

regarding it. Efforts made to obtain more accurate information from the taxidermist as to the exact date of capture have entirely failed.

"In regard to the 'bird of freedom' my memory is very rusty as to the time when it was shot, but the place I remember distinctly. I was sitting in my boat up Crosswicks Creek, quietly waiting for squirrels in the chestnut woods of Alfred Reid (I being somewhat hidden by the bushes to which the boat was tied), when the Eagle sailed overhead, and was about to light in a tree when I fired a charge of duck shot and broke his wing near the shoulder. He fell in the water and was floating down stream when I fired squirrel shot in his head and he was still. I have looked up my diary but can find no record of the date when I shot him, but think it was late in the fall in 1888; time of day, about five o'clock. The bird is still in my possession. He measured 6 feet 4 inches from tip to tip. I am positive he is a Golden Eagle for he is feathered to the toes and has the characteristic arrow-head feathers on head."—WILLIAM C. BRAISLIN, *Brooklyn, N. Y.*

**The Golden Eagle in Maine.**—On August 19, 1895, Professor F. L. Harvey of the Maine State College and myself were making the ascent of Sandy River Mountain in northwest Maine. When we had nearly reached the summit of the mountain, we heard the cry of some raptorial bird, and a Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) soon appeared and flew around us uttering its cry. We remained at the top of the mountain for some time, during which the Eagle remained in our vicinity and seemed much disturbed at our presence. We both concluded that the bird had young somewhere in our vicinity, and as the south side of the mountain was a steep cliff, there is no reasonable doubt but that the bird had a nest somewhere on the cliff. When it uttered its cry we could hear answering cries from the direction of the cliff, thus making it evident that the bird had young in the vicinity.—ORA W. KNIGHT, *Bangor, Maine.*

**A New Long Island, N. Y., Record for the Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Melanerpes carolinus*).**—When visiting Mr. C. DuBois Wagstaff at Babylon, N. Y., last fall, I noticed a well-mounted specimen of this southern Woodpecker among a collection of local birds, and on inquiring the particulars of its capture, Mr. Wagstaff informed me that he shot it upon a locust tree close to the house, a year or two after the war. A specimen was shot by me in Flushing, N. Y., in October 1870, which I understood was the second record for Long Island, N. Y., but this bird antedates my specimen some years. The specimen in the collection of Mr. Geo. N. Lawrence, which was taken at Raynor South by a Mr. Ward, was killed many years ago and was, I believe, the first record for this locality.—ROBERT B. LAWRENCE, *New York City.*

**The Deltoid Muscle in the Swifts.**—In examining a number of Swifts recently I was struck with the fact that our common Chimney Swift (*Chaetura pelagica*) lacks the deltoid muscle. This is interesting as being

another instance of the specialization of the Switts along various lines, and also as showing the structural variation among different members of the group. In *Macropteryx* the deltoid is well-developed and arises from two heads as in the Passeres. In *Cypseloides*, *Micropus*, *Collocalia*, and *Tachornis*, the deltoid is single and reduced in size, being proportionally smallest in *Tachornis*. Finally, as stated above, the deltoid is quite absent in *Chætura pelagica*, this being a step beyond what is found among the Hummingbirds, where the deltoid is present though small. It would be interesting to know if other members of the genus *Chætura* lack the deltoid, and also what is the condition of this muscle in *Hemiprocne*.

Dr. Shufeldt's figure of the wing muscles of *Chætura* (Linn. Soc. Journ. Zool. XX, pl. 22, fig. 29) shows that he too found this muscle absent, although nothing is said about it in the text.

I would be extremely grateful to any one for alcoholic specimens of *Hemiprocne* or any species of *Chætura* save *pelagica*.—F. A. LUCAS, Washington, D. C.

**The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Virginia and Maryland.**—My friend, Mr. P. Henry Azlett, of Azlett, King William County, Virginia, recently sent me for identification an adult specimen of this bird (*Mitvulus forficatus*) which was shot by a farmer near that place on August 31, 1895. The bird is in poor, half moulted condition. This is, I believe, the fourth record of this bird for Virginia, and it is of course possible that some or all were escaped cage birds. The late Mr. O. N. Bryan of Bryan's Point, Maryland, on the Potomac River just below Washington, once told me that in August of a year about the close of the war while he was in a deep ravine near his home, called Johnson's Gully, he was overtaken by a severe storm, and saw one of these birds which had evidently sought the seclusion of the same place for shelter.—WILLIAM PALMER, Washington, D. C.

**The Raven in Illinois.**—I wish to place on record the capture of a specimen of *Corvus corax principalis*, at Mendosia, Ill., Oct. 23, 1892. I was at that time making a collection of birds for the State, and was living with the crew of the United States Fish Commission. The bird had been seen for a week or more previous to this time, flying about Lake Mendosia, a body of water opening into the Illinois River. The lake is seven miles long and three quarters of a mile wide. A number of attempts had been made by market shooters to obtain the bird for me, but they could not get within gunshot, and so were unsuccessful.

One day, however, as I was passing through a herd of cattle, the bird flew very low and I obtained it with a charge of number five shot. The specimen, a female, had been feeding upon carrion, and the odor from the body was as disagreeable as that from *Cathartes aura*. The plumage is exceptionally fine; the body is deep blue black; from the secondaries to the primary coverts, the color is rich brownish bronze. The following