

men soiled white and the remainder of the underparts behind or below the jugulum, excepting a small area in the middle of the breast, variegated everywhere with black and white, each feather having a pair of rounded white spots tipping its opposite webs, these spots being usually embraced between the horns of V-shaped, black markings. In this series the shade of the cinnamon of the underparts is in proportion to the amount of white, the cinnamon being palest in the birds having the most white, and deepest in those which have the least. This fact has suggested to me the possibility that the paler, spotted birds may be the young, and those with nearly or perfectly black masks and immaculate underparts the adults; but Mr. Allen's theory that such variations indicate near relationship to, if not actual intergradation with, the white-throated *C. graysoni* is perhaps more probable. I notice, however, that all the specimens examined by Mr. Allen (except my type, taken early in August, and an unusually deep-colored and black-headed bird) were killed in September and February, months when young or immature birds would naturally outnumber the fully mature ones. Mr. Ridgway's "suspicion" that *C. graysoni* and *C. ridgwayi* "may be individual color phases of the same species" seems to me the least likely hypothesis of the three, unless we may assume that the two 'phases' have different habitats; or, at least, that a portion of the region occupied by each phase is not invaded by the other.

Mr. Cahoon found the Masked Bob-white about Bacuachi and at a ranch some eighteen miles north of Cumpas. They were abundant (several large covics were seen and eight specimens shot in one day), haunting patches of weeds in gardens and barren "sand wastes, where they fed on the seeds of a plant called red-root." Their habits are like those of *C. virginianus* and their call-notes precisely similar. When scattered they lie very closely.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Capture of a Third Specimen of the Short-tailed Hawk (*Buteo brachyurus*) in Florida.—Mr. E. H. Forbush, of Worcester, has lately sent me a *Buteo brachyurus* which was shot by Mr. Charles E. Bailey at the head of Ten-Mile Creek (a tributary of the St. Lucie River), Brevard County, Florida, March 11, 1886. It is an adult female of the white-bellied form. Two specimens (one in the black plumage) have been previously recorded* from Florida by Mr. Ridgway. The occurrence of this third bird strengthens the suspicion that the species may have become permanently established in that State.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

A Third New England Specimen of Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*).—Mr. E. S. Bowler has just sent me a Swainson's Hawk, taken at Gouldsboro', Maine, Sept. 15, 1886, by Mr. E. Gordon. It is a young bird of the melanistic type, but not wholly black. The species is known to have occurred only twice before in New England, both times in Massachusetts—Salem, winter of 1871-72 (*Allen*, Bull. Essex Inst., X, 1878, 22); Wayland, Sept. 12, 1876 (*Brewster*, Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, III, 1878, 39).—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

* Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, VI, 1881, pp. 210, 212.