

four. This enumeration does not include nests found containing young, several of which I examined, but in no one instance did I see less than two. There is no difference, on the average, in the size of sets between the years 1885 and 1887.

The winter and spring of 1884-85 were unusually cold. Ice an eighth of an inch thick formed repeatedly in the valley, and the mountains were as often snow-capped. The winter and spring of 1885-86 were very mild, but more especially were those of 1886-87. Unfortunately I cannot give the temperature, but the appended table shows the extent of the rainfall:—

Year.	Jan.	Feb.	March.	April.	May.	June.
1885	0.00	0.42	0.40	0.00	0.23	0.13
1886	1.61	0.35	0.87	0.06	0.00	0.00
1887	0.00	0.85	0.00	0.38	0.00	0.26

Dried grass usually is a staple article with Palmer's Thrashers for nest lining. A nest last year lined with feathers and grass was the first deviation I had ever seen from it, but this year nothing seemed to go amiss for that purpose. Those nesting in the vicinity of a slaughter-house frequently economized on grass by using about one half pig bristles. In a nest of this build I also saw a piece of baling rope that had been skillfully worked in. I saw several that were lined with grass and horsehair, also several that were lined with grass and feathers. The *H. bendirei* by no means confine themselves to grass for nest lining, as is abundantly evidenced by my oölogical notes.—HERBERT BROWN, *Tucson, Arizona.*

**Feeding Habits of *Sitta canadensis*.**—On the 28th of October last in the Northern Adirondacks I noticed that the Red-bellied Nuthatches seemed to be feeding exclusively on the seeds of the black spruce. After that I watched them for a number of days, and although they were abundant, I did not see them feeding on anything else. Alighting on a bunch of cones at the extremity of a bough, the Nuthatch would insert its bill between the scales of a cone and draw out a seed. Then flying to a horizontal bough near by it would detach the wing which adheres to each seed, letting it fall to the ground, swallow the seed, and fly back for another. Frequently a good many trips would be made between the same bunch of cones and the same bough where the wing was separated from the seed.

The Red-bellied Nuthatches were very abundant—much more so than the White-bellied—and it was an interesting sight to watch them feeding in this way. One specimen, killed while feeding, contained no food but the seeds of the spruce. I did not observe the White-bellied Nuthatch make use of this supply of food.—C. K. AVERILL, JR., *Bridgeport, Conn.*

**Spotted Eggs of *Parus gambeli*.**—In the spring of 1882, when living at Gold Run, in the Belt Mountains, I noticed a pair of Mountain Chickadees flitting about a knot-hole some fifteen feet up in a cotton-wood tree.