

was revealed by the bruised body when the bird was skinned. The specimen was immediately forwarded to Berkeley where it was made into a study skin and now constitutes no. 41912 in the bird department of the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology. The sex organs were so decomposed by the time the bird was skinned that it is not possible to state with absolute certainty the sex or breeding condition. The bird had the speckled plumage and square tail which usually characterize the female of this swift. There was nothing to indicate that it had bred recently or was about to breed. In the flesh, the specimen measured: length, 6¼ inches; spread, 15¼ inches. The bird was poor, weighing but 27 grams, whereas fat females average about 47 grams.—JOSEPH DIXON, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, July 1, 1921.*

The Bryant Cactus Wren Not a Bird of California.—I had opportunity recently to examine the Cactus Wrens in the A. W. Anthony collection of birds now owned by the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh. The type of *Heleodytes brunneicapillus bryanti* (orig. no. 3879, coll. A. W. Anthony, now no. 17789, Carnegie Mus., San Telmo, Lower Calif., April 30, 1893) is in badly worn and stained breeding plumage; but the race is represented further by a good series and is a perfectly valid one, with characters as given by Anthony (Auk, xi, 1894, p. 212). However, the range of *bryanti* does not reach north in Lower California anywhere nearly as far as the International Boundary; specimens from San Diego County, California, which have been labelled "*bryanti*" prove to exhibit only a slight tendency in that direction, being much nearer *H. b. couesi*. Those individuals showing nearly or quite complete white-barring of the tail do not show the other diagnostic features of *bryanti*, namely very heavy spotting below and dark upper surface. The name *bryanti* must therefore be expunged from the California list of birds, and the name *couesi* used for all the Cactus Wrens occurring within the state.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, June 24, 1921.*

Birds Observed in a Redwood Grove.—I was pleasantly surprised at the number of birds I heard and saw while spending a few hours in the Mariposa Grove of Big Trees, near Wawona, Mariposa County, California. The first birds to greet me were a pair of Northern Pileated Woodpeckers, fit denizens of such a magnificent forest. They were busily engaged in chipping off large pieces of wood from a dead log, presumably looking for insects, and admitted of close approach.

Next in line came a male Western Tanager, perching on a lichen-covered stump and catching his noon meal of insects. Blue-fronted Jays and Robins were everywhere. Sierra Creepers looked exceptionally small as they were running up the huge tree trunks. From every direction came the songs of the Ruby-crowned Kinglets, Mountain Chickadees and Red-breasted Nuthatches. Occasionally an Audubon Warbler could be seen; and a Modoc Hairy Woodpecker came quite close in his quest for food.

What impressed me was not so much the variety of birds encountered, but rather the number of individuals heard and seen.—JUNEA W. KELLY, *Alameda, California, June 16, 1921.*

Field Notes from Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, California.—*Mareca americana*. A pair seen June 25, 1921, in a tule-bordered lagoon near the mouth of the Santa Clara River, Ventura County.

Marila valisineria. A male seen June 25, in the same lagoon, perhaps a wounded bird.

Sayornis sayus. Nesting in a barranca just off the Coast Highway three miles west of Ventura. On June 24 the parents were feeding young on insects which they caught on the beach about an eighth of a mile away.

Molothrus ater obscurus. Frequent in willows and about a stock-pen near the mouth of the Santa Clara River, Ventura County. One egg found in a nest of the Long-tailed Chat. A few seen repeatedly at the mouth of the Ventura River, and a male observed on July 15 at Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County.

Ammodramus savannarum binaculatus. Frequent on June 25 along the dry, gravelly flood-plain of the Santa Clara River, Ventura County, near its mouth.—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Carpinteria, California, July 16, 1921.*