

On the morning of June 18 I desired to photograph the young birds but either they had moved, or the parent had moved them, and I was unable to locate them, although I went over the ground very carefully and may have looked right at them!

Evidently they were not far away, however, for every time I came into the vicinity the old bird was there to renew her deluding tactics.

I discovered them again on the morning of June 19. They were about fifteen yards from the place where I first found them, and the mother was brooding. The sun beat down fiercely during those days, and I cannot understand how the birds could withstand it on that rocky ground with the granite glare surrounding them and not a particle of sheltering shade.

I hurried to camp for the camera. Fifteen minutes later when I returned one of the young was eight feet from the other. I replaced it, took their pictures, and the photograph here reproduced is the result.

One evening about 8:30 p. m. I passed by the locality, and found that the young were more active than during the hours of daylight. They would run a few inches at a time in a straight line over the ground, while during the daytime they remained perfectly quiet and gave no sign of seeing the intruder.

The coloration of the young blended so remarkably with their surroundings that it was well-nigh impossible to see them. It was more difficult to see the birds in bright sunlight



Fig. 85. TEXAS NIGHTHAWK NESTLINGS, ILLUSTRATING THE PROTECTIVE NATURE OF THEIR COLOR AND MARKINGS

than at other times. When I returned with the camera the day I took the photograph, I had the utmost difficulty in locating the nestlings, although I knew exactly where they were. In fact, I nearly stepped on one. I had been looking straight at it, but failed to make it out.

Only one parent was noted at any time. The female and young were collected (nos. 22702, 23157, 23158, Mus. Vert. Zool.).

Incidentally Mr. Grinnell informs me that this is to date the most northern record of the breeding of the Texas Nighthawk by over two degrees of latitude.—WALTER P. TAYLOR.

Recent Santa Barbara Records.—Man-o'-war-bird (*Fregata aquila*). On the 12th of August (1912) two of these birds were seen sailing about over the estero near Carpinteria. Upon sighting us they approached curiously, allowing completest inspection, then passed inland nearly a mile, rising to a height of several thousand feet, after which they drove straight west till lost from sight (passing thus directly over Santa Barbara). Another bird was seen by Mr. Torrey and myself close in shore at a point thirteen miles west of town, on the 27th of the same month. Mr. E. S. Spaulding also reports having seen single birds on two occasions near the Santa Barbara pier.

Snowy Heron (*Egretta candidissima*). A single bird in full plumage was sighted on

the sand-spit near Carpinteria, in company with some gulls. It flew at first in wild alarm, but would not forsake its less distracted comrades. Two days later, namely, on the 4th of May, it was seen standing at rest, this time quite alone, upon the mud-flats not half a mile back from the sand-spit.

Anthony Green Heron (*Butorides virescens anthonyi*). The occurrence of this bird is not remarkable for this section, save that its abundance this year is in marked contrast with its total absence last year. It has evidently bred this year at half a dozen near-by stations.

Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*). Counted a rare bird locally, but its occurrence near Goleta on the 3rd of May completed a list of seven Herodiones seen hereabouts within two days; namely, White-faced Glossy Ibis, Bittern, Least Bittern, Treganza Blue Heron, Snowy Egret, Anthony Green Heron, and Black-crowned Night Heron.

Baird Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*). Of regular occurrence again during the August migrations, from the 8th to the 22nd inclusive. Birds of this species rarely appear by themselves, but mingle freely with the more abundant Westerns (*E. mauri*). However, on the 22nd, a solitary bird settled near me on the Carpinteria beach as though seeking the companionship of a larger wader. I meekly accepted the role of Curlew, and by judicious advances succeeded in establishing a compromise distance of fifteen feet. Back and forth we fared for half an hour, "one little sandpiper and I", the bird keeping steadily to the upper wash-line, or flitting if too hard pressed, while I jabbed the button feverishly as long as the plates lasted. The result is a handsome series of portraits, "if I do say it as shouldn't."

Yellowlegs (*Totanus flavipes*). On the 30th of August five of these birds were sighted in company with two "Greaters" (*T. melanoleucus*), as they fed upon the Beale estero, within the eastern limits of Santa Barbara. Mr. Torrey and I had them under frequent observation for a period of two weeks and I was able to secure a few photographs, albeit indifferent ones by reason of the extravagant alarm invariably displayed by the larger species.

Surf-bird (*Aphriza virgata*). A flock of twenty-three birds afforded three hours of pleasant diversion on a rocky point beyond La Patera, May 3rd, 1912.—W. LEON DAWSON.

The Probable Breeding of the Bohemian Waxwing in Montana.—I have to record the occurrence and probable breeding of a pair of Bohemian Waxwings (*Bombycilla garrula*) on the West Fork of the Sun River in northern Lewis and Clark County, Montana, in August, 1912. I first observed these birds on August 18, a very wet, rainy Sunday, when the shortness of our food supply had tempted me out of camp to try the fishing. I was crossing a small grassy flat along the bank of the mountain stream, which was bordered by scattered clumps of lodgepole pine, spruce and cottonwood, when I first heard waxwing notes that were louder and of a different quality from those of the common Cedarbird. I soon found a waxwing, seated in the dead top of a small lodgepole pine. The light was poor, and the damp weather made my glass almost useless, but I believed that I detected the wing-bar which distinguishes this species from the Cedarbird and was sure that the note was decidedly different. The bird was soon joined by its mate, and I spent the next two hours in watching the pair and searching through the wet bushes for a nest. The birds remained in the vicinity and acted as though they had a nest, probably containing young, but, though it seemed as if I searched every tree and bush within several hundred yards, I failed to find it.

Three days later, August 21, my work took me near this place again. I had no time to make further search for the nest, but took my collecting gun along. I found the birds frequenting the same spot, and after examining them in a much better light than formerly, and finding my former identification correct, I secured one in order that the record would be unquestioned. The bird secured, which I had hoped was the male, proved to be the female. Her throat was much distended and I found that it contained fourteen berries of a small mountain shrub (*Shepherdia canadensis*). Assuming that the feeding habits of this species are similar to those of the Cedar Waxwing, this fact strengthens my belief that the birds were feeding young in the vicinity. The point where these birds were found is in the Canadian life zone, at an approximate elevation of 5200 feet. This is, to my knowledge, the first authentic summer record of this species south of the Canadian border.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS.

The Calaveras Warbler in the Yellowstone National Park.—On the morning of September 9, 1912, while examining the remains of birds overcome by noxious gases in the Stygian Cave near Mammoth Hot Springs, Yellowstone National Park, I was surprised to find a Calaveras Warbler in a fair state of preservation. The specimen had evidently not been dead more than twenty-four or forty-eight hours. It was in good plumage and the