

**Melanerpes torquatus.** LEWIS'S WOODPECKER. — This is an occasional visitor in the fall or winter. Some years two or three will appear, and other years none at all.

**Dendroica nigrescens.** BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER. — One taken, a male, Sept. 18, 1897. Had never heard of one in Marin County before, and have seen none since.

**Dendroica townsendii.** TOWNSEND'S WARBLER. — The bird is of rare occurrence in this neighborhood, but almost every year two or three are taken.

**Mimus polyglottos.** MOCKINGBIRD. — One specimen, a male, was taken here by Mr. C. A. Allen on Dec. 30, 1894, and is now in our collection. There was no evidence of its having at any time been a caged bird.

**Myadestes townsendii.** — TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE. — On Feb. 14, 1880, while on top of our chaparral hills with Mr. C. A. Allen five or six of these birds were observed flying among some cedar trees. Three specimens were shot. Since then I have seen no more, although constantly on the lookout for them, until Dec. 20, 1897. Long-continued cold weather had led me to believe that there was a liability of a visit from some of these birds, and on this date I caught sight of one flying across a cañon. I was fortunate enough to locate it on top of a Douglas fir and to make the capture. It proved to be a male. Those shot in 1880 were 2 males and 1 female. — JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *Sau Geronimo, Marin Co., Cal.*

**California Bird Notes.** — On looking over my records for the past few years I find some items that may be of service in indicating the geographical distribution of the species mentioned.

**Synthliboramphus antiquus.** ANCIENT MURRELET. — In December, 1895, I obtained three females of this species on Monterey Bay, off Pacific Grove, and in January, 1896, three males and two females in the same locality. In the California Academy of Sciences there is a fine series of these birds from Monterey Bay, taken by Mr. L. M. Loomis in December, 1894, and January, 1895 (Proc. Cal. Acad. Nat. Sci. (2), VI, 1896, pp. 17-19.)

**Brachyramphus hypoleucus.** XANTUS'S MURRELET. — On Dec. 2, 1895, I obtained a male of this species on Monterey Bay, and on Jan. 17, 1896, a female. Also one, taken on this bay by Mr. L. M. Loomis, is in the California Academy of Sciences. (Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci. (2), V, 1895, p. 211.)

**Puffinus tenuirostris.** SLENDER-BILLED SHEARWATER. — On Dec. 17, 18, and 19, 1895, large bands of Shearwaters were feeding on Monterey Bay and out of the number that were taken fifteen proved to be of the above species. An immense flock of, presumably, *P. griseus* and *P. tenuirostris* followed a school of sardines close into shore on Dec. 20, contrary to their usual habits, but unfortunately the necessity of returning to my business affairs by the early train the following morning prevented me from taking advantage of this flight. Had I realized at

the moment their extreme rarity on this coast business matters would have been cast aside. Mr. A. W. Anthony of San Diego, on being notified by letter of the presence of this species succeeded in shooting several specimens off San Diego Bay. Since then Mr. L. M. Loomis has taken one specimen on Monterey Bay, and I believe this completes the record for this coast.

**Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus.** PIÑON JAY.—In December, 1895, a large flock of these birds located in the vicinity of Pacific Grove, Monterey Co., Cal. This flock made a tour of the town nearly every day that I was there, flying from one pine tree to another and sometimes alighting on the ground, but never staying in one spot more than a minute or two. The oldest inhabitants could not remember having seen these birds before nor having heard their peculiar cries. I succeeded in securing six specimens, all females. From what observations I could make during their restless movements I should say that the majority, if not all, of this flock were females.

**Larus canus.** MEW GULL.—There is in our collection an adult of this species taken upon San Francisco Bay, Cal., some years ago. Unfortunately, however, the label was accidentally torn off in moving the collection, and at that time no systematic record of specimens was kept.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *San Geronimo, Marin Co., Cal.*

## RECENT LITERATURE.

'Audubon and His Journals.'<sup>1</sup>—In the brief space of 73 pages Miss Audubon has given the public for the first time a trustworthy biography of her illustrious grandfather, John James Laforest Audubon.<sup>2</sup> 'The Life of Audubon the Naturalist, edited by Mr. Robert Buchanan from

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<sup>1</sup> Audubon and his | Journals | By | Maria R. Audubon | With Zoölogical and other Notes | by | Elliott Coues | Volume I [-II] | New York | Charles Scribner's Sons | 1897. — Two vols. 8vo, illustrated. Vol. I, pp. i-xiv, 1-532, 22 ill., mostly full-page photogravure; Vol. II, pp. i-viii, 1-554, 15 photogravure ill. and 9 facsimiles of diplomas. (Price, \$7.50.)

<sup>2</sup> Doubtless the name Laforest is little known as a part of Audubon's name, but in a footnote to p. 5 of the biography Miss Audubon gives the following quotation from a letter of Audubon to Mrs. Rathbone, written in 1827, and adds that all Mrs. Audubon's letters to her husband address him as Laforest: 'My name is John James Laforest Audubon. The name Laforest I never sign except when writing to my wife, and she is the only being, since my father's death, who calls me by it.'