

Spizella monticola ochracea. Western Tree Sparrow. A fine male specimen taken at Pacific Grove, California, October 13, 1916, is in my possession.

Piranga ludoviciana. Western Tanager. A male of the year which was feeding on madrone berries and with its plumage badly smeared with crude oil, was secured at Boulder Creek, California, October 20, 1916.

Piranga rubra rubra. Summer Tanager. I have a female which I secured in the cypress grove on the summit of Guadalupe Island, Mexico, on October 12, 1913.

Guiraca caerulea lazula. Western Blue Grosbeak. Two males observed feeding on wild oats near Mosquito Harbor, San Clemente Island, April 21, 1914.

Dendroica townsendi. Townsend Warbler. A male secured near the same place on April 18, 1914.

Dendroica coronata. Myrtle Warbler. A number observed near Adams, California, in November, 1915.

Vermivora celata sordida. Dusky Warbler. Seen in the willows on the beach at Monterey, California, in October, and at Pacific Grove, in November, 1916.

Thryomanes bewicki drymoecus. San Joaquin Wren. One specimen secured at Adams, California, November 1, 1915.

Thryomanes bewicki marinensis. Nicasio Wren. One specimen secured seven miles east of Crescent City, California, November 18, 1915.

Riparia riparia. Bank Swallow. A considerable colony of some kind of swallow, certainly not *Petrochelidon*, and apparently Bank Swallows, were present about an outlying rock at Alamos Landing, Santa Cruz Island, California, during June, 1914.

Penthestes rufescens rufescens. Chestnut-backed Chickadee. A family found in a burnt stub, eleven miles from McCloud, California, near the river of that name, on August 2, 1915.—H. H. KIMBALL, *Seal Beach, California, February 20, 1922*.

Townsend Solitaire on the Oregon Coast.—On February 28, 1922, a single Townsend Solitaire (*Myadestes townsendi*) was seen along the roadside near the mouth of the Miami River, Tillamook County, Oregon. This is the first record of the Solitaire in this county, and so far as I can learn the first west of the coast mountains in northwestern Oregon. It breeds commonly in the Transition zone in the Blue Mountains of eastern Oregon, and sparingly west to the west slope of the Cascades in central and northern Oregon, migrating into the Willamette Valley sparingly during the winter.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, March 10, 1922*.

A Winter Record of the Texas Nighthawk in California.—At first thought, one would hardly expect a goatsucker to tolerate more than a touch of frost, but, indeed, there is no apparent reason why a bird of this sort should not be able to gain a living wherever and whenever a Vermilion Flycatcher can. However that may be, shortly after sundown on January 23, 1922, three miles northwest of Calexico, Imperial County, California, a Texas Nighthawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis texensis*) flew a few yards above me and hawked back and forth several times above a field of lettuce. This could hardly have been a migrating bird, and its presence was all the more unusual for the fact that the given date was in the midst of the coldest weather experienced by southern California during nine years, with a third of an inch of ice at night. It is a question whether frosts are not just as frequent and as severe in the Imperial Valley as they are throughout the general area known as the "thermal belt" of the San Diegan faunal division. However, the mean winter temperature is considerably higher in the former section, due to much warmer days, and as there are probably few birds found north of the Mexican border which cannot put up with an occasional frosty night, one would expect to find more of the "tender" species lingering through the winter in the Valley than in the relatively cooler districts nearer the coast.

In the same locality on January 22, 1922, I flushed two flickers from a cottonwood by the roadside. One was the usual *Colaptes cafer collaris*, but the other was a yellow-shafted bird, and appeared to be somewhat smaller. It was impossible to tell whether this individual was a *Colaptes chrysoides mearnsi*, or merely one of those puzzlers which are variously placed as *Colaptes auratus borealis*, or as chromatic variants of *collaris*. During the breeding season, Mearns Gilded Flicker is seldom found far from the sahuaros, but in winter it scatters more widely, and for some years I have

rather expected to hear of its presence in the Imperial Valley, in common with a number of other birds which are extending their ranges over the irrigated delta of the Colorado River. Taken in this connection only, this note may prove of interest.—A. BRAZIER HOWELL, Pasadena, California, February 8, 1922.

Some Winter Birds of the Colorado Delta.—On January 22 and 23 of this year I was with a party hunting quail near Don Lorenzo in Lower California. We were from forty to fifty miles east of Calexico, and from twelve to sixteen miles south of the international line.

North of us we could see the sand hills that are still untamed if not unconquered, and beyond them the well-known mountain ranges of the desert. But we were not in a desert country at all—rather in a jungle. The true delta of the Colorado is overflow land, thickly covered with vegetation; ink-weed, rag-weed, and arrow-weed are the native names of the most common kinds. A few cotton-woods and many willows in the lower places, and the ever present mesquite patches, broke the monotony. The ground is not really level. Wind and water have combined to produce hills and depressions, and open places where sand was master were by no means rare. Still, in a general sense, we were on the edge of a flat scrubby country of several thousand square miles, covered solidly with a head-high growth that could be penetrated only with difficulty.

There was hardly a time when one or more of the Raptors were not in sight. When I woke the first morning a pair of Marsh Hawks were busily harrying the cotton-fields by the ranch house. Our old friend, the Western Red-tail, was conspicuously present, as were several other species of hawks and at least two species of owls besides the Burrowing Owl. Turkey Vultures were common. All of which speaks volumes for the abundance of the unseen rodent life in the brush.

The White-crowned Sparrow, in my judgment, was the most common bird, and Gambel Quail the next. Abert Towhees were seen everywhere, and the Mexican Ground Dove and the Northern Cactus Wren were very abundant, though both were outnumbered by the Western Mourning Dove. The Black Phoebe was as busy as anywhere around ponds and buildings. Ravens were plentiful, especially along the banks of the Bee River. I collected three Sparrow Hawks for the San Diego Museum.

Among other land birds observed were Shrike, Thrush, Bush-tit, Vermillion Fly-catcher, Dwarf Cowbird (quite common), Road-runner, Phainopepla, Tree Swallow, and Sonora Red-wing.

On January 24 we drove back to Hecheira and then turned south. We found a slough within eight or ten miles on which we shot ducks, mostly Spoonbills. My son and I each killed one of a pair of Fulvous Tree Ducks, and were much surprised to find them so far north at this season. There was a heavy tule growth around the slough, which was the home of innumerable marsh wrens, and the Sora was more common than I have ever seen it elsewhere.

We drove on to Volcano Lake and spent one morning there. Ruddies and Spoonbills were the most common ducks. Avocets, too, were present in large numbers. I was interested in obtaining from Mr. W. G. Hendricks an authentic statement of the presence there of the Roseate Spoonbill. In the summer of 1920 a flock of about twenty were on the lake, and in the summer of 1921 four were observed. A flight of Lesser Snow Geese apparently takes place over this lake every winter.—GRIFFING BANCROFT, San Diego, California, February 1, 1922.

Water Ouzel Eating a Fish.—On January 1, 1922, I caught sight of a small, plump bird struggling with something on a snow bank across the river, a foot or so from the water's edge. The bird was recognized at once as an Ouzel (*Cinclus mexicanus unicolor*). It appeared to have a small fish in its beak, which it was shaking violently and beating in the snow. I went to the tent and got the field glasses and was able to determine that it really was a fish that the Ouzel was struggling with. The fish was about two inches long and very much alive. After beating and mauling the fish for a few moments the Ouzel would attempt to swallow it. At this juncture the fish would free itself and flop onto the snow, whereupon the Ouzel would seize it and the maltreatment would commence again. After tussling with the refractory fish for about five minutes the Ouzel with apparently tremendous effort managed to stuff the victim down. After the