

We must regard the capture of one or two belated individuals of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher in Chester and Blackburnian Warbler in Lancaster counties, in the breeding season, as purely accidental and of no value in determining their breeding range.

A few species, undoubtedly migrants, given by Mr. Ressel as summer residents (to which exceptions were made), subsequently have been found nesting in the county; while others were undoubtedly the result of careless "identification" or misinformation.

It is to be hoped that, ere long, a competent person of large field experience in local ornithology will give us a list revised and corrected to date.

GENERAL NOTES.

YOUNG OF THE KILLDEER, *Ægialitis vocifera*.—May 15, 1896. While out walking early this morning I had the pleasure of seeing, for the first time in my life, some nestling Killdeers. Seeing a pair of old birds near the corner of the pasture which I was crossing, I stepped over that way and at once felt sure there were eggs or young, as the old birds at once set up a fearful and pitiful crying, "*Kill-dee-Kill-dee*," and would flutter and crawl along in front of me after the "time honored custom" of ground nesting birds. I soon found the young, three in number, little downy bits about as large as ones thumb, but able to walk quite well. On picking one up (much to the discomfiture of Mrs. *Ægialitis*) he "*peeped, peeped*," much like a young chicken, for a few minutes and then nestled down in my hand, perfectly contented. When resting on the ground the head and bill are laid perfectly flat, with the body, upon the ground. When I left the spot, one of the parents followed me, circling and calling, to the outskirts of town, nearly a half mile, probably thinking that I still held one of his offspring in captivity.

N. HOLLISTER, *Delavan, Wis.*

SOUTHERN WISCONSIN NOTES.—DICKCISSEL, *Spiza americana*.—A pair of Dickcissels, the first seen in several years, summered near Delavan last year; the male could be seen on any day during the latter half of May and all through June, sitting upon a fence post by the road-side, evidently not far from the nest.

BALD EAGLE, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*.—More common this fall than for several years—several fine adults seen and also several immatures—

one of the latter having been shot at Delavan Lake, extent seven feet two inches, weight nine pounds.

PASSENGER PIGEON, *Ectopistes migratorius*.—A fine single Passenger Pigeon shot on September 8, 1896.

AM. OSPREY, *Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*.—Several Ospreys, quite a rare bird here, seen during the fall and summer—one in July and the remainder in September.

SNOWY OWL, *Nyctea nyctea*.—One Snowy Owl, so far this winter, seen on December 11.

REDPOLLS, *Acanthis linaria*.—Have appeared here this winter for the first time to my knowledge. The first were seen on November 24 and I thought them to be Goldfinches from their long drawn-out "me-e-e-e-e," but on catching a glimpse of one, I at once recognized it as *Acanthis linaria*. They have since become very abundant and are still here (January 12), but I have so far searched in vain for a red male. Their flight is exactly like that of the Goldfinch and they call repeatedly while on the wing. When very close to a party of them in the bushes, one can hear a repeated "chip-chip-chip-chip," with a rising and falling inflection, as if in conversation. This and the call are the only notes I have heard.

N. HOLLISTER, *Delavan, Wis.*

A NEW MEXICAN BIRD.—WESTERN NIGHTHAWK, *Chordeiles virginianus henryi*.—This bird is quite common in New Mexico, replacing the common Nighthawk. The cry and flight are the same, but the birds appear to sleep oftener on the ground. I have often started them up when out walking, long after the end of the breeding season. When flushed from their nests they would circle around once or twice and then alight within a few yards and wait anxiously until I walked away. The eggs were laid on the bare ground without even a sign of a depression to keep them from rolling away. How the birds ever found them after once leaving them is a wonder to me, as the places all looked alike and the eggs resembled the soil so in appearance that it was hard to distinguish them, even when they were pointed out. These birds did not seem to gather together as much as does our common eastern form while flying.

SYDNEY S. WILSON, *St. Joseph, Mo.*

Mr. Wilson also sends a clipping from a local paper which gives an account of a ferocious attack by a Bald Eagle upon a horse. The horse had been ridden into a field, and tied to a tree while its owner was hunting. Soon the eagle appeared and pounced upon the horse, which was unable to break away and free itself from its tormentor. "Holzhauser