

tions made by the writer on Catalina Island during the first seventeen days of March, 1919, it has been thought that the following notes might be worth recording. Unfortunately permission was not had to do any shooting on the island, and specimens could not be taken. The subspecific identity of four of the following birds has therefore not been established.

At least one, and probably two, Sparrow Hawks (*Falco sparverius* subsp.) were seen on numerous occasions about Avalon and on the terraces overlooking the town, and on March 9, three of these birds were seen on a ten-mile walk toward the upper end of the island. On this same walk, about five miles from the town, a Pigeon Hawk (*Falco columbarius* subsp.) was seen at close range.

The Sapsucker whose work is so much in evidence on the trees in and about Avalon was caught at his drilling on two occasions, both within the town itself, on the 15th and 16th respectively, and proved to be the Red-breasted (*Sphyrapicus ruber ruber*).

On the 10th a flock of perhaps twenty Juncos (*Junco hyemalis* subsp.) was noted high up the slopes back of the town in a very brushy place where the going was bad. The birds were positively identified as Juncos, but a close enough view was not had to warrant even a guess as to the form.

A Hermit Thrush, supposedly the Alaska (*Hylocichla guttata guttata*), was everywhere common, from the beach to the top of the ridge, and no place on the island was visited where these birds could not be found scattered about in numbers. They were by far the most numerous land-bird observed during the entire seventeen days.

Three Western Robins (*Planesticus migratorius propinquus*) were seen on the 6th in the orchard of John Brinkley (Chicken John), whose attention was called to them and who stated that in a twenty-eight year's residence on the spot he had not before noticed the bird. Two residents of Avalon reported Robins in their door-yards on the same day, and remarked on the unusualness of seeing Robins on Catalina.

A scattered flock of between thirty and forty Western Bluebirds (*Sialia mexicana occidentalis*) was under observation from March 5 to 10 on the beautiful golf course back of the town. These birds also proved to be curiosities to some of the natives. A Sharp-shinned Hawk was seen to attack this flock repeatedly. The Bluebirds apparently left during the night of the 10th, as they were searched for over the entire lower end of the island and none was met with after that date.—HARRY HARRIS, *Kansas City, Missouri, April 18, 1919.*

Notes from Southern California.—Additional records of the Baird Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*): September 10, 1918, I found two of these birds on the beach near Del Rey, Los Angeles County. One, a female, was secured. More than three weeks later, on October 4, a lone male was taken in the same immediate locality. Was this mere coincidence, or is it fresh material for the mated-for-life theorists? The rarity of the species on this coast, and the circumstances under which these birds were taken, certainly suggest a mated pair, of which, one being killed, the remaining bird lingered in the same locality until it, also, was collected.

Lewis Woodpecker (*Asyndesmus lewisi*) in the San Bernardino Mountains: One taken on Deep Creek, and one at Big Bear Lake, September 19 and 22, respectively, 1918. Likely the species is of regular occurrence in these mountains, but I know of no published records.

White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*): A bird of this species came regularly to a feeding-table at the home of Mrs. W. H. Martz, 5166 Hollywood Blvd., Los Angeles, where I examined it leisurely at a distance of about twenty feet. It was first noted late in November, 1918, and seen almost daily until some time during the following February, always in company with a flock of Gambel Sparrows, which never allowed the other to feed until they were sated.

Cliff Swallow (*Petrochelidon lunifrons*) and Phainopepla (*Phainopepla nitens*) on Santa Catalina Island: A flock of about twenty Cliff Swallows was noted on May 12, 1918. This, I believe, constitutes the first record for the Island. The Phainopepla was seen on the 14th of the same month, this record being the earliest but not the first published one of the species.

Baird Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax pelagicus resplendens*): A dead bird on the beach near Hyperion, January 6, 1919, is the only one of the species I have found during

five years of beach work. Other collectors state they have never seen it in this locality; hence the record seems worthy of publication.

Little Brown Crane (*Grus canadensis*): A specimen shot at dusk on January 31, 1918, near Los Angeles, by a hunter who mistook it for a goose, was presented to this Museum, where it was mounted and placed on exhibition.

Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*): A winter record, January 6, 1919, appears unique. The bird was seen from a car window, near Del Rey; but no mistake could have been made in identification.

A cripples' convention: While bird-looking on the beach January 1, 1919, near Hermosa Beach, I noted a flock of Sanderling (*Calidris leucophaea*) that acted peculiarly. By working carefully along at some distance from the water, the birds were induced to string out in a line near the water's edge and passed me in that formation, eight of them running and *fourteen hopping*, and close inspection with a glass showed that fourteen of that flock were one-legged. Less than 200 feet farther up the beach were six Knots (*Tringa canutus*) (note the winter record) of which two were "hoppers"; while close beside them, farther from the water, was a flock of seventeen Snowy Plover (*Aegialitis nivosa*) of which not less than five were one-legged. It would seem natural that birds of one species, crippled and unable to compete on even terms with their normal fellows, should flock together to some extent; but such a percentage of cripples, of three species, and the proximity of the different groups of cripples, is interesting, to say the least.—L. E. WYMAN, *Museum of History, Science and Art, Los Angeles, June 14, 1919.*

The MacFarlane Screech Owl in California.—Through an oversight there was omitted from the 1915 California state list of birds a race of screech owl fully entitled to have been included. This was the MacFarlane Screech Owl, *Otus asio macfarlanei* (Brewster), the claims to which as a bird of California were clearly set forth by Mr. Robert Ridgway in 1914 (*Birds of North and Middle America, Part vi, pp. 697-698*). He gives the range of this owl as including "northeastern California (Fort Crook; Baird, Shasta County?)". The evidence for its occurrence at Baird remains questionable, but for Fort Crook, which is near Burgettville in extreme northeastern Shasta County, there is a specimen in the United States National Museum.

Through the kind offices of Dr. Chas. W. Richmond, Associate Curator of Birds in the National Museum, the undersigned has been privileged to examine this Fort Crook specimen. It is no. 16027, U. S. Nat. Mus., male, taken by John Feilner (probably in 1860), and is in apparently as good state of preservation as if it were taken last year instead of nearly sixty years ago. The present writer has made comparisons between this bird and *macfarlanei* from eastern Washington, without detecting differences of any seeming consequence. Larger size, greater extent of blackish markings on the contour feathers generally, and the browner tone of color dorsally, serve to distinguish it from any specimen of the more southern California races, *bendirei*, *quercinus* and *gilmani*.

The Fort Crook bird, having been in existence so long, has been commented upon by a number of writers before Ridgway announced its status in positive terms. Brewster (*Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, vii, 1882, p. 32*) considered it an intergrade between *bendirei* and *kennicottii*; Townsend (*Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., x, 1887, p. 203*) placed it under the name "*kennicottii*"; Brewster (*Auk, viii, 1891, p. 143*) thought it "about intermediate" between *bendirei* and *macfarlanei*; and Hasbrouck (*Auk, x, 1893, p. 256*) put it under *bendirei*.

Collectors visiting the Modoc region of extreme northeastern California should keep special lookout for the MacFarlane Screech Owl. It ought to be common there locally, even though but one California-taken specimen seems as yet to be contained in any museum.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, April 18, 1919.*

A Breeding Record for the Red-headed Woodpecker in New Mexico.—On Monday, June 16, while making a trip about five miles south of Albuquerque in company with S. E. Piper and J. S. Ligon, of the U. S. Biological Survey, we saw a Red-headed Woodpecker (*Melanerpes erythrocephalus*) enter a hole in a dead cottonwood tree. An examination showed the hole to contain young birds, probably about ten days old. Both adults were observed a few minutes later carrying food to the young, and on passing the same place about dark one of the old birds was found on the nest. As nearly as I am aware