

On November 22, 1913, the writer picked up on the beach at Hyperion a specimen of the Slender-billed Shearwater (*Puffinus tenuirostris*). The bird was perfectly fresh and could not have drifted a great distance before being cast upon the sand. Willett mentions but one previous record for this species from southern California, a single specimen taken by A. W. Anthony near San Diego in 1896. The present specimen was much smeared over with oil, which seemed to have been on the feathers some time and which may have been a contributive factor in its demise. Mr. Grinnell, Mr. Swarth and Mr. Willett have examined the specimen and concur in the identification.—LOVE MILLER, *Los Angeles, California*.

A New Record for Oregon.—Having recently acquired a small collection of skins taken last year in Oregon by Mr. George L. Hamlin, I find among them two of the Harris Sparrow, *Zonotrichia querula*. One, a male, was taken February 1, 1912, at Medford, Oregon; and the other, a female, at the same place on the following day. Both are in the post-juvinal, or first winter, plumage.—W. LEON DAWSON, *Santa Barbara, California*.

Occurrence of the White-tailed Kite in Central California in 1913.—In the belief that even fragmentary notes concerning rare or disappearing species will prove of decided interest in the course of time, I offer the following notes in regard to the White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*), a species once numerous in west-central California.

On August 27, 1913, at 5 P. M., two White-tailed Kites were seen circling over a meadow near a line of willows bordering the Russian River near Forestville, Sonoma County. The birds were not over one hundred yards from the train, from which Mrs. Grinnell and I obtained a most satisfactory view of them.

On October 15, 1913, at 8:20 A. M., three White-tailed Kites flew close over the duck-blind which I was occupying, on the Suisun marsh near Cygnus, Solano County. I saw individual birds twice again the same morning; and Mr. W. W. Richards, owner of the duck-preserve upon which my observations were made, informed me that he frequently sees the same sort of bird about the marshes there.

With no doubt whatever, the present rarity of this hawk in California is due to its associational preference for marshes, where its habit of flying slowly back and forth at a moderate height above the ground on the lookout for meadow mice and insects make it an easy target for the thoughtless gunner. In my experience the average sportsman is still unenlightened enough to shoot down any sort of "hawk" that flies his way, provided game is not at the moment expected.

The above records, together with those of Mr. Howard Wright in *THE CONDOR* for September, 1913 (page 184), indicate that there are yet a few of these beautiful and harmless birds at widely separated stations within the state. I had not myself seen the species previously since 1903, near Palo Alto.—J. GRINNELL, *California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California*.

Vermilion Flycatcher in the San Diegan District.—On October 1, 1913, while shooting on the Olympic Gun Club grounds, about one mile west of Westminster, Orange County, California, I saw six Vermilion Flycatchers (*Pyrocephalus rubinus mexicanus*). They were all females or else immatures, as there were no red males among them. Last winter, however, during the duck season, about half a dozen of the birds were seen at different times, and among them several males in brilliant plumage. It accordingly seems possible that careful search in the right places might prove this species to be not quite so rare a winter visitant west of the mountains as we have heretofore believed.—W. B. JUDSON, *Los Angeles, California*.

A Second Nest of the Sierra Nevada Rosy Finch.—On the 21st of July, 1913, while climbing the North Palisade (the second in height, as it is also one of the most difficult of the Sierran peaks, altitude 14,254 feet) in company with a dozen other members of the Sierra Club, my attention was called to a Rosy Finch (*Leucosticte tephrocotis dawsoni*), flitting from point to point across the face of the rock wall. I soon traced it to a niche about ten feet above a narrow ledge along which our future course lay, and which fronted a sheer drop of 200 feet. By dint of a little friendly boosting, the niche was investigated, and I found the female Rosy Finch brooding five young birds about three days old. The nest, which was only three feet in, was of very substantial construction, such as enabled it to endure momentary removal and careful replacement. Unfortunately, neither time nor light nor equipment sufficed for adequate photography. The elevation of the nest was perhaps 13,600 feet.—W. LEON DAWSON, *Santa Barbara, California*.