

## GENERAL NOTES.

**Capture of Sabine's Gull in Wisconsin.**—On Oct. 7, 1900, a local sportsman brought me a fine specimen of *Xema sabini* which he had killed that morning from a boat in the center of Delavan Lake. The bird is a male, young-of-the-year, and was alone. — N. HOLLISTER, *Delavan, Wis.*

**Snowy Heron in Alberta.**—I have recently mounted a fine adult male Snowy Heron (*Ardea candidissima*), shot on May 11, 1901, near Pincher Creek, about 90 miles south of Calgary. The bird was in good condition, and is a very unusual record, I presume, for this locality.

Last fall I secured two fine specimens of Ross's Snow Goose (*Chen rossii*); they appear to pass right through this district on their migrations. — G. F. DIPPIE, *Calgary, Alberta.*

**A New Bird for the State of Ohio — *Ardea cærulea*.**—On August 1, 1901, I observed two birds of this species on the banks of the old arm of the Scioto River, one of which I shot after an exciting chase of about three hours. It proved to be a young male of *Ardea cærulea* (Little Blue Heron), being pure white in color, but having the tips of the first seven quills of each wing of a slate blue color. It had the following measurements: Extent, 93 cm.; wing, 25.5 cm.; tarsus, 9 cm.; bill, 6.5 cm.; tail, 11 cm.; length without bill, 48.2 cm. On August 3 another specimen, a young female, was brought in to me by a man who wanted it mounted; it was shot on Sunfish Creek, Pike Co., Ohio. A third specimen was also shot there, while a fourth, also a young female, was brought to me on August 16, shot on the banks of the Scioto River, while four more were seen at the same time. Dr. Wheaton, writing in 1882, states that the *Ardea cærulea* "probably occurs in the southern portion of the State, but had not been positively identified within the State's limits." As I have not seen anything else in print to prove the existence of this species in the State, I believe I am correct in heralding it as a new bird for the State. The number of specimens—four shot (two in my collection, two mounted for other parties) and four seen, making eight in all—is, under these circumstances, certainly remarkable, while the age of the birds, as also the time of the year, would make it highly probable that they had been bred in the State. — W. F. HENNINGER, *Waverly, Ohio.*

**A Band-tailed Hawk's Nest—An Arizona Incident of Biographical Interest.**—In a small cañon in the western foothills of the Rincon Mountains, about twenty-one or twenty-two miles east of Tucson, stands a medium sized cottonwood tree in which hawks have nested for many years. The old stick pile on which so many generations of birds have been raised has become quite bulky through its annual accretion. In the spring of 1886 I was told by parties coming in from the San Pedro

that a pair of "black hawks" had taken possession of the old nest. As such birds were not common thereabouts the statement was worth looking into. I reached the tree just before sundown and to my delight I found things as represented and that one bird then occupied the nest. It was black sure enough, and resented interference with many angry screams as it circled above the tree. It proved to be a male Band-tailed Buzzard (*Buteo abbreviatus*). Unfortunately the female, although seen at a distance, failed to respond to the cries of her mate, and what was still more unfortunate the nest contained no eggs. It had been newly lined with leaves from the tree and was apparently ready for housekeeping. I waited till noon the day following in the hope of being able to make a closer acquaintance with the mate of the bird I then had, but had to leave without being thus privileged.

I subsequently learned from the late Major Chas. E. Bendire that he had, during the spring of 1872, climbed this same cottonwood tree and had examined the nest in question. He was at that time camped on the Rillito and had, while scouting, seen the nest. Some days later, as no hostile Indians were known to be about, he returned to the tree and climbed to the nest, which is located in a fork of the tree about 40 feet up. While examining the nest he happened to look in the direction of the opposite hill and saw an Indian watching him from behind a giant cactus with which the hills thereabouts are thickly covered. To be caught meant a lingering death at the stake, to escape, under the circumstances, seemed almost impossible, but he did. He pretended not to have seen the Indian and after having apparently satisfied himself about the nest he slowly descended the tree, but no sooner did his feet touch the ground than he made a run for his horse which was tied a short distance below. As he did so about thirty Indians gave chase, but he fortunately got away. — HERBERT BROWN, *Yuma, Arizona*.

**Nesting of the American Rough-legged Hawk in North Dakota.** — The nesting of the American Rough-legged Hawk (*Archibuteo lagopus sanctijohannis*) within the borders of the United States is so rare an occurrence that it may be worth while to record the breeding of a pair of these birds in Nelson County, North Dakota, this year. Our guide, Mr. Alfred Eastgate, a naturalist and taxidermist of considerable experience, who is quite familiar with this species, which is abundant there in winter, told us that the pair had nested in this vicinity for several years. We first saw the nest on June 4, 1901, as we were driving along near a narrow strip of timber on the edge of a lake. The nest was conspicuously located in an isolated swamp oak at the end of the timber, so that it could be plainly seen from a distance, and as we drew near we could see the head of the hawk as she sat upon the nest. Although the nest was only thirty feet from the ground the hawk would not leave it until we rapped on the tree, when she flew slowly off and perched on a tree near by; we had a good look at her at short range which left no doubt in our minds as to the