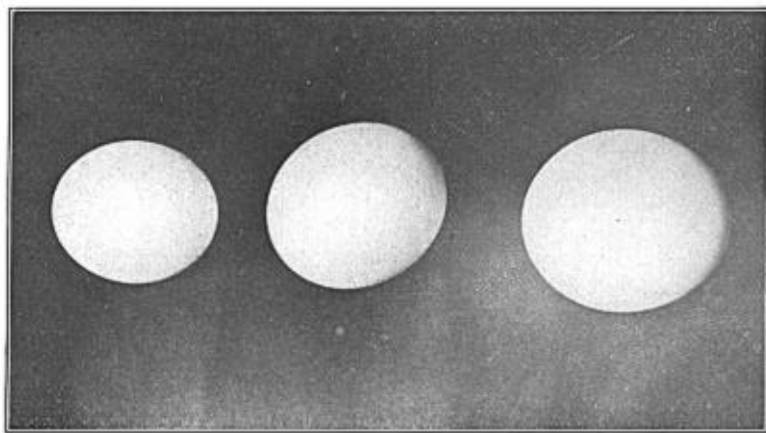


secured a snap shot at a distance of eight feet, immediately after which she flew away. It was a very comical picture she made as she sat there, opening first one eye and then the other, like a sleepy child, in an endeavor to accustom herself to the glare of the bright sun. The snap shot secured shows how excellently the silver gray plumage serves as a protective color.

In size, the eggs are about half-way between those of the Pigmy Owl (*Glauucidium gnoma*) and those of the Mexican Screech Owl (*Otus a. cineraceus*). The photo herewith shows their relative sizes very nicely.



EGGS OF PIGMY OWL (TO LEFT), FLAMMULATED SCREECH OWL (MIDDLE), AND MEXICAN SCREECH OWL (TO RIGHT), SHOWING RELATIVE SIZES

My scanty acquaintance with this owl scarcely justifies any general conclusions. However, it appears more easily aroused and frightened from its nests than the Pigmy Owl, but less easily than the Mexican Screech Owl.

Altho I have camped where these owls were located I have never heard their cry at night, unless it is the counterpart of that of *G. gnoma*, which I have heard and found in the same localities. I hope this year's introduction will make it less difficult for me to secure further notes on this species.

*Tombstone, Arizona.*

## A COLLECTION OF BIRDS FROM FORTY-MILE, YUKON TERRITORY, CANADA

By JOSEPH GRINNELL.

THE Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California contains a collection of bird-skins which were obtained in Alaska and Yukon Territory by Chas. L. Hall during the period from 1894 to 1901, inclusive. During the last three years of this time Mr. Hall was in charge of the Alaska Commercial Company's store at Forty-mile, Yukon Territory, and occupied his leisure

hours in gathering collections of natural history and ethnological specimens. These, together with others secured at different points in Alaska, have now come into the possession of the University; and the birds and mammals are cataloged as part of this Museum.

Forty-mile is situated on the Upper Yukon River where the latter is joined by the Forty-mile River. It is about twelve miles east of the Alaska-Canadian boundary. Mr. Hall has informed me that the birds (markt "40-mile") were all obtained on the Canadian side in the immediate vicinity of the post, that is, within four or five miles. In the following list I include only such species as were taken on Canadian ground, reserving the Alaskan records for another paper. I believe that the simple record of these birds will afford facts of considerable value in the matter of definite locality and dates of occurrence. In many of the migrant species the specimens of early date, so Mr. Hall tells me, were the first for the season to be observed. The numbers employed to denote specimens in the following list are those of the bird catalog in this Museum. I have added critical comments where I could see that such are warranted.

**Colymbus holboellii** (Reinhardt). Holboell Grebe. Adult male (no. 4925), June 6, 1899.

**Colymbus auritus** Linnaeus. Horned Grebe. Female immature (no. 4875), September 20, 1898; male adult (no. 4874), May 20, 1899.

**Gavia immer** (Brünnich). Common Loon. Adult female (no. 4927), May 28, 1899; female immature (no. 4928), September 25, 1900.

**Gavia pacifica** (Lawrence). Pacific Loon. Adult female (no. 4883), May 28, 1899: wing, 289; tarsus, 60; culmen, 50; coloration, as far as I can see, exactly like two adults from Alaska.

**Gavia stellata** (Pontoppidan). Red-throated Loon. Adult male (no. 4879), June 15, 1899.

**Rissa brevirostris** (Bruch). Red-legged Kittiwake. Immature (?) female (no. 4909), October 15, 1899: wing, 296; tail, 114; tarsus, 30.3; middle toe with claw, 45.5; culmen, 23; bill from nostril, 12.6; depth of bill at base, 9.6. Aside from the wings and mantle the bird is pure white, except for a slaty crescent close in front of the eye, a slaty auricular spot, a slight gray wash across nape, and a transverse area on the hind-neck in which the feathers are blackish-tipt; mantle, mouse gray, the outer, middle and lesser wing-coverts narrowly tipt with whitish, and secondaries tipt with white to a width of 13 mm or less. Outermost (first) primary with shaft and both vanes black, except for a light gray margin on the inner vane, which widens nearly across vane towards base and terminates narrowly (2 mm wide) 53 mm short of the tip of the feather; this gray area ends distally 2 mm from the inner edge of the vane, so that the black extends around its end and separates it from the actual margin of the vane 21 mm down the vane; second primary the same, but inner light gray area broader and extending within 43 mm of tip of feather; third primary the same, but gray area ending 39.5 mm short of the tip of the feather; fourth primary the same, but tipt with whitish (1.5 mm), outer vane narrowly and outwardly margined with gray towards base, and inner web with pale gray area so broad as to nearly touch shaft, and broadly rounded distally within 32 mm of tip of feather; fifth primary light gray, with irregularly white tip (averaging 6 mm wide), preceded by an irregular black bar (averaging 19 mm wide) double-rounded proximally; sixth primary grayish outwardly, white inwardly and distally, black spot 8 mm long on outer web to within 7 mm of tip of

feather, the shaft being whitish distally and slaty towards base; rest of primaries white, palely gray outwardly towards base.

As shown by the above description, both in size and primary-pattern, the bird in question does not agree with current descriptions of the species. As I have no other specimens of *R. brevirostris* at hand for examination, I am not able to draw any direct comparison. It may represent a variable young stage in plumage. The bird was found dead on the shore of the Yukon River near Forty-mile. Mr. Hall tells me it was the only one of its kind that ever came under his notice. It affords a record station far east of any previously known place of occurrence, and the first for Canada. That this pelagic species should be thus found far inland is proof enough of the abnormal nature of the occurrence.

**Mergus americanus** Cassin. American Merganser. Adult female (no. 5037), October 5, 1900.

**Marila affinis** (Eyton). Lesser Scaup Duck. Adult male and female (nos. 4854, 4855), May 20, 1899.

**Clangula clangula americana** Bonaparte. Golden-eye. Adult male (no. 4846), May 2, 1901.

**Charitonetta albeola** (Linnaeus). Buffle-head. Adult male and female (nos. 4843, 4844), May 2, 1898; adult male (no. 4845), May 11, 1901.

**Lobipes lobatus** (Linnaeus). Northern Phalarope. Adult female (no. 4798), May 3, 1901.

**Gallinago delicata** (Ord). Wilson Snipe. Three adult males (nos. 4767-4769), May 4, 5, and 16, 1898.

**Pisobia maculata** (Vieillot). Pectoral Sandpiper. Two adult males (nos. 4775, 4776), May 16, 1898.

**Pisobia minutilla** (Vieillot). Least Sandpiper. Male immature (no. 4740), August, 1, 1894; male adult (no. 4741), May 14, 1898.

**Totanus flavipes** (Gmelin). Lesser Yellow-legs. Three immatures (nos. 4730-4732), August 1, 1894, and August 18, 1900; seven adults (nos. 4725-4729, 4733, 4734), May 8 to 13, 1901, May 3 and 14, 1898.

**Helodromas solitarius cinnamomeus** (Brewster). Western Solitary Sandpiper. Four adults (nos. 4719-4722), May 8, 1901, and May 16, 1898.

**Charadrius dominicus dominicus** Müller. Golden Plover. Five adults in full summer dress (nos. 4749-4753), May 22 and 27, 1899. These do not approach *C. d. fulvus*; their wing-lengths are, respectively: ♀, 174.6; ♂, 187.3; ♀, 179.4; ♂, 180.7; ♂, 178.1.

**Aegialitis semipalmata** (Bonaparte). Semipalmated plover. Adult male (no. 4759), May 23, 1901.

**Canachites canadensis osgoodi** Bishop. Alaska Spruce Grouse. Three adults (nos. 4517-4519), September 19, 1900, and September 27, 1899.

**Bonasa umbellus umbelloides** (Douglas). Gray Ruff Grouse. Seven adults (nos. 4505, 4508, 4509, 4511-4513, 4515), October 12 to November 15, 1899.

**Lagopus lagopus lagopus** (Linnaeus). Willow Ptarmigan. Seven adults (nos. 5009-5016, 5038), in winter plumage, October 5 to March 30, 1898 to 1901. The birds of October 5 and 20 show dark feathers persisting about the head and neck. No. 5016 is markt ♀, February 18; it has a patch of colored feathers on the hind-neck; but there is no sign of active molt, and I consider it a case of abnormally held-over estival plumage.

**Circus hudsonius** (Linnaeus). Marsh Hawk. Two adult males (nos. 4958, 4957), May 1 and 8, 1898.

**Accipiter velox** (Wilson). Sharp-shinned Hawk. Full-grown juvenal male (no. 4959), August 19, 1901.

**Astur atricapillus** (Wilson). Goshawk. Adult female (no. 4964), August 18, 1901; two full-grown juvenal males (nos. 4955, 4956), July 31, 1894 (wisps of natal down still adhere to the tips of the secondaries and rectrices); immature female (no. 4952), May 7, 1898; immature female (no. 4953), October 10, 1900; immature female (no. 4965), August 18, 1901.

**Aquila chrysaetos** (Linnaeus). Golden Eagle. Two adult females (nos. 4503, 4504), April 5, 1901, each "caught in marten trap". These are larger than California birds. They measure respectively: wing, 648 and 660; tail, 390 and 395; tarsus, 104 and 110; outside chord of hind claw, 55 and 54.5; chord of culmen from cere, 43.3 and 43.8.

**Falco peregrinus anatum** Bonaparte. Duck Hawk. Pair of immatures (nos. 4961, 4962), September 15, 1899; streaking below, heavy; colors, dark.

**Falco columbarius** Linnaeus. Pigeon Hawk. Immature male (no. 4960), August 10, 1898.

**Asio flammeus** (Pontoppidan). Short-eared Owl. Adult female (no. 4938), May 2, 1898; adult male (no. 4939), May 16, 1898; pair of immatures (nos. 4936, 4937), October 10, 1899. The light markings in all these specimens are slightly whiter than in most examples from California.

**Scotiaptex nebulosa** (Forster). Great Gray Owl. Adult male (no. 4972), February 15, 1898; immature male (no. 4973), September 10, 1900; adult female (no. 4974), December 10, 1900.

**Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni** (Bonaparte). Richardson Owl. Six adults (nos. 4929-4934), of following dates, respectively: October 28 and 25, and December 10, 1899; October 20, November 20, and December 18, 1900.

**Bubo virginianus lagophonus** (Oberholser). Ruddy Horned Owl. Adult female (no. 4970), June 10, 1899; adult female (no. 4971), October 15, 1900. These two birds are very different in coloration: the first is of a light type, the second very dark; the first has the face chiefly whitish, the second has the face heavily marked with black and deep buff; the first has the feet nearly immaculate, the second has the feet heavily but finely barred with black and buff. The lighter example is apparently indistinguishable with Oberholser's *lagophonus*. (See Proceedings U. S. Nat. Museum XXVII, January 1904, pp. 177-192.) But the dark one meets his description of *B. v. saturatus*, even as an extreme of that form. But Forty-mile is far out of the range of *saturatus*; and Horned Owls are presumed to be permanently resident wherever they occur. At any rate Forty-mile is in the wrong direction to account for the occurrence of the present specimen as a migrant. I would rather consider it an individual variant or "phase" of the resident race of the Yukon Valley, which normally presents the characters of *lagophonus*. In the above-cited paper Mr. Oberholser leaves the reader in a hazy state of mind as to how and when to distinguish "phase" characters from true subspecific characters.

**Surnia ulula caparoch** (Müller). Hawk Owl. Seven adults (nos. 4941-4947), with following dates: May 27, October 15 (two specimens) and November 8, 1899; October 15 and November 10, 1900; April 25, 1901.

**Dryobates villosus leucomelas** (Boddaert). Northern Hairy Woodpecker. Adult male (no. 4550), November 5, 1900: wing, 134.7; tail, 100; tarsus, 26.5; culmen, 36.5; bill from nostril, 32; depth of bill, 8.8.—Large; brilliant white and black; scarlet nuchal patch broadly divided by black, the latter, therefore, continuous from crown over hind-neck.

**Picoides americanus americanus** (Swainson). Alaska Three-toed Woodpecker.

Nine adults (nos. 4700-4708), October 10, 15 and 17, 1899, November 5, 1900, and January 20, 1901. These are uniform in the characters of the Alaskan-interior race; they have an extreme of white, both in the matter of extent and clearness.

**Sayornis saya yukonensis** Bishop. Yukon Phoebe. Adult male (no. 4594), May 5, 1901: wing, 107.5; tail, 83.6; culmen, 14; bill from nostril, 11.7; width of bill at base, 7.1. This example, as compared with *saya* from California, has longer wing and tail, relatively broader and shorter bill, and very slightly darker coloration. These differences appear to me to indicate a well-marked northern race of *saya* as pointed out by Bishop (Auk XVII, April 1900, p. 115).

**Otocoris alpestris arctica** Oberholser. Alaska Horned Lark. Adult female (no. 4593), May 10, 1898.

**Pica pica hudsonia** (Sabine). Magpie. Adult female (no. 4524), October 15, 1899. This bird appears to me to be identical in size and in every other respect with Black-billed Magpies from eastern Oregon and Nevada.

**Perisoreus canadensis fumifrons** Ridgway. Alaska Jay. Six adults (nos. 4538-4543), October 12 and 15, 1900, November 5, 1899, and March 29, 1898.

**Euphagus carolinus** (Müller). Rusty Blackbird. Eight adults (nos. 4553-4560), May 1, 1898, May 2, 1901; immature female (no. 4561), September 15, 1900.

**Pinicola enucleator alascensis** Ridgway. Alaska Pine Grosbeak. Four adults (nos. 4562-4565), April 8, 1898, April 12, 1899, and October 15, 1900.

**Loxia leucoptera** Gmelin. White-winged Crossbill. Eleven skins (nos. 4573-4583), March 28, April 8, May 1 and May 2, 1898. No. 4581, May 1, is a full-grown juvenile.

**Acanthis linaria linaria** (Linnaeus). Common Redpoll. Male adult (no. 4615), April 20, 1898; female (age ?) (no. 4616), October 17, 1900; immature female (no. 4623), November 5, 1900.

**Acanthis hornemannii exilipes** (Coues). Hoary Redpoll. Adult pair (nos. 4621, 4622), April 20, 1898, and November 5, 1900.

**Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis** (Linnaeus). Snow Bunting. Seventeen specimens (nos. 4663-4679); fourteen of these were taken on May 1, 1901, one March 30, 1898, one October 25, 1900, and one November 15, 1899.

**Calcarius lapponicus alascensis** Ridgway. Alaska Longspur. Five skins (nos. 4656-4660), April 25 and May 10, 1898, September 20, 1900, and April 15, 1901.

**Passerculus sandwichensis alaudinus** Bonaparte. Western Savannah Sparrow. Two adult males (nos. 4599, 4600), May 7, 1898.

**Zonotrichia leucophrys gambellii** (Nuttall). Intermediate Sparrow. Adult male (no. 8025), May 10, 1898.

**Spizella monticola ochracea** Brewster. Western Tree Sparrow. Adult pair (nos. 4638, 4639), May 10, 1898.

**Junco hyemalis hyemalis** (Linnaeus) Slate-colored Junco. Two adult males (nos. 4641, 4642), May 3 and 7, 1898.

**Melospiza lincolnii lincolnii** (Audubon). Lincoln Sparrow. Adult male (no. 4640), May 8, 1898.

**Lanius borealis invictus** Grinnell. Alaska Shrike.

No.		Date	Wing	Tail	Tarsus	Bill from Nostril
4525	♂ im.	Aug. 23, 1900	116.5	108.2	28.3	14.6
4526	♂ im.	Sept. 10, 1900	117.9	114.0	27.9	13.8
4527	♂ ad.	Oct. 12, 1899	117.3	116.2	26.6	13.1

As contrasted with comparable examples of *L. b. borealis* from the northeastern

United States (taken in winter), the adult is larger, with much more white on wings and tail; the rump is conspicuously and clearly white; the scapulars and extreme forehead are more whitish; and the lower surface is whiter, and more lightly vermiculately barred.

*Dendroica aestiva rubiginosa* (Pallas). Alaska Yellow Warbler. Two adult males (nos. 4604, 4605), May 16, 1898.

*Dendroica coronata hooveri* McGregor. Alaska Myrtle Warbler. Two adult males (nos. 4611, 4612), May 7 and 3, 1898.

*Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis* Ridgway. Alaska Water-thrush. Adult male (no. 4601), May 20, 1901.

*Anthus rubescens* (Tunstall). American Pipit. Adult pair (nos. 4588, 4589), May 14 and 3, 1898.

*Cinclus mexicanus unicolor* Bonaparte. American Dipper. Adult male (no. 4711), November 15, 1900: large; wing, 95; tail, 49; tarsus, 30.2; culmen, 15; bill from nostril, 12.4.

*Planesticus migratorius migratorius* (Linnaeus). American Robin. Five skins (nos. 4529-4533), May 3, 5 and 14, 1898, May 8, 1901, and August 19, 1901.

*Ixoreus naevius meruloides* (Swainson). Northern Varied Thrush. Female (?) immature (no. 4551), September 12, 1900.

*Saxicola oenanthe oenanthe* (Linnaeus). Wheatear. Male in first winter plumage (no. 4592), August 18, 1901.

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**Western Robin at Novato.**—On April 25, 1909, we saw several *Planesticus migratorius propinquus* at Novato, Marin County, California. Is not this a rather late date for their presence in this locality?—J. R. PEMBERTON and H. W. CARRIGER, *San Francisco, California*.

**The Golden Plover at Coronado.**—On January 12, 1908, I came upon a Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus*) on the inner bay shore not far from Hotel del Coronado. It was a very bright specimen and was found in the same small cove on the 15th and again on the 20th. On all three occasions it was feeding by itself and was seen perfectly at short range. It could not be found on my next visit to the spot, January 24th.—BRADFORD TORREY, *Santa Barbara, California*.

**Brewer Sparrow in Ventura County.**—I note a query made in the July number of THE CONDOR regarding the nesting of the Brewer Sparrow (*Spizella breweri*) west of the Sierra Nevada, and I submit the following from personal observation.

The first set was taken from a silk oak tree on May 15, 1908, and contained three eggs. This set is still in my possession. The second set was taken from an apricot tree on May 17, 1909, and contained four eggs. This set is now in the possession of Mr. C. W. Crandall of New York.—LAWRENCE PEYTON, *Sespe, California*.

**Wilson Phalarope near San Francisco.**—On September 9, 1909, I saw an individual of (*Steganopus tricolor*) wading in a shallow Lake near the Cemeteries in San Mateo County, California.—J. R. PEMBERTON, *Palo Alto, California*.