

**Scarlet Tanager at Boulder, Colorado.**—Although there have been several published reports of the Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga erythromelas*) in Colorado, it seems desirable to place on record an additional observation which recently was made. The previous records are all of some years back, no records later than those summarized by W. L. Sclater (*A History of the Birds of Colorado*, London, 1912: 410-411) having been found by the writer in a survey of the literature. The record of this species in California (Miller and Miller, *Condor*, 32, 1930:217) is, of course, much more remarkable than a Colorado record. Nevertheless, the last Colorado record seems to have been in 1904, and the only previous observation for the Denver-Boulder area is based on a specimen said to have been collected by E. L. Berthoud near Golden in 1867.

On May 8, 1940, Elliot Miller and Owen France, two students in ornithology at the University of Colorado, reported a male Scarlet Tanager on the University campus at Boulder. The bird was seen by me on the same day. It remained among the small trees and shrubs about a pond quite near the biology building for three days, being seen on May 8, 9, and 10. It was not reported after the latter date. Many students, including all members of my class in ornithology, and several faculty members observed the bird at close quarters. It was in the brilliant plumage of the fully mature male, and there was no question of its identification. It appeared perfectly normal in behavior. No attempt was made to collect the bird.—GORDON ALEXANDER, *Department of Biology, University of Colorado, Boulder, Colorado, March 17, 1941.*

**Mountain Plover in Solano County, California.**—On November 12, 1939, Mr. Gunnar Larson and I were hunting jack rabbits in dry pasture land near Cannon, a flag station on the Southern Pacific Railroad, six miles northeast of Suisun, Solano County, California. The fields, because of long lack of rain, were almost entirely denuded of vegetation, leaving little cover for rabbits or any wild life.

Killdeers (*Oxyechus vociferus*) were common, and after we had tramped about for awhile it occurred to me that plover of another species than Killdeer were present. Small groups of four to ten birds reluctantly flushed from the ground at my approach, passing me with a sort of grunting sound and lit not far distant. Taking my field glasses I found that there were about eighty of these birds scattered about and feeding in one part of the large open field. I had not previously met with Mountain Plover (*Eupoda montana*) outside of my ornithological library, but I suspected that they were of this species. I took one specimen for my collection of skins and subsequently went back to the field about an hour later and took another specimen for the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology in Berkeley, where it has been given number 77275.

Upon skinning the plovers both were found to be females. The stomach of one held ten mandibles and other parts of Jerusalem crickets (*Stenopelmatus*), and the other held forty-six mandibles and other portions of *Stenopelmatus* and fragments of two or three small black beetles.—EMERSON A. STONER, *Benicia, California, November 20, 1939.*

**The Rocky Mountain Creeper in California.**—While doing some field work on February 9, 1939, in the lower valley of the Colorado River, Riverside County, California, the writer took a male creeper in the cottonwoods of the river bottom.

Later, while comparing the specimen with other skins in the collection of the Los Angeles Museum, in company with George Willett, it was found that the specimen resembled most closely skins of the Rocky Mountain Creeper (*Certhia familiaris montana*). Some time later the bird was sent to the late Joseph Grinnell of the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, who agreed with Mr. Willett's and the writer's findings.

Dr. Grinnell also stated that the specimen constituted the first authentic record for the state, as all prior records have been disproven. This bird is now in the collection of Dr. Max M. Peet, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan.—KENNETH E. STAGER, *Los Angeles, California, February 26, 1941.*

**Some Birds Recorded in Nuevo León, Mexico.**—The 136 forms of birds recorded in Nuevo León between January 27 and March 6, 1938, in the course of the first John B. Semple Expedition to eastern Mexico, have already been reported on (Sutton and Burleigh, *Occas. Papers Mus. Zoology, Louisiana State University*, no. 3, 1939:1-46). These 136 forms include most of the winter birds of the Monterrey district.

In 1939, Mr. Semple and the authors visited Nuevo León somewhat later in the season, and as a result encountered several transient- and summer-resident species not seen the previous year. They collected on the Mesa de Chipinque (3500 to 7000 feet) on March 17 to 21, near Monterrey (1500 feet) on March 21 and 22, and at Linares (a point not visited in 1938) on March 22 and 23. The following list includes only the most noteworthy of the more than one hundred forms encountered in Nuevo León that season.

*Accipiter striatus suttoni*. Mexican Sharp-shinned Hawk. On March 18, a female of this plain-breasted race was collected on the Mesa de Chipinque not far from the spot where the type was taken the previous year. The specimen is in perfect breeding plumage, and it is interesting to note how, in comparative immaculacy of the reddish underparts (especially the flags), it differs radically from female *velox*. The upper parts are not nearly so blue-gray as in the male type, but brownness of upper parts apparently is characteristic of the adult female throughout all the races of *Accipiter striatus*. As in the type, the eyes were deep brown, not red or orange-red. Measurements: wing, 222 mm.; tail (slightly furcate rather than square), 176; tarsus, 61. Sharp-shinned Hawks with unbarred underparts were seen several times in the plains country about Monterrey, as well as on the Mesa de Chipinque.

*Amazona viridigenalis*. Red-crowned Parrot. Large flock seen at Linares, March 22. Not noted north of the vicinity of Victoria, Tamaulipas, in 1938.

*Otus asio semplei*. Semple Screech Owl. A topotypical gray female specimen of this race was taken on the Mesa de Chipinque on March 17. The following day a male in red phase of plumage was captured at the same place (Semple). A male *Otus asio* taken at Linares on March 22 (Sutton) is not so dark on the crown as the gray-phase specimen from the Mesa.

*Bubo virginianus mayensis*. Mayan Horned Owl. According to Ridgway and others, the horned owl of Nuevo León is *B. v. pallescens*. A breeding male, found dead along the highway on March 23, near the Nuevo León-Tamaulipas state line is, however, of this small, grayish, speckled-footed subspecies. The wing measures 318 mm. (primaries not pressed flat), the tail 189.

*Glaucidium gnoma gnoma*. Pygmy Owl. Male in "grayish-brown" phase taken on Mesa de Chipinque, March 18 (Burleigh). Another Pygmy Owl, noted the following day, was mobbed by small birds. This presumably non-migratory species was not seen in 1938.

*Selasphorus platycercus*. Broad-tailed Hummingbird. Noted repeatedly about rock slides and talus slopes on Mesa de Chipinque. Courting male taken March 18 and female taken March 20 (Sutton). Not recorded in 1938, hence probably does not winter there.

*Eugenes fulgens fulgens*. Rivoli Hummingbird. Female taken at about 6000 feet on Mesa de Chipinque, March 20 (Burleigh). Not seen in 1938.

*Trogon ambiguus ambiguus*. Coppery-tailed Trogon. Noted repeatedly on the Mesa, where it evidently was preparing to nest. Male taken March 18 (Burleigh). Not recorded at all in 1938, hence presumably does not winter there.

*Ceophloeus lineatus*. Lined Woodpecker. Noted at Linares, March 22 and 23. According to Peters (Occas. Papers Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., 5, 1930: 318) the most northward-ranging race of this species, *C. l. leucopterylus*, occurs in "southern Tamaulipas and probably adjacent portions of San Luis Potosi, Nuevo Leon and Vera Cruz." Our sight records establish the fact that *lineatus* occurs in eastern Nuevo León where there is heavy timber.

*Myiarchus tuberculifer laurenceii*. Lawrence Dusky-capped Flycatcher. Noted several times on the Mesa de Chipinque, where males were taken March 18 and 19 (Burleigh). Not recorded in 1938.

*Myiarchus cinerascens cinerascens*. Ash-throated Flycatcher. Male taken near Monterrey, March 21 (Burleigh). Not seen north of Victoria, Tamaulipas, in 1938.

*Empidonax difficilis hellmayri*. Hellmayr Western Flycatcher. Noted repeatedly on the Mesa de Chipinque (4500 to 7000 feet), where males were taken March 17 to 20 (Sutton). Not recorded in 1938, hence presumably a migratory form.

*Myiochanes pertinax pallidiventris*. Coues Flycatcher. Male taken on the Mesa de Chipinque, March 18 (Burleigh). Not noted north of Gomez Farias, Tamaulipas, in 1938.

*Corvus imparatus*. Mexican Crow. Seen repeatedly in vicinity of Linares, March 22 and 23, but not to the north of this district.

*Certhia familiaris montana*. Rocky Mountain Creeper. Noted on the Mesa de Chipinque March 18 and 19, where two females were collected on the latter date (Burleigh). Not noted in 1938.

*Dendroica chrysoparia*. Golden-cheeked Warbler. Noted several times on the Mesa de Chipinque, where a male and a female were collected March 19 (Sutton). The gonads in these specimens were somewhat enlarged. There was no evidence of prenuptial molt, the plumage being somewhat worn. This species was not seen in 1938, so presumably it does not winter in the Monterrey region.

*Setophaga picta picta*. Painted Redstart. Common, March 17 to 20. Noted February 9 to 14, in 1938, when it was considered "decidedly uncommon."

*Icterus cucullatus cucullatus*. Hooded Oriole. Contrary to current concept, this bird must be somewhat migratory. We did not see it anywhere north of Victoria, Tamaulipas, in the course of our 1938 investigations, but recorded it repeatedly on March 21 and 22, near Monterrey in 1939, presumably at about the time it returns to its nesting grounds.

*Icterus parisorum*. Scott Oriole. Two males were taken on the Mesa de Chipinque, March 18. Not noted in 1938.

*Piranga bidentata sanguinolenta*. Lafresnaye Tanager. Male taken on Mesa de Chipinque, March 19 (Burleigh). Not noted in 1938.

*Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus*. Western Grasshopper Sparrow. Female (wing, 63 mm.; tail, 45) taken near Monterrey, March 21 (Burleigh). This is *A. s. bimaculatus* of the A. O. U. Checklist. (For change of name, see Auk, 51, 1934:549.) The Grasshopper Sparrow was recorded in 1938 only at Victoria, Tamaulipas, a specimen of the eastern race (*pratensis*) being taken that year on February 24.

*Aimophila cassinii*. Cassin Sparrow. Noted repeatedly about Monterrey on March 21 and 22; males were in full song at that time. Not seen in 1938; but this hardly proves that it winters south of Monterrey for it is an exceedingly inconspicuous bird when not singing.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON and THOMAS D. BURLEIGH, *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, November 19, 1940*.

**Barn Owls Nesting at Kanab, Utah.**—Of late, while perusing the literature pertaining to Utah birds, I have noted the scarcity of records of the Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*) for the state, and especially the absence of breeding records. Indeed, I have found the species listed only three times. Tanner (Condor, 29, 1927:198) stated that he had collected the bird in March in the St. George area but that they were not common. Presnall (Proc. Utah Acad. Sci. Arts and Letters, 12, 1935:201) gives its status as rare for Zion National Park. Hardy and Higgins (Proc. Utah Acad. Sci. Arts and Letters, 17, 1940: 99) record the owl as having been seen by them on April 19, 1939, and March 16, 1940, at St. George. It seems advisable, therefore, to place on record data pertaining to breeding Barn Owls collected recently at Kanab, in Kane County, central southern Utah.

Mr. Clifton M. Greenhalgh has observed Barn Owls in the vicinity of Kanab for many years and has found them inhabiting caverns in the banks of Kanab Creek near the town. In the spring of 1939 he brought me a quantity of pellets, but he was unable to secure a specimen. On June 14, 1939, Dr. A. M. Woodbury, acting on Greenhalgh's directions for finding the birds, secured a specimen, now number 5684, Mus. Zool. University of Utah. Then in July, 1940, Mr. Greenhalgh secured two additional specimens from Kanab. Number 5813 is a male taken July 12, 1940, two miles south of Kanab at 4600 feet; number 5814, also a male, was secured at the same place on July 10, 1940. This latter specimen is a juvenile, as indicated by some natal down feathers adhering to the tips of the juvenal feathers.

In all probability, the distribution of Barn Owls in the state is confined to the southern portion where Lower Sonoran or near Lower Sonoran conditions prevail. Nesting and roosting in cavities in mud banks formed by water seepage is an interesting adaptation to local conditions. According to Mr. Greenhalgh, the Barn Owls nest and roost only in one area along about a mile of Kanab Creek where there is an abundance of caverns and side washes and where the main gully is in places as much as 40 feet deep. The Barn Owls are presumably summer residents, arriving sometime in April at which time pairs seek out small caverns for individual nesting sites. Later on, at the termination of the nesting season, they display a gregarious tendency and congregate, at least in daylight hours, in the larger caverns. Here they come to rest on dirt ledges in the darkest portions. As many as 30 Barn Owls assembled together have been noted by Mr. Greenhalgh under these conditions.—WILLIAM H. BEHLE, *University of Utah, Salt Lake City, January 15, 1941*.

**California Cuckoo in Southeastern Nevada.**—In Linsdale's "Birds of Nevada" (Pac. Coast Avif. No. 23, 1936:61) reference is made to the occurrence of the California Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus occidentalis*) along the Lower Truckee River and in the Pyramid Lake region of Nevada. Because of the relatively few records of this bird in this state, it seems appropriate to record that the writer observed a cuckoo in the town of Alamo, Clark County, Nevada, on August 28, 1940. The bird was observed in a cottonwood tree about 30 feet from the ground.—CLARENCE COTTAM, *Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D. C., December 2, 1940*.

**Another Summer Record of the Great Gray Owl in Yellowstone National Park.**—The recent note by W. S. Long (Condor, 43, 1941:77-78) recording a sight observation of the Great Gray Owl (*Scotiaptex nebulosa*) in Yellowstone National Park stimulates me to place the following observation on record. On September 9, 1940, at about 3:45 p.m., I saw one of these owls in a meadow between West Thumb and Old Faithful, Yellowstone Park, at a place that must have been very close to the location at which Long made his observation on July 3. The bird I saw was perched on top of a lodgepole pine stub about twelve feet high and only thirty feet from the highway. The bird