

the nest. On taking the fifth bird out, I found that it was no. A52737 that we had banded at the Cady colony on the 22nd. It seemed to be none the worse for its change of residence and when released flew out of the barn and away. A few minutes later a bird with a band flew in and lit on a timber nearby. Thinking it might be the same bird, I caught it and found that it was no. A52734, also banded at the Cady colony on the 22nd.

Are such interchanges of birds between colonies a common thing with Cliff Swallows?—JOHN MCB. ROBERTSON, *Buena Park, California, June 9, 1926.*

Has the Cowbird Come to Stay?—The advent of the Cowbird (*Molothrus ater obscurus*) into the Bay Region of western middle California was recently announced by La Jeunesse (*Condor*, xxv, 1923, p. 31). Having been, years ago in Indiana, much interested in the Cowbird's relations to the nesting of other birds, I decided to seek out the locality of La Jeunesse's finds, with the hope of paralleling his experiences. Acting upon this decision, I visited Irvington on June 16, 1923, and, presumably, located the "bird haunt" of his Cowbirds. My enthusiasm ran high as I approached this avian rendezvous and I saw Cowbirds galore in the numerous young Brewer and Bi-colored Blackbirds that were noisily aggregated into flocks at this date. Plunging into the brush, I soon had listed thirty-three nests, twelve of which were those of the Willow Goldfinch; but not one "vagabond" egg was found by me, nor a nestling that I felt free to call a Cowbird. Also my flocks of young and adult blackbirds, observed more carefully, failed to produce a real *Molothrus*.

This locality was not visited by me in 1924; but in 1925 visits were made on April 11 and June 26—and what a change cattle and axes can quickly make in a once delightful bird haunt! Results: few birds, few nests, no Cowbirds.

June 13, 1925, was spent along Coyote Creek, near San Jose. Twenty-one nests (not including Cliff Swallows') were noted, the third found being a nest of the Pileolated Warbler with two young, one fully twice as large as the other; suggesting, at once, "those early days" in Indiana. On my way home from Irvington, June 26, I dropped in to take another look at the occupants of this San Jose nest; but same was empty and deserted. However, just across the creek was found another warbler nest containing an egg which the builder had not placed there. I promptly retreated, returning on June 29, and then collected my first Cowbird egg in California, no warbler eggs having been added.

The present season, 1926, has now yielded its returns. These, briefly summed up, are as follows: Nest 290, Yellow-throat (*Geothlypis trichas*, subsp.?), two eggs of owner plus one of Cowbird, female flushed, one foot up in bur-reed (*Sparganium*, sp.), June 25, Guadalupe Creek; nest 367, Pileolated Warbler, two eggs of owner plus one of Cowbird, deserted, as indicated by eggs concealed by fallen leaves, three feet up in dead elderberry bush in box elder thicket, June 30, Coyote Creek; nest 369, Russet-backed Thrush, female sitting on two of her own eggs and one of Cowbird, six feet up in box elder, June 30, Coyote Creek; nest 375, Traill Flycatcher, one egg each of builder and parasite, deserted, fourteen feet up in box elder, July 3, Guadalupe Creek.

The two eggs from the Coyote are very much alike and one might surmise that one female Cowbird laid both. Likewise the two eggs from the Guadalupe are nearly "twins", but very different from the two from the Coyote. Surely a different female was responsible for their origin. Although on the watch for adult male and female Cowbirds, I have yet to see the first one.—CHARLES PIPER SMITH, *San Jose, California, July 5, 1926.*

The Ferruginous Rough-leg Nesting in Oregon.—Although the beautiful Ferruginous Rough-leg (*Archibuteo ferrugineus*) has long been known as a fairly frequent fall and spring migrant, it was not until the spring of 1926 that the species was definitely found to nest within this state. The first nest was located late in March by R. T. Jackson while engaged in running a coyote trap-line in central Morrow County about fifteen miles south of the town of Boardman. This is all an open, sandy, sage-brush country, mostly level and covered with a sparse growth of sage-brush, kunzia brush, and other desert plants, with here and there isolated junipers of small to medium size.

This nest was visited by the writer on April 9, 1926, when it contained four beautifully marked eggs. The bulky nest was built on the top of a lone juniper, about seven feet above the ground, and could plainly be seen from a considerable distance. Both

parent birds sailed about as we drove an auto up to the tree, and they remained nearby while photographs were being taken of the nest and eggs. The nest was a bulky affair, composed of dry sage-brush and juniper limbs and lined with fiber from sage-brush.

Four additional nests were located as follows: April 10, 1926, eight feet up in juniper; four eggs. April 11, 1926, six feet up in juniper; three eggs. April 15, 1926, seven feet up in juniper; five eggs. April 16, 1926, nine feet up in juniper; parents at nest; no eggs.

The nests were of similar construction and all were in isolated junipers. Each one containing eggs was ornamented with two or three large pieces of dried cow manure. The five nests were all within a thirty-mile square. This same area furnished nesting places for at least two pairs of Western Red-tail and one nest of Swainson Hawk.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, May 3, 1926.*

Additional Records from Arctic Alaska.—We have recently received a small collection of bird-skins from Alaska, among which were the following: no. 11,346, *Aethia cristatella*; adult female; July 2, 1925; Wainwright, Alaska. No. 11,636, *Aethia pusilla*; adult, sex not determined; October 1, 1925; Barrow, Alaska. No. 11,350, *Euphagus carolinus*; adult female; July 2, 1925; Wainwright, Alaska.

The birds from Wainwright were taken by Mr. A. J. Allen and the one from Barrow by Mr. Charles Brower. This is the second specimen of Least Auklet from Barrow, the first having been collected by E. A. McIlhenny, August 30, 1897, and recorded by Dr. Witmer Stone (*Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila.*, 1900, p. 7). The Wainwright birds appear to be the first from that station.—ALFRED M. BAILEY, *Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado, June 15, 1926.*

The Lower California Reddish Egret.—I have recently had occasion to compare a small series of Reddish Egrets from the Gulf of California with Gulf Coast of Texas specimens. There are certain obvious differences between these two series which it seems advisable to recognize by name, and the race is therefore formally characterized below. It is named for Mr. Donald R. Dickey in partial appreciation of his services to California ornithology.

Dichromanassa rufescens dickeyi, subsp. nov.

Type.—Breeding male, adult; no. 15,112, coll. Donald R. Dickey; San Luis Island, Gulf of California; April 13, 1925; collected by A. J. van Rossem, no. 8229.

Subspecific characters.—Similar to *Dichromanassa rufescens rufescens* (Gmelin), but head and neck much darker, between cameo brown and chocolate of Ridgway (1912); body, wings and tail throughout, uniform in color, between deep neutral gray and slate color; dorsal plumes concolor with rest of body plumage, only very slightly paler at tips.

Range.—I have been able to examine birds from San Luis Island only; but this is undoubtedly the form which occurs south to Cape San Lucas and on the Pacific side of the peninsula at Scammon Lagoon.

Remarks.—In *rufescens*, while there is some variation in the color of the upper parts of the body, this is, even in fresh plumage, less plumbeous than in *dickeyi*. The most conspicuous differences are in the dark color of the head, neck, and underparts. As to size, the only differences observable are the slightly longer wing and tail of the males in the Gulf of California birds.

Four adult males of *rufescens* from Cameron County, Texas: Wing 330.0; tail 109.5.

Three adult males of *dickeyi* from Gulf of California: Wing 341.0; tail 119.0.

Specimens examined.—*rufescens*, Cameron County, Texas, 7, March and June; *dickeyi*, Gulf of California, San Luis Island, 5, March and April.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Pasadena, California, August 13, 1926.*