

eggs with accompanying data, as his collection was sold while he was absent on a collecting trip to the far South, and delivered to a person in the west, by a friend, Mr. Zahn, now deceased.

FRANK L. BURNS, *Berwyn, Penn.*

GENERAL NOTES.

CHIMNEY SWIFTS.—The Swifts came back to this locality about the 19th of April. They paired toward the middle of May, and two of them decided to use one of our chimneys for a home. The nest was begun on Sunday, May 29th, and was completed on the 3rd of June. The laying began on the next day, when the first egg was laid, and the birds seemed to lay every other day, as eggs were noted on the 6th, 8th and 10th of June. They did not waste any time but began to incubate on the day after the last egg was laid—the 11th. Between the times of laying the third and fourth eggs the female stayed more on the nest, but hardly enough to be starting to incubate. The morning seemed to be the favorite time for laying, as all four of the eggs were laid sometime during the morning. After the four were laid I tried to take a picture of the nest and eggs, but did not get a very good one for some reason. When I would put the camera in, the bird would crouch lower on the nest, and when I would wave my hand, it would fly off the nest and cling to the wall during the taking of the picture. The nest was about eleven feet below the hole in the chimney through which I was forced to operate. Usually they build above the hole, nearer the top of the chimney. On the 28th of June two of the young Swifts appeared, and on the 29th two more. They grew fairly well until the 16th of July, when the dampness in the air must have caused a tragedy, for on looking into it at the usual time on the 17th, I found that it had dropped to the bottom of the chimney. I noticed that the old birds were down there fussing around, but could not see whether the young were alive; but in a couple of days three of them appeared on the side of the chimney a foot or so above the bottom. The other must have been killed. These three stayed there for a couple of weeks when they began to slowly climb up the side of the chimney, reaching about the top of it on the 4th of August, and the next day took their first lesson in flying, or at least in the outside world, and surely it must have looked entrancing to them after the depths of the chimney.

SIDNEY S. WILSON, *St. Joseph, Mo.*

CHIMNEY SWIFT NESTING IN A BARN.—July 7, the boy where I was working in Albion, Dane Co., Wis., called my attention to the nest of a

Chimney Swift, *Chactura pelagica*, placed about six feet below the roof, on boards of the side of the barn. The nest was made in the usual manner, and had at the time, four fresh eggs.

I found one Golden-winged Warbler, *Helminthophila chrysoptera*, among our visitors this spring. This fellow is so occasional in his visits to Wisconsin that it is a privilege to meet him.

G. MERTON BURDICK, *New Auburn, Minn.*

HOODED WARBLER.—A hard and continuous down-pouring of rain had driven me homeward from a little collecting tour on the South Valley Hills, near mid-day of the 11th of May, 1898. Crossing a typical Pennsylvania ravine, with its small and clear stream at the bottom and steep hillsides covered by medium oak and chestnut with the usual laurel underbrush, I heard an unfamiliar voice in a spicewood thicket and observed a pair of birds feeding close to the ground. In the semi-gloom I fired twice before securing one of them. This was my first capture. The species probably formerly nested in our midst, and Dr. Warren is the authority for a breeding record in Chester county in recent years, although it is now regarded as a rare migrant in eastern Pennsylvania, while quite common in New Jersey.

Upon dissection I thought I had secured a male minus the hood and with testes much swollen. I felt sorry I had prevented a possible breeding record. Since then I have become convinced that I had mistaken the supra-renal capsules which occur just where the testes are found in the male bird and that my specimen is really a female. Mr. William Palmer whose article in the *Auk* has proven beyond reasonable doubt that the male attains its hood the first season, has written that my bird is doubtless a female in its second summer.

Now all of this is common-place enough, but I wonder how many collectors have hoodless Hooded Warblers in their cabinets improperly sexed? Doubtless not a few, as Baird, Cones and others of our foremost authorities have made this mistake.

FRANK L. BURNS, *Berwyn, Penn.*

NORTH GREENFIELD, WIS.—There seems to be an unusual scarcity of birds here, tho I have not been able to be out in the field much. The usual flocks of Nighthawks and Whippoorwills went thru in August. Bluebirds seem to be common. A few Bob-whites are reported now. There is a close season for a few years, and sportsmen have been "planting" them in this vicinity and out thru the state. They were practically extinct here a few years ago.

REUBEN M. STRONG, *North Greenfield, Wis.*