

full of young ones, crying lustily for food. Judging from their voices I should think they were nearly a week old. This is pretty good evidence the Downy don't always finish one job before beginning another, and must have still been at work enlarging the nesting cavity until the time the eggs were nearly ready to hatch—or it is *possible* just at that particular moment it may have been after some insect boring in the trunk of the tree. In either case I was neatly fooled out of a set of eggs.

VIRGINIUS H. CHASE, *Wady Petra, Illinois.*

THE EFFECT OF A STORM UPON THE BIRDS.

The following letter is of so much interest that the editor takes the liberty of reproducing it in print, altho it comes in the form of a personal letter giving information about the migrations.

The first appearance of both Robins and Bluebirds occurred March 15. One Robin and two Bluebirds were seen on that date. A heavy snow-storm came next day and everything was covered with ice for ten days. All birds suffered severely during this period. Crows came into people's yards; an Acadian Owl was found exhausted in the high-way, taken in and an effort made to save its life, but in vain. An examination of its body showed clearly that it died of starvation. The Robins and Bluebirds either died or went south, and nothing was seen of them again until April 1st, when they suddenly became common. The tide of returning birds had evidently been increasing along the southern limit of snow, and when the snow began to disappear during two or three warm days, the birds came in unusual numbers, for the first real flight. Both robins and Bluebirds were here in maximum numbers April 5th, and on April 11th the Bluebird flight was over, only summer residents remaining. Robins remain abundant.

NED DEARBORN, *Durham, N. H.*

JUNE CENSUSES.

EDITOR BULLETIN.—On the 13th of June, 1899, I find the following occupied birds' nests on and around my farm buildings, which consist of one dwelling, two barns, and other out buildings, encompassed in a space fourteen by sixteen rods. Said space contains forty-six trees: Maple, Cottonwood, Elm, Oak and Balm of Gilead, from forty to sixty