

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.

In the last mentioned work, on page 132, may be found a statement that "some species of gyrfalcon has been credited to the fauna of Wisconsin in an early day, a thing by no means impossible or unlikely; but there is no actual record obtainable at present." Further it states there was one at Oshkosh, said to have been killed near Lake Winnebago. We have no intimation what became of this specimen nor any *proof* that it even was a gyrfalcon.

In view of these facts I do not hesitate to say that my bird constitutes the first actual record for Wisconsin.—W. E. SNYDER, *Beaver Dam, Wis.*

Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Massachusetts.—During a trip to the Berkshire Hills early in June for the purpose of seeing birds of that region, while walking up Greylock on the morning of June 7, 1905, we heard the harsh call of the Northern Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophlæus pileatus abieticola*). The bird flew over the road and settled on a large dead tree trunk at quite a distance, where, guided by his hammering, we found a fine male at work three feet from the ground. We had good views of him then at close range and as he flew away. I was very glad that this beautiful woodpecker of the wild forests should still remain a resident of Massachusetts.—LIDIAN E. BRIDGE, *West Medford, Mass.*

A Rare Plumage of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*).—A superb specimen of this magnificent woodpecker, which I obtained on February 19, 1894, in Jefferson County, Florida, has the ends of all the longer primaries (except the 3d and 4th) pure white. This specimen is an adult male in very high nuptial plumage, and is No. 3002 of my register. An adult female, which also was taken in Jefferson County, closely resembles the above male in the peculiar pattern of the primaries.

From a series of many specimens that I collected in different parts of Florida in the years 1892, 1893, and 1894, the two birds above described are the only ones, as far as I can recall, that were marked peculiarly as regards the longer primaries.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

The Prairie Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*) on Mount Washington, N. H.—I have lately spent thirteen days (July 7–19, 1905) at the summit of Mount Washington, where I was surprised to find two Prairie Horned Larks at home in or near what is known as the Cow Pasture, a comparatively level, sedgy, boulder-besprinkled place far above the tree line. One or both of the birds was seen and heard daily (usually twice a day—forenoon and afternoon) up to the 16th. On two occasions one was seen with its mandibles loaded with what seemed to be insects, and in general their behavior was such as to make it all but certain that they were breeding near by; but all my attempts to find the nest were unsuccess-