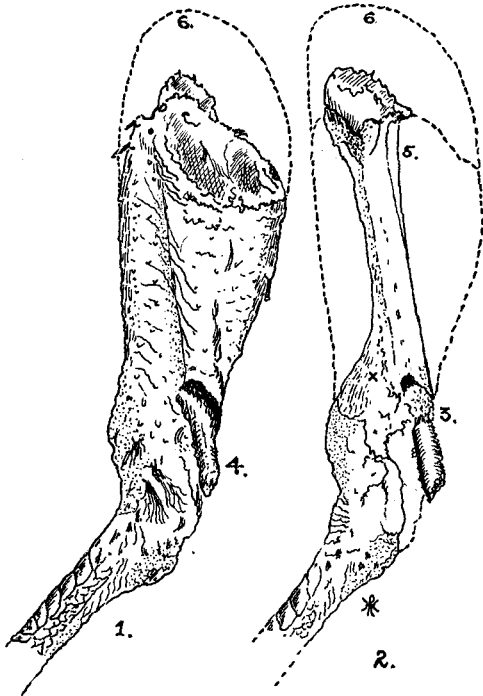


A Broken Pigeon's Leg that Healed Itself. — The accompanying sketch shows a remarkable case of healing in a Pigeon's (*Columba*) leg. After the removal of the feathers, the tibia was seen to have been broken, and its sharp end pushed out through the flesh. The leg, however, was perfectly strong, though nearly half an inch shorter than the other. The protruding bone was in an advanced stage of decay, but the surrounding wound was perfectly healthy.

It was evident after removing the flesh that the protruding portion of the tibia would have soon dropped off, with the wound entirely healed,



Leg of Pigeon (*Columba*), showing healed fracture.

1. Leg with the feathers removed; 2, leg with the flesh removed; 3 decaying bone; 4, end of the tibia protruding through the flesh; *, point where knitting took place; 5, fibula; 6, original length of the leg.

which would have left from the exterior little indication of the broken limb. The slight swelling on the anterior edge of the bone alone would have suggested a fracture beneath. In the region of the healing the periosteum was perfectly smooth, continuous, and sound.

A few years ago I detected a similar healing in a Yellow Warbler's (*Dendroica aestiva*) leg. Is there any need for us to suppose that birds need "mud" settings for their broken limbs, when nature unaided accomplishes such perfect mends?—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Concord, Mass.*

Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) in Michigan.—A bird of this species was shot by Samuel Kennedy in Atlas township, Genesee Co., Mich., about April 27, 1905, near the Medbury Farms. I examined this bird later. Resident hunters inform me that this is the first bird that they have ever known to have been taken in the vicinity. Personally I have never observed it in my visits in the county, which have extended since 1901. Mr. Samuel Shicer records a bird shot near Goodrich, five miles south of Atlas, on October 10, 1888 (O. & O., 1889, p. 43).—BRADSHAW H. SWALES, *Detroit, Mich.*

The Turkey Vulture in Western Massachusetts.—A young Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) was captured by Walter Stanley in Becket, a town in Massachusetts, thirty-five miles west of Springfield, June 8, 1905. The bird was observed in a field eating a dead lamb, and was then killed and sent to the Museum of Natural History in this city.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

The Gray Gyr Falcon in Wisconsin.—On Nov. 27, 1904, Fred Dean, a young hunter of this city, brought me a fine specimen of this bird, which is now No. 5777 of my collection of North American birds.

He shot it that forenoon, as it flew swiftly by him at a long range distance. The place was near an island known locally as Skunk Island, the bird at the time flying over a nearby marsh. The bird proved to be a young female.

Having handled Gyr falcons when in Alaska I at once so named the specimen, and reference to descriptions of the bird in various works on ornithology further strengthened my belief. However, that no error might be possible I decided to have it examined by some authority, so it was sent on July 3 of the present year to Dr. Merriam of the Biological Survey. Dr. Merriam being at that time in the West the acting chief, Dr. A. K. Fisher, turned it over to Prof. Robt. Ridgway of the Smithsonian Institution, who examined it, labelled the bird *Falco rusticola* juv., in his own handwriting, and returned it to me. So there can be no doubt whatever of its identity.

That it is a rare capture for Wisconsin seems beyond doubt. Dr. King, in his list of Wisconsin birds published in 'Geology of Wisconsin,' Vol. I, makes no mention of it. Kumlien and Hollister in their 'Birds of Wisconsin' (Bull. Wis. Nat. Hist. Soc., Vol. III, Nos. 1-2-3), make no mention of the species. Nor can I, in any work at my command, find any specific mention of another capture or record of any nature for this State.