

200 feet from the bank of Stillwater Creek. A pair of Fox Squirrels preempted the tree for a home the following winter, and the woodpeckers have not occupied it since.

We have seen them on numerous occasions every year since 1920, but were not able to locate a nest until 1923. On May 30, about a mile down the valley, we found a pair nesting in a large dead beech stub, about forty feet up, which seemed to have been in use for several years. We visited the nest again on June 15th to try for some photographs, but on close inspection the tree seemed too dangerous to climb. We saw a pair at the tree the evening of January 4, 1924, but did not visit the tree in 1924 and do not know whether they nested there again that year or not.—CHARLES R. WALLACE., *Delaware, Ohio.*

An Unusual Nesting Site of the Prothonotary Warbler.—On July 13, 1926, while I was at the Boy Scout Reservation near Indianapolis, Marion County, I was informed that a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) was nesting in a building used as a crafts workshop. Investigation revealed that three of the four fledglings had matured and flown, and the fourth was out of the nest on a ledge, calling loudly. Though well feathered it showed little yellow, resembling closely a phoebe fledgling. This baby had been reared in a nest of mosses, placed on the inside of the building on a two by four horizontal brace, four feet above the floor, in such a manner that the two by four itself made the bottom for an inch. Access to the building had been obtained through an open window eight feet west of the nest. This building was used by more than fifteen boys during the daytime in the study of blacksmithing, motor building, painting, and leather working, most of the time during the incubation and feeding period of the birds. The building was about fifty feet from water. The remaining fledgling was banded and tied under an improvised trap made of a window screen. With the help of the scouts the male adult bird was trapped and banded. Dr. Amos W. Butler considers this an unusual nesting bird record.—SAMUEL ELLIOTT PERKINS, III, *Indianapolis, Ind.*

Two Comments on the Nidification of the Acadian Flycatcher.—May 9, 1926. In the article "Acadians I Have Found" in the March, 1926, WILSON BULLETIN, the author has either made an error in identification or else the nidification of the Alder Flycatcher has been adopted, in this instance, by the Acadian Flycatcher. The Alder Flycatcher builds a fairly compact, high-walled nest, three to seven feet up in willow or alder crotches, along marshy pond margins or in sloughs of the old lake-bed type. The Acadian Flycatcher builds a loose, shallow, semi-pensile nest in beeches, witch-hazel, maples, horn-beam, etc., ten to twenty-five feet up in woods. They are birds of the forest shade. The number of eggs is two or three.—EDW. R. FORD, *Grand Rapids, Mich.*

October 2, 1926. I have just been reading the article by S. E. Perkins III, on pages 43-44 of the WILSON BULLETIN for March, 1926, and am moved to say that the description of the nest attributed to an Acadian Flycatcher seems to indicate that the birds were Alder Flycatchers, and not Acadians. The latter species, so far as I know, always nests in moist woodland, building a shallow nest *without lining* in the forks of a horizontal limb. The nest found by Mr. Perkins apparently answers the description of the ordinary nest of the Alder Flycatcher. It is to be hoped that the birds may return next year and thus afford an opportunity for further study. The wing formula given agrees with

that of the Alder Flycatcher rather better than with the Acadian.—ARTHUR H. HOWELL, *Washington, D. C.*

An Open Nest of the Prothonotary Warbler in Ohio.—Early in the spring of 1926, I had an argument with an ornithologist who claimed that the Prothonotary Warbler did not nest in Ottawa County, Ohio. I claimed that I had heard and seen the bird while on a fishing trip the year before, and promised to make it my business to find its nest. During the second half of June I observed a pair of Prothonotaries foraging along Sugar Creek, near Elmore, and carrying insects into a small thicket of shrubbery and weeds, as though feeding young. A group of Boy Scout bird students watched these birds on various days and tried hard to locate the nest without frightening the parent birds. I had become acquainted with this warbler and his nesting habits in Shelby County, Ohio, where the nest was made in a cleft in a decaying post, at the edge of Loramie Reservoir. Therefore we looked for a nest in a cavity, and were foiled, as we could find neither a cavity nor a tree or post big enough to contain a cavity, in the vicinity in which the birds appeared to be feeding their young.

The matter was reported to Prof. Mosely of Bowling Green, Ohio, who came to observe the birds on June 25th. He verified my identification, and together we watched the birds for some time. At length we found them feeding fledglings—not in a nest located in a cavity, but in an open nest placed in the crotch of a young ash tree.

Prof. Lynds Jones, to whom the observation was reported, and who is now in possession of the nest, observes: "Audubon stated that the Prothonotary Warbler built its nest in a bush, but it is now agreed that he was either mistaken or, not having seen a nest, assumed that it nested as the other warblers do." The undersigned is merely reporting an observation. Whether the pair of warblers under observation had built, found, or stolen this nest, we do not know, nor do we presume to offer a solution of the problem. But a pair of Prothonotary Warblers was observed feeding young birds in an open nest placed in the crotch of a sapling.—H. S. v. RAGUE, *Elmore, Ohio.*

An Unusual Flight of Cormorants.—On seeing in the Chicago Tribune for April 24, 1926, that a tremendous flight of loons had passed over La Crosse, Wisconsin, going up the Mississippi River during a gale and rain, I wrote to the postmaster at La Crosse, who turned my inquiry over to Mr. Mark Byers, Editor of the La Crosse Tribune, who writes me as follows:

"The flight first appeared over the river bottoms south of La Crosse about 3 p. m. It continued for two and one-half hours, more or less intermittently, although there were always from a dozen to hundreds of large flocks in the air. The birds were flying more or less directly north up the main channel of the Mississippi, and a great many of them circled and alighted in Target Lake, an arm of the river about three miles below the city. Others kept on going. They were evidently weary, frequently flying low to the water although no heavy north wind was blowing, such as usually forces wildfowl to fly low.

"The flight was so large that at times it was impossible to see the sunset sky through the mass. At other times they would be strung out in long irregular lines and groups—'like blackbirds'—says one witness. The number of birds is variously estimated, as from 100,000 to 1,000,000 birds. No sign of the birds was seen the next day."