

est in the Sierras with a hope of hearing it. Mr. Osgood in *North American Fauna No. 21* describes *Nyctala acadica scotæa* from Queen Charlotte Islands, which is probably quite, if not entirely, identical with specimens that have been taken in California, and also including Lichenstein's *Strix frontalis* which is grouped in Vol. 9 of *Pac. R. R. Reports* with *Nyctale albifrons*.

I hope *Nyctala* will be retained for the generic name of these owls and think no great violence will be done our code of nomenclature by retaining it. Dr. Coues somewhere suggested a statute of limitations whereby a name that had been in use about fifty years should continue in use,—a wise suggestion I think. *Nyctale* and *Nyctala* have done good service about that long; it seems to me that our greatest present want is stability of ornithological nomenclature.

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### **Mniotilta varia Recorded Again in California**

AS the result of an outing at Pacific Grove, Cal. I am enabled to again record the Black-and-White Warbler for California the specimen being a male in fall plumage. On Sept. 8, 1901 while driving out to Point Lobos, Monterey Co., at the Carmel River crossing my attention was attracted to a chickadee which I thought seemed to be chasing a chickadee of larger size. On collecting the bird I found it to be a Black-and-White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*); making the third recorded specimen for California. The two skins I have taken measure as follows: No. 784, Coll. W. O. E.; wing, 2.11; tail, 2.00 inches, Farallone Island, May 28, 1887; No. 3047, Coll. W. O. E., wing, 2.10; tail, 1.14 inches, Monterey Co., Cal. Sept. 8, 1901.

There seems to be no perceptible difference between these specimens and those from the Atlantic Coast. An immature female is recorded in "Birds of

the Pacific Slope of Los Angeles Co., Cal." by Grinnell, the specimen having been taken by H. A. Gaylord on Oct. 2, 1895 in Arroyo Seco near Pasadena, Cal.

W. OTTO EMERSON.

Haywards, Cal., Oct. 30, 1901.



### **The American Redstart in Oregon.**

While looking over the University of California collection of skins at Berkeley the past month for some records of the old Dr. Cooper collection, I noted a female American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) labelled "John Day River, Oregon, July 1, 1899," collected by Loye Miller, catalogue number 130. While being an Oregon take I consider it worthy of recording, as the date being late would indicate a nesting bird, and it may be found by some of the field-workers later on as occurring sparingly on the Pacific Slope, it being a summer resident of British Columbia.

W. OTTO EMERSON.

Haywards, Cal., Nov. 2, 1901.



### **Warbler Notes from Los Angeles, Cal.**

*Dendroica maculosa*. On October 5, 1901 while watching a flock of about a dozen Lutescent and Pileolated warblers feeding in some willows, I saw among them what I took to be an immature Calaveras Warbler. I shot at and secured it and on picking the bird up was agreeably surprised at finding it to be a female Magnolia Warbler. I believe this is only the second thus far taken in this county. On Oct. 21, 1897 I secured one, also a female, (recorded in Grinnell's "List of Birds of the Pacific Slope of Los Angeles Co.") about a quarter of a mile from where I took this bird.

*Helminthophila celata*. For about six weeks, commencing with Sept. 1, Lutescent Warblers were quite abundant in the vicinity of Los Angeles. I carefully scrutinized the various flocks I saw in the hope of finding some Orange-crowned Warblers, and was rewarded by securing two specimens, a