

The soft stone satisfies the mother's instinct, and holds the heat while she is off the nest.

The eggs are three, remarkably large for the weight of the bird. We agreed that the ground color was greenish, uninfluenced by the books studied later. They say creamy or buffy. The markings are as described, shining blackish, with large blotches around the larger end. The small end is almost acute. The mother had probably heard us coming, and was running a few rods away, but after our examination, when we moved about four rods into the shelter of the trees, she came to the nest without hesitation, and hovered over it but would not settle. The male has not been seen, taking apparently no further interest in the proceedings.

The eggs were all laid by the twentieth of May, when the nest was first found. We were desirous of learning what we could of the period of incubation of this class of birds. June 15, one egg was hatched and the others pipped. A day or two later Mr. Ludlow found everything gone. A bull snake had been seen in the vicinity, and probably knew all about the matter. The nestling was well covered with down, as is the case with all birds that leave the nest young. Can anyone add more accurate data as to the period of incubation?

J. M. BATES.

Red Cloud, Neb.

LITTLE BLUE HERONS NEAR COLUMBUS, OHIO

On July 2, 1916, two Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) in the white plumage were seen and studied at close range for some time, at a swamp near Canal Winchester, about fifteen miles south-east of Columbus, Ohio.

MRS. R. O. RYDER,

Columbus, Ohio.