

**Black Vulture at Taunton, Mass.**—I take pleasure in recording the capture of an adult female Black Vulture (*Catharista urubu*) at Taunton, Mass., on Oct. 5, 1902. This is the first record for the species in Bristol County, and there are but very few records for the State.

The bird was discovered sitting on the roof of a barn, where it remained while its captor went to the house for his gun.—A. C. BENT, *Taunton, Mass.*

**Golden Eagle in Middle Southern Ohio.**—To my only record of *Aquila chrysaëtos* for middle southern Ohio as given in the 'Wilson Bulletin' for September, 1902, page 83, I am now able to add another. On Nov. 15, 1902, I received an almost adult female in the flesh, shot Nov. 14, two miles from Waverly, Ohio. It measured: Extent, 2150 mm.; bill, 83 mm. (curvature included); tarsus, 110 mm.; tail, 335 mm.; wing, 620 mm.; length without bill, 820 mm.—W. F. HENNINGER, *Tiffin, Ohio.*

**Richardson's Merlin (*Falco columbarius richardsonii*) on the Coast of South Carolina.**—Upon looking over some Pigeon Hawks (*F. columbarius*) that I had packed away for many years, I came across a superb female that struck me at once as being none other than Richardson's Merlin. Upon comparing the specimen with Mr. Ridgway's description in his 'Manual of N. A. Birds' I found the bird to agree perfectly. The secondaries, primaries and primary coverts are margined terminally with white. The outer webs of the primaries (except the second) are spotted with ochraceous. The tail has six light and five dark bands. The specimen is apparently an *adult* female and was shot and prepared by the writer on October 15, 1895, near Mount Pleasant, S. C.

To what extent the list of South Carolina birds can be increased by the capture of northwestern birds there can be no conjecture.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**The Barn Owl on Long Island.**—When Mr. Beard made the record of this species in 'The Auk,' Vol. XIX, p. 398, he evidently had overlooked the previous record of the same family of owls in Vol. III, p. 439.—WILLIAM DUTCHER, *New York.*

**Barn Owl in Northern Ohio.**—While the Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola*) is a fairly common bird in the State of Ohio south of Columbus, records of this bird from northern Ohio are rather scarce (*cf.* Oberholser, *Birds of Wayne Co., Ohio*, p. 280). In a local collection here I found two mounted specimens, not sexed, of this species, both killed in the fall of 1901 almost within the city limits of Tiffin. One of these had been kept in captivity for about six months by the coroner of Seneca County. A third specimen was seen at the time the others were captured.—W. F. HENNINGER, *Tiffin, Ohio.*



**Yellow-billed Cuckoo's Egg in a Robin's Nest.**—On July 2, 1902, while examining various nests in a lot back of my house in Granby, Conn., as was my almost daily habit, I found in a Robin's nest with two eggs, an egg of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*). The nest proved to be deserted, although early on the 1st of July, when the Robin's eggs were the sole contents, both birds were about. There is no mistaking the egg; light greenish blue,  $1.31 \times .93$ , elliptical. — STANLEY W. EDWARDS, Granby, Conn.

**Breeding of the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii alnorum*) near Plainfield, New Jersey.**—In 'The Auk' for January, 1901, I recorded the probable breeding of the Alder Flycatcher in Ash Swamp near Plainfield, New Jersey.

The question was settled the following summer by finding two nests in that locality. The first, which I found on June 16, contained three eggs, which proved to be the full set. On the 20th I discovered another nest with three eggs, which had increased to four on the 23rd. These two nests were only a few rods apart, both placed in wild rose bushes within three feet of the ground. The sitting birds would slip away at my approach and it was with some difficulty that I at length succeeded in seeing one of them actually on the nest. This nest and eggs I took and they are at present in my collection.

The above dates show the Alder Flycatcher to be one of our latest breeders, ranking in this respect with the Goldfinch and the Cedar Wax-wing.

I found this bird at two other localities in July, 1901 — a small swampy tract a mile west of Ash Swamp, and Great Swamp, Morris County, New Jersey — in each of which it undoubtedly nests. It seems probable, therefore, that it breeds in suitable localities all through northern New Jersey, and it will be of interest to learn how much, if any, further south its breeding range extends. It is not included in Thurber's 'List of the Birds of Morris County,' and in the recent 'Birds of Princeton' it is given as a transient only.

While studying this little flycatcher in its haunts I recorded the ordinary song note as *kra-teal* or *great deal*. Later I found that Mr. P. B. Peabody had written it *grea' deal*. This is, to my ear, the best representative of the note that I have seen. Sometimes, as stated by Mr. J. A. Farley in his recent article, it is given in almost one syllable as *hrreal*, but I do not think that the apparent length or number of syllables is dependent on the distance of the bird, for I have heard the *grea' deal* when within a few feet of the performer. — W. D. W. MILLER, Plainfield, N. J.

**Western Evening Grosbeaks Nesting in Mexico.**—Out some 200 miles from the city of Chihuahua and close to the Sonora line, I saw different bunches of Western Evening Grosbeaks (*Coccothraustes vesper-*



1903. "Richardson's Merlin (*Falco columbarius richardsonii*) on the Coast of South Carolina." *The Auk* 20, 67–68. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4070108>.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54527>

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.2307/4070108>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/89906>

**Holding Institution**

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

**Sponsored by**

Smithsonian

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.