

the normal traits, neither of which have I seen duplicated in the eight years succeeding. Both the enactors belong to the Sparrow family. The first may be easily explained on the score of heredity; the second is not so easy, as the motive is not so evident, possibly owing to my lack of personal knowledge of the habits of the bird in its summer home.

On June 22, '88, I discovered an undersized nest of the Chipping Sparrow, six feet above the ground on a dead and exposed branch of a peach tree. The bird sitting on two small young, almost let me put my hand on her before she cast herself off and down upon the ground, there fluttering along in exactly the manner of a Vesper Sparrow when flushed from her young. She soon came back and rested on a branch quite near me. Some of our tree-nesting Thrushes will sometimes go through similar antics upon being startled from their nests, especially when they have newly hatched young. Does not this point toward strictly terrestrial proclivities of the parent stock? In all the cases I can recall, where the various species of a family nest indifferently on the ground or above it, the latter is unquestionably the advancement, either from the increase and variety of sites or the superior cunning and craft requisite to construct it.

The second incident occurred on October 4th of the same year. A White-throated Sparrow, skulking close up to a row of bean stalks, came out almost under my feet and ran for some distance in advance of me before flushing to a bush where it sat scolding me in so earnest a manner that I instinctively began search for its nest, which of course was not found. I repassed the same spot three or four times during the course of the afternoon and presumably the same bird repeated this performance every time. I cannot reconcile its presence and actions at this particular spot to a desire for either food or shelter.

FRANK L. BURNS, *Berwyn, Pa.*

NOTES FROM CINCINNATUS, N. Y. PILEATED WOODPECKER, *Crophloeus pileatus*. On September 30, a fine female Pileated Woodpecker was brought me, and on October 26 I secured a male bird. Ten years ago this bird was almost unknown in this section but is now a fairly common resident, known to breed here. I know of at least a dozen being killed in this vicinity in the last three years.

AMERICAN GOSHAWK, *Accipiter atricapillus*.—October 24, a female American Goshawk was brought me. As far as I am aware this is the first record of the occurrence of this species in this immediate vicinity. The bird was killed in Chenango county about two miles from the Cortland county line.

Within the past half dozen years a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) and a Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola*) have been taken just in the edge of the same county.

H. C. HIGGINS, *Cincinnati, N. Y.*

NOTES FROM LA CRESCENT, MINN., SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER, 1896.—CASPIAN TERN, *Sterna tschegrava*.—Saw eight flying south on the 14th and twenty on the 15th of Sept. The last flock stayed on a sand-bar in the Mississippi for about half an hour.

GREAT BLUE HERON, *Ardea herodias*.—More than the usual number seen this month; mostly young birds. A few still present in the river bottoms in October.

AMERICAN OSPREY, *Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*.—A good many seen in the southern part of this county along the Mississippi.

MYRTLE WARBLER, *Dendroica coronata*.—Not so many this fall as last. Saw the most on Sept. 22nd.

TREE SPARROW, *Spizella monticola*.—Seen everywhere during October, and until Nov. 15. Very few Nov. 30.

BLUEBIRD, *Sialia sialis*. Only one bird seen in Sept.

JUNCO, *Junco hiemalis*.—Seen everywhere during October, and until Nov. 15. Very few Nov. 30.

FOX SPARROW, *Passerella iliaca*.—Commenced to arrive from the north about Sept. 28th. Present everywhere in our bottoms during October.

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW, *Zonotrichia albicollis*.—Few seen with the Fox Sparrow. Present during October.

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD, *Trochilus colubris*.—One seen on Sept. 29th. Not as many seen the past season as usual.

AMERICAN CROW, *Corvus americanus*.—More seen than usual in Sept. Seem to be increasing in this locality.

DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT, *Phalacrocorax dilopus*.—Quite a number were noticed going south about the 15th of October.

RING-BILLED GULL, *Larus delawarensis*. Some flocks have been seen along the river as late as Nov. 8th, going south.

LOON, *Urinator imber*.—Only two have been noticed in October. Last on Nov. 8.

AM. COOT, *Fulica americana*.—Last on Nov. 12.

CANADA GOOSE, *Branta canadensis*.—A few flocks seen flying south in October; the last Nov. 8th.

MALLARD, *Anas boschas*.—Last on Nov. 19th.