

On February 7, with the temperature at 15 above zero, a flock of five Canada Geese passed over the city and alighted in East Potomac Park. The wind on that day at times attained a velocity of forty-five miles an hour.—BRENT M. MORGAN, 224 Eleventh St., S. W., Washington, D. C.

Nesting of the Greater Yellow-Legs in Newfoundland.—On June 20, 1919, Mr. J. R. Whitaker and the writer had the satisfaction of discovering a female of this species (*Totanus melanoleucus*) brooding four young just out of the shell and still in the nest, in a large bog in the vicinity of Grand Lake, N. F. Led to the spot by the ever increasing cries of the male bird, the nest, which was nothing more than a bare depression ten inches in diameter and three inches deep, upon the top of a mound of peat otherwise covered over with a short growth of sheep laurel, was noticed three yards from where we had stopped in doubt as to where next to proceed.

It presented an unusual domestic picture; one youngster was perched on the mother's back, while one or two others appeared from under her wings after the manner of domestic fowls. The parent remained until we closed in, when she flew low from the nest with a piercing cry, and after circling about overhead took up a position on a dead stub nearby, from which she continued to *kip, kip, kip, kip*—incessantly as long as we remained near the nest, the male likewise calling and circling above.

The young, whose legs were not as yet strong enough to bear their weight, lay flat in the nest. They were mottled in gray, brown and black down, white below. Some of the lighter spaces on the back tending toward buffy. The eyes were large and black, bill one-half an inch long, lead-black in color, while the legs were characteristically long and greenish in color. Notwithstanding the recent hatching of the eggs, only one or two small pieces were to be found, the empty shells doubtless having been carried away by the parents.

On visiting the nest the day following, the young could not be found, although the actions of the old birds indicated their presence in the vicinity.—GEORGE H. STUART, 3rd, Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia.

Nesting of the Little Black Rail in Atlantic County, N. J.—On July 4, 1919, Mr. Julian K. Potter and the writer flushed a small rail in a marsh an acre or two in extent, beyond the sand dunes immediately back of the ocean beach, on an island below Beach Haven, N. J. Searching for the nest in the belief that the bird was a Little Black Rail, we were rewarded by finding it placed among the long grasses, the tops of which were so drawn over as to almost completely hide the eggs from view. The nest, which was composed entirely of the same rather fine grass, was placed about one inch above the damp ground and contained eight eggs, very heavily incubated.

On returning several times at intervals of ten minutes we had opportunities of observing the female on the nest, her bright red eyes being the most prominent feature. On each occasion when leaving the eggs, she darted from the nest into the surrounding grass, never taking wing, and with such celerity that it was impossible to observe her movements, the action resembling more that of a mouse than a bird.

Eventually she was seen and caught in the hand while moving through some shorter grass. Mr. J. Fletcher Street secured some excellent photographs of the bird while thus held. On being released, the bird again disappeared into the grass by a similar dart as before, never at any time showing the slightest indication of wing power. The first bird, flushed some ten yards from the site of the nest, was doubtless the male, forced to fly because of insufficient cover when surprised.—GEORGE H. STUART, 3rd, Girard Trust Co., Philadelphia.

Maggots in the Ears of Nestling Cooper's Hawks (*Accipiter cooperi*).—On July 8, 1913, when examining three Cooper's Hawks seventeen days old, I found maggots in their ears and took a maggot from each ear of the three birds. In one ear of one of the birds there was another maggot which I could not get as it went far back into the ear. Possibly these maggots were the larvae of the Screw-worm Fly (*Campsomylia macellaria*). I visited these birds again July 20, when their ears appeared to be quite normal.—VERDI BURTCHE, Branchport, N. Y.

Age Attained by the Hyacinth Macaw.—A venerable specimen of the Hyacinth Macaw (*Anodorhynchus hyacinthus*) well known to the visitors to the Philadelphia Zoological Gardens, died on February 28, 1920. The records of the Zoological Society show that the bird was received on July 22, 1893, so that it had been on exhibition in the bird house for over twenty-six years. How long the bird had lived before it was captured it is of course impossible to say. At the time of its death it was still in perfect plumage.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Curious Habits of the Whip-poor-will.—Mr. Moritz Boehm, a neighbor of mine, has a very beautiful place surrounded on two sides by a deep ravine. Each year for the past six or seven seasons a pair of Whip-poor-wills have spent the summer on his grounds, and have become quite tame. The male has certain stands around the house, and comes up from the depths of the ravine at night and calls, first from one perch, then another, until he has gone around the house several times, usually answered by Mr. Boehm. On different occasions, while the male was calling, he saw the female going through some peculiar antics, but in the dusk could not make out just what she was doing. One evening, when he was sitting