

ly cadmium yellow on the forehead. The wing is shorter (2.15 in. = 54.5 mm.) and rounded (7-6-8-9-5, etc.). indicating a more sedentary bird. Parallel cases are afforded by the yellow warblers, savanna sparrows, fox sparrows, and other birds breeding through many degrees of latitude along the Pacific Coast.—JOSEPH GRINNELL.

**Sterna hirundo at San Francisco.**—It is with great pleasure that I am enabled to add one more to our already long list of Pacific Coast birds. On January 19, 1903, my friend Mr. Ernest Werder while roaming over the hills at the Presidio, San Francisco, found what was to him a strange bird and wishing to know what it was forwarded it to me. I have identified it as the common tern, *Sterna hirundo*. This is so far as I am aware the first record from the coast. The bird when taken was alive, but in a very emaciated condition and died shortly after being found. It was probably hurled to the earth while in a weakened condition by the severe storms which occurred about that time.—C. LITTLEJOHN, *Redwood City, Cal.*

**A Few Notes from Texas.**—During the last few years I have had the pleasure of finding many curious nesting places of some of the smaller birds of this section of the state, a few of which I will here recall. In the spring of '97 while collecting in Caldwell county, I found a nest of the Baltimore oriole, placed about fifteen feet above the ground, tightly woven in the leaves of a mesquite and built entirely of horse-hair. While I was sitting under the tree resting a male Baird wren flew out of the nest and at once began pouring forth his notes of distress and probably wanted to know who was invading his domain. I had not the least idea of the wren having a nest in the old oriole's nest, but my inquisitiveness forced me to inspect, so I immediately ascended and to my great surprise I found it to contain a large well built nest of the Baird wren and five eggs. It is not of uncommon occurrence to find the nests of this wren in tin cans and old buckets and in several instances it has been found nesting in the pockets of old garments that had been placed in the barn and outhouses.

Mr. Harry J. Kofahl has taken the eggs of the scissor-tailed flycatcher (*Milvulus forficatus*) from the light towers in the city of Austin and I have also found this species nesting on telephone poles.

On the 20th of June 1901, a set of two eggs of the mourning dove (*Zenaidura macroura*) were taken from the huge nest of a caracara. The dove unquestionably had a comfortable home.

Mr. Edward Kasch of Caldwell county once found a nest of the Texan bob-white, which contained six eggs of a quail and three of the common chicken. The nest was deserted.

Another incident of curious nesting sites is that of a red-bellied woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*) that had built its nest about eighteen inches above the ground, the bottom of the cavity being level with the ground.—A. E. SCHUTZE.

#### **The First Occurrence of the Kingbird in Austin During the Breeding Season.**—

On April 7, 1902, while walking along the outskirts of town, a strange bird flew up from the path and lit in a neighboring tree. I at once noted it down as a new arrival. I did not see this bird again until May 20, when it was in company with another of the same species. One was sitting on a telephone wire and the other was in a fork of a large live oak tree. When it flew away I saw that they had begun to construct a nest in the fork. Some string and a few sticks were evidence of same. Each day as I went by the tree (for it lay directly in my path to town), one of the birds was always there busily working. On June 1st I climbed up to the nest, which was at the extremity of a slender limb, and appeared to be complete. While I was near the nest both birds stayed in the vicinity and even fluttered around my head. While they were near me I had a good view of them and at once identified them as kingbirds. On June 8 I again visited the nest and it contained two eggs. Leaving these I returned on June 11 and still there were only the two eggs. Thinking that this was their complement I secured the nest, which was difficult to reach. It was built very firmly in the fork, and composed of twigs, string, cotton, bark, weeds and rags, lined with hair, cotton and feathers. The eggs were identically the same as a set which I obtained from Rhode Island with exception of the size which is slightly less.—H. KOFAHL, *Austin, Texas.*

**Pigmy Owl in Town.**—The capture of a pygmy owl (*Glaucidium gnoma*) in the streets of American Fork, Utah, a few days ago excited some interest but was not the first occasion of its kind. Two or three years ago I had one similarly caught (by a boy with his hands) and on dissection I found it literally gorged with English sparrows. I have never discovered a nest of these owls but the bird is not uncommon among us in winter and is attracted in town by the most natural thing in the world—its food.—H. C. JOHNSON, *American Fork, Utah.*