THE CONDOR

Two Interesting Stragglers for Marin Go. Gal. Coccothraustes v. montanus. While driving through our county-road gate about ten o'clock on the morning of Nov. 20, 1900, my attention was attracted by a small flock of strange birds in the top of an ash tree opposite. They were feeding upon the buds and were not in plain view, yet the white bands on the wings at once called to mind the Western Evening Grosbeak. It seemed impossible that this identification could be correct, as this bird is a very rare visitant to this county, two or three only having been reported as seen in years past, one specimen sent me from Olema and now in our collection, and one seen by me on July 15, 1900 while I was deer-hunting. Leaving my companion to watch the flock I drove back to the house about half a mile distant, after a gun, and upon returning found the flock still in the immediate neighborhood, and consisting of ten or twelve birds. Three were secured, one of which was a male, apparently upon dissection a bird of the year; one an adult female and the third a female bird of the year. This last was exceedingly fat, while the first two were thin.

Nucifraga columbiana. It is a pleasure to be able to mention the capture of a bird never before recorded from this county, and as far as I know, not suspected of ever having been even a straggling visitor. On the 20th of November, 1000, a box was sent me from Point Reyes station in this county, containing besides one specimen each of Porzana jamaicensis and Porzana noveboracensis, an immature female Clarke's Nutcracker to which was attached a note from the donor asking what manner of bird this might be. I immediately sent a note of thanks for the specimens and enclosed a list of questions concerning the capture, for the donor to answer. His reply contained the statements that the Clarke's Nutcracker was shot in a pine tree on the top of a ridge on Point Reyes proper, on the south-west side of Tomales Bay, Marin Co., Cal. by himself on Nov. 19; that this was the only one seen at the time, but that he had seen one about a month before in the same place, which he thought was the same individual as the one shot, and that one was seen about a mile from the spot the day before the capture by a member of the Country Club. This he also believes to be the same individual, but promises to keep a sharp lookout in order to verify his supposition. This party is a hunter of great experience and naturally of an observing nature, yet he states that during all the years in which he has hunted, and at times been game-keeper in this county, he has never before seen a bird of this species except as above mentioned. This specimen was much emaciated, as if it had been a difficult matter for it to find proper food in this region, though the locality where it was shot is partially covered with a species of nut pine which would seem to be adapted to the bird's needs, and vet which grows in no other part of the county.

JOSEPH MAILLARD, San Geronimo, Marin Co., Cal.

Two Albinos from San Mateo Go.. Gal. I have recently added two more albinos to my collection; one, a "white quail" (*Lophortyx californicus vallicolus*), a male, and the exact counterpart of the bird described by Mr. McGregor in a recent number of THE CONDOR. The other is a "white blackbird" (*Agelaius gubernator californicus*) with the exception of about half a dozen feathers on the breast and the same number between the shoulders on the back. The body is *pure* white, the top of the head is normal, the wings each contain about six or eight white feathers; the feathers on one side of the tail were shot away, those remaining being black. The bird has red shoulders but they are much paler than normal, and the color seems to have "run" across the breast and throat, giving these parts a rosy hue. This is the most interesting albino I have ever seen, it having been presented to me by Mr. Chas. Nichols of Pescadero, at which place it was shot. The quail was taken