

The Bulletin on the English Sparrow, published by the Department of Agriculture in 1889, showed that none of the region south of Monterey had been invaded.

When I first came to Portland in 1887, I didn't find an Englisher in the city. The bird was unknown here. The first pair likely came in the following year; for in the spring of 1889, I found a pair had reared a family about an ivy-covered house on Fourth and Pine streets. Since that time I have watched the population of the city grow till there is hardly a street that isn't overcrowded from the river to the hills.

The most unique example of sparrow nest-building we found one year when we discovered an Englisher in possession of a hornet's nest. The hornets had built up under the projecting eaves of the front porch of a cottage, just beside the bracket. I don't know whether the hornets left voluntarily or with the aid of the sparrows. The birds entered the nest thru the triangular hole in the bracket and had pulled out a part of the comb and replaced it with grass and feathers. As the young sparrows grew I expected to see the bottom drop out of the nest, but it didn't; it lasted for a second brood.

*Portland, Oregon.*

## FROM FIELD AND STUDY

**The Vermilion Flycatcher at Santa Barbara.**—On the 15th of March, 1907, on the Modoc Road west of Santa Barbara, I came upon a Vermilion Flycatcher. It was catching insects after its manner, perching between whiles upon the fence posts or the wire, and now and then betaking itself for a little to the top of a neighboring oak. It seemed but yesterday, tho it was four years ago, that I had seen my first bird of this kind (the first of many) doing the same thing, with the same phoebe-like flirt of its tail, from a wire fence at Tucson, Arizona. Here, as there, the bird was very "observable", and I stayed with it for fifteen minutes or more, admiring its brilliant color, and in my enthusiasm pointing it out to a passing school boy, to whom I lent my twelve-power field-glass for an observation. "Yes," he said, when I inquired if he had "got it"; "yes, it is red and everything."

This, I understand from the Editor of THE CONDOR, is at least one of the northernmost records for the species in California.—BRADFORD TORREY, *Newton Lower Falls, Massachusetts.*

**Where Does the Western Boundary Line Run for the Arizona Quail?**—I recently made a trip from Mecca, California, around the western shore of the so-called Salton Sea to Calexico, on New River, and at that place we crossed to Lower California. We went thru the pass at the north end of the Cocopah range, into and down the valley that lies between the Cocopah and Coast Ranges for about 70 miles. We more than circled the former range without once getting out of the living ground of *Lophortyx gambeli*. How much further west or south they live I do not know, but would much like to. Having found them on the west side of the Cocopahs I was not, of course, surprised to find them east of it. Kindly enlighten me thru THE CONDOR.—HERBERT BROWN, *Tucson, Arizona.*

**Notes from Clipperton and Cocos Islands.**—In looking over "The Birds of Clipperton and Cocos Islands," by Messrs. Snodgrass and Heller, on my return from the Galapagos in 1902, I noticed the absence from their list of several species that were present on the islands when our party called. We stopped at Clipperton Island November 19, 1901, and went ashore for several hours. I saw on Clipperton Island in addition to the birds seen by Messrs. Snodgrass and Heller: *Squatarola squatarola* (Black-bellied Plover), two seen; *Numenius hudsonicus* (Hudsonian Cur-

lew), one seen; *Plegadis* (?) (A black Ibis), one seen; *Fulica americana* (American Coot), two seen feeding under banks on the edge of the lagoon. Several hundred ducks were seen, the majority being of the following species: *Dafla acuta* (Pintail); *Mareca Americana* (Bald pate); *Querquedula discors* (Blue-winged Teal); *Spatula clypeata* (Shoveller); and a single *Fuligula vallisneria* (Canvasback). Tho several flocks flew quite near me in circling about the lagoon the only one shot was a Shoveller and this one was only winged and was not secured. *Sula variegata*—Amongst the thousands of Blue-faced Boobies, two of this species were seen and one of them, a female, shot. The other seemed to be paired with a Blue-faced Booby.

On Cocos Island, January 26, 1902: *Ægialitis semipalmata* (Semipalmated Plover), four seen; *Streptopelia interpres* (Turnstone), six seen; *Butorides virescens* (Green Heron), one shot; *Nyctanassa violacea* (Yellow-crowned Night Heron), two seen; *Querquedula discors* (Blue-wing Teal), one shot, two more seen; *Sula variegata* (Variegated booby), two seen; *Falco peregrinus* (Duck Hawk), one seen.—R. H. BECK, *Monterey, California*.

**The Mew Gull in Southern California.**—On the 14th of April, 1907, I secured a female specimen of *Larus canus* on Alamitos Bay, Los Angeles County, California.

The gull was resting on the mud flat exposed by low tide; it was standing alone, about fifteen feet from a large flock of American Herring and Western Gulls and was quite easily approached by boat, altho the Herring and Western Gulls were noisily leaving the vicinity.

This is the only individual of this species that I have seen this season, altho I have spent almost the entire time on the Los Angeles County coast and adjacent islands, since January 1st.—C. B. LINTON, *Long Beach, California*.

**Magnolia Warbler in Oregon.**—Mr. William Warner of Salem, Oregon, says that in January one of his friends brought in a Magnolia Warbler (*Dendroica maculosa*) which was picked up dead in his front yard. He thought the bird had killed itself by flying against the window. The person who found the bird reported seeing a small band of these Warblers about the locality. I do not know of any other record of this bird in Oregon.—W. L. FINLEY, *Portland, Oregon*.

**The Horned Grebe in Southern California.**—On the morning of November 4, 1906, while rowing in San Diego Bay, near the Hotel Del Coronado, I heard a shot from a yacht nearby and noticed the yachtsmen put about and pick up a bird from the water, glance at it and throw it back.

I was immediately upon the scene and gathered in the specimen which proved to be a beautiful adult female Horned Grebe (*Colymbus auritus*).

There were several hundred American Eared Grebes in the bay, but I observed no other *C. auritus* during my four months stay in this locality. I have since taken a juvenile female *C. auritus* in Alamitos Bay, Los Angeles County, January 14, 1907.—C. B. LINTON, *Long Beach, California*.

**A New Record for Colorado.**—In "May or June, 1900", Mr. B. G. Voigt (deceased) shot a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) between Palmer Lake and Monument, Colorado. In "May 1902", he shot two more specimens of the same species on the Arkansas River about 2 miles east of Pueblo, Colorado. I examined and identified these birds and while doing so was struck with the paleness of the bill, corresponding to the fall and winter plumage of this species. I thereupon sent one of the birds to Mr. Robert Ridgway, who writes that there is in the National Museum collections a specimen in this plumage which was taken as early as July 28, and who thinks that the dates, "May" and "June", as given to me, are certainly erroneous. I cannot vouch for these dates, nor is it possible now to confirm the note which Mr. Voigt gave me. This establishes another new species for Colorado.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Colorado*.

**Mexican Black Hawk in California.**—On the 26th of November, 1906, I secure ad male *Urubitinga anthracina* within the city limits of National City, San Diego County, California. The hawk was making a second attempt to capture a tame duck on the shore of a pond about twenty-five yards from the Wallace racing stables of this city, and was shot by one of the stable hands, I being present at the time.

This is the third of this species killed in this locality during 1905-06.—C. B. LINTON, *Long Beach, California*.