

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Correction.—In an article upon the manuscript of Charles Lucien Bonaparte, in the March number of THE CONDOR, is a mistake in the family history evidently made originally by Dr. Cooper and which was not corrected later on in the text. Prince Carlo Luciano Bonaparte was a nephew of Napoleon I instead of a cousin, his father being Lucien, prince of Canino, a brother of Napoleon I, and he was a cousin of Napoleon III instead of an uncle.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *San Geronimo, Marin Co., Cal.*

San Geronimo Notes.—The present winter has been such a mild one, with such a splendid rainfall and heavy growth of verdure, that it seemed reasonable to suppose these unusual conditions would have more or less effect upon our bird life. I looked forward to an increase in the number of birds in consequence of it. The reverse has been the case, however, as far as our winter residents are concerned. Instead of the varied thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) being in evidence on all sides I have seen but one or two during the whole winter, while the dwarf hermit thrush (*Hylocichla g. nana*) has been exceedingly scarce and the western robin (*Merula m. propinqua*) present in very small numbers. The same state of affairs has been reported from other localities in the vicinity of San Francisco. Under these circumstances it is natural to assume that either these birds have found food and climatic conditions so favorable farther north that they have not worked their way down to us, or they have found food so plentiful everywhere that they have scattered widely through the state instead of concentrating in the usually most favorable localities. Will not some of the members of the Cooper Club in different parts of the state help us to solve this problem by giving their observations in these pages?

The only records worthy of especial note at the moment in this locality are the capture of another white-throated sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) in February, and the taking of a female Hutton's vireo (*Vireo huttoni*) that was evidently either laying or just ready to do so on March 14th, a remarkably early date for the nesting of this species in this region.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *San Geronimo, Marin Co., Cal.*

Falco richardsoni in Southern California.—In a list of birds noted at the Annual Outing Meeting of the Southern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club which was held in the San Fernando Valley, Los Angeles Co., Cal., October 31st to November 2nd 1903 (see CONDOR, vol. VI, No. 1, page 22), I noted the taking of a specimen, October 31st, of *Falco columbarius*. At the time Mr. Grinnell called attention to its light color, and other members thought it might prove to be *Falco richardsoni*, but several hawks taken heretofore in the same locality were all typical *Falco columbarius*, and there being no *richardsoni* in southern California collections for comparison, it was, for the time being labeled *columbarius*. Through the kindness of Dr. Dearborn, the skin has recently been compared with the Field Columbian Museum series under his care, and at once pronounced *Falco richardsoni*. It is evidently a bird of the year in fresh fall plumage, with the light colored tail bands somewhat narrower than in the adult. The only previous California record (see Grinnell's Check List of California Birds, page 33.) is that of Henshaw who records a specimen secured at Walker Basin, August 28, 1875.—FRANK S. DAGGETT, *Chicago, Ill.*

A Correction.—In the CONDOR for July and August, 1904, p. 99, Rev. S. H. Goodwin calls attention to an error in the Handbook of Birds of the Western United States, under *Larus franklinii*. The Utah note that he refers to, as I now recall the circumstance, was interpolated in the copy, and by a most unfortunate accident placed under *franklinii* instead of *californicus*.

Absence in the field prevented my seeing the July CONDOR on publication, and Mr. Goodwin's article has only just come to my attention. I now hasten to acknowledge the correction and to thank Mr. Goodwin for calling attention to the error, which will of course be corrected in the next edition of the Handbook.—VERNON BAILEY, *Washington, D. C., March 27, 1905.*

Snow-bound.—A specimen of *Rallus virginianus*, in the flesh, was sent me from the Summit of the C. P. R. R. (Donner, P. O.) altitude 7000 feet, April 21, 1904. It must have been crossing to the east slope of the Sierras but a violent snow storm compelled it, presumably, to take refuge in an outbuilding, where it was caught. Snow at that time was nine feet deep on the level at the summit.—L. BELDING, *Stockton, Cal.*

The Irrepressible Oregon Chickadee.—Has anyone ever collected *Parus a. occidentalis* in California? When I was working on Land Birds of the Pacific District I enquired of four persons, who had given it a place in their lists of birds from central and southern California, if *P. gambeli* was not the species they had seen instead of *P. a. occidentalis*, and three of them said they thought it was. One of the three was Mr. Evermann. Not one of the four had mentioned the very common *P. gambeli*.

On page 268, Land Birds of the Pacific District, there is an annoying error. My manuscript

was changed by omitting *was* after *Melospiza f. guttata* and adding an *s* to the word "resident," thus making me misquote Mr. Evermann, concerning *P. a. occidentalis* and other species.

Mr. Ridgway, in Part III, Birds of North and Middle America cites (with ?) Mr. Evermann's Ventura County record and his own observation in the valley east of Sacramento City in 1867. Neither Mr. Ridgway nor Mr. Evermann preserved a specimen.—L. BELDING, *Stockton, Cal.*

Corrections.—On page 268, Land Birds of Pacific District, under *Errata* is an error. Read: "Page 1, Fourth paragraph should be inserted at foot of 7th paragraph," instead of 7th page.

Mr. Grinnell, in *Avifauna* 3, gives *Lanius borealis* a southward range in California to Calaveras County, and Mr. Ridgway, by citing Mr. Grinnell, repeats the error in Birds of North and Middle America.—L. BELDING, *Stockton, Cal.*

Erroneous Records Corrected.—Dr. Wolcott of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union has called my attention to some errors in an article written by me, and printed in the November-December 1904 number of THE CONDOR. These were due to recent identifications, my work having been done about six years ago, and to my not having known that some doubtful records had been thrown out, by the Nebraska Union Committee, on account of no specimens having been taken. There are no Sioux County records for barred owl, dusky poor-will, Lincoln sparrow, cedar wax-wing, Cassin vireo, russet-backed thrush, yellow-billed cuckoo and Baird sparrow. Cabanis woodpecker should be Rocky Mountain woodpecker; American goldfinch, the western goldfinch, and the slender-billed nuthatch, the Rocky Mountain. In some way, probably a slip on my part in copying, parts of two paragraphs on page 170 were omitted. The paragraph—beginning in line 35 should read, "The prairie falcon although occurring in Santa Cruz County, was not seen during the summer; in Sioux County it is a rather common resident. The raptors are rather more abundant, in individuals, in Sioux County. This is due to the fact that the country is thinly settled and the birds have a chance to live undisturbed.—J. S. HUNTER, *Berkeley, Cal.*

Robin Notes.—Following a suggestion, numerous letters were sent out to ascertain the whereabouts of the western robin (*Merula migratoria propinqua*) which is usually common in the region about San Francisco Bay in winter but which has been absent or very rare during the past winter. The following replies have been received to date.—ED.

Swan Lake Valley, near Klamath Falls, Klamath Co., Oregon.—Last winter was unusually mild, making it possible for several kinds of birds to remain with us instead of going to their usual southern resorts. These include robins and meadowlarks. The common robin nests throughout this region and is abundant usually from March 1 until regular winter weather begins, only staying through the winter when it is usually mild as last winter.—ELMER I. APPLIGATE, *Klamath Falls, Ore.*

Alta, Placer Co., Cal., on C. P. R. R., alt. 3600.—Robins have been rare all winter, probably on account of warm weather and lack of snow at higher elevations. Usually they are common. They were common at Blue Canyon, 4400 ft., March 21, and were singing in great numbers. Here they were feeding on dry berries of manzanita and *Heteromeles*.—W. W. PRICE.

Applegate, Placer Co., Cal., on C. P. R. R.—Robins are never very common here in the uplands, in winter. Usually they keep to the American River side canyons in large flocks, and were there this year in large numbers about a month ago [latter part of Feb.]. They are, I think, in their normal numbers here now, both in the canyons and in the upland meadows. They left Truckee region in large numbers at about their usual time in the fall, with the exception of a few flocks which went through much later, that is, long after the rainy and snowy spell of last September. I am sure they are not up there now, even sparingly. I have not seen or heard a varied thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) since I returned here, Dec. 25, 1904, which is remarkable.—JOHN J. WILLIAMS, *March 24, 1905.*

Fyffe, El Dorado Co., Cal., alt. 3700 ft.—There have been no robins here during the past winter. I was told that they have been numerous about Diamond Springs, about two and a half miles west of Placerville, and at other places up to about 2000 feet. Robins are still scarce, although there are a few here now. I have seen no varied thrushes this winter. Winter has been unusually mild here.—L. E. TAYLOR, *April 4, 1905.*

Three Rivers, Tulare Co., Cal., [foothills, lower portion of Upper Sonoran belt].—I have not observed the usual number of robins or juncos this winter, nor have I seen any varied thrushes, but I am pretty sure I heard a varied thrush on two occasions. We had wild oats headed out here in January, which is something I never saw before.—W. F. DEAN.

Lone Pine and Cottonwood Canyon (Mt. Whitney).—No robins were observed the last week of March either at Lone Pine or on the lower slopes of Whitney. I ascended the canyon nearly to the yellow pines (*ponderosa*). Robins were "reported" by the inhabitants, however. Weather stormy.—EARL MORRIS, *Stanford Univ., Cal.*

Auburn, Cal., C. P. R. R., alt. about 1000 ft.—Robins have been present in usual numbers during the past winter.—Dr. R. F. ROONEY.