

Occurrence of American White Pelican and the American Avocet at Haywards, Cal. During the week of Nov. 17-24, 1899, large numbers of Avocets (*Recurvirostra americanus*) could be found feeding in the shallow salt ponds along the bay shore below Haywards. Several hundred could be seen bobbing up and down on the water, as they feed at the bottom of the ponds, which are only eight or nine inches deep. They are seldom seen in large flocks about the marsh ponds.

On Dec. 24, 1899, an adult male White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) was noted in a vacant lot in the center of the town of Haywards. It was first seen sailing low over the buildings at dusk and was followed by a band of small boys. One, a lad of great courage, told me he was afraid at first to tackle such a big-billed bird, but using one arm as a guard for his face, he made a center rush and put his arm around the big fellow, and bore off his prize! Two others were seen to alight in a field near town. Another was brought to me on Dec. 30, a lad having shot it in Redwood Canyon Creek, some six miles from Haywards. The bird was alone in the creek bottom. A thick fog was hanging over the valley, no doubt causing the pelicans to lose their bearings along the bay shore. This is the first time the species has been recorded from this locality.

A female Lewis' Woodpecker (*Melanerpes torquatus*) was shot in my orchard Jan. 4, 1900, and I have noticed it but twice in twenty years in this vicinity.

W. OTTO EMERSON, Haywards, Cal.

Nesting of the California Guckoo in Los Angeles Co., Cal. During the season of 1899 I found three nests of this species (*Coccyzus a. occidentalis*) in the willows along New River, where some of the birds may always be found during the spring and summer. Set No. 1 was taken June 17, 1899 and contained three fresh eggs. The nest was placed in a very bushy willow seven feet up and composed entirely of willow twigs and leaves, being very frail and flat and of the size of a dove's nest. Set No. 2 was taken July 2 and contained four badly incubated eggs, the nest being placed on a horizontal limb of a willow, six feet from the ground and similar in construction to the last. It would not have held another without an addition being made to the nest. The last set was taken July 19 and contained four eggs, considerably incubated, the nest being similar to the others.

J. J. SCHNEIDER, Anaheim, Cal.



On the Range of Some California Birds.

RICHARD C. MCGREGOR.

The excuse for the following notes is that they either extend the known range of the various birds mentioned or supply additional evidence of their occurrence in the given localities. To make more certain of the identification, specimens of all except the Waxwing and Roadrunner were sent to Mr. Ridgway who kindly gave his opinion on them.

Ampelis garrulus.—This species must be of rare occurrence in California as I find no records in the lists examined. It is not mentioned in the Death Valley Report, *N. A. Fauna No 7*; Ridgway and Coues give it as south in winter to northern border of the United States; Belding (*Ld. Bds. Pac. Dis.*, p. 165) records it from British Columbia, Fort

Walla Walla, Camp Harney, Willamette Valley and Fort Mojave, none of which are California records. However, as Fort Mojave is on the east side of the boundary, Cooper's record may or may not apply to California. The Stanford University collection contains a specimen taken by Edw. Garner at Quincy, Plumas County. The bird is a male and was collected February 15, 1892. Bryant has recorded the species from Susanville, where six were taken in February, 1892. (*Zoe*, IV, 226.)

Geococcyx californianus.—The Roadrunner has been observed occasionally among the hills west of Palo Alto and we have taken a few specimens near Santa Cruz, but never have considered it to be at all common so far north as

the San Francisco peninsula. I was consequently interested when my friend, Mr. Cloud Rutter, told me of seeing one near the Battle Creek Salmon Hatchery in October, 1898. I have no doubt as to his identification being correct. Another friend reported the species from Stillwater, twenty miles north of Redding, but I do not consider this reliable.

Poæcetes gramineus affinis.—Grinnell (*Bds. Pac. Slope, L. A. Co., p. 36.*) records this form as a common winter visitant of Los Angeles County, and Willard (*Bull. C. O. C., I, 30*) has taken it in Alameda County. I have a bird of the year taken at Berryessa and an adult taken at Battle Creek in October. In winter, probably, it is to be had throughout the state in suitable localities.

Carpodacus mexicanus clementis.—In measuring a series of finches from the southern coast islands, I find that those from Coronado and Todos Santos Islands are referable to *clementis*, thus extending the range of the sub-species into Lower California. Four from Todos Santos Island have the bill longer than in mainland birds and more slender than in *clementis* from more northern islands. The differences are very slight and do not warrant separation at present. Mr. Ridgway says that he refers to *clementis*, specimens from all the Santa Barbara islands, although they differ to a greater or less degree on different islands.

Astragalinus psaltria arizonæ.—I believe this race has been taken by Emerson at Haywards. Two examples from about fifty or seventy-five goldfinches collected at Palo Alto may be called *arizonæ*. There is a great variation in a large series, and perhaps more extended collecting would produce typical examples of this southern form.

Melospiza lincolni striata.—The type of this subspecies came from British Columbia, so we may reasonably expect to find it in Northern California. A female taken at San Geronimo, Marin county, February 10, 1899, is marked "*striata*" by Mr. Ridgway. An October female from Battle Creek, and a December male from Saint Helena are heavily streaked, and if not *striata*, are very near that race. All these northern

skins are much darker than winter San Diego county skins. Mr. Chase Littlejohn has two birds, taken at Redwood City, which were identified by Washington authorities as *striata*.

Ammodramus sandwichensis.—This species seems to have been rarely taken in California, and it is therefore a pleasure to record two specimens at least; one male taken December 9, 1884, at Gridley by Mr. Belding and a female which I secured at Battle Creek, October 13, 1898. The Sandwich Sparrow is doubtless a regular winter visitant to northern California, but as it associates with the commonest species (*alaudinus*), is usually overlooked. It may be known by the longer wing, longer and deeper bill. On a fence, as I went to work each morning at Battle Creek, there were always from six to a dozen Western Savanna Sparrows. Had more of these been taken it is probable that more of the larger bird as well would have been taken.



WITH the second volume of the *Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society*, J. Merton Swain of Portland, Me. assumes the duties of editor as successor to Mr. C. H. Morrell. The January issue contains a report of the society's annual meeting, an interesting paper by Ora W. Knight on certain sea birds of the Maine coast and other articles of merit. We congratulate our Maine brethren upon the neat appearance of their *Journal*.

MR. JOSEPH GRINNELL of the Southern Division has begun a two years' course at Stanford University, and his presence will grace the meetings of the Northern Division for some time to come.

RALPH Arnold writes from Stanford University under date of Feb. 25, that he has thus far found two nests of Anna's hummingbird this year, both containing young.

WM. L. ATKINSON of Santa Clara, Cal., reports California Shrike 1-6, Arkansas Goldfinch 1-4 and Barn Owl 1-7, all taken on March 5 while out after birds. This would seem to indicate an early season.