

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper in California.—I have just discovered, in checking over the ornithological collection of the Peabody Museum of Yale University, that we have a skin (No. 1170) of *Pisobia acuminata* (Horsf.), which was taken at Olema, California, Nov. 27, 1870. The collector was A. Provo Kluit, a member of the staff of the Zoological Garden at Rotterdam, Holland, who made a considerable collection in California that year.

In 1872 Professor Othniel C. Marsh purchased over 300 of these bird skins for the Peabody Museum. Kluit did not realize what a rare find he had made, for he identified this Sharp-tailed Sandpiper as a Pectoral Sandpiper. Its label bore the name *Tringa maculata* until about 1925 when Mr. Richard Harrison, engaged in transferring the collections to new cases, detected the error and properly corrected it.

The specimen is a female in first autumn plumage. Fortunately the skin was well made and clearly shows all the diagnostic characters.

Since the earliest North American record of this species hitherto recognized was the female taken by E. W. Nelson at St. Michael, Alaska, September 16, 1877, this bird in the Peabody Museum collection antedates it by seven years.

As stated by A. C. Bent in 'Life Histories of North American Shore Birds' (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 142, p. 169) only four other specimens had been recorded south of Alaska up to March 1927. The last of these was taken by A. W. Anthony near San Diego, California, on September 16, 1921. California may now claim as well the first North American record of this species.—STANLEY C. BALL, *Peabody Museum, New Haven, Conn.*

The Broad-winged Hawk in Connecticut in Winter.—As there are so few definite winter records for the Broad-winged Hawk, the record of an immature bird taken in Stamford, Conn., January 12, 1929, may be of interest. The bird has been mounted and is now in the collection of the Stamford High School. It was shot while being mobbed by a flock of Crows, and was not at all shy. As its occurrence in winter is so unusual, I took the specimen to Mr. John T. Nichols of the American Museum of Natural History, who corroborated the identification.—DONALD D. SHIPLEY, *Stamford, Conn.*

Pheasants Killing a Quail.—On March 5, 1925, we received a report from the Biological Survey advising that a Bob-white (*Cotinus v. virginianus*) No. 283594 was found dead about January 15, 1925, by C. F. Pretler. The bird had just been killed and a Pheasant was feeding on it. This bird, a female, had been banded by us November 5, 1924. We communicated with Mr. Pretler and learned the details of the death of the bird. Mr. Pretler was rabbit hunting on an adjoining property one-half mile from where the bird had been banded. He flushed three Pheasants and found that they were feeding on the body of a freshly killed Bob-white. They had eaten the crop out and were working on the entrails. From tracks in the snow he found that the Pheasants had pursued the unfortunate

Quail for some distance before killing it. The Bob-white appeared to be in good health and showed no signs of previous injury.

At the present time (May, 1930) the Quail are very scarce here. A Pheasant farm has been established a mile away on state land and with it has come a decided increase in the number of Pheasants. We wonder if there can be any relation between the increase in Pheasants and the decrease in Quail.—LEONARD W. WING, *R. 3, Jackson, Michigan.*

Duck Hawk Wintering in Atlanta, Ga.—After several reports of Domestic Pigeons being slain by a Hawk around the Candler Building, the writer offered a small reward to the person who would notify him in time for an accurate observation to be made of the species. Several days later a woman working near the State Capitol Building telephoned to me that the Hawk was on and about the dome of the Capitol; so making a hurried trip there I went out on to the roof in time to see a handsome *Falco peregrinus anatum* fly from one of the ledges of the dome. This was on February 28, 1930, and I also made good observations of the same bird on March 1, 4, and 5. One of its wing feathers seemed to be broken and hung down somewhat. It undoubtedly had many a good meal on the Pigeons of that vicinity as on March 1 feathers were falling from the ledge where it was feeding and the roof of the Capitol had many feathers in certain spots. During the afternoon of March 5 a rather strange thing happened. A Sparrow Hawk lit on the flag pole of the east wing of the building, stayed about a minute and then flew away. Shortly afterward I saw it, uttering squeaky calls, dart several times toward and very close to the Duck Hawk, which was on a ledge of the dome. The Duck Hawk flew away pursued by the Sparrow Hawk for some distance, both getting out of my sight.—EARLE R. GREENE, *Atlanta, Ga.*

Stomach Contents of Barred Owl.—On September 8, 1929, I obtained a specimen of a Barred Owl (*Strix varia varia*) from Tamworth, N. H. The bird was shot early in the morning as it arose from a rotten log in the woods. An examination of the stomach contents revealed the following: 1 large slug; 7 white-lipped wood snails (*Polygyra albolabris*) with crushed shells; 1 small frog; 1 salamander.—LAWRENCE KILHAM, *Boston, Mass.*

A Lark New to Science from North-Central Kenya Colony.¹—While studying the variations of the Singing Bush-lark (*Mirafra cantillans*) I found that among the series of that species collected by the late Edgar A. Mearns were three specimens of a distinct, though related, and hitherto unknown, species, all from the Northern Guaso Nyiro River. This new Lark may be known as

***Mirafra candida* sp. nov.**

Type. U. S. Nat. Mus. no. 246221, adult male in molting condition, collected on the Northern Guaso Nyiro River, Kenya Colony, August 3, 1912, by Edgar A. Mearns.

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