

view as it searched for food, flying from branch to branch and running out to the tips in a sprightly fashion without the warbler-like nervousness. Since John Cassin took the type specimen near Philadelphia in September, 1842, but six others have been recorded in eastern Pennsylvania. Eight captures in fifty-six years and all of them autumnal!

FRANK L. BURNS, *Berwyn, Penna.*

A PISCIVOROUS YELLOW-LEG. While walking through the central market of this place, the other day, my attention was attracted by something protruding from the bill of a specimen of *Totanus melanoleucus*. Upon closer inspection this proved to be a minnow. The bird's œsophagus was literally jamed full of top minnows, (*Fundulus diaphanus*). When I made this discovery my mind at once wandered back to a certain railroad bridge which spans the Iowa river about two miles south of Iowa City, Ia., and the wintery scene changed to one of May. Here on the bridge I sat again and watched the trim form of Yellow-leg chasing minnows. Yes, I am convinced it was minnows he was after. Many times have I been seated here and watched this bird, which is quite common along the Iowa river during migration, wade out into the shallow water of the bars, moving along slowly with tilting gage, suddenly lower that long head and neck and proceed to run through the water at a speed which would have done credit to a college sprinter, quickly striking to right and left with his bill. Of course I thought some luckless water beetle had met its doom. but now I am convinced that minnows and not beetles caused the vicious movement.

P. BARTSCH, *Smithsonian Institute, Washington, D. C.*

LATE DATE FOR CATBIRD. Two acquaintances, reputable men on whose word I can rely, observed a Catbird, *Galeoscoptes carolinensis*, feeding upon the pokeberries of which there has been an abundant crop, at the west side of the Valley creek dam, Valley Forge, on the 1st day of December, 1898. It was easily approached and frequently uttered the unmistakable *mev* as it busied itself in and out of the bushes as only a Catbird or Wren can do. In spite of the deep snow and freezing weather it appeared plump and fluffy, and as far as they could observe, was without any physical defect whatever. It was seen on five different occasions during the day.

FRANK L. BURNS, *Berwyn, Penna.*