

Turkey Vulture in West Chester Co., N. Y.—Two Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*), presumably a pair, were seen on June 3, 1928, by Mrs. C. Carll Tucker and myself at Pound Ridge, Westchester Co., N. Y. Several years ago there was a record of the breeding of this species in the adjoining township and Mr. C. H. Pangburn has recorded a single bird at Chappaqua, N. Y. (Auk, 1929, p. 385).—JOHN H. BAKER, 1165, Fifth Ave., New York.

Turkey Vulture Wintering in Calhoun Co., Mich.—On December 22, 1929, while taking a Christmas Census for 'Bird-Lore,' I observed, twelve miles east of Battle Creek, Mich., a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) resting in a tall dead tree. He flew almost immediately. His mammoth size, so much larger than the Crows nearby, with wing expanse apparently six feet or more, together with the lighter area on the lower side of the wings served to identify the bird; to further aid in a sure identification, near the carcass of a dead horse found only a few rods from the base of the tree, were several large chicken-like tracks, clearly distinguishable in the snow from the numerous Crow tracks. By rough measurement they were 5.75 to 6 inches long and 4.5 inches wide. A neighboring farmer, hunter, and trapper said the Vulture had been there all during the day and was adept at soaring overhead. The bird not only had been interested in the horse but also in a Crow caught in a trap, over which he had soared for a long time.

Although the Vulture is not abundant in this county it has been observed many times by the writer. The greatest number was on September 15, 1929, when five miles south of Marshall, twenty Vultures were seen soaring gracefully over Notawa Lake. Frequent summer observations of the bird have been made in the region of this winter record but never before has the bird been observed during the winter months.—LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, M. D., Battle Creek, Michigan.

Notes on the Senses of Vultures.—As a collector of beetles I have frequently been forced to use carrion as bait, and have thus acquired an intimacy with a subject which more fortunate zoologists can avoid. This, I think, qualifies me to make a few remarks on the entomology of corpses and to suggest a relationship between the insects which they attract and the finding of food by Vultures. The facts are easily presented. Soon after the death of an animal, except in unusual cases or during cold weather, the body attracts numbers of flies and beetles, some of which may continue to circle about it for several hours or days. The resulting congregation of insects is noisy and conspicuous, and of a sort which does not often occur except about decaying material, so that it may be considered more or less characteristic of the latter. Since Vultures can undoubtedly see and perhaps hear such insect swarms at a distance, they have probably learned to recognize their significance, just as we recognize the significance of gatherings of the Cathartidae.