

an excellent opportunity of examining it, while at the same time it had the opportunity of examining us, which it did thoroughly.

It walked to and fro in a semicircle, with its head over its shoulder on the side toward the party, betraying not the slightest sign of fear, but on the contrary, the liveliest curiosity. We had never before seen a bird just like it, though some of us had shot a number of Ruffed Grouse, which are found in the dunes, and also Prairie Chickens.

It looked like a cross between these two species, plus a dash of Plymouth Rock stock. It was larger than either of the above-mentioned Grouse, resembling perfectly in shape and color, the picture of the Sharp-tailed Grouse in the 'National Geographic Magazine' for August, 1915.

We could see the preponderance of the ochraceous rusty-brown color with pale and dark bars and patches, giving somewhat the appearance of a young Plymouth Rock cockerel. We could see the feathers on the legs, coming down to the base of the toes, and also the projecting feathers in the middle of the tail.

After the bird had watched us sufficiently, it suddenly sprang up without the slightest noise, and soared away, first circling over Lake Michigan for some distance and then returning past us to the big woods to the south-east.

Since then this bird or a similar one has been seen by members of the Prairie Club in the big woods near the same spot, especially by Capt. Charles Robinson, A. Leonard and John Leegwater. Mr. Leegwater has had a better opportunity to study it than any one else, as he almost stepped on it in the swamp near the big woods, a few months later.

It did not fly off right away, but acted as if it had little ones, trying to draw him away, by pretending to be hurt. This was in September which seemed too late for young ones.

As I found no Indiana records, I was a little doubtful until I made inquiries. Butler in his 'Indiana Birds,' said that it might be found there. Mr. M. F. Green of Tremont, Indiana, an old resident, said he had occasionally seen and shot them since boyhood. Mr. Brown of Tamarack, the care-taker of the great Wells estate of 2200 acres of dunes, says he has also occasionally shot them, and that they breed in the dunes. Both of these settlers considered them a curious kind of Partridge, or Ruffed Grouse, of which there are a number in the dunes. Dr. J. Barrett, the State Geologist of Indiana, states that it has never before been recorded as a resident of Indiana.—GEORGE A. BRENNAN, *Chicago, Ill.*

The White-winged Dove (*Melopelia asiatica asiatica*) in Georgia.—On January 6, 1917, Mr. Harrison Lee, while out shooting Mourning Doves near his home three miles south of Hoboken, Pierce County, Georgia, observed a White-winged Dove perching in a little bush in an open field. Thence it flew to a fence-post, where it was shot. Mr. Lee left the specimen on a shelf in his house overnight, with the intention of having it preserved, but on the following morning it was found badly damaged by mice.

Accordingly he saved only the head and right wing, and on January 8 brought them to the writer at Floyd's Island in Okefinokee Swamp. These parts, which were preserved for the U. S. Biological Survey collection, readily establish the identity of the bird as *Melopelia asiatica asiatica*.

This constitutes apparently the first record of the species in Georgia.—FRANCIS HARPER, *Washington, D. C.*

The Harpy Eagle in Colorado.— In *November*, 1902, the following skit appeared in one of the Denver daily papers (probably the Republican).

"First Harpy eagle found in Colorado — Owner will make his the Only Mounted Specimen Known in United States. Pueblo, Colo., Nov. 29.— (Special). What is thought is the first specimen of the Harpy Eagle ever met with in Colorado has been sent to Capt. W. F. Dortenbach of this city by George H. Cress of Lees, Colo. It measures 7 feet, 11 inches, from tip to tip, and 42 inches, from beak to tail. It weighs 30 pounds. The bird is of a species exceedingly rare. So far as is known there are no mounted specimens in the country. The Smithsonian institute at Washington has several skins. The captain will at once mount the specimen, and will communicate with the leading ornithologists of the country."

The undersigned sent a letter to Capt. Dortenbach, asking for further data concerning this newspaper note and received the following reply:—

"Pueblo, Colo., Feb. 9. 1903.

Dr. W. H. Bergtold,
624 14th St., Denver.

Dear Sir:

Your favor of Feb. 2nd to hand. The Eagle of which you saw a note in the papers some time ago is still in my possession. Its identification was by myself but I only have Coues Key to North American Birds and as it is quite old it may be somewhat faulty. We are still working at the identification of the specimen and if it should prove to be a harpy eagle I will give you all the necessary data when I make my report to the Society. Thanking you for the inquiry and trusting that I may be able to meet you when I visit Denver again.

Very respectfully yours,

(signed) W. F. Dortenbach."

During the succeeding fourteen years this matter returned to the writer's mind several times, but, never having received further word from Capt. Dortenbach (which his letter promised in case the specimen should prove to be a harpy eagle), it was concluded that, on careful further study at Pueblo, it had been found that the bird was not a harpy eagle.

It was a matter of much surprise to the writer to find this old news-



Harper, Francis. 1918. "The White-Winged Dove (*Melopelia asiatica asiatica*) in Georgia." *The Auk* 35, 76–77. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4072386>.

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