

- July 10. p. m. I banded the four young birds at the nest at about fifteen days old. The old birds did not make much fuss when I handled the little ones.
- July 12. I looked in at the young and they were all right. The parent birds both flew at me for intruding.
- July 14. A. m. I looked in the bird house and found it empty. They must have taken the young away on the 13th at about seventeen days old and close to thirty-three days after the first egg was laid.—

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The Evening Grosbeak Nesting in Northern Michigan.—On June 19, 1930, in the northern peninsula of Michigan, in eastern Baraga County, immediately upon the Marquette County line, I found a pair of Evening Grosbeaks (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*) engaged in nest-building. The location is upon a wide sandy plain, a glacial moraine, elevated some 800 or 900 feet above the level of Lake Superior, and ten miles inland from the lake shore. The plain is covered with an open forest of jack pine; the ground is carpeted with grass, with interrupting wide patches of reindeer lichen; the trees are mature, widely spreading, shaggy, and gray with *Usnea* lichen. The aspect of the place is singularly park-like.

In the course of a morning's excursion, and within range of half a mile, I had come upon two or three pairs of Evening Grosbeaks, which by their loud and somewhat shrill call-notes had manifested anxiety; but in each instance, as I began to look about me, the birds had taken wing and flown high and far, beyond sight and sound. Suspicion was, however, so far aroused that in the afternoon I returned; and I then found one of the pairs in the precise spot where I had found it in the morning, and the birds behaved in precisely the same manner—calling anxiously, and, presently, flying away. A long and careful search of the neighboring trees was made in vain, and I was about to give up and return to camp, when I heard again the call-notes. At once I seated myself and waited, and presently the birds reappeared, the male first. As the female followed and perched near, the male made a beautiful display. He crouched low, puffed out his plumage, extended his wings horizontally and set them quivering. The gorgeous contrast of the glossy black wings with the golden body suggested the appearance of a bird of paradise. There was no song; it was about half past five in the afternoon, and the sun was still high.

The female, with no manifest response, presently flew to another tree, and began to move about within its shadows. Through my field glasses I could see that she was engaged in grasping slender dry twigs with her beak and breaking them off. When she had gathered two or three of these she flew to yet another tree, and, after some hopping about, came to the site of her nest and there deposited and arranged the material. I remained watching her while she made repeated trips, and saw her gather material in the nesting tree, as well as in others. I was seated at a distance of fifty or sixty yards and was not concealed; nevertheless, the birds seemed now to pay no attention to me—perhaps because I was still. Having seen all that I could hope at the time to see, and being far from camp, I waited no longer but made such examination of the nest as was possible from the ground beneath, and then went happily on my way.

The nesting tree was a jack pine standing alone, about sixty feet high and with wide-spreading branches. At its base the trunk may have been eight inches

in diameter. The nest was placed on a lateral, eastward-extending, and slightly drooping bough, about six feet from the base of the bough and ten or twelve feet from its tip. It was, I judged, twenty or twenty-five feet from the ground. Twigs and gray cones and *Usnea* lichen screened the nest well from beneath, but apparently little more than a beginning of the building had been made.

A good deal of data has of late years been accumulating (*Auk*, XL, p. 337, April, 1923; XLI, p. 159, January, 1924; WILSON BULLETIN, XXXVII, p. 213, December, 1925; XXXIX, p. 40, March, 1927), to indicate that the species breeds in Michigan; but, as far as I have been able to discover, direct evidence of that fact has not hitherto appeared.

The sandy plain upon which the Evening Grosbeak's nest was found is notable for the presence of other birds of northern association, including the Canada Spruce Partridge, the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, the Canada Jay, the Tennessee Warbler, and the Hudsonian Chickadee (WILSON BULLETIN, XLI, p. 42, March, 1929).—BAYARD H. CHRISTY, *Sewickley, Pa.*

Some Random Bird Notes from Florida.—On April 21, 1927, Mr. William L. Dawson and I went to Mosquito Inlet at Ponce Park, Volusia County, Florida, to photograph shore birds. We were extremely fortunate, and found an immense flock of migrating Caspian Terns which must have numbered from 1,500 to 2,000 birds, and secured some wonderful flight pictures, enmass. There were about 150 adult Black Skimmers, hundreds of Herring Gulls, a few Laughing and Ring-billed Gulls, several Black Terns, Common and Least Terns, and about 200 Brown Pelicans. Besides these there were Turnstones, Red-backed Sandpipers, Sanderlings, Black-bellied and Semipalmated, Piping, and Wilson's Plovers. All were mingled together and we estimated that there must have been about 4,000 birds in all. A more thrilling and interesting sight we had never seen. The birds were resting, and not feeding, on the sandy tidal flats, in the mouth of the inlet. Very few notes were uttered by any of the birds. They were unusually silent for such a large number of birds.

Black Terns in immature plumage were seen in a small colony of Least Terns at Titusville, Brevard County, Florida, on June 26, 1927. Six of the birds were seen resting at the edge of water on a sand-bar in the Indian River. On July 1, 1927, at this same place, I saw one Black Tern in the adult plumage and six or seven in the immature plumage. The birds were comparatively tame, and flew from one place to another among the nesting Least Terns. Again passing by this place on July 27, I saw seven or eight adult and immature birds of this species still there. These, of course, were migrating birds.

While at Merritt's Island, on April 30, 1927, I saw five or six Bonaparte's Gulls sitting on the railing of the bridge that crosses the Indian River at Titusville and connects with Merritt's Island. They were within a few yards of the Island, and quite tame, permitting themselves to be approached to within about twenty feet, and I photographed them from the car. On May 12, two of these birds still remained, and were found at the same place and both birds were photographed together, close enough to show the conspicuous black mark on the side of the head. They were in the winter plumage.

On Merritt's Island, opposite Titusville, Brevard County, Florida, I saw a male and a female Lesser Scaup Duck swimming in a salt water pond near the Indian River, on June 27, 1926. Thinking that they might be crippled birds,