

AN ILLUSTRATED MAGAZINE
DEVOTED TO THE IN-
TERESTS OF
ORNITHOLOGY

THE LEADING MONTHLY FOR
BIRD-STUDENTS IN
AMERICA

The Osprey Company

Publishers of THE OSPREY
61 NORTH PRAIRIE STREET

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WALTER ADAMS JOHNSON
Associated with
DR. ELLIOTT COUES,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
Nov. 15, 1897.

GALESBURG, ILL.,

My Dear Mr. Deane:

I am always pleased to hear from my young friends, and you are quite right in addressing me in the letter which my excellent friend, your brother, handed to me in N.Y.

I still think it was hardly necessary in a book like *Citizen Bird*, to pin the locality closely, especially as the run of the species treated shows the scene near enough. Almost anywhere in Southern New England, S. E. N.Y., and some parts of the middle states, would fill all the requirements.

My suggestion that perhaps there was a chimney handy for the Swift was rather a bit of humor than serious reply to your criticism! Of course the Swift alighted on the telegraph pole, then joining the group - that is to say, if he didn't keep circling about in the air close by. But the way he roostered, or whether he did so at all, is hardly essential to insist upon in such a fairy tale as that "Overture by the Birds".

I am a little surprised that Mr. Chapman acknowledges Error in the Goldfinch case. While talking with him about it, I understood him to hold out that he was right - the point being, that the call was really uttered on the down grade, though it reached our ears on the up grade. But if he is wrong in fact, he and not I should be the one to make the correction in the *Osprey*, and acknowledge the justness of your criticism, as I did in the case of the Hummingbird. You had better write him so.

With regards, Cordially yours, Elliott Coues,



Coues, Elliott. 1897. "Coues, Elliott Nov. 15, 1897." *Walter Deane correspondence*

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