

uttered while on the wing," citing Miss J. O. Crowell (a correspondent) as authority. This may be a variant of the song I have described, but it is much shorter, and I never heard the song delivered on the wing. So much for the three approximations I have referred to. Most authors appear to take it for granted that the bird is songless. I myself had previously supposed that a succession of call-notes constituted the only song of the species. That keen observer and careful recorder of bird-song, Mr. Aretas A. Saunders, had the same impression when he wrote in 'The Summer Birds of the Northern Adirondack Mountains' (Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin, Vol. 5, No. 3, page 374), "Occasionally it produces three or four prolonged notes in succession, 'ya-a-a-a-a, ya-a-a-a-a, ya-a-a-a,' which I believe represents the song of the species, for at such times the bird perches with head up in a song pose." It seems to me that if we call the *hah-hah-hah-hah-hah* (Chapman's rendering) of the White-breasted Nuthatch the regular song of that species—and it is certainly used as a song—we must consider the corresponding effort of the Red-breasted Nuthatch *its* regular song, in spite of its apparent rarity, though that does not preclude the possibility of a succession of ordinary call-notes being used for song purposes on occasion. The whole matter, however, seems to be somewhat mysterious. If, as appears, the Red-breasted Nuthatch has a perfectly good song, completely differentiated from the call-notes, why does he, as a rule, make so little use of it?—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

Nesting of Brown-headed Nuthatch at Amelia, Va.—The nesting of a pair of Brown-headed Nuthatches (*Sitta pusilla pusilla*) near Amelia, Virginia, forty miles west of Richmond on latitude 37° 20', and at an altitude of 280 feet, would seem to be of sufficient interest to warrant publication, as it appears to be considerably out of the usual nesting range of that Lower Austral species.

The nest was in a hole in an old cedar fence post that stands on the bank of a small stream, with pine woods on the south and an open pasture on the north. In late March the birds, the first ones observed in this country, were seen going to this hole, and thereafter I watched them as closely as limited time would permit.

On April 14, the faint chirping of the young birds was heard for the first time.

The parents were seen to feed the young on April 18, 24, 25, and 26 and on the last occasion the latter seemed to be fully grown and put their heads out of the hole to be fed. They had left the nest by April 30, after which I saw nothing of parents or young.—JOHN B. LEWIS, *Amelia, Va.*

Palmer's Thrasher, an Addition to the Florida List.—I record herewith the taking of an adult male Palmer's Thrasher (*Toxostoma curvirostre palmeri*) near Pensacola, Fla., on June 11, 1932. As far as is at present ascertainable, this form has never before been recorded east of Arizona, though a closely related race, the Brownsville Thrasher (*T. c. oberholseri*), ranges regularly to southeastern Texas.

The bird was first seen on June 5 when I was visiting the local Boy Scout Camp on Santa Rosa Sound, about twenty miles east of Pensacola. With me at the time were my three assistant instructors in Bird Study, Messrs. R. C. McClanahan, Jack Purdy, and C. L. Smith, Jr. All four of us, as well as some of the boys, had excellent views of the bird as it fed unconcernedly on the ground in an open sandy patch immediately behind the Camp and about fifty yards from the shore of the Sound. When we approached it, it would run (with noticeably longer strides than those of its common eastern relative) and then take wing with a whistled *whip-whip* of alarm. In flight it was surprisingly like the Brown Thrasher both in shape and actions, though its dull brown color and long curved bill distinguished it at once even from a passing glimpse.

Since the bird was apparently established in the locality—it returned to its feeding place several times within a few minutes of having been disturbed—it seemed wiser for us to take a chance on its staying in the vicinity for a few days until camp should be broken than to risk undoing any possible results of our teachings in conservation by borrowing a gun and shooting it in the presence of a number of small boys. Upon revisiting the spot late on June 11, I had no difficulty in securing the specimen.

Upon examination it proved to be an adult male in full sexual development. It was sent to the Biological Survey, where Mr. Arthur H. Howell identified it as a typical example of the Palmer's Thrasher, an opinion that was later confirmed by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. It was the further opinion of both gentlemen that the presence of this bird so far from its normal range could not be accounted for by human agency since the specimen shows no evidence of being an escaped cage bird. It is now in the Survey collection.—FRANCIS M. WESTON, *Bldg. 45, U. S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.*

The Golden-crowned Kinglet, a Summer Visitor in the District of Columbia.—Lying well within the boundaries of the District of Columbia, and bordering the East Branch of the Potomac River, is a tract of land, partially wooded and partially old fields somewhat overgrown with scrubby underbrush, that has been officially set aside to be developed as a national arboretum. As yet nothing has been done other than to make tentative plans for this area, with the result that there now exists, within sight of the nation's Capitol, a bit of wilderness possessing quite a varied bird life. On the morning of July 25, 1932, Arthur H. Howell and the writer, while making observations on the summer bird life of this arboretum, saw a Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa satrapa*) at the edge of a stretch of rather open woods. The foliage of the tree in which it was feeding, a dogwood, was rather dense, and had it not been for its characteristic notes the bird would undoubtedly have been overlooked. It fortunately proved not at all shy, so it was possible for us to watch it for several minutes as it fed overhead within a few feet of where we were standing, and to establish its identity beyond any question. There are no other records for