

the American Redstart ; the markings on the eggs of the latter being wreathed.

The site I found to be invariably a bush, usually elder ; preference being given to a sharp, upright crotch, which gives the nest a peculiar "squeezed" shape. Most of my nests were found while walking along secluded lanes or old cart paths.

The nest is constructed of grass and vegetable fibers ; on the outside, bits of leaves and bark.

This Vireo has many curious and interesting traits, and a careful study of its habits will be well repaid. Its song is not the least of its charms ; a sweet, though simple strain, suggesting brightness and joy on the part of the performer, and good will to all around.

HOW TO PREPARE EGGS FOR THE CABINET.

We give the method of blowing and preparing eggs for the cabinet from a letter recently received from one of the veteran collectors of the seventies.

We give only the extracts from his letter which relate directly to the instruments used and methods of use, together with his directions for constructing the same.

We have personally witnessed the use of them and they are certainly a decided improvement over the old method of blowing with the mouth.

He says, "I prefer glass blowpipes. I buy the glass tubing at a drug-store and use a spirit-lamp with a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch round wick and draw them out with points suitable for large, medium, or very small eggs. My experience with eggs that have been partially incubated is that holding the blowpipe outside of the drill hole, while blowing, is a good deal like feeling on the outside of a barn to tell how much grain it contains.

"The easiest and quickest way to blow eggs is with a blowpipe attached to a rubber bulb, having a valve in the opposite end. I think any one would appreciate a hand

blower after being 'humped up' for an hour or more, blowing away for dear life—eggs, I should say—on a lot of eggs that have been set on for four or five days, or long enough so the white has become thick and tough. After the eggs are blown they can be rinsed out very quickly with a Tater blowpipe, which has been described in a number of amateur papers. Small, fresh eggs can also be blown with it. I can assure the readers of THE WILSON QUARTERLY that it will be far easier than squirting water into an egg-shell, with one's mouth, through a blowpipe. After preparing seventy or eighty eggs at one sitting you will be ready to testify that it has saved you about half a ton of face-ache.

"I made my washer five years ago. I will describe it and the hand blower. I might also add that the total cost of both was about one dollar.

"I took a tin bucket, that holds about one and one-half gallons, to a tinker and had a small tin tube, two inches long, inserted in the side close to the bottom, and a wire bent like the letter U soldered on the side of the bucket so it would project an inch above the rim. Then I bought two feet of $\frac{1}{4}$ inch rubber pipe and slipped one end on the tin tube, into the other end I inserted a glass nozzle—of which I have two sizes.

"When I wish to use it I hang it up over the work bench so that it cannot turn or swing, place the tube just behind the nozzle in the bent wire at rim and fill with water.

"For the blower I took the valve from the end of an atomizer and fitted it into one end of a rubber bulb; this bulb being heavier and more durable than the one from which the valve was taken. Into the other end of the bulb insert a small glass tube. Before doing this I made a stand for the blow pipe by taking a block of hard wood one inch thick, four inches wide, and five inches long; set a post in it—near one end—four inches high and one inch by three-quarters. The post inclines several degrees from perpendicular towards the shorter end of the block. Near the top of the post bore a hole slanting so that when the blow-

between the Gulf and Ocean, and the Lakes represented. If this be accomplished we shall be able to trace each species from north to south, and from east to west wherever it is to be found, with a comparison of its distribution in every state.

The present report contains notes from Texas, Iowa, Wis., Ills., Ohio, Penn., N. Y., Conn., N. Carolina. I wish to express my gratitude to the gentlemen who have contributed notes to this report giving it whatever of value it may possess: Messrs. John A. Donald, Texas; Reuben M. Strong, C. P. Howe, J. N. Clark, Allan W. Carpenter, Wis.; F. A. Gregory, F. M. McElfresh, Ills.; J. Warren Jacobs, Penn.; D. D. Stone, N. Y.; John H. Sage, Conn.; S. W. P. Smithwick, N. Carolina. Notes have also been received from Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Penn.; H. P. T. Weather, West Farmington, Me.; Willard Eliot, Thonotosassa, Fla. These notes are reserved for the report which is to follow upon the more specific migration and distribution.

We desire a complete list of the Fringillidæ from every member, with the statement as to whether it is a migrant (T. V.), summer resident (S. R.), winter visitant, (W. V.), resident, (R.), or accidental visitor (A. V.); and also the abundance of each species. With these general notes send any and all notes upon migration, giving exact dates in every case, and also notes upon breeding. *We want exact notes!*

514. *Coccothraustes vespertina*. Evening Grosbeak.

This Grosbeak is known as a wanderer; occurring in a place in great numbers at one time and not being seen again perhaps for years. And yet there are localities where it may be expected to pay nearly regular winter visits. Mr. Strong finds it to be an irregular winter visitor near Milwaukee, Wis., being seen from Oct. 15 to rarely as late as Apr. 18, usually in small numbers. Mr. J. N. Clark reports it to be a common W. V. from Nov. to Mar. at Meridian, Wis. Mr. McElfresh captured a female Mar. 18, 1891, at Champaign, Ills. At Grinnell, Iowa, I have seen