken in this county, nor am I aware that it has ever been reported from any point on San Francisco Bay.

I have seen at the house of a friend in San Jose a Fulvous Tree Duck, also taken at Alviso several years ago. I believe that this species has not been recorded from this county before and is, at any rate, a rare visitor here.

F. H. HOLMES, Berryessa, Cal., April 15, 1899.

A Record for Los Angeles County, Cal. I have to report an addition to Mr. Grinnell's "List of Birds of the Pacific Slope of Los Angeles Co.," having taken four males and two females of *Loxia curvirostra minor*. They were working on the cones of pines along Lincoln Ave., Pasadena, and when disturbed by the report of a gun, were readily recalled by imitating the note of the female. Different members of the Club have looked sharply for this Crossbill among the pines on Wilson's Peak during the past few years without success, but now the dry year and consequent lack of food, brings them to our very door.

F. S. DAGGETT, Pasadena, Cal., Dec. 26, 1898.

Unusual Lining of a Red Bellied Hawk's Nest and Sonoma County Notes. On April 14, 1899 I secured a set $\frac{1}{3}$ Red-bellied Hawk and was surprised to notice a nest of the Californian Bush Tit used as part of the lining of the hawk's nest. It was torn open about four inches from the bottom and as the shells of several eggs

were stuck to the feathers inside, the Bush Tit's nest must have been taken from the tree by the hawks and torn open afterward. On April 7 the hawk's nest held two eggs but the Bush Tit's nest was not then a part of the lining.

During the winter of 1896 I saw what I supposed was a Mountain Bluebird, but not until last winter was I positive that *S. arctica* could be placed on my list of Sonoma Co. birds. On December 8 I saw two and they were common in January and February, and several were seen on March 9. They remained in large open fields and seemed to find plenty of food as a male shot on Jan. 18 was in fine condition.

In the March-April BULLETIN Mr. Slevin speaks of seeing some Swallows at Point Reyes on Dec. 31 which he took to be the Violet-green. I think the birds were Tree Swallows as I have never seen the Violet-green until late in February, while the Tree Swallow has been noted every month in the year. In winter they can often be seen flying about some warm springs along the foothills at the edge of the marsh off San Pablo Bay.

HENRY W. CARRIGER, Sonoma, Cal., April 16, 1899.

Eastern Junco and White-throated Sparrow in California. I have the pleasure to record the capture of three specimens of *Junco hyemalis* in California. The first, a male I took at Battle Creek on October 23, 1898. The other two were found at St. Helena, a male on the first of last February and a female three days later. Through the kindness of Mr. W. E. Bryant I may record four specimens of *Zonotrichia albicollis* for this state. One was taken at Los Angeles, Feb. 25, 1897 and is mounted in Mr. Bryant's collection. Three taken at Santa Rosa now belong to me. Dates of two are Oct. 13, 1898 and Nov. 23, 1898. The third one has not yet been forwarded to me. There appears to be no difference between these and eastern specimens of *Z. albicollis*.

RICHARD C. MCGREGOR, Palo Alto, Cal.

Notes from Alameda, Cal. WESTERN BLUEBIRD: For the last seven or eight years I have not met this never common bird as formerly. On frequent trips through the county and Contra Costa County in spring I have noticed from three to ten on each trip during the past five years and at times saw none at all. It is a sparse breeder in Alameda County. An acquaintance of mine took a set of eggs in this town about fifteen years ago.

The last Dwarf Hermit Thrush was seen, rather heard, April 6, a few miles from here. It was unusually common this winter. One made itself at home about my woodshed and became quite tame, eating grubs and bore worms when I was splitting wood.

Western Robins were very scarce up to January. In February they were quite abundant, singing freely. I heard one singing in December.

One Varied Thrush noted April 12, they have nearly all departed now. Observed the first one on Sept. 27.

A few Western Golden-crowned Kinglets wintered here in the live oaks and evergreens. I observed them occasionally from October to March. The Ruby-crowns were common, as usual, this winter, but not gregarious like the Golden-crowns.

On Sept. 27 I heard the "call" notes of a Russet-backed Thrush, and although the bird remained hidden, I knew I was not deceived by its indistinguishable voice. The late date is commentable.

Nuthatches are rarely observed any year. Perhaps they do not occur at all some years in this immediate locality. They were often seen this winter. A Red-breasted was the first one seen, Aug. 30. Took one Sept. 5 and one Oct. 10, and a Slender-billed Nov. 11. The last birds seen were in the middle of February. All the birds ever seen here were seen within a radius of 300 yards.