

Cornwall, New York. When first seen it was on the ground, but on approach flew to a fence near by. On being shot at, it flew with a steady but leisurely flight to a tree, when it allowed an approach within easy gunshot. While on the tree it exhibited no fear, merely turning its head to watch the movements of its capturer. Mr. Howell adds that the specimen is a beautiful one, highly colored, and having considerable black on the under parts. The following measurements were taken from the mounted specimen: wing, between 18 and 19 inches; tarsus, $2\frac{9}{16}$ inches, middle toe, $1\frac{3}{4}$; tail, 9. These large measurements would indicate it to be a female although the sex was not ascertained by dissection.—WILLIAM DUTCHER, *New York City*.

The Nest of *Panyptila cayenensis* (Gm.).—On Aug. 23, 1892 after an early morning trip in the woods, I had nearly reached the edge of the plantation when my attention was drawn to a mixed company of birds feeding on berries in an immense tree. The tree belonged to a species common in these forests, a giant among its surroundings, the trunk at least five feet in diameter and the first limb over seventy feet from the ground. Numerous vines of various sizes hung down from the limbs like ropes. Near the ground the trunk spread out into long, flattened arms and buttresses, giving it a diameter at the ground of over thirty feet. Among the birds were a flock of Yellow-tails (*Ostinops montezumæ*), two species of Toucans (*Ramphastos carinatus* and *Pteroglossus torquatus*) and some small Parrots too high up to identify. Wounding a Yellow-tail, I was endeavoring to keep sight of it, when a small bird dashed past and disappeared on the trunk of the tree about seventy feet from the ground. Looking in that direction I noticed a nest, eight or nine inches in length, hanging from the trunk, and so nearly resembling it in color that ordinarily it would have been passed unnoticed. The trunk was perfectly straight for a distance of seventy feet, at which point there was a division, the portion with the nest leaning very slightly, and the nest was attached to the smooth grayish bark on the under side of the trunk, hanging vertically and at the same time almost against the bark, rendering it a very inconspicuous object. The nest when first observed was still quivering from movements made by the bird, proving it to be made of some soft, yielding material. The nest almost exactly matched the bark in color; the entrance, at the bottom, was very large, nearly the diameter of the nest, which appeared to be about three inches at the lower end, with a slight bulging near the top. On shooting into the nest there was a struggle inside which shook it considerably, and presently the bird dropped to the ground. It was a *Panyptila cayenensis*, and on dissection proved to be a male, with the sexual organs only slightly developed.

Visiting the spot next day with a pair of field glasses, I tried to identify the material composing the nest, but beyond its having the appearance of being stuccoed with some substance resembling the bark in color, I could determine nothing. The bark was quite smooth, and the nest appeared to be glued on; although this was not positively ascertained to be the case,

This Swift is quite abundant here, as is also the small gray-rumped *Chaetura*. They usually fly very high, though apparently not faster than the Chimney Swift of eastern North America. On cloudy afternoons, particularly after rainstorms, they often fly so low that specimens may be easily obtained. The ordinary note is a 'chee', or 'chee-ee,' rather long drawn out, and at times a 'chee-wee-wee-wee,' uttered in about the same pitch as the note of the Chimney Swift. Wounded birds utter a continual, squeaky, clicking note.—CHAS. W. RICHMOND, *Escondido River near Bluefields, Nicaragua*.

Sharp-tailed Finches of the New Jersey Coast.—While there has been every reason to expect the occurrence of both the Nelson's and the Acadian Sharp-tailed Finches on the maritime marshes of New Jersey during the migrations, there have not been, so far as I am aware, any actual records of their capture in that State. The only mention that I have seen of either race as a New Jersey bird occurs on page 541 of Dr. Nelson's 'Catalogue of the Vertebrates of New Jersey' where it is stated that *Ammodramus caudacutus nelsoni* is "common along the shore" and "breeds in the salt meadows." No mention whatever is made of *A. caudacutus*, so the natural inference is that *nelsoni* is the common breeding bird of the New Jersey coast. This, however, being quite erroneous, Dr. Nelson's remarks must be considered as belonging strictly to *A. caudacutus*.

In view of the above statements the following notes based upon collections made by Mr. I. N. DeHaven and myself may be of interest. *Ammodramus caudacutus* breeds abundantly on the salt marshes from Pt. Pleasant to Cape May Point and probably along Delaware Bay as far up as the salt marshes extend. A few of the birds winter on the marshes at Atlantic City, as specimens have been taken in January and February by Mr. DeHaven. These winter birds were extremely fat, but did not differ in plumage from late fall birds, and were in all respects true *caudacutus*.

A. caudacutus nelsoni occurs only as a migrant, and appears to be more abundant in the fall. A single specimen was taken at Atlantic City on May 9, 1892, by Mr. DeHaven, and on October 2 of the same year several were secured.

A. caudacutus subvirgatus was found associated with the other two races at Atlantic City on October 2, 1892, and a number of specimens were shot. It appeared to be more numerous than *nelsoni*, but less so than true *caudacutus*. This race apparently winters farther south for, as has been already stated, all the winter specimens so far taken by us in New Jersey were *caudacutus*. Doubtless more careful search will show the *nelsoni* and *subvirgatus* to be of regular occurrence in both migrations.

It may be of interest in this connection to record the wintering of *Ammodramus maritimus* in small numbers on the salt marshes of southern New Jersey, specimens having been taken by Mr. Wm. L. Baily on February 22, 1892.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia*.



1893. "The Nest of *Panyptila cayenensis* (Gm.)." *The Auk* 10, 84–85.
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