

Vireosylva olivacea. While skinning birds at home on the screen porch, October 6, 1914, I heard a strange bird call in a fruit tree outside. Picking up my gun I soon had the specimen in hand. It was an adult male Red-eyed Vireo.

The identification of these specimens was made by Mr. J. Grinnell.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *San Diego, California*.

Return of Winter Birds to the Same Locality.—For two winters I have been feeding birds about our canyon home. During the winter of 1912-13 I scattered the food on the hill-slope in front of our dining-room window, and was rewarded by the daily appearance of Song Sparrows, Fox Sparrows, the two Towhees, Golden-crowned Sparrows, Thrashers and Wren-tits.

The next winter, 1913-14, for photographic purposes I began putting the food on the railing of the narrow unroofed porch, which extends under the window. It took some time to induce all the different varieties to come to this new table, which was set for them immediately in front of a large plate-glass window and at a distance of only three feet. But one by one they overcame their shyness, and came even when several observers stood just inside the window.

On the morning of September 27, 1914, a Golden-crowned Sparrow made his first fall appearance on the feeding-ground, and a few minutes later he flew up on to the railing in search of food. At seven o'clock on the morning of October 4, 1914, I saw a Fox Sparrow on the feeding-ground. At nine o'clock he, too, was feeding on the railing. He may very likely have been there earlier, but I had not caught him at it.

It would seem to me quite unreasonable to suppose that these birds were not the same birds that had been trained to pose for photographs on my railing during the previous winter.—MRS. AMELIA S. ALLEN, *Berkeley, California*.

Note on the Feeding Habits of the Blue-fronted Jay.—In July, 1914, I spent a few days with friends in the Yosemite Valley. On July 12 we made a trip to Sierra Point, then came down to "The Happy Isles", in the Merced River below Vernal Falls, where we spent some time. While eating luncheon a Blue-fronted Jay (*Cyanocitta stelleri frontalis*) came near us, evidently in quest of food. A good-sized piece of cracker thrown to it was seized at once. With the cracker in its beak the bird ascended from limb to limb nearly to the top of a tall tree near by, then, flying across the river, disappeared in the heavy forest on the other side. In a few moments it returned. Another small bit of cracker was thrown to it which it ate at once.

When still another small piece of cracker was thrown on the ground not fifteen feet from where we sat eating our luncheon, the bird picked it up and, flying to a large cedar tree near by, alighted upon the trunk about five feet from the ground. Then we saw the bird put the cracker in a crack in the bark, driving it in securely by tapping it vigorously with its bill. And then came the most interesting and unexpected act of the performance: the bird pulled off three or four small pieces of bark and placed them in the crack in such a way as to quite effectively cover up the cracker and protect it from easy discovery!

The bird then came back for a larger piece of cracker which it carried across the river as it did the first piece, first ascending by a series of short flights well toward the top of the same tall tree and then disappearing among the trees on the other side. Several of our party then went to the tree where the bird had hidden the cracker and all saw the cracker and the pieces of bark with which the bird had covered it up so neatly.—BARTON WARREN EVERMANN, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco*.

Another Record of the Occurrence of the Emperor Goose in California.—While in San Jose recently I noticed a mounted Emperor Goose (*Philacte canagica*) in a store window. On inquiry at the store and through the correspondence which ensued, I was able to get the following information. The specimen was obtained on the Glyde Ranch near Davis, Yolo County, California, by G. H. Anderson of San Jose. The mounted specimen bears the date of December, 1906. Mr. Anderson says that the bird had been seen on a pond for about three weeks before its capture, and that other hunters had not been able to get close enough for a shot. By driving within ninety yards, a lucky shot brought it down.

The Emperor Goose is the least migratory of all the geese, seldom going more than a hundred miles south of its breeding range along the coast of western Alaska. The occurrence of this goose in California is always of sufficient interest to merit a record.—H. C. BRYANT, *Berkeley, California.*

Notes from San Bernardino, California.—On the 4th of October, 1914, and again on the 6th, I saw a band of about fifteen Pinyon Jays (*Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus*) here in San Bernardino. Dr. Horace Gaylord informs me that these birds have been occasionally seen at Pasadena; but in over twenty-five years of observation I never have known of their occurring in the San Bernardino Valley, nor has Mr. R. B. Herron seen any. This year's visit of the Pinyon Jay was therefore a great surprise to me.

Another new record here, although of course it is due to the aid of man, was the finding by me on April 22, 1914, of a nest and twelve eggs of the Ring-necked Pheasant (*Phasianus torquatus*). The identification was positive. The birds were manifestly some that had been liberated in the vicinity, but they had become very wild and I am of the opinion that in time this game bird will become permanently established here.—EDWARD WALL, *San Bernardino, California.*

Occurrence of White-crowned Sparrow near Claremont, California.—On April 24, 1914, an adult male White-crowned Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys*) was shot near Claremont, by Halsted White of this place. The specimen was brought to me and is now in my collection. I have spent considerable time collecting this winter and spring, both about Claremont and up to 6000 feet altitude in the mountains to the north of here, and this is the first one of these birds that I have seen. This bird was shot in the brush along the base of the foothills.—WRIGHT M. PIERCE, *Claremont, California.*

Bird Notes from British Columbia and Southern California.—In the year 1884 I read in the *Daily Colonist* an account of a California Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus californicus*) having been seen flying about Esquimalt Harbour, B. C., and the paper remarked that as soon as noticed some parties put off in a boat to try and shoot it, as was usual with a rare or uncommon bird. I never noticed any Pelicans there myself, although I was on water around the southern end of Vancouver Island for some years.

A young male Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes cucullatus*) was shot near Westminster, Orange County, California, about January 20, 1914. The bird was in young plumage, with just two or three feathers on the side coming out as representing the adult male plumage.

A Spotted Owl (*Strix occidentalis occidentalis*) was shot by a hunter October 28, 1913, up San Gabriel Canyon, Los Angeles County, California. It was skinned in the mountains and no record of the sex taken. I believe the species uncommon enough to be worth noting. I have never come across any myself, but owing to their retiring habits, there may be quite a few of these in the right locality.

On May 29, 1914, I saw a fine male Scott Oriole (*Icterus parisorum*). It alighted on the electric wires on the street in San Diego close where I was and sang loudly for some time. It then flew off to some gum trees and I saw it no more, nor have I noticed it since.—H. GREY, *San Diego, California.*

Random Notes from San Diego.—*Butorides virescens anthonyi*. One nest found near National City, May 30, 1907, contained five fresh eggs; it was situated in the top of a slender willow sapling ten feet above the ground. Two nests were found at Lakeside in 1913. On May 25, a nest was discovered placed in the top of a slender willow tree. It was partly concealed by a species of climbing vine although the five fresh eggs were plainly seen through the nest from beneath. The male was incubating.

On June 8 another nest was located, situated in the top of a willow tree about 50 feet high and was only reached by ascending a nearby tree and using an egg grabber. The bird returned several times during the course of proceedings.

This nest contained four fresh eggs, and on the ground directly underneath was another egg—perfectly fresh and unbroken. It had probably been laid before the nest was completed and had fallen through; but I am unable to explain why it did not break in the great fall.

A nest found May 30 of this year (1914) at Lakeside, contained four young about eight days old. These were revisited a week later and had grown considerably, having a partial coat of streaked feathers, and appeared to be on guard with a high shrill yell