

was found feeding about a small snow bank. There was strong suggestion that the three birds constituted part of a family reared in the immediate vicinity. The date was July 15, 1919.

I was surprised also to find on two occasions the Western Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila caerulea obscura*) at timber line on Mount Tallac. Nine thousand feet is pretty well up for this species, commonly considered Sonoran.

I was further interested to obtain a specimen of the Western Redtail (*Buteo borealis calurus*) in the timber of a deep canyon, and to find in its crop the remains of a full grown Douglas Chickaree (*Sciurus douglasi albolimbatus*). The Chickaree is seldom seen in the open. He is almost limited to the denser timber. My concept of the Red-tailed Hawk was that he is a plainsman—a bird of the open country feeding upon the ground squirrel and the jack rabbit. To take the Douglas Chickaree must have required a quickness of wing action not generally conceded to this rather heavy hawk.—LOYE MILLER, *Southern Branch, University of California, Los Angeles, January 26, 1920.*

**Some Winter Birds at the Grand Canyon, Arizona.**—Although the Grand Canyon is visited each year by thousands of sight-seers, there has been almost nothing published about the birds of that region. This may be, perhaps, because of the all engrossing scenic attractions, causing even the most confirmed bird lover to abandon his hobby for the time being, or because of the relative scarcity of bird life. However that may be, there seems to have been but one paper published upon this subject, a "List of birds noted at the Grand Canyon of the Colorado, Arizona, September 10 to 15, 1889", by C. Hart Merriam (U. S. Dept. Agric., North American Fauna no. 3, 1890, pp. 38-41).

The present authors spent three days at the Grand Canyon, December 18-20, 1919. Although our time was short we covered as much ground and of as great variety as could well be done in that period. We arrived early in the morning of the 18th. That afternoon, through the courtesy of Mr. W. F. Peters, Acting Superintendent of the Grand Canyon National Park, we were enabled to join a party he was conducting into the Canyon. We descended the Hermit's Rest Trail to Hermit's Rest Camp, where we spent the night. The next day we rode some nineteen miles up the Canyon on the Tonto Trail, to the junction of the latter with the Bright Angel Trail, by which we returned to El Tovar. Our last day was devoted to walks along the rim.

Early in the morning of the 18th there had been a rainstorm, but before noon the sky cleared and it remained clear during the rest of our stay. On the rim the temperature fell below freezing at night, but the snow melted in the sun during the day. The air was appreciably warmer down in the Canyon. There was considerable snow on the ground on the rim, and extending downward into the Canyon over the first mile or so of the trail.

*Astur atricapillus atricapillus.* Eastern Goshawk. An adult bird seen December 18, at close range, at the rim of the Canyon near the Hermit's Rest Trail.

*Dryobates villosus leucothorectis.* White-breasted Woodpecker. A single bird, observed near El Tovar Hotel, December 20.

*Dryobates scalaris cactophilus.* Cactus Woodpecker. A woodpecker was seen December 19 on the Tonto Trail, about midway between Hermit's Rest Camp and the Bright Angel Trail, flying from one agave stalk to another. The surroundings and the appearance of the bird were both so strongly indicative of this species, that although this is no more than a "sight identification", I have no doubt as to its accuracy. There is a record from a point still farther northwest in Arizona: confluence of Beaverdam Creek and the Virgin River (Fisher, N. Am. Fauna, no. 7, 1893, p. 47).

*Colaptes cafer collaris.* Red-shafted Flicker. Two or more seen and heard near El Tovar Hotel.

*Cyanocitta stelleri diademata.* Long-crested Jay. Seen at various points along the rim between El Tovar Hotel and the Hermit's Rest Trail.

*Aphelocoma woodhousei.* Woodhouse Jay. Not as numerous as the last mentioned species, or at any rate not so conspicuous. Not more than three or four observed.

*Nucifraga columbiana.* Clarke Nutcracker. While not abundant, some individuals of this species could be seen about the hotel and other buildings at any time.

*Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus.* Pinyon Jay. Seen and heard at various points

along the rim; one bird noted on the Hermit's Rest Trail about a thousand feet below the rim. There was a large flock (we estimated its size at two hundred at least) feeding about some stables not far from the hotel, and these birds were so tame as to permit observation at very close range.

*Passer domesticus*. English Sparrow. Fairly abundant about the hotels and other buildings at the railroad terminus. Not seen elsewhere.

*Spinus pinus*. Pine Siskin. Seen at several points along the rim; not more than eight or ten all told.

*Junco hyemalis hyemalis*. Slate-colored Junco. One male bird seen December 20 in a flock of black-headed juncos. It was observed at close range with field glasses.

*Junco oreganus shufeldti*. Shufeldt Junco. Black-headed juncos of the *oreganus* type were fairly numerous in the woods along the rim of the Canyon. Presumably they were mostly of this subspecies, which is a common winter visitant throughout the state.

*Bombycilla garrula*. Bohemian Waxwing. As we stepped from El Tovar Hotel the morning of our arrival, December 18, almost the first thing encountered was a flock of these birds. Our attention was first attracted by the hissing call-note, and a moment later a flock of fifteen Bohemian Waxwings swept past. They disappeared for a few minutes, but came in sight again a little later and settled in a juniper nearby. There they set to work gorging themselves upon mistletoe berries, quite unmindful of our presence. We approached cautiously until we were almost directly under the tree. Then some of the birds, moving about, came still nearer, until there were several within six or eight feet. We were close enough to all in the flock to be able to distinguish the waxen tips to the secondaries, as well as the distinctive chestnut-colored under tail coverts and the white or yellow wing markings. We watched them for ten minutes or more, when something startled them and they left.

There has been no record of the observation of the Bohemian Waxwing in Arizona since Cooper secured the one and only specimen taken in the state up to the present time. That was at Fort Mohave, January 10, 1861 (Cooper, Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci., II, 1861, p. 122). Considering the small amount of field work that has been done in northern Arizona, especially in winter, it may well be that this species is of relatively frequent occurrence there during the winter months.

*Salpinctes obsoletus obsoletus*. Rock Wren. Ten or twelve seen all told. Observed at Hermit's Rest Camp, along the Tonto Trail, and on the rim.

*Catherpes mexicanus conspersus*. Canyon Wren. One seen at Hermit's Rest Camp and two or three more along the Tonto Trail. The call note was heard constantly when the birds were encountered, but the loud song was not given at any time.

*Sitta carolinensis nelsoni*. Rocky Mountain Nuthatch. Several seen in the timber along the rim.

*Sitta pygmaea pygmaea*. Pigmy Nuthatch. Seen in the timber on the rim. No large flocks were encountered, not more than three or four individuals together.

*Baeolophus inornatus griseus*. Gray Titmouse. Four pairs seen in the woods within a mile of El Tovar Hotel. Titmouse call-notes were heard at several points along the Tonto Trail, down in the Canyon, but the birds were not seen.

*Penthestes gambeli gambeli*. Mountain Chickadee. More common than the last mentioned species. A number were seen near the hotel, and others at various points along the rim.

*Planesticus migratorius propinquus*. Western Robin. A single Robin was seen at the Indian Gardens, near the junction of the Tonto and Bright Angel trails.—H. S. SWARTH and WINIFERN W. SWARTH, Berkeley, California, February 7, 1920.

**An Albino Brown Towhee.**—An albino Brown Towhee (*Pipilo crissalis carolae*) was observed January 27, 1920, on Rocky Hill, just two miles east of Porterville, California. It was with others of the same species, one of the most numerous birds to be found there.

On the same day and near the same place an adult White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*) was seen. The thickly wooded bottom lands of the Tule River are nearby, no doubt accounting for the presence of this bird in this particular place. They are occasionally seen there and are called by the cattle men "devil hawks".—L. W. HUDSON, Porterville, California, January 30, 1920.