

NOTES FROM WISCONSIN: AMERICAN GOSHAWK, *Accipiter atricapillus*.—That rare and ferocious bird, the Goshawk, made its first appearance, to my personal knowledge, in this locality the present winter. The first was seen in the early part of November. Two others were seen later, one of which was killed. They were very daring and persistent in their attacks upon the poultry, returning day after day and often not without success.

REDPOLL, *Acanthis linaria*.—In the winter of 1896 the Common Redpoll came under my observation for the first time, there being several small flocks in this locality. Perhaps they were common in previous winters, but owing to their resemblance to the Goldfinch at a distance, were not noticed. They are quite abundant this winter, being the characteristic bird of weedy fields and hedge rows.

CEDAR WAXWING, *Ampelis cedrorum*.—The Cedar Waxwing is becoming more abundant every year. Large flocks are often seen on Cedar and Siberian crab trees.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR, *Calcarius lapponicus*.—A few Lapland Longspurs have been observed.

GOLDEN EAGLE, *Aquila chrysaetos*.—Occasionally seen soaring about the points overlooking our small streams.

HOWARD P. MITCHELL, *Mt. Sterling, Crawford Co., Wis.*

NOTES FROM NORTHERN ILLINOIS:—AMERICAN GOSHAWK, *Accipiter atricapillus*.—An adult male shot in this (Winnebago) county on January 18, 1897. This is the first record I have of its occurrence here.

CANADA GOOSE, *Branta canadensis*.—Quite common this winter, but very few are taken.

REDPOLL, *Acanthis linaria*, were noted November 3, 1896, when they were quite common on a creek bottom in company with Goldfinches. They were very wild but several were taken, among them one red male. All taken were *linaria*. A few were again noted January 12, and January 18, 1897.

SNOWFLAKE, *Plectrophenax nivalis*.—A few Snowflakes were reported February 3, 1897. White-bellied Nuthatches and Titmice are more common this winter than usual and are more frequently seen within the city.

Prairie Chickens are as common as usual, while Bob-whites are on the increase, but the Ruffed Grouse will, I fear, soon be a bird of the past in this county.

AN UNUSUAL (?) WINTER PLUMAGE OF THE GOLDFINCH.—A neighbor of mine has a female Goldfinch which he slightly wounded and captured

two years ago. The first winter he assumed the usual winter dress, but this year he still has on his yellow dress and black cap. This is the first instance of the kind that ever came to my notice. Have you ever observed it with captive birds?

AN UNUSAL NEST OF THE CRESTED FLYCATCHER.—June 9th, 1895, I took a set of five fresh eggs of this species from a fence post beside a railroad. The nest was discovered when I was climbing the fence, using the post as an aid. Neither parent was observed at all, though the eggs were left until several hours later. They were placed on a soft bed fifteen inches within the post and were reached from the top. The construction of this nest is as peculiar as its location, consisting of a mat of cedar bark, a large tuft of hair from Gray Rabbit, (*L. sylvaticus*); a quantity from Muskrat, (*F. zibethicus*); several large tufts from the Woodchuck, (*A. monax*) and about thirty feathers of the Mourning Dove. The hair is all in tufts as though taken from a dead body. The eggs are in all respects typical.

J. E. DICKINSON, *Rockford, Ill.*

NOTES FROM MISSOURI.—February 19th. For the last night or so some kinds of birds have been going over here in large numbers, as their notes could be heard quite plainly.

February 25th. The birds were going over again tonight in large numbers. As I was returning home about midnight their notes could be heard very plainly. They had chosen cold weather for their migrating as the temperature was down almost to zero and snow was falling. The next morning was rather foggy and they were still passing over but I could not distinguish their species, and I have been unable to go into the country to see what kinds they were.

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

NOTES FROM OSAWATOMIE, KANSAS.—BIRDS AND NESTS DESTROYED BY A FLOOD.—The nesting season for the small birds in the vicinity of Osawatomie, Kans., was practically ruined last year (1896). Osawatomie lies between two rivers, viz., the Marais des Cygnes and the Pottawatomie. The former forms the northern boundary of the city, while the latter is located one fourth of a mile south of town. The Pottawatomie flows into the Marais des Cygnes river east of town. On the afternoon of May 22, the Pottawatomie commenced to rise about 4 P. M. and by 9 P. M. the whole valley was a sheet of water two and three miles wide in the widest places. Thousands of both eggs and young birds were destroyed by the flood.