

May, 1908

NOTES FROM SANTA CRUZ ISLAND

Psaltriparus minimus minimus. California Bush-tit. Several seen. One taken.

Regulus calendula. Ruby-crowned Kinglet. Common.

Poliophtila cærulea obscura. Western Gnatcatcher. A gnatcatcher heard on several occasions in the brush. Probably of this species.

Hylocichla ustulata ustulata. Russet-backed Thrush. One secured.

Hylocichla guttata nana. Dwarf Hermit Thrush. Common.

Long Beach, California.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

The Green-winged Teal (*Nettion carolinensis*) breeding in California.—While engaged in field work for the U. S. Biological Survey along the west shore of Tulare Lake, California, I secured a female Green-winged Teal and set of seven eggs, July 7, 1907. The brooding bird was shot as she flew from the nest. Several other ducks of the same species were seen within a few miles, and appeared to be part of a quite local colony.

This is apparently the first record of the nesting of *Nettion carolinensis* in the State.—E. A. GOLDMAN, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Cooper Hawks Attacking Crows.—During the fall of 1907 a flock of crows, numbering perhaps a thousand, frequently came out from the San Francisco Bay shore to spend the day with us at San Geronimo, feeding about the fields and on the hillsides. It happened that about noon on October 27th the flock lit in some trees near our barns. As I came out of the house just after lunch there was quite a commotion in the flock, and it proved that two Cooper Hawks (*Accipiter cooperi*) were attacking the crows, doing some remarkably good team work in their endeavors to lay low one of their dusky enemies. The crows were, however, too alert for the hawks and no loss was inflicted beyond a few feathers. The excitement was so great that I was enabled to walk up on the flock and bag both hawks. One is accustomed to see crows attacking hawks, and it seems rather surprising that the opposite would take place. But in this instance there was no doubt in the world of the true state of the case. The crows were quietly perched on the dead tops of some alders that had been killed by the changing of the course of a small stream, and the hawks deliberately pitched into them, one attacking from above and the other from below. One hawk would perch on top of a tree above the crows while the other would go off a little way and then swoop down on the flock, repeating the operation—with variations. Whether this was all done in a spirit of bravado, or for the purpose of securing a meal, it is of course impossible to determine. My foreman and I watched the game for some time before killing the hawks; then seeing that no damage was being done and fearing to lose the opportunity of destroying such enemies to bird life as the Cooper Hawk has proved itself to be, I walked up to the flock and shot both the members of the attacking party.—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *San Francisco, California.*

Salpinctes obsoletus pulverius restricted to San Nicholas Island.—After carefully examining specimens from San Clemente Island, Mr. Grinnell confirms my opinion that they are *Salpinctes obsoletus* and that the name *S. o. pulverius* should be restricted to the San Nicholas Island Rock Wren.—C. B. LINTON, *Long Beach, California.*

Odds and Ends From Washington State.—What I call my "Old Curiosity Shop," a succession of weed grown fields bordered by alders, is situated in the heart of the Puyallup Valley in an abundantly watered region. It has done unusually well for me during the past fall and winter, having produced the following records which must be considered very unusual for this State.

The first surprise came on November 7, in the shape of a white-winged Dove (*Melopelia leucoptera*), which proved to be an adult female. Even at this date the feathers were in a surprisingly good state of preservation, removing the very unlikely possibilities of its being a cage-bird. This is the only record of this dove from Washington, and we can hardly surmise what could have driven it so far from its natural habitat.

December 16: I flushed two Golden-crowned Sparrows (*Zonotrichia coronata*) that were in