

Back of West Rock, at New Haven, Conn., a brook flows out of Wintergreen Lake. Beside this brook was a large rock of red sandstone. The face toward the stream was almost smooth and vertical, but the upper part jutted out and overhung the face by several inches. On the face of this rock, beneath the overhanging portion, a Phoebe built its nest for several years in succession. This nest was plastered against the face of the rock, with no support beneath, but held up by the adhesive power of the mud in its structure.

I was usually able to examine this nest from the opposite side of the stream, but one year the brook was swollen by heavy rains, and not being able to approach close enough to see the contents, I crossed the stream and reached around the edge of the rock to feel what the contents might be. As I did so I lost my balance and in regaining it, loosened the nest from its hold on the rock. I managed to catch it, though one of its five eggs was spilled into the stream. A foot or two below the nest site was a projection on the rock large enough to hold the nest, so I placed it on this projection. The bird returned to the nest and hatched out the young successfully, though whether the young grew to maturity and left the nest without mishap I do not know.

The following year a Phoebe returned and rebuilt the nest in the old location beneath the jutting rock. Underneath the center of the nest was a vertical column of mud and moss three or four inches long!

Now of course I cannot prove that this Phoebe was the same bird that had nested there previously, nor that the supporting column was anything but an accident. There is room for the skeptic to doubt if he wishes. But I have never seen another Phoebe's nest like this one. That the bird was the same one, and that it remembered the incident of the year before, and reasoned that a support beneath would prevent a similar accident may seem too much to assume, so I have recorded the incident for what it is worth, and will let the reader think what he pleases. Yet it is quite possible that many of our birds have stronger reasoning powers than we are inclined to credit them with.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS. *Fairfield, Conn.*

**The American Three-toed Woodpecker in Luce County, Michigan.**—On February 1, 1928, I saw one of these Woodpeckers (*Picoides americanus americanus*) in a large tamarack swamp near the East Branch of the Fox River about two and a quarter miles south and nearly seven miles west of McMillan, Luce County, Michigan. The bird was at work on a dead tamarack and the white bars on its back and other markings which distinguish the species were easily seen through a pocket field glass.

Another or possibly the same bird was seen near the same place on February 2 and on February 15 one was heard and located about four feet up on a dead tamarack about twenty-five feet from where I was peeling a post. It flew within arms reach above me to another tree and then to still another where it was caught by my father who went slowly up to it as it was busy digging for food.

I banded it and released it at 3:20 P. M. and next day at 8:25 A. M. I saw a bird of this species wearing a band, which was almost certainly the same individual. On February 18 an individual of the same species was seen but no band could be detected.—OSCAR MCKINLEY BRYENS, *McMillan, Luce County, Michigan*.

**A Note on *Brachygalba goeringi* Sclater.**—In studying, recently, the collection of birds received some years ago by the Academy of Natural Sciences, of Philadelphia, from M. A. Carriker, Jr., I came upon two specimens of *Brachygalba goeringi* from Palmar, Province of Boyaca, Colombia, collected April 24, 1915 (Nos. 73608♂, 73609♀). Mr. Todd wrote me from the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, that he had four skins from Palmar, taken by the same collector, and that they were identical with skins of *B. goeringi* from Venezuela. After looking through the Library of the Academy and the Zoological Record (1918–1927), I find no record of this species from Colombia and record these specimens as apparently extending its known range. Therefore, in addition to “Northern Venezuela” as stated by Cory (Field Museum Publications, Zoological Series, 1919) the range should include the area around Palmar, Boyaca, Colombia.

Dr. Chapman's collectors did not secure any specimens in Colombia, although they were in the same general locality; whether this means that the bird has an extremely limited range in Colombia, more particularly Boyaca, or proves that much more collecting should be carried on in this region, is an open question.—C. ELIOT UNDERDOWN, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Northern Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*) in Rockbridge County, Virginia.**—The Raven is rare enough now in our southern mountains to make its occurrence worthy of report. I have been for some time reasonably sure that Ravens were to be found in one section of this county. I have had dependable enough reports to make me believe that a few were resident around Goshen Pass, where the Maury River makes a three mile gorge through the eastern-most high range of the Alleghanies. A young man who has camped often in the Pass has told me that he had seen three or four at a time in the early morning on the ground near the Maury Monument in the Pass. One of the farmers in that section tells me that they occasionally come out from Hogback Mountain over the neighboring farm lands. And finally Mr. M. G. Lewis, County Farm Agent, who is a careful bird student, reported to me that he had seen two near the river at some distance from the Pass on December 4, 1928.

In spite of this evidence of their occurrence, one observed by me on January 4, 1929, was the first that I had been able to see in several years of fairly constant field trips. On this date I was looking for Hawks in the flats along the Maury River opposite some high wooded cliffs. The spot is some ten miles down the river from the Pass, in a secluded and thinly settled region. I had been watching at close range a Duck Hawk, which