

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

The Capture of *Totanus glareola* in Alaska.—During a collecting trip to the island of Sanak in 1894, while I was collecting sets of the Aleutian song sparrow along the beach, May 27, I flushed from behind some large boulders a flock of Aleutian sandpipers. When they flew I detected a peculiar bird note from their direction, and as it was new to me I looked to see if I could detect the owner. I soon discovered a long-legged snipe in the flock, which appeared to have been the author of the note. The flock soon settled on the beach not far off, and I was soon after the snipe, which alighted some distance beyond the others. It proved to be very shy, but I at last killed it, after firing several times at long range and following along the beach for half a mile.

The specimen, which proved to be a female, was sent to the Smithsonian Institution, and there identified by Mr. Ridgway as *Totanus glareola*. Three days after taking the specimen another bird was seen, which I feel reasonably certain belonged to this species, but like the other it was so wild that I could not get a shot, at a reasonable range. It finally flew out to sea and disappeared. This species is not recorded in the American Ornithologists' Union Check-list, I believe, through a misunderstanding on my part. The specimen is still in my collection.—CHAS. LITTLEJOHN, *Redwood City, California*.

A Visit to Torrey Pines.—Sorrento, the location of the far-famed Torrey pines, is a



LOOKING EAST FROM LARGEST GROVE OF TORREY PINES

place filled with interest to more than one class of pleasure seekers. Besides the scrubby growth of pines found at no other place on the globe but on the few square miles of coast land at this point and on two of the Santa Barbara Islands, we find here some of the most picturesque and rugged cliffs which it has been my good fortune to see in this part of the state. The formation is a light yellowish sandstone, which the action of the elements for centuries has sculptured into caves, holes and crevices of the most wierd and fantastic shapes, affording protection to many wild animals and birds. These holes and caves are a favorite nesting place for the American barn owl (*Strix pratincola*), and the great horned owl (*Bubo virginianus*).

The accompanying illustration is from a photograph taken by the writer on Saturday, March 21st. Claude Conklin and myself started out at daylight and covered the intervening eighteen miles between San Diego and Sorrento with our horse and buggy in the early part of the forenoon, lurching among the Torrey pines at the point from which the picture was taken. After lunch we started out prospecting for views, nests, eggs, birds or almost anything interesting. While visiting the owlery we discovered seven nests and took a few sets of barn owl eggs, and secured a picture of a family of three young great horned owls in a cave about twenty feet from the base of a cliff and probably sixty feet from the top. We found access to the cave rather difficult, especially with the camera, as we were obliged to traverse a narrow ledge for thirty or forty feet, much of the way being very uncertain owing to the loose sand lodged against the cliff. After arriving at the nest we still experienced trouble, for the space was too narrow to allow of passing the camera, after it was set up, and the young owls refused to look