

Below the mouth of Bear Cañon, which issues from the Santa Catalina Mountains some twelve or fifteen miles northeast of Tucson, a Gray Titmouse (*Baeolophus inornatus griseus*) was collected (November 28), shot amid desert surroundings some distance from the mountains. Taylor sees them occasionally in this region in winter. There are just two previously published records of occurrence of this species in southern Arizona, neither of them very definite. Brewster makes the statement: "Mentioned in Mr. Stephens' notes as rare on the foothills of the Chiricahua Mountains, but no specimens are included in his collection" (Bull. Nuttall Orn. Club, VII, 1882, p. 79). Henshaw says, "in Southern Arizona the oaks are much frequented" (Zool. Exp. W. 100th Merid., 1875, p. 167), but he nowhere gives any further information as to just where he found the species. We know of no previous record of a specimen actually collected in southeastern Arizona, where, however, from Taylor's observations, it may be classed as an occasional winter visitant to some sections.

Besides the above mentioned, the following species were seen in the desert lowlands within twenty miles south and east of Tucson, on November 28. *Lophortyx gambelii*, *Zenaidura macroura marginella*, *Chaemepelia passerina pallescens*, *Cathartes aura septentrionalis*, *Accipiter cooperii*, *Buteo borealis calurus*, *Falco mexicanus*, *Falco sparverius phalaena*, *Geococcyx californianus*, *Centurus uropygialis*, *Colaptes chrysoides mearnsi*, *Sayornis sayus*, *Sayornis nigricans*, *Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*, *Chondestes grammacus strigatus*, *Zonotrichia gambelii*, *Amphispiza bilineata deserticola*, *Junco oreganus shufeldti*, *Pipilo fuscus mesoleucus*, *Cardinalis cardinalis superbus*, *Pyrrhuloxia sinuata sinuata*, *Calamospiza melanocorys*, *Lanius ludovicianus excubitorides*, *Dendroica auduboni auduboni*, *Anthus rubescens*, *Toxostoma curvirostre palmeri*, *Heleodytes brunneicapillus couesi*, *Salpinctes obsoletus*, *Troglodytes aedon parkmani*, *Thryomanes bewickii eremophilus*, *Auriparus flaviceps flaviceps*, *Regulus calendula calendula*, *Poliophtila caerulea amoemissima*, *Poliophtila melanura melanura*. In addition to the birds listed we saw ravens, meadowlarks, a single song sparrow, and a species of *Spizella*, which we could not identify exactly.

During the subsequent three days, Miller noted the following species along the Rillito: *Oxyechus vociferus*, *Bubo virginianus pallescens*, *Otus asio gilmani*, *Colaptes cafer collaris*, *Sphyrapicus varius nuchalis*, *Phainopepla nitens*, *Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*, *Toxostoma crissale*, *Sitta carolinensis nelsoni*, *Baeolophus wollweberi*, *Turdus migratorius propinquus*, *Sialia mexicana bairdi*, *Hylocichla guttata*, subsp.—LOYE MILLER, WALTER P. TAYLOR, and H. S. SWARTH, January 7, 1929.

California Purple Finch Nesting in Alhambra, Los Angeles County, California.—Early on the morning of May 5, 1928, the song of a male California Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus californicus*) aroused me from sleep; and, although only half dressed, I was outside in a few minutes to get a better glimpse of this new visitor to our home. To my surprise, there were two birds, both being in "plain clothes" plumage, the male and possibly the female in the first year of nesting activity. The two birds remained on our place for several days and seemed to be engaged in something more important than merely resting a few days before again taking flight.

May 10 was the day when actual work was begun on a nest in a pine tree directly in front of the entrance to the house. Construction progressed rapidly and on May 26 I made my first inspection. The nest, which was about thirty feet from the ground and neatly made of small grasses, rootlets, horse hair, etc., contained three eggs.

On the following morning a general disturbance was heard in the yard and I rushed out in time to see a pair of California Jays leaving the scene. At the base of the tree was a broken egg and I knew well whom to accuse for this act. For two or three days the Purple Finches remained, but they had apparently deserted their home, so on May 28 I climbed the tree again and found two eggs in a sadly torn nest. These were collected.

This is the only instance I know of, of any purple finches nesting in this vicinity, and I have seen no others here since during the breeding season.—J. STUART ROWLEY, Alhambra, California, January 15, 1929.

Evidence of a Barn Swallow Returning to the Same Nesting Site.—In the summer of 1925, a pair of Barn Swallows (*Hirundo erythrogaster*) selected as a nesting site one of the rafters supporting the roof of a woodshed at the rear of my house

at Okanagan Landing, British Columbia. After attaching a few pellets of mud to the rough edge of the board both birds disappeared. In 1926, at approximately the same date, a pair of Barn Swallows was noted investigating the premises and in a day or so the birds commenced adding to the nest foundation made the previous year, which now was supported underneath by the addition of a board nailed at right angles to the rafter. Work on the nest was discontinued in a few days and again the birds disappeared.

On May 20, 1927, a pair of Barn Swallows again visited the shed and immediately began building on the same site, using the old foundation which had remained intact on its supporting shelf. Building was carried on intermittently and the nest was not completed until nearly four weeks later. During this period both birds roosted at night on the shelf beside the nest. After a week or so of close association with members of the household the birds became quite tame and were not disturbed by the opening and closing of a door within a few feet of the nest. A favorite perch of the male was on top of a clothes wringer, and here he would chatter excitedly as a person passed by, sometimes within arm's length.

On a day when the nest appeared to be finished, the cup being well lined with white hen feathers, the female was seen to be hurt. The next day I picked her up from the ground and she died in my hand. For several weeks following, the male visited the shed daily, the first few days bringing hen feathers to the already over-lined nest and chattering from his favorite perch on the clothes wringer. At other times he might be seen motionless on a telephone wire in front of the house. It was expected that he would secure another mate but he did not do so.

When, in early May of 1928, a pair of Barn Swallows again appeared, the shed had been torn down and on its site stood a half-finished room in which carpenters were at work. The windows were not glazed nor was the outside door hung. Through these openings the swallows entered a number of times, flew about the room and investigated the premises.

Under the house is a cement basement, the outside door being about twenty feet from the site of the old woodshed. Finding a bridged ceiling joist an excellent nesting site, the swallows at once began to build and in due course the nest was completed and five eggs laid. During this time workmen were tearing down part of the cellar wall beside them, and various activities were being carried on with a great deal of noise right under the nest. In spite of all this the eggs were hatched and the young reared. Of course their occupation of the basement meant that the door had to be left open all summer, an inconvenience that seemed small payment for the pleasure of entertaining these delightful tenants after so many disappointing experiences.—J. A. MUNRO, *Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, January 15, 1929.*

Least Bittern near Portland, Oregon.—On August 7, 1927, while rowing along the shore of Blue Lake, Multnomah County, I saw two Least Bitterns (*Ixobrychus exilis*). They were only a few yards away and disappeared into a growth of cat-tails. Several times in May and June of 1928, I worked this place carefully in hopes of finding evidence of their nesting there but was disappointed. These two individuals are the only ones I have ever seen west of the Cascade Mountains in either Oregon or Washington.—ED. S. CURRIER, *Portland, Oregon, January 10, 1929.*

The E. B. Richards Collection of Birds: Changes in Names.—A valuable collection of more than two hundred birds collected by the late Mr. E. B. Richards, was presented by him to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology some months previous to his death. The specimens were obtained in the Grass Valley district of Nevada County, California, during a period of nearly twenty years, from 1910 to 1926. The greater portion of this collection was the basis of Mr. Richards' "List of the Land Birds of the Grass Valley District, California" (*Condor*, xxvi, 1924, pp. 98-104). In cataloging this collection, several changes in identification have been made, and it seems advisable to record such as pertain to the above mentioned published report.

Falco columbarius columbarius (p. 100) based on records of "only two in this locality". The two specimens referred to prove to be adult males of *Accipiter velox*.
Archilochus alexandri (p. 100). The two specimens so identified in the collection prove to be *Calypte anna*.