

bird is known to breed about the Miami area, where the writer has seen burrows at Hialeah and Opalocka. The geology of the Keys is anything but indicative of being good range for the Burrowing Owl, as it is almost entirely rock, with little soil anywhere. However, there are sandy patches on some of the Keys, notably Key Vaca and the vicinity of Marathon on that key. The A. O. U. 'Check-list' excludes the Keys from the range, but points out that allied races occur in the Bahamas, Haiti and other West Indian islands. *S. c. hypugaea* is said to winter "south to Panama." Thus, one is bound to consider the possibility that this bird may wander eastward to the Keys in winter. The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) certainly does so fairly regularly, even more so perhaps than one is led to believe from the literature. The writer found this species almost common in the Keys on the same trip in which the Burrowing Owls were observed. If the flycatcher comes to the Keys, the owl could do the same thing; there is more likelihood of that taking place than that the Bahaman birds come over.

At any rate, the occurrence seems to be something entirely overlooked heretofore. None of the observers who are familiar with Florida to whom the writer has appealed for information, has seen them in the Keys. None of the residents of the Keys seemed to know what was meant when asked about "ground owls." Natives of Tavernier, Matecumbe and Marathon were unfamiliar with them. The writer has spent a good deal of time in the Keys during the past three years but has not observed the birds hitherto and might not have seen them at all had it not been for the necessity of a night run from Tavernier to Marathon, a distance of some 48 miles. On the night of January 12, 1937, in company with Robert P. Allen of the Audubon Association's New York office, the round trip of 96 miles was made between 8.30 p. m. and midnight. The birds were flushed from the sides of the road and flew away in the beam of the car's headlights. The first three or four were not identified positively, for the appearance was very strange. A distinct impression of paleness was given, together with a sort of gangling posture in flight that was very peculiar. However, at about the fifth bird, one was seen in the middle of the road and the car slowed down and kept at very slow speed until the bird was within fifteen or twenty feet when every detail was apparent in the brilliant beam. That it was a Burrowing Owl was as plain as anything could well be. When it finally flushed, its appearance was identical with the others than had been seen earlier. After this, two others were seen, making a total of seven birds. One was seen in a small bush by the roadside and its eyes reflected the headlight beam beautifully. The localities were Lower Matecumbe Key, Long Key, Grassy Key and Key Vaca. The Over-seas Highway now travels causeways and bridges as far as Marathon without the necessity of a ferry, so it was possible to cover all these keys by car.

It is clear that some collecting should be done to establish definitely the identity of these Key Owls. It is probable that their occurrence has taken place for some time, and that they are almost entirely nocturnal which would account for the natives, being unfamiliar with them.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *National Assoc. Audubon Soc.*, Charleston, South Carolina.

Great Gray Owl in Connecticut.—On January 12, 1938, a large owl was discovered in a bare tree in the residential section of Hartford, though close to the business zone on a busy avenue where hundreds were passing during the noon hour. Just as soon as notified, I searched for and found this owl, and then studied it very carefully with a six-power binocular in five different locations covering perhaps half a mile in distance, and each time the bird was in a bare tree and up about forty

to fifty feet. I went very carefully over each field mark I could see from various angles and compared with the bird-book in hand, and made further search at home. Observation covered at least a half hour before the owl went beyond my view. Summing up everything with Mr. Arthur G. Powers, a careful observer who was with me all the time, I am positive that this big bird was a Great Gray Owl (*Scotiaptex nebulosa*) in excellent plumage. So far as I have learned, this is the fourth occurrence of the Great Gray Owl in Connecticut since 1843, the last being one seen near New Haven in 1934.—GEORGE T. GRISWOLD, 47 Willard St., Hartford, Connecticut.

Sennett's Nighthawk in Ohio.—Studies of nighthawk migrations in Ohio during the past three years led the writer to re-examine skins in the Ohio State Museum collection. One specimen (No. 5291) taken many years ago, was so light in color that it was assigned to Sennett's Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor sennetti*). This determination was recently confirmed by Dr. H. C. Oberholser of the Biological Survey. The bird, a male, taken September 18, 1900, at Jasper, Pike County, in southern Ohio, by W. L. Henninger, is the first specimen of this race taken in Ohio, though not the first recorded. This form has since been taken near Cleveland by O. E. Mueller (Aldrich, Auk, 53: 333-334, 1936). Of five nighthawks taken at random by Mr. Mueller in the fall of 1934, one was a male Sennett's (August 31, 1934); and of five birds taken in September 1935, one was a female of this same race (September 4, 1935). Thus, of ten birds taken near Cleveland, two, or twenty per cent, were *sennetti*. In reporting these records, Aldrich intimated that this race was probably much less frequent in migration in Ohio than this small sample would indicate. Subsequent work substantiates this conclusion. Several dozens of nighthawks handled by the writer from the autumn flights of 1935, 1936 and 1937 in various Ohio counties did not include a single individual that could be referred to *sennetti*, and few specimens even approached the characters of this race. Evidence to date indicates that *sennetti* probably composes less than one per cent of the annual fall migration of nighthawks through Ohio, although the three specimens taken in the State demonstrate that it may be a regular migrant.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*

Rediscovery of *Agyrtria luciae* (Lawrence).—One of the surprising acquisitions in a recent collection, obtained from C. F. Underwood, is a specimen from Catacamas, Olancho, eastern Honduras, taken on August 23, 1937. The author came to the conclusion that this was unquestionably the second known specimen of the exceedingly rare hummingbird, *Agyrtria luciae*. In order to make certain, it was forwarded to Mr. John T. Zimmer of the American Museum of Natural History, asking that it be compared with the type. A recent letter from Mr. Zimmer states: "I have made a comparison of your bird with the type of *Agyrtria luciae* and find excellent agreement. The type has the top of the head rather darker and duller than your bird and apparently lacks the fine pale tips on the upper tail coverts. It has a very slightly longer wing and tail and shorter bill but the differences are insignificant. The fresher condition of your bird makes its colors rather clearer but the pattern is identical. The rediscovery of this species is quite interesting and I am glad to have seen the specimen."

In the original description (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia, p. 233, 1867) no mention is made of the sex of the type specimen. However, in the genus *Agyrtria*, both sexes are similar and presumably they are in *luciae*. The recording of this second specimen removes this species from the doubtful class of possible hybrids.—ROBERT T. MOORE, *California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California.*