

May 4. Mated at 7:30 P. M.

Judging from these few observations, the female takes the initiative in mating. Her calls are continuous for many minutes at a time and are often accompanied by fluttered wings and definite approach towards the male. The male was observed to call only when actually dropping down to the female.—SHERMAN C. BISHOP, *New York State Museum*.

Habits of the Marsh Hawk.—Mr. R. A. Turtle, Chicago taxidermist, recently showed me a Marsh Hawk in the gray plumage, which had been brought in to be mounted January 18 by Dr. Ray Morris Gibbs of Palatine, Illinois. This Hawk had killed seven of his flock of fourteen Hungarian Partridges on his place in the past two weeks. It would tear the back open and rip the flesh and skin off in strips.

Dr. Gibbs finally caught the Hawk in a steel trap by tying the body of one of the Partridges alongside, and covering the trap with straw.

The Marsh Hawk is rare here in winter, and does not usually kill game of this size.—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

Tyto pratincola in Northeastern Illinois.—The Barn Owl is a rare bird in this region. I had never seen it alive, and until September 12, 1909, when one was brought in by Wm. Aldridge, had not handled a fresh one. Recently two fine specimens were secured by farmers near Highland Park—one, a female, was shot as it crouched in the grass on the edge of the Skokie Marsh, on December 20, 1924; the other, a male, was picked up frozen on the side of the road on January 12, 1925.

Both were presented to me and are now nos. 30022 and 30025 in my collection.—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Illinois*.

Northern Pileated Woodpecker in Clayton Co., Iowa.—Although Anderson's 'Birds of Iowa' gives the Northern Pileated Woodpecker as rare in Iowa, observations in Clayton County do not tend to substantiate this. Records of eight years on my part, backed by the long experience of Miss Althea R. Sherman of National, Iowa, show that this Woodpecker is not as rare as is generally supposed. My home is six miles west of McGregor, Iowa, and there are still large belts of heavy timber close by. For seven years I have observed this bird at all seasons of the year in these timber belts and I had the idea that it was a case of a few pairs only to be found locally. This summer and fall, I made trips of from four to twenty miles from my place and I found this bird in the same degree of abundance. It is clear to me that this big Woodpecker can be found in all parts of Clayton County where heavy timber exists. Observers disagree as to the shyness of this bird, and I can only say that I have always found it exceedingly so. I took a female on November 12, 1924, after many attempts, which is now mounted and in my collection. Under date of December 10, 1924, Miss Sherman kindly gave me data desired and permission to use testimony which follows.

"That Dr. Anderson had no reporters from northeastern Iowa is most