

I noted occasional signs, and also procured a specimen, but their numbers were negligible. Grouse too, were scarce.

The significance of the whole thing dawned upon me when on November 7, the first day after my return to Southern Ontario, I noted several Horned Owls, which was an uncommon occurrence. The day previous a friend had observed three. These birds were lazily perched in the open hardwoods enjoying the sunshine, and quite apparently oblivious to their surroundings. This is contrary to the usual secretive habits of the birds when here.

Continuously throughout November these owls were frequently observed and many were shot for taxidermic purposes. After this month their numbers were reduced but signs of their killing, usually a luckless Cottontail, was noted with greater frequency than is usually the case.

Personally, the ingress of Goshawks was not noted as exceptional, although greater numbers may have prevailed in other localities. Each fall sees a certain influx of these destructive birds, with their bold propensities for domestic fowl, much to the vexation of most poultry-men.

To reiterate: The point of interest lies in the fact that the Horned Owls were apparently absent from the north country at the time of my trip October 20–November 6; common on my return to Preston, Ont. November 7, and apparently so at other points in southern Canada; with their subsequent invasion of the northern States, which I assume immediately followed as indicated by Mr. Brockway's communication to 'The Auk.'—  
J. DEWEY SOPER, *Preston, Ont.*

***Picoides arcticus* in Florida.**—Through the courtesy of Mr. J. D. Allen, of Mandan, North Dakota, the writer is privileged to record a specimen of the Black-backed, or Arctic, Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*), which Mr. Allen collected himself on Pablo Creek, northeastern Florida, about March 20, 1875. Pablo Creek enters the St. John River a few miles west of Mayport, and the point at which this Three-toed Woodpecker was taken lies well up toward the source of this stream, which would make it some distance southwest of Mayport, the exact number of miles being now not determinable. The specimen is an adult male in perfect plumage, although by reason of being mounted is now in somewhat dilapidated condition. It has never been out of Mr. Allen's possession, and his recollection of the circumstances of its capture are perfectly clear and conclusive. It is an astonishing record for the State of Florida, and one that is not likely ever to be duplicated. The occurrence of a far northern species such as this so far south of its normal range naturally invites speculation as to the probable cause of its presence there, but it certainly was not a cage bird.—HARRY C. OBERHOLSER, *Washington, D. C.*

**Early Nesting of the Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Pennsylvania.**—According to the experience of field oölogists of Pennsylvania, the right time to find fresh clutches of the Northern Pileated Woodpecker