

Massachusetts, saw four Sanderlings, which were feeding on the beach. He approached within twenty yards of them before they flew. This is a second winter record as I made another some years ago which was recorded in 'The Auk' at the time.—GEO. H. MACKAY, *Boston, Mass.*

A Very Late Record of the Passenger Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*).—A mounted specimen of the Passenger Pigeon acquired by the late F. S. Daggett, in January, 1920, and now in the Daggett Collection, deposited in this Museum, bears the following label: "Passenger Pigeon, ♂, No. 315, Coll. of Geo. S. Hamlin. Shot by a Swede, North Bridgeport, Fairfield Co., Conn., Aug., 1906."

The specimen is in fine plumage, but atrociously mounted, with spread wings.

This is apparently one of the latest records of the species, but in some manner it has hitherto failed to receive attention and publication.—L. E. WYMAN, *Museum of History, Science and Art, Los Angeles, Calif.*

Three-toed Woodpecker in Michigan.—While on a hunting trip in Marquette County, Michigan, in the latter part of October, 1920, I was fortunate enough to secure a specimen of the Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoïdes americanus americanus*). The bird was taken on the afternoon of October 18 at the southwestern end of Conway Lake, about a mile from the shore of Lake Superior and two miles from the Post Office of Huron Mountain.

The note of this woodpecker first attracted my attention to it and revealed its presence almost at the top of a very tall, dead tamarack. Its call note, which I mistook for that of the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker, suggested very strongly the "squeak" of some small animal, and lacked the almost mechanical harshness of the note commonly uttered by Hairy and Downy Woodpeckers.

Speaking of the occurrence of this species in the state, Professor Barrows says (*Michigan Bird Life*, 1912, pp. 749-750)—"we are unable to find any record which can be authenticated." Mr. Norman A. Wood ('Auk,' Vol. XXX, p. 272) reports the finding of a specimen in a collection of mounted birds in the High School at Sault Ste. Marie, labeled "Soo, October 1, 1910; C. E. Richmond, collector.", and it seems a fair assumption that it was taken on the Michigan side of the Saint Mary's River. I have been unable to find, and Professor Barrows writes me that he does not know of, any other record of the taking of this species in the state.

The occurrence of *Picoïdes americanus americanus* so near the center of the south shore of Lake Superior suggests the possibility of its occurrence in the pine woods at other places south of the lake, though this region is not included in its range as given in the 'A. O. U. Check-List.' It does not seem probable that a non-migratory bird like this woodpecker would reach Marquette County from its normal range by crossing the lake, although the route via Isle Royal and Keweenaw Point would only require

a sustained flight of approximately forty miles. STEPHEN S. GREGORY JR., 456 Surf St., Chicago, Ill.

A Crowd of Hummers.—On May 1, 1920, after I had returned from a remarkable field trip, on which I had found 94 species of birds, one of my neighbors, Colonel B. F. Procter, called me to see the Ruby-throated Hummingbirds about a red-flowered horse-chestnut on his lawn. There was a continuous going and coming of the hummers, twenty or more being in sight all the time. I saw several perched on the smaller twigs of the tree, in addition to the group buzzing about the fragrant blossoms. Though these tiny birds came every day for a week, I never again saw so many at one time. I feel sure that I saw on that one day more individuals of this species than I have ever seen in any other whole season. This bird is usually so rare that I keep a record of every individual seen.—GORDON WILSON, Bowling Green, Kentucky.

Plumage of the Chimney Swift.—Dr. Wetmore's interesting article on the wing claws of *Chaetura pelagica*, in the December 'Condor,' reminded me of another curious fact regarding this bird.

In May, 1898, I put up a lot of skins of Chimney Swifts which had been suffocated in a chimney at Waukegan, Ill., and found concealed among the feathers of the abdomen at about the middle, a tuft of pure white down. This could only be noticed on parting the feathers, and was present in all of them but was lost or absorbed in making up the skins. Last Spring, while preparing a specimen (with the wings spread) my attention was called to a tract of naked black skin on the underside of the wing joint, and upon closer inspection, I found a single smoky black oval shaped feather growing from the center of the naked skin.

Upon examining a number of other specimens of *Chaetura pelagica*, and of *C. vauxi* from California and *C. caudacuta* from New South Wales and Japan, the single feather was also found.—HENRY K. COALE, Highland Park, Ill.

Mortality among Chimney Swifts.—In 'The Auk', Vol. XXV, No. 3, pp. 317-318, July, 1908, under the heading "Curious fatality among Chimney Swifts," Mr. Ruthven Deane has recorded that some 700 Chimney Swifts (*Chaetura pelagica*) entered a chimney in the house of Dr. Maxson, Waukegan, Ill., during a heavy rainstorm, while gases from a furnace fire were passing off through the chimney. More than 100 of these birds were killed, and the rest were released while yet alive by the occupants of the house. In another chimney of the same house no Swifts were found at that time.

A destruction of Chimney Swifts in even greater numbers, at Truro, Nova Scotia, under circumstances similar, yet different, is described in the following extract from a letter dated June 1, 1919, addressed to me by Mr. E. C. Allen, now of Halifax, Nova Scotia, to whom I am indebted for permission to publish this note.