

lighter and much less penetrating, *sheep, sheep, sheep, shear, shear sheep*; or *sheep, sheep, sheep, shear, sheep*. Another song heard in Yakima county was much more varied and bright. A nest found in the latter place was barely lifted clear of the ground by the overhanging branches of a rose bush.

PILEOLATED WARBLER, *Sylvania pusilla pileolata*.—Although a number of birds were seen it was almost impossible to route them out of their favorite tangles long enough for inspection. I introduce them in this connection solely to describe the song which I heard repeatedly, but especially at Snoqualmie Falls on the west side of the mountains. It consisted of a single syllable repeated in a lively crescendo "chip, *chip*, CHIP, CHIP, *CHIP*." I could not but contrast it with the song of *S. pusilla* heard this spring. The latter was a more varied strain of lighter and less emphatic character, *chee, chipitititity, chee, chee*. This is of course quite unpronounceable at first, but conveys the idea to the eye.

WILLIAM L. DAWSON, Oberlin, Ohio.

GENERAL NOTES.

NESTING OF THE ROBIN, *Merula migratoria*.—On April 24, I found a nest in a wild cherry, about eight feet up and directly over about six feet of water. The robin flew off at my approach, and on climbing to the nest I found it contained one egg. The next day, April 25, being Sunday, I did not visit the nest, but on April 26, the nest contained three eggs. I supposed that the set would be completed on the next day, but the fourth egg was not laid until noon of the 28th, leaving a day and a half between the laying of the third and fourth egg. Incubation was apparently begun with the laying of the third egg, as I passed the nest several times each day and the female was always on the nest. I had intended to take notes on the incubation, but on April 30 no trace of the nest could be found, probably having been taken by some boys.

About April 28, a pair of Robins began a nest in a large pine back of our place, but they were driven away by a pair of Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura*) before the first egg was laid. This is the first time I have ever seen the Mourning Doves interfere with any other birds, although they are very common here now.

RUSSELL GRAY, Philadelphia, Pa.

NOTES ON SOME WINTER BIRDS OF MERIDIAN, DUNN CO., WIS.—

Snowy Owls were quite abundant during November and December, 1896, and four were taken in a steel trap set on the top of a long pole in an open field. Goshawks were also unusually abundant during the winter, and what is more unusual, were nearly all in adult plumage, and mostly males. Of twenty-one captured, nineteen were in adult plumage, and eighteen were males. We usually have the young birds in far greater numbers than the adult. Pine and Evening Grosbeak were present but not in great numbers. Lesser Redpolls and Snowflakes were also represented in small numbers.

J. N. CLARK, *Meridian, Wis.*

PINE SISKIN, *Spinus pinus*.—Further notes upon the unprecedented southward movement of this species have been received; this time from the extreme south. Writing of his visit in Louisiana, Mr. Widmann says: "I found it first March 2, a flock of fifty, near Mandeville, La., north of Lake Pontchartrain, and again March 5, at Madisonville, La., also a good sized flock in company with Goldfinches. Then again March 13, in the woods on the right bank of the Mississippi opposite New Orleans, a few, of which Mr. Kopman, a local ornithologist, took a specimen, the first he had ever seen. Prof. Beyer and Mr. Allison, the other ornithologists of New Orleans, confirm his statement, and consider it a rare find."

The species was fairly common at Oberlin, May 22.

AMERICAN CROW, *Corvus americanus*.—While out collecting Crow eggs on April 22, 1897, with Mr. F. L. Burns, I found a nest containing two young Crows several days old, and Mr. Burns took a set of six eggs from a nest lined with human hair. This is rather an early date for young.

RUSSELL GRAY, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

Is it generally known that early in the season the Towhee has a lengthy, fragmentary, soliloquizing song? The general effect of it is like the song of Brown Thrasher when heard in the distance. The Towhee utters this song as he works about the brush-piles, his scratching not interfering with the song. In scratching for food he hops forward and then kicks back with both feet simultaneously, alighting at his starting point. Beetles and other articles of food are thoroughly masticated before being swallowed.

J. C. GALLOWAY, *Montgomery, Ohio.*

WARBLING VIREO, *Vireo gilvus*.—During the collecting season of 1896, having occasion to collect a few sets of eggs and nests of three birds, eight sets were taken as follows: