1896

Some Notes on Nebraska Birds: A List of the Species and Subspecies Found in the State, with Notes on Their Distribution, Food-Habits, etc.

Lawrence Bruner
University of Nebraska

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/biosciornithology

Part of the Ornithology Commons

Bruner, Lawrence, "Some Notes on Nebraska Birds: A List of the Species and Subspecies Found in the State, with Notes on Their Distribution, Food-Habits, etc." (1896). Papers in Ornithology. 83.
http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/biosciornithology/83

This Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Papers in the Biological Sciences at DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln. It has been accepted for inclusion in Papers in Ornithology by an authorized administrator of DigitalCommons@University of Nebraska - Lincoln.
SOME NOTES
ON
NEBRASKA BIRDS.

A LIST OF THE SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES FOUND IN THE STATE, WITH NOTES ON THEIR DISTRIBUTION, FOOD-HABITS, ETC.

CORRECTED TO APRIL 22d, 1896

BY LAWRENCE BRUNER,
Professor of Entomology and Ornithology, University of Nebraska.

[Reprint from the Report of the Nebraska State Horticultural Society for the Year 1896.]
INTRODUCTION.

For upwards of twenty-five years the writer has taken an interest in our birds and made notes relative to their abundance, migrations, nesting, food-habits, etc., simply for personal gratification.

About two years ago, during a conversation in which the relation of birds to horticulture incidentally arose, Professor F. W. Taylor suggested the advisability of devoting a portion of a succeeding annual report to our Nebraska birds. With this object in view both the professor and the writer broached the matter to other members of the Society. Several at once not only became interested in the matter, but suggested its early accomplishment. Our late lamented Secretary, D. U. Reed, was especially in favor of the scheme. Accordingly it was decided that my usual report as entomologist should be omitted from the present volume and its place given to one on birds.

It is on these grounds that I now present for publication some "Notes on Nebraska Birds," and it is to be hoped that they will in a measure, at least, have the desired effect, viz., the protection of our birds, which means the destruction of insect pests in proportion as the protection reaches out. Just so soon as it was decided that this subject be treated in the present report efforts were at once made to secure all such additional material and information as would tend towards making our knowledge as complete as possible. Correspondence with various persons interested resulted in the bringing together of notes taken by about forty separate workers located in different parts of the state.

Of course the vast amount of material thus brought together had to be assorted and arranged at odd times between working hours in the University. While the paper is not what it should be, nor even what it might have been, if coming from a different person, still it is fairly satisfactory as a basis for future work.
By referring to the catalogue on the succeeding pages it will be seen that there are 415 distinct species and subspecies listed. Of these, future more critical examination may eliminate six or seven forms. Perhaps it will also be found that at least twenty-five are only accidental visitors. To counteract these possible eliminations there will undoubtedly be several additions made when we shall be better acquainted with our bird fauna.

These notes, besides definitely extending the recorded ranges of many of our North American birds, will show that at least 227 breed within the state and that more than 100 remain within our borders during ordinary winters.

It is but just here to acknowledge all the aid that has been received from the various persons whose names will be found in succeeding pages in connection with the notes furnished by each. Without such aid these notes in their present state of completeness could not have been written. It should also be generally known that it is due to the liberal policy of the Society that so many illustrations of the birds treated accompany the paper. These illustrations were either loaned by the Illinois State Laboratory of Natural History and the United States Department of Agriculture, or were redrawn and engraved from plates published in Warren's "Birds of Pennsylvania" and from the birds themselves. The drawings were made by Nelly Zehrung and Edna Hyatt of this city, and the engraving done by Blomgren Bros. & Co. of Chicago, Ill.

Lawrence Bruner.
REMARKS ABOUT BIRDS IN GENERAL.

The horticulturist, living as he does among stately trees, graceful shrubs, trailing vines, and showy flowers, must enjoy life to a greater extent than do most other people. Still, it appears to me that unless he is intimately acquainted with his almost constant companions, the birds, he loses much of the real enjoyment that might otherwise be his. These little creatures are so closely connected with all that interests the devotee of horticulture that there should be a mutual acquaintance struck up at once. What is true of the horticulturist in this connection is also true to a greater or less extent of all persons who are in any way related to the growth of trees, or even to the cultivation of the soil. I would even go further and say that everybody should be interested in the birds, be his occupation what it may. This being true, it gives me great pleasure at this time to be able to introduce to the readers of this paper our mutual friends, the birds of Nebraska.

Perhaps birds are better known, in a general way at least, than are the members of any other natural group among animal forms—in fact than all the others combined. Yet the ignorance of the general public as relates to the habits, modes of life, food, names, etc., of even our commoner species is simply appalling.

Although birds are comparatively few in species they are moderately numerous in individuals when compared with some other groups of animal forms. They are also quite general in their distribution over the earth's surface.

In their relations to other animal forms, birds approach most closely to the reptiles. In fact, some of the earlier geological birds were more like reptiles than they were like the species of our day. Some of our species even now have very marked reptilian characteristics. Yet we seldom, if ever, think of birds in such a relation. Their beautiful forms, musical voices, gaudy plumages, smooth tempers, and many other pleasing features have endeared them to us from childhood. These, along with their general usefulness, have won for them our sincere friendship.
In size birds vary greatly, ranging from the minutest humming-bird, which is scarcely larger than a bumble-bee, to the largest ostrich that stands higher than the tallest man. Yet in size, color, form and habits they are perfectly fitted for the respective places which each fills in the vast sea of life about them.

Unlike most other animals, birds are much less restricted in their distribution over the earth’s surface. This is undoubtedly due to their power of locomotion, which enables them “to choose their climates and their seasons,—thus avoiding, in a great measure, one of the most destructive checks upon the multiplication of animals.” And, by the way, the organs which they possess for locomotion the air are very characteristic of these creatures alone. They are made up of a series of modified scales, or, perhaps more properly speaking, hairs that grow out of the front pair of limbs and the tail. Consequently it is that in birds the law of migration reaches its climax. Directly related to this trait, and largely regulating its different phases, are such features as change in the seasons with their accompanying variations in heat and cold, food supply, reproduction, moulting of feathers, etc.

When applied to the entire feathered tribe, bird migrations are certainly more of a study than one would at first suppose. Hardly any two species seem to possess this trait in the same degree, nor to act in precisely the same manner during its performance. Some of them make the change from one region to another so gradually that the movement is barely noticed. Others remain either in the sunny south, where they revel among showy flowers and the giant trees of tropical forests dressed in their festoons of clinging vines and deep green mosses, or in the northland, where the memories of their wooings, and, more recently, the caring for their hungry little ones, occupied the long summer days. At last the moment for action has come, and they are up and away. Some birds travel in flocks, some by families, and others in pairs, or singly, as the case may be. These journeys are made with some only during the day-time, while others travel only by night, and still others move along as necessity demands. In spring they go northward, in fall towards the south. Some migrate principally for breeding, others on account of food supply, all of them seemingly of a necessity. During their migrations, as well as at other times, the speed attained in their flights by some birds is simply marvelous, if not almost incredible. Some ducks are said to travel at the rate of two
miles or more per minute. The swans, hawks, and even the snipes, and many of the song birds are rapid flyers. A few of these are known to draw on a vast scope of country for their food supply, and it is not an uncommon occurrence for some of them to reach a point at least one hundred miles or more from their nests during a single day's search.

Although not directly in the line of greatest interest to the agriculturist of the soil, one of the most charming features in bird study is that connected with their nest building and the rearing of their young. So varied are the methods employed in nest building, and later in caring for the offspring among different birds, that the student never has learned all that is to be known on this topic alone, even though he has spent a lifetime in observing and remembering what he has seen. From no nest at all, as we find the night-hawk providing for its eggs, to the complicated structures made by the oriole, tailor bird, and allies, all variations of nest building are to be found. The situation where these structures are placed by their builders also vary much.

Poems, as we find it with different birds, also offers much food for reflection. In the female and young it is usually modest, while the males of some species at least are very gaudily dressed. In some it is protective, while others it seems to be the reverse. The habits and peculiarities of most birds coincide with their surroundings. The waders are long-legged, long-necked, and live along the margins of streams and bodies of water and in the depths of swamps. They are usually drably appearing creatures, not especially noted for their beauty of form or melody of voice, nevertheless many of them are gaily attired. The love-song of the Bittern is not of a kind that would produce within the reader any poetic dreams. But to the birds accustomed to the coarse croak of the bull-frog and roar of alligators it is sweet music, no doubt. The soul-stirring, hail-lifting hoots of the Great Horned Owl are songs which in all probability produce reflective moods in these naturally wise-looking nocturnal prowlers among the feathered tribe. The predaceous forms delight in shrill, piercing notes, while the graminivorous ones habitually modulate their voices. Aside from taking life very seriously, many birds seem to be inclined at times with a spirit of fun. The Meadow Lark will sometimes start out with a plaintive call, and after attracting its mate will go off into
a paroxysm of laughter, as it were. Other birds, notably the domestic cock, will call up to himself hens and chicks to partake of some supposed dainty morsel, and then slap his leg with his wing and laugh at the practical joke he has perpetrated.

With these miscellaneous and general remarks about birds as an introduction, and for the uninitiated, it will be more to the point in the present paper to speak of the practical side of the subject.

Quoting from a paper by Professor S. A. Forbes, who has done much in the study of birds and their direct relation to man, we have the following: "Excluding the inhabitants of the great seas, birds are the most abundant of the Vertebrata, occupying in this great sub-kingdom the same prominent position that insects do among invertebrate animals." This position of the two groups in their respective divisions of the animal life of the globe cannot be due simply to chance. There must be some connection between them. Let us see.

In my former reports, to both this Society and to the State Board of Agriculture, it has been shown time and again that not only are the distinct kinds of insects almost myriads in number, but also that the individuals of each species are incalculable. That their powers of reproduction are simply wonderful, being limited only by the amount of food available, etc. Now, the disproportionate number of birds on the other hand, with "their universal distribution, the remarkable locomotive power which enables them readily to escape unfavorable conditions, and their higher rate of life, requiring for their maintenance an amount of food relatively enormous," give to them a significance which few seem ever to have realized. While naturally birds are quite numerous both in species and individuals, their greatest enemy, man, has so depleted their ranks in many localities that they have become scarce.

Perhaps few of us have ever thought much about what birds eat. Yet those who have studied these creatures assure us that a very large per cent of their food, possibly fully three-fourths, consists of insects. Even those species which are classed as graminivorous, during the summer months from choice partake chiefly of an insect diet.

Careful estimates of three conservative ornithologists have placed the bird-life of Illinois at three birds per acre during the six summer months. Now, if we place their number for Nebraska at one and one-half birds to each acre during a similar period, we would have in
round numbers about 75,000,000 of birds. If, as has been estimated, three-fourths of the food of this host of birds should consist of insects, what would this mean? A very conservative estimate as to the number of insects eaten daily by each bird can be set down at twenty-five.* This being true, it would take one billion eight hundred and seventy-five millions of insects for a single day's rations for our birds during any one of the 175 days of summer. If these insects were spread out at the average of ten thousand to the acre, a day's work of our birds would mean the complete clearing of 18,750 acres.

Professor Forbes says: "On this basis, if the operations of the birds were to be suspended, the rate of increase of these insect hosts would be accelerated about seventy per cent, and their numbers, instead of remaining year by year at the present average figure, would be increased over two-thirds each year. Any one familiar with geometrical ratios will understand the inevitable result. In the second year we should find insects nearly three times as numerous as now, and in about twelve years if this increase were not otherwise checked, we should have the entire state carpeted with insects, one to the square inch over our whole territory."† What would be true in Illinois would apply equally well for Nebraska.

More than twenty-five years ago Benjamin Walsh, the first state entomologist of Illinois, estimated the damage done by insects in that state at twenty million dollars annually. Again splitting these figures in the middle and allowing only half as much for our state, or ten million dollars. Supposing that by some means or other we could increase the efficiency of our birds only one per cent, the saving that would result could be plainly set down at $100,000. This increase in the efficiency of our birds, like all other estimates, is very low. Supposing it should be five per cent instead, then the saving would be an even half million dollars annually. The sparing of a single bird annually for each inhabitant of the state would more than meet the above estimates.

Even if birds do destroy alike the injurious and the parasitic insects,

* These figures, large as they seem, are much too small. Most birds eat at least two meals each day, and the stomach contents of all birds examined by those engaged in the study of their food-habits would indicate that seventy-five or a hundred insects per day would be more nearly correct.
no dire result will follow. It is not from the depredations of the masses of insect species that we lose our crops or suffer severe losses in a single direction; but on the contrary, from the few that at times become abnormally numerous. This being true, the birds naturally turn their attention to these latter for the bulk of their food supply. We may infer from this statement then that even a bird is not fool enough to ignore a plentiful food supply for that which is difficult to obtain.

While a very large per cent of our birds retire toward the south as winter approaches, a few of the species remain with us over winter. Of course these that remain must be fed, and if left to themselves they will find that food. Most of them now change to a vegetable diet of which they find a plentiful store in the numerous weeds and other, to man, useless seeds that lie strewn about the country everywhere. These seeds, which are quite rich in oils, give the necessary fuel supply and energy that warm the small snow-buntings and sustain their powers as they hurl themselves into the very teeth of the arctic blasts when the thermometer registers many degrees below zero. Even here the birds befriend the tiller of the soil by searching out and destroying the seeds of many a noxious weed that would quickly grow up and occupy the ground to the disadvantage or destruction of that which is being cultivated.

There are instances where a bird may be harmful during one part of the year and exceedingly beneficial during the remainder. In such cases, if we apply business principles, we will carefully estimate both sides of the account before a summary settlement is made by destroying the bird. He is a poor business man who pays ten dollars for that which he knows must later be sold for fifteen cents, or even less. Yet I have known of instances where a robin that had saved ten to fifteen bushels of apples that were worth a dollar per bushel, by clearing the tree from canker worms in spring, was shot when he simply pecked one of the apples that he had saved for the grateful or ungrateful fruit-grower. Some persons would gladly sell cherries to their neighbors at the rate of ten cents per quart, but would refuse to let a bird have them at ten cents apiece after they had been paid for in advance. The ordinary Red-headed Woodpecker, which is almost universally credited with being an insect destroyer, has been found by actual examination to take more corn and other vegetable food than is taken by any of the thrushes—birds which most of us brand as rascals.
Some birds, but these are comparatively few, are harmful throughout the year; i.e., their food-habit is such as to count against them when the ledger is balanced. Two of our hawks, the Blue Jay and English Sparrow will fall in this category, but aside from these it would not be safe to begin killing birds indiscriminately, for in so doing we might be injuring ourselves financially.

It is true that reports have reached us at the University of Nebraska to the effect that certain birds like the blackbirds, Robin, Brown Thrush, English Sparrow, and orioles had done great injury by pecking apples full of holes as they hung on the trees. It has also reached us that these same birds had occasionally been observed to destroy certain injurious insects.

On the following pages is given as nearly a complete list of the different species and varieties of Nebraska birds as could at this time be compiled from the data available. While it has been impossible to give an account of the food-habits of each one separately, or even of each group fully, I trust that in most cases sufficient has been said to warrant the reader in looking into the subject more closely for himself before he ruthlessly kills birds about which he knows nothing or but little. In certain special cases where birds have been known to attack fruit and other crops the food-habits, along with other notes, will be found in connection with the bird’s name at its proper place in the list.

In closing this preliminary chapter to a list of our Nebraska birds, it might be well to suggest that the subject is of sufficient importance to call for its being taught in our public schools to a limited extent at least. We should have a “Bird” day just as we have an “Arbor” day, and a “Flag” day, when suitable exercises should be held commemorative of the occasion.

It might also be well to add that we have laws in this state against the indiscriminate slaughter of birds which it might be worth knowing about. These will be found incorporated in the appendix to the list which follows.
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

A LIST OF NEBRASKA BIRDS, TOGETHER WITH NOTES ON THEIR ABUNDANCE, MIGRATIONS, BREEDING, FOOD-HABITS, ETC.

Nebraska appears to be well fitted as a home for many distinct forms of birds, just as it is for the other kinds of animal life. From our studies of these creatures for the past twenty-five years and those of about fifty other persons whose notes we have had for reference, it would appear that although a prairie state, Nebraska has an unusually large bird fauna. These notes show 415 species and subspecies as visiting the state, while there are records of 227 breeding within our borders and more than 100 winter residents. When we learn that only about 780 species are recorded for the whole of North America north of the Mexican boundary, it certainly seems astonishing that from among these we should receive so large a percentage. If, however, we take into consideration the variations in altitude above sea level, the differences in surface configuration, climate, etc., that pertain to our state, its location and the relation which it bears to the country at large, perhaps the wonderment will become less. Our southeastern corner is only about 800 feet, our western border almost 6,000 feet above tide water. The state is divided into timbered, prairie and plains regions. We lie nearly in the middle of the United States, with a high mountain chain to the west and a giant waterway along our eastern boundary. In fact in Nebraska meet eastern, western, southern, and northern faunas; while we also have a fauna of our own. We find forms belonging to low and high altitudes, to wet and dry climates, to timbered and prairie countries, as well as to semi-desert and alkali regions.

ORDER PYGOPODES.—THE DIVING BIRDS.

FAMILY PODICIPIDÆ.—THE GREBES.

The grebes feed chiefly upon snails and other aquatic animals, such as are found in and about their haunts. They also destroy grasshoppers and such other insects as come across their path. They cannot
be set down as injurious, neither can they be termed beneficial, on account of their food-habits.

1. *Chlophorus occidentalis* (Lawr.).—Western Grebe.
   Cut-off lake near Omaha (L. Skow); “North Platte, common migrant in spring and fall” (M. K. Barnum).


   West Point, Nebr., common (L. Bruner); “Migratory, rare” (Taylor); “Northern hemisphere” (Goss); northern portions of northern hemisphere (Ridgeway); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “a common breeder in alkali lakes of Cherry county, June 29-30” (L. S. Trostler).

   Throughout the state, especially along larger streams and lakes (L. Bruner); “Rather abundant in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrive in
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

May and September (Taylor); "Western North America, east to the Mississippi river" (Goss); east to the Mississippi valley (Ridgeway); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); a common migrant—a few breeding in Florence and Cut-off lakes near Omaha (I. S. Trostler).

6. Podilymbus podiceps (Linn.).—Pied-billed Grebe; Hell-diver; Dabchick.

Common over most of the state (L. Bruner); "Migratory, rare" (Taylor); "British Provinces southward into South America" (Goss); The whole of America (Ridgeway); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "an abundant migrant and common breeder" (I. S. Trostler).

FAMILY URINATORIDÆ.—The Loons.

7. Urinator imber (Gunn.).—Loon.

West Point, Nebr., Omaha, Nebr. (L. Bruner); not common; "Migratory, common, arrive the first of April and in September and October" (Taylor); "Northern part of the northern hemisphere" (Goss); Omaha, Rockport (L. Skow); Lincoln (Brezee); "Migrant, not rare" (I. S. Trostler).

11. Urinator lumme (Gunn.).—Red-throated Diver.

Missouri river at Omaha (L. Skow); "a rare migrant, one killed on the Missouri river near Bellevue, Sept. 28, 1894" (I. S. Trostler).

FAMILY STERCORARIIDÆ.—Skuas and Jaegers.

36. Stercorarius pomarinus (Temm.).—Pomarine Jaeger.

"Twice seen in Nebraska" (Aughey); "one shot at North Platte, Nov. 11, 1895" (M. K. Barnum); "Seas and inland waters of northern portions of the northern hemisphere, south in winter to Africa, Australia, and probably South America (A. O. U. Check List).

ORDER LONGIPENNES.—The Long-winged Swimmers.

FAMILY LARIDÆ.—Gulls and Terns.

The gulls, on account of their long wings and powers for flight, are not confined to the sea coast, hence they reach far inland in their migrations, feeding extensively upon insects like locusts, June beetles, crickets, etc., large numbers of which they destroy. Several kinds of these birds are known to follow the plow and pick up large numbers of white-grubs and other insects that are laid bare. In early days, when grasshoppers did much harm in this state, large flocks of these birds were seen to feed upon the insects.
47. **Larus marinus** Linn.—**GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL.**

“I only saw this bird once in Nebraska, and then it was dead. Some Winnebago Indians brought one to Dakota City in May, 1871” (Aughey).

51a. **Larus argentatus smithsonianus** Coues.—**HERRING GULL.**

Rockport, Nebr., West Point, Nebr. (L. Bruner); northeastern Nebraska (Aughey); "Common during spring migration" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); "a rare migrant, April 15, 1894" (I. S. Trostler).

54. **Larus delawarensis** Ord.—**RING-BILLED GULL.**

Migrant spring and fall, West Point, Omaha, and Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Rather common in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, common, arrive from May till July" (Taylor); "North America at large" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Dakota City, Wood River (D. H. Talbot); "not uncommon as a migrant at Omaha" (I. S. Trostler).

58. **Larus atricilla** Linn.—**LAUGHING GULL.**


59. **Larus franklinii** Sw. & Rich.—**FRANKLIN’S GULL.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Large numbers here during the spring and fall migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant, arrive in April, May, September, and October" (Taylor); "Interior of North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Genoa (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, common migrant (I. S. Trostler).

60. **Larus philadelphia** (Ord).—**BONAPARTE’S GULL.**

Lincoln, Nebr. (W. D. Hunter); "The whole of North America" (Goss); Lincoln, Nov. 3d (A. Eiche).

62. **Xema sabinii** (Sab.).—**SABINE’S GULL.**

"A rare visitant, south in winter to Kansas" (Goss).

64. **Sterna tschegrava** Lepech.—**CASPIAN TERN.**

Lincoln, spring 1893 (Dr. F. L. Riser).

69. **Sterna forsteri** Nutt.—**FORSTER’S TERN.**

West Point, Swan lake, Lincoln—breeds in Sand Hills (L. Bruner); "Dixon county, May, 1871" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, arrive about the first of May" (Taylor); "North America generally" (Goss); Cherry county—breeds" (J. M. Bates); Gage county (A. Colby); Omaha, "a not uncommon migrant," "Several pairs seen in Cherry county June 20 to 30, where they probably breed" (I. S. Trostler); Fairbury (Dr. M. L. Eaton).

70. **Sterna hirundo** Linn.—**COMMON TERN; SEA SWALLOW.**

Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); "Migratory, rare, arrive about the first of May" (Taylor); "Migratory, very rare" (Goss, Birds of Kansas); Omaha (L. Skow).
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

71. Sterna paradisaea (Brünn).—Arctic Tern.
   "Only saw a few of these terns in Dixon county, in May, 1866" (Aughey).

74. Sterna antillarum (Less.).—Least Tern.
   West Point, Nebr. (L. Bruner); "Rather common in Nebraska" (Aughey);
   "Migratory, abundant; summer resident, not uncommon" (Taylor);
   "North America, northward to California and New England" (Goss);
   Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, abundant—probably breeds (G. A. Coleman);
   "A few seen around Cut-off lake near Omaha during summer of 1893" (I. S. Trostler).

77. Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis (Gmel.).—Black Tern.
   West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Holt county, Platte river (L. Bruner);
   "Breeds here" (Aughey); "Migratory, common; summer resident, rare; arrive about the
   first of May and in October" (Taylor); "Temperate North America" (Goss);
   Beatrice (A. S. Fearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant
   (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Swan lake, Holt
   county (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "A common migrant and
   not an uncommon summer resident—breeds" (I. S. Trostler).

ORDER STEGANOPODES.—Totipalmate Swimmers.

FAMILY ANHINGIDÆ.—Darters.

118. Anhinga anhinga (Linn.).—Anhinga, Snake Bird.
   An accidental visitor—based on a single specimen that was shot several years
   ago within a few miles of Omaha and mounted by F. J. Brezee (L. Bruner).

FAMILY PHALACROCORACIDÆ.—Cormorants.

120. Phalacrocorax dilophus (Swain.).—Double-crested Cormorant.
   Florence lake (J. Budd); Cut-off lake (F. J. Brezee); West Point (L.
   Bruner); "Perhaps passing through the state in April and November" (Taylor);
   "South in winter to the Gulf coast" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry
   county (J. M. Bates); "migrant, not rare" (I. S. Trostler).

120a. Phalacrocorax dilophus floridanus (Aud.).—Florida Cormorant.
   West Point, Omaha, Platte river, Lincoln (L. Bruner); Omaha (F. J. Brezee).

121. Phalacrocorax mexicanus (Brandt).—Mexican Cormorant.
   North in the interior to Kansas and southern Illinois (A. O. U. Check List);
   Reported in spring from West Point, Cuming county, by a friend (L. Bruner).
FAMILY PELECANIDÆ.—PELICANS.


Numerous localities (L. Bruner); “Frequently seen in Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrive in April, May, October, and November” (Taylor); “Temperate North America” (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “migratory, not uncommon” (I. S. Trostler).

126. Pelecanus fuscus Linn.—Brown Pelican.

St. Paul, Nebr., Oct. 10, 1885, one male specimen (D. H. Talbot); Honey Creek lake, near Omaha, in spring, “Saw fragments of six specimens in hog-pen where they had been thrown by the man who shot them” (L. Skow).

ORDER ANSERES.—SHORT-WINGED SWIMMERS OR DUCKS, GEESE, ETC.

FAMILY ANATIDÆ.—DUCKS, BRANTS, GEESE, SWANS.

129. Merganser americanus (Cass.).—American Merganser.

West Point, Omaha, Platte river, and Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Migratory, rare, arrive the last of April or first of May” (Taylor); “The whole of North America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “Omaha, migratory, common” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln (Dr. F. L. Risser).

130. Merganser serrator (Linn.).—Red Breasted Merganser.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Platte river (L. Bruner); “Winter resident, rare” (Taylor); “south in winter throughout the United States” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); “Omaha, migratory, several killed on Florence lake in 1894” (I. S. Trostler).

131. Lophodytes cucullatus (Linn.).—Hooded Merganser.

West Point, Omaha, Fremont, Holt county, Rockport, South Bend, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Winter resident, somewhat common; resident, rare” (Taylor); North America in general” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “Occasionally seen in summer around lakes in Burt and Washington counties” (I. S. Trostler).

132. Anas boschas Linn.—Mallard.

Common over state—breeds (L. Bruner); “Very abundant in Nebraska during its migrations; many also breed here” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant; resident, common” (Taylor); “Whole of Northern hemisphere” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); several Nebraska localities (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “an abundant migrant, rare breeder in vicinity of Omaha, but common breeder in Cherry county” (I. S. Trostler).
133. **Anas obscura** Gmel.—**BlacK DuCK; DusKY DuCK.**

Once at West Point (L. Bruner); occasional in market in Omaha (L. Bruner); Lincoln, occasionally (W. D. Hunter); “Occurs sparingly in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrive the last of March or first of April” (Taylor); “Eastern North America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); not rare as a migrant—seen in company with the mallard at Omaha” (I. S. Trostler).

135. **Anas strepera** Linn.—**GadwaLL.**

West Point, Swan lake, Lincoln, Omaha—breeding in Holt county (L. Bruner); “Migratory, common, probably breeds in Nebraska” (Taylor); “Northern hemisphere in general” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); a common migrant (I. S. Trostler).

136. **Anas penelope** Linn.—**WIDGEON.**

A single specimen at West Point years ago, also seen in Omaha markets on rare occasions (L. Bruner).

137. **Anas americana** Gmel.—**BaLDpATE; AmeRiCaN WIDGEON.**

A common duck over all Nebraska—West Point, Norfolk, Neligh, Holt county, Platte river, Omaha, etc. (L. Bruner); “Migratory, common, arrive the last of March or first of April” (Taylor); “North America in general” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “Omaha, a common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

139. **Anas carolinensis** Gmel.—**Green-wInGed TeAL.**

West Point, Holt county, Norfolk, Dakota county, Omaha, Platte river, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Very abundant in Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrive in April and September” (Taylor); “North America in general” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M.
64 NEBRASKA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

Bates); Genoa, Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

140. Anas discors Linn.—BLUE-WINGED TEAL.
A common summer resident over most of the state—numerous localities (L. Bruner); found in Nebraska (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant; summer resident, rare—arrive in May" (Taylor); "North America in general, but chiefly east of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeding (J. M. Bates); Genoa, O'Neill (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, an abundant migrant and common breeder over state" (I. S. Trostler).

141. Anas cyanoptera Vieill.—CINNAMON TEAL.
West Point, Omaha, Niobrara (L. Bruner); Grand Island, Florence (F. J. Brezee); "Occasional visitant" (Bull. No. 2, U. S. Div. Ornith); "In North America east to the plains, and casual to Florida and Manitoba" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—rare (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a rare migrant—seen in company with Blue-winged Teal" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln (Dr. F. L. Riser).

142. Spatula clypeata (Linn.).—SHOVELLER DUCK.
Common summer resident over state, numerous localities (L. Bruner); "Occasionally met with in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, sometimes common, arrive about the first of April, a few may breed in the state (Taylor); "Northern hemisphere in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Elm Creek (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, a common migrant, breeding in Cherry county" (I. S. Trostler).

143. Dafila acuta (Linn.).—PINTAIL; SPRIGTAIL.
A common migrant, West Point, Norfolk, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "common in Nebraska, especially during its migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant, arrive in March and first of April" (Taylor); "Northern hemisphere in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeding (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "an abundant migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

144. Aix sponsa (Linn.).—WOOD DUCK; SUMMER DUCK.
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Oakdale (L. Bruner); "Rather abundant in Nebraska and breeds here" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrive the first of April and stay till October" (Taylor); "The whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Genoa, O'Neill (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "a common migrant and summer resident in vicinity of Omaha" (I. S. Trostler).

146. Aythya americana (Eyl.).—RED-HEAD DUCK.
West Point, Holt county, Lyons, Blair, Omaha, South Bend, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); "Migratory, common, arrive in April and May, September and October" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse);
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeding (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "Omaha, an abundant migrant" (L. S. Trostler).

147. *Aythya vallisneria* (Wils.).—**Canvas-back Duck.**

West Point, Lyons, Lincoln, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Migratory, sometimes abundant" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—rare (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "an irregular migrant, some years abundant and others rare" (L. S. Trostler).

148. *Aythya marila nearctica* Stejn.—**Blue-bill; Scaup Duck.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Probably migratory, rare" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a common migrant" (L. S. Trostler).

149. *Aythya affinis* (Eyt.).—**Little Blue-bill; Lesser Scaup Duck.**

West Point, Holt county, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Migratory, common, arrive in April" (Taylor); "North America in General" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "a not uncommon migrant" (L. S. Trostler).

150. *Aythya collaris* (Donov.).—**Ring-necked Duck.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Probably migratory and not uncommon" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "a not uncommon migrant" (L. S. Trostler).

151. *Glaucionetta clangula americana* (Bonap.).—**Golden-eye; Whistler.**

Omaha, Lyons (L. Bruner); Omaha, Grand Island (F. J. Brezee); "Migratory, common, arrive in April and May" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a not uncommon migrant" (L. S. Trostler).

152. *Glaucionetta islandica* (Gmel.).—**Barrow’s Golden-eye; Rocky-Mountain Whistler.**

Long Pine (L. Bruner); Grand Island (F. J. Brezee); Omaha, "a rare migrant in company with American Golden-eye" (L. S. Trostler).

153. *Charitonetta albeola* (Linn.).—**Butterball; Bufflehead; Spirit Duck.**

West Point, Norfolk, Lyons, Blair, Omaha, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); "along the Missouri and its tributaries in Nebraska" (Angley); "Migratory, common" (Taylor); "North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a not uncommon migrant" (L. S. Trostler).
154. **Clangula hyemalis** (Linn.).—**Old-Squaw Duck.**
Omaha market, lake near Blair, Nebr. (L. Bruner).

155. **Histrionicus histrionicus** (Linn.).—**Harlequin Duck.**
A specimen was obtained in Omaha market from among birds said to have been shot in Burt county (L. Bruner); Omaha, "a rare migrant, two seen which were killed on the Missouri river, Sept. 16, 1893, one also killed Sept. 19, 1895, on Florence lake" (I. S. Trostler).

156. **Oidemia deglandi** Bonap.—**White-winged Scoter.**
Tekamah or some point in Burt or Washington counties (F. J. Brezee).

156. **Oidemia perspicillata** (Linn.).—**Surf Scoter.**
"South in winter to Jamaica, Florida, Ohio river, Kansas, and Lower California" (Goss). Three birds that without doubt belong here were shot on "Salt Lake" near Lincoln, November, 1895, by students of the University. The specimens were unfortunately picked and cooked before their value was known (L. Bruner).

157. **Erismatura rubida** (Wil8.).—**Ruddy Duck.**
Numerous localities in the state (L. Bruner); "Rather common along the Missouri during its migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, common, arrive in May and October" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "a very irregular migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

159. **Chen hyperborea** (Pall.).—**Lesser Snow Goose.**
West Point, Lincoln, Ashland (L. Bruner); "Migratory, abundant, arrive in April and in October" (Taylor); "East to the Mississippi valley" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); a number of localities on Platte river (D. H. Talbot); an abundant migrant in company with Canada and Hutchin's geese" (I. S. Trostler).

160. **Chen hyperborea nivalis** (Forst.).—**Greater Snow Goose.**
Occasional on Platte and Missouri rivers, West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Abundant in Nebraska during its migrations" (Aughey); Omaha (L. Skow); "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

161. **Chen caerulescens** (Linn.).—**Blue Goose.**
West Point, Omaha, Ashland (L. Bruner); "Migratory in full, common; winter resident, rare; arrive October 1 and leave about the middle of December" (Taylor); "Interior of North America, east of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Gibbon, Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, "a not common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

161a. **Anser albidrons gambeli** (Hartl.).—**American White-fronted Goose.**
West Point, Platte river (L. Bruner); "Migratory, common, arrive about the first of March" (Taylor); "North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow);
Some Notes on Nebraska Birds.

Omaha, "a common migrant, the first goose in spring" (I. S. Trostler); Wood River, Gibbon, Elm Creek, and Grand Island (D. H. Talbot).

172. Branta canadensis (Linn.).—Canada Goose.
West Point, Omaha, Lyons, Lincoln, South Bend, etc. (L. Bruner); "Migratory, somewhat common; summer resident, rare" (Taylor); "Temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common—migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); numerous localities in central part of state (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, "a very abundant migrant" (I. S. Trostler); "very abundant in Nebraska, and occasionally breeds here" (Aughey).

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Migratory, abundant, arrives in April" (Taylor); "South in winter chiefly through the Mississippi valley" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

173. Branta bernicla (Linn.).—Brant; Bernicle Goose.
In Omaha gun store, said to have been shot on Platte river (L. Skow); Omaha, "a not very rare migrant, saw three that were killed on the Missouri river, Nov. 9, 1893—sportsmen say they are commonest in fall" (I. S. Trostler).

180. Olor columbianus (Ord.).—Whistling Swan.
West Point, North Bend, Ashland, Lincoln, etc.—formerly bred in Holt county (L. Bruner); "Probably migratory, rare" (Taylor); "North America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "a rare migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

181. Olor buccinator (Rich.).—Trumpeter Swan.
Platte river (L. Bruner); "Rare in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, arrives in April and October" (Taylor); "chiefly the interior of North America" (Goss); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Grant county (J. D. Knight); Omaha, "a rare migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

Order Herodiones.—Herons, Storks, Ibises, etc.

Family Ibitæ.—Ibises.

186. Plegadis autumnalis (Hassell).—Glossy Ibis.
Omaha (F. J. Brezee); "wandering northward to New England and Illinois. In America only locally abundant and of irregular distribution" (A. O. U. Check List).

187. Plegadis guarauna (Linn.).—White-faced Glossy Ibis.
Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "a straggler was killed on Florence lake, Aug. 19, 1893 (I. S. Trostler); Clarks, Nebr. (Frank Parmalee).
FAMILY CICONIIDÆ.—STORKS AND WOOD IBISES.

188. Tantalus loculator Linn.—Wood Ibis.
A rare, irregular straggler, if the reports of several persons, the names of whom cannot be recalled at this moment, can be relied upon (L. Bruner).

FAMILY ARDEIDÆ.—HERONS, BITTERS, ETC.

190. Botaurus lentiginosus (Montag.).—Bittern; Thunder Pumper.
West Point, Holt county, Lincoln, Platte river—breeds in state (L. Bruner); "Occasionally seen in Nebraska" (Aughey); "summer resident, common, arrives in April and leaves in October" (Taylor); "The whole of temperate and tropical North America" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River, O'Neill, Hartington (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, a common migrant, but uncommon summer resident (I. S. Trostler).

191. Ardetta exilis (Gmelin).—Least Bittern.
West Point, Lincoln—breeding at West Point (L. Bruner); "The whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, abundant—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "an abundant migrant and a common summer resident" (I. S. Trostler).

194. Ardea herodias Linn.—Great Blue Heron.
West Point, Norfolk, Florence, Blair, Lincoln, etc.—breeding at West Point (L. Bruner); "occasionally seen in Nebraska" (Aughey); "migratory, sometimes common, more abundant in the fall than spring" (Taylor); "North America from the Arctic regions southward" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Oakdale, Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "a common migrant and not uncommon resident" (I. S. Trostler).

196. Ardea egretta Gmelin.—Great White Egret.
Richmond county, May, 1873 (Samuel Aughey); "North casually to the British provinces" (Goss); Nebraska City, Florence lake (L. Skow); "a straggler was killed near Omaha, July 12, 1894" (I. S. Trostler).

197. Ardea candidissima Gmelin.—Snowy Heron; Little White Egret.
Reported from southeastern Nebraska—not rare (L. Bruner); "Otoe and Richardson counties" (Aughey); "From the northern United States to Chili" (Goss); "Straggler, one was killed near Fremont, Sept. 4, 1893" (I. S. Trostler).

200. Ardea cocerulea Linn.—Little Blue Heron.
Omaha (?) (Brezee); occasional in south part of state (L. Bruner); "Probably not an uncommon summer resident" (Taylor); "Casually north to Massachusetts, Illinois, Kansas, etc." (Goss); Butler county, on Platte river (Dr.
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Peebles); “Rare in the vicinity of Omaha, but a colony breed annually thirty miles north of here” (I. S. Trostler).

201. Ardea virensens (Linn.)—Green Heron; Poke.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Oakdale, etc.—common, breeds (L. Bruner); “Probably not an uncommon summer resident” (Taylor); “The whole of tem-

202. Nycticorax nycticorax nevius (Bodd.)—Black-crowned Night Heron.

West Point, Oakland, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Nearly the whole of America except the Arctic regions” (Goss); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, not uncommon—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Bow creek, Nebr. (D. H. Talbot); “Straggler, saw one that was killed Sept. 3, 1894, near Cut-off lake” (I. S. Trostler).

203. Nycticorax violaceus (Linn.)—Yellow-crowned Night Heron.

Reported from Platte river—a single specimen seen from Valley (L. Bruner); “Probably a rare summer resident” (Taylor); “Breeding regularly north into Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, etc. (Goss); “A rare summer resident” (I. S. Trostler).
ORDER PALUDICOLÆ.—CraneS, Rails, Etc.

FAMILY GRUIDÆ.—CraneS.

204. Grus americana (Linn.).—Whooping Crane.
West Point, Craig, Holt county, Omaha, etc. (L. Bruner); "Occasionally seen in northern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, somewhat common" (Taylor); "Interior of North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Grand Island (F. J. Brezee); Elm Creek, Wolf creek (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

205. Grus canadensis (Linn.).—Little Brown Crane.
"Migrating south through western United States, east of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); West Point, Scribner, Nebr. (L. Bruner); Omaha (L. Skow).

206. Grus mexicana (Müll.).—Sandhill Crane.
Omaha, West Point, Lyons, Holt county, Platte river—breeding in Holt county (L. Bruner); "Rather abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant, arrive in March and in the fall" (Taylor); "From the Mississippi valley to the Pacific coast" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); numerous localities (D. H. Talbot); "A common migrant, observed breeding one-half mile north of state line—five young in nest owned by two females and one male" (I. S. Trostler).

FAMILY RALLIDÆ.—Rails, Gallinules, and Coots.

208. Rallus elegans Aud.—King Rail.
West Point, Omaha, Elkhorn (L. Bruner); "Southeastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, arrives in May" (Taylor); "Fresh water marshes of eastern, southern, and middle United States" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); "Summer resident—breeds in June" (I. S. Trostler).

212. Rallus virginianus Linn.—Virginia Rail.
West Point, Oakland, Plattsmouth (L. Bruner); "Migratory, abundant, may breed in the state" (Taylor); "The whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); "An abundant migrant—probably breeds" (I. S. Trostler).

214. Porzana carolina (Linn.).—Sora Rail; Carolina Rail.
West Point, Oakland, Holt county—breeding, Omaha, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); "Have seen this bird but once in Nebraska—Richardson county" (Aughey); "Whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, common—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Ponca, Ewing, O'Neill (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "A not uncommon migrant—probably breeds" (I. S. Trostler).
215. **Porzana noveboracensis** (*Gmelin*).—*Yellow Rail.*
Omaha in market, Bellevue (L. Bruner); “North America, breeding chiefly northward (Goss).

![Yellow Rail](image)

216. **Porzana jamaicensis** (*Gmelin*).—*Black Rail.*
West Point, Omaha markets (L. Bruner); southeastern Nebraska (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith); “Rare in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, rare” (Taylor); “North to Massachusetts, Nebraska, and Oregon” (Goss).

218. **Ionornis martinica** (*Linn.*).—*Purple Gallinule.*
Once at West Point (L. Bruner).

219. **Gallinula galeata** (*Licht.*).—*Florida Gallinule.*
Omaha, Platte river (L. Bruner); “Sent to me from Beatrice in Sept., 1872” (Aughey); “North to the British provinces” (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L.
Skow); "A common migrant and summer resident—breeds in June" (I. S. Trostler).

221. Fulica americana Gmelin.—Coot; Mud Hen.
Over entire state, common, breeds (L. Bruner); "often seen in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant, found in the state from the first of May till the last of September" (Taylor); "The whole of North America" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pease); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); O’Neill, Harding (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “Abundant migrant, formerly a common breeder in vicinity of Omaha, still so in Cherry county” (I. S. Trostler).

ORDER LIMICOLÆ.—Shore Birds.

Family Phalaropodidae.—Phalaropes.

223. Phalaropus lobatus (Linn.).—Northern Phalarope.
Alda, Nebr. (Bull. No. 2, U. S. Dept. Agric., Div. Ornith.); D. A. Haggard took a specimen at Lincoln in May; “Northern portion of northern hemisphere, south in winter to Guatemala” (Goss); “a rare migrant, Omaha” (I. S. Trostler).

224. Phalaropus tricolor (Vieill.).—Wilson’s Phalarope.
West Point, Holt county, Fremont, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Common in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, found in the state from last of April till September” (Taylor); “Temperate North America, but chiefly in the interior” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Omaha “an abundant migrant” (I. S. Trostler); Fullerton, Nance county (C. E. Barker).

Family Recurvirostridae.—Avocets and Stilts.

225. Recurvirostra americana Gmelin.—American Avocet.
West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “in the vicinity of ponds, lakelets, and streams” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, summer resident” (Taylor); “Temperate North America, abundant in the interior” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); “an abundant migrant, breeds in Dewey Lake Township, Cherry county” (I. S. Trostler).

226. Himantopus mexicanus (Müll.).—Black-necked Stilt.
Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, “an occasional visitor, never common” (I. S. Trostler).

Family Scolopacidae.—Snipes, Sandpipers, etc.

228. Philohela minor (Gmelin).—American Woodcock.
West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Occasionally seen in Nebraska, and breeds here” (Aughey); “Migratory, somewhat common; summer resident
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

230. Gallinago delicata (Ord).—WILSON’S SNIPE.

West Point, Lyons, Norfolk, Holt county, Neligh, Omaha, etc. (L. Bruner); “Common in Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrives in April, September, and October” (Taylor); “The whole of North America” (Goss); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—remains throughout winter at Long Pine (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “an abundant migrant” (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Dec., 1895 (L. Bruner); Feb. 24, 26, 1896 (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

231. Macrorhamphus griseus (Gmelin).—DOWITCHER; RED-BREASTED SNIPE.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Abundant during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrives in May, September, and October” (Taylor); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

232. Macrorhamphus scolopaceus (Say).—LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Migratory, somewhat rare, has been found in April” (Taylor); “North America in general, but chiefly in the western provinces” (Goss); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a not uncommon migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

233. Micropalama himantopus (Bonap.).—STILT SANDPIPER.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Holt county (L. Bruner); “West to the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a not uncommon migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

234. Tringa canutus Linn.—KNOT; ROBIN SNipe.

“Occasionally seen in Nebraska” (Aughey); Nebraska (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); “Migratory, rare, has been seen in October” (Taylor); Omaha, “a very rare migrant, one killed on Missouri river by a gunner Sept. 30, 1893” (I. S. Trostler).

239. Tringa maculata Vieill.—PECTORAL SANDPIPER; JACK SNiPE.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Migratory, common—the records of the Normal Science Society show its arrival as early as April 12” (Taylor); “Nearly the whole of America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).
240. *Tringa fuscicollis* Vieill.—**White-rumped Sandpiper; Bonaparte’s Sandpiper.**

"I have only occasionally seen this bird in Nebraska" (Aughey); Lincoln (D. A. Haggard); "Migratory, rare" (Taylor); "Nearly the whole of America" (Goss); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common, migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a not common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

241. *Tringa bairdii* (Coues).—**Baird’s Sandpiper.**

West Point, Holt county, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Rather common in Nebraska during its migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, common, arrive in May and October" (Taylor); "America in general, but chiefly the interior" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "rarely seen, but probably a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

242. *Tringa minutilla* Vieill.—**Least Sandpiper.**

West Point, Lincoln, Holt county (L. Bruner); "Very abundant in Nebraska during its migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant; arrive in April, September, and October" (Taylor); "America in general" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, "an abundant migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

243a. *Tringa alpina pacifica* (Coues).—**Red-backed Sandpiper.**

Lincoln (D. A. Haggard); North America in general (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "quite common as a migrant in spring" (I. S. Trostler).

246. *Eurynetes pusillus* (Linnaeus).—**Semi-Palmated Sandpiper.**

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Occasionally present in Nebraska during its migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, arrive about the first of May" (Taylor); "West during migration to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

247. *Eurynetes occidentalis* Law.—**Western Sandpiper.**

Omaha (L. Skow).

248. *Calidris arenaria* (Linnaeus).—**Sanderling.**

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Nearly cosmopolitan, but breeding only in northern portions of the northern hemisphere" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); North Loup, Nebr. (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, "not rare as a migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

249. *Limosa fedoa* (Linnaeus).—**Marbled Godwit.**

West Point, Holt county (L. Bruner); "Common in Nebraska and breeds here" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant; summer resident, common; arrives in May and September" (Taylor); "North America in general, breeding from Iowa, Dakota, etc." (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).
251. **Limosa haemastica** (Linn.).—**Hudsonian Godwit.**

West Point, Oakland, Lincoln, Holt county (L. Bruner); “Probably occasionally found in May” (Taylor); “Nearly the whole of America” (Goss).

254. **Totanus melanoleucus** (Gmel.).—**Greater Yellow-Legs.**

West Point, Norfolk, Neligh, Holt county—breeds, Lincoln, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Abundant in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrives in April, May, September, and October” (Taylor); “Nearly the whole of America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

255. **Totanus flavipes** (Gmel.).—**Yellow-Legs.**

West Point, Holt county, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); abundant in Nebraska (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrives in April, September, and October” (Taylor); “The whole of North America” (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “an abundant migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

256. **Totanus solitarius** (Wils.).—**Solitary Sandpiper.**

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Only seen in Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant; summer resident, common; arrives in April” (Taylor); “The whole of temperate North America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Ponca (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, “a common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

258a. **Symphemia semipalmata inornata** Brewster.—**Western Willet.**

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Probably not uncommon in the state” (Taylor); “Western North America, east to the Mississippi valley” (Goss); Omaha (Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “a common migrant and probably a summer resident in the lake region of north and northwest Nebraska” (I. S. Trostler).

261. **Bartramia longicauda** (Bechst.).—**Bartramian Sandpiper; Field Plover.**

Greater portion of state—breeding (L. Bruner); exceedingly abundant in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant; summer resident, common; arrives in May and September” (Taylor); “Eastern and central North America” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, rare—probably breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “a very common migrant and not uncommon resident, very common in Cherry county in late June, 1895 (I. S. Trostler).

262. **Tringites subruficollis** (Vieill.).—**Buff-breasted Sandpiper.**

West Point (L. Bruner); “Rare in Nebraska, Nebraska City” (Aughey); “Migratory, rare, arrives in May and September” (Taylor); “North America
in general, especially the interior” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Lincoln (D. A. Haggard); Gage county (F. A. Colby).

263. Actitis macularia (Linn.)—Spotted Sandpiper.
West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Rather common in Nebraska, especially during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, common; summer resident, probably rare; arrives in May and September” (Taylor); “North America in general” (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “an abundant migrant, and an occasional summer resident” (I. S. Trostler).

West Point, Holt county, Omaha—breeding in Holt county (L. Bruner); “Formerly abundant in Nebraska—breeds here” (Aughey); “Migratory, common; summer resident, rare; arrives in April and September” (Taylor); “The whole of temperate North America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “A common migrant, and saw young just hatched in Cherry county June 22, 1895” (I. S. Trostler).

265. Numenius hudsonicus Lath.—Hudsonian Curlew.
West Point, Holt county (L. Bruner); “Rare in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Nearly the whole of North America, breeds from northern Dakota to the Arctic coast” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow).

266. Numenius borealis (Forst.)—Eskimo Curlew.
Omaha, West Point (L. Bruner), “in northeastern Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrive in April, May, and October” (Taylor); “Northern and eastern North America” (Goss); Genoa (D. H. Talbot); “A common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

Family CHARADRIIDÆ.—Plovers.

270. Charadrius squatarola (Linn.)—Black-bellied Plover.
Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Occasionally seen in Nebraska” (Aughey); Lincoln (A. Elshe); “Migratory, rare” (Taylor); “Nearly cosmopolitan” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Alliance, Atkinson (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a not common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

272. Charadrius dominicus Müll.—Golden Plover.
West Point, Norfolk, Holt county, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Have only seen this plover pass through Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrives in April, May, September, and October” (Taylor); “Nearly the whole of America” (Goss); Genoa (D. H. Talbot); “A common migrant” (I. S. Trostler).

273. Ægialitis vocifera (Linn.)—Killdeer.
Common throughout the state—breeds (L. Bruner); “Sparingly present in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, abundant, arrive in April, May,
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

September, and October "(Taylor); "The whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—nests (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Genoa, O'Neill, Bow creek (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, an abundant migrant, and a common summer resident" (I. S. Trostler).

274. *Egialtis semipalmata* Bonap.—SEMIPALMATED PLOVER.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Abundant in Nebraska during its spring and fall migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, common, arrive in May and September" (Taylor); "The whole of North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "a common migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

277a. *Egialtis meloda circumcincta* Ridg.-BELTED PIPING PLOVER.

Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); "Common in Nebraska, and breeds here" (Aughey); "Migratory, common; summer resident, occasional; arrives in May and September" (Taylor); "Breeding from northern Illinois and Nebraska, northward" (Goss); Peru, rare migrant (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "a rare migrant" (I. S. Trostler).

278. *Egialtis nivosa* Cass.—SNOWY PLOVER.

A small flock of what was supposed to be this plover was seen in Holt county in spring of 1885 (L. Bruner); "from California east to Kansas and western Gulf states" (A. O. U. Check List); "quite common as a summer resident in western Nebraska" (a "travelling salesman" through I. S. Trostler).

281. *Egialtis montana.* (Towns.).—MOUNTAIN PLOVER.

Sidney, Marsland, Harrison (L. Bruner); "Abundant in Nebraska, especially in the western portions of the state" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant in
western Nebraska; summer resident, common; arrives in May and September" (Taylor); "East into Texas and Dakota" (Goss).

**Family APHRIZIDÆ.**—**Surf Birds and Turnstones.**

283. *Arenaria interpres*—(*Linn.*).—**Turnstone.**

Lincoln, on salt basins, May 25th (W. D. Hunter); do., May 16, 1895 (A. Eiche).

![Fig. 6.—Turnstone.](image)

286. *Haematopus palliatus* Temm. — **The American Oyster-catcher.**

Northeastern Nebraska—accidental, a single specimen of this bird is reported as having been shot in spring of 1889 by a Mr. Chas. Vaughn of Vermillion, S. Dak. (Dr. G. S. Agersborg).

**Order GALLINÆ.**—**Gallinaceous Birds.**

**Family TETRAONIDÆ.**—**Grouse, Partridges, etc.**

The various members of the present family, while belonging to a grain eating group, are certainly quite prominent as insect destroyers. Especially is this true with respect to the Quail, Prairie Hen, Sharp-tailed Grouse, and Wild Turkey, all of which occupy most of the summer in capturing and destroying vast numbers of such insects as are found on the prairies. Grasshoppers, locusts, crickets, caterpillars and similar insects thus form the bulk of their insect food, forms that are all among the most numerous as well as destructive species. In
writing about these birds as insect destroyers Professor Samuel Aughey writes: "I happened to be in the Republican valley, in southwestern Nebraska, in August, 1874, when the locusts invaded that region. Prairie chickens and quails, that previous to their coming had a large number of seeds in their stomachs when dissected, seemed now for a time to abandon all other kinds of food. At least from this onward for a month little else than locusts were found in their stomachs. All the birds seemed now to live solely on locusts for a while."

In winter and at other times of the year when insect life is scarce and difficult to obtain these birds feed more or less extensively upon seeds and other kinds of vegetation. Some even enter cultivated grounds and seek food that belongs to the farmer, thereby doing more or less direct injury. The extent of such injury, of course, depends upon the number of birds engaged in the depredations, and also on the time over which it is allowed to extend. If corn and other grain is harvested at the proper time but little damage ensues; but if allowed to remain in the field throughout winter much of the crop is liable to be taken by the birds.

289. *Colinus virginianus* (Linn.).—Bob-white; Quail.

Greater part of state—breeds (L. Bruner); "Common in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Resident, common" (Taylor); "the greater portion of Nebraska" (Bendire); "West to Dakota, Kansas, Indian Territory, and eastern Texas" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pease); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Elm Creek, Elk Creek, Wood River, Verdigris, etc. (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "formerly an abundant resident, gradually becoming rarer, although still comparatively common, breeds April 15 to Aug. 1—two to four broods" (L. S. Trostler).

Perhaps no other bird that frequents the farm pays higher prices for the grain it eats than does the Quail. Living about the hedges, groves, and ravines, where insect enemies gather and lurk during the greater part of the year, this bird not only seizes large numbers of these enemies daily during the summer months when they are "abroad in the land," but all winter through it scratches among the fallen leaves and other rubbish that accumulates about its haunts seeking for hibernating insects of various kinds. Being a timid little creature, the quail seldom leaves cover to feed openly in the fields, and therefore does but little actual harm in the way of destroying grain. In fact it only takes stray kernels that otherwise might be lost.

*See 1st Rept. U. S. Ent. Com., p. 341.
It is also one of the few birds that feeds upon that unsavory insect, the Chinch-bug; and the number of this pest that occasionally fall its prey is really astonishing. A single Chinch-bug is a small thing, still I have seen a quail's stomach filled with them—more than 500 at least calculation having been sacrificed for a single meal of the bird examined.

Fig. 7.—Bob-white; Quail.

No farmer or fruit-grower should ever kill a quail himself, nor should he allow any one else to hunt them on his premises.

Among the many complimentary things that have been said and written about the Quail the following is worthy of note:

A statement was made by Rev. J. E. Long, of Ithaca, Mich., and printed in the Gratiot Journal, to the effect that "several weeks ago a pair of quails flew up out of his garden. In making the turn about the corner of the house, one of them missed its reckoning in some way, and striking the house, fell dead. On examining its distended crop, 101 potato bugs were found, the little fellow's breakfast, for the bugs were yet alive and began to move about when brought to the fresh air."
297b. Dendragapus obscurus richardsonii (Dougl.).—Richardson’s Dusky Grouse.

"Baird mentions ten specimens collected in western Nebraska in the month of August" (Taylor); "Eastward through Wyoming and western South Dakota" (Bendire).

The last edition of the A. O. U. Check List gives the typical obscurus as reaching "eastward to the Black Hills of South Dakota."

Fig. 8.—Ruffed Grouse.

300. Bonasa umbellus (Linn.).—Ruffed Grouse.

Weeping Water (T. A. Williams); "Rare in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Probably may be found in the western part of the state" (Taylor); "South through southeastern Nebraska" (Bendire); "West to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); South Omaha, Rockport—breeding (L. Skow); "resident, one killed near Florence Nov. 4, 1894, and several killed near Bellevue winter of 1893" (I. S. Trostler).

305. Tympanuchus americanus (Reich.).—Prairie Hen; Pin-nated Grouse.

Greater portion of the state, breeds (L. Bruner); "enormously abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Resident, abundant in the western part of the state, but somewhat rare in eastern Nebraska" (Taylor); "throughout Nebraska" (Bendire); "Prairies of the Mississippi valley (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pears); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); numerous localities in eastern half of state (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "formerly a common resident, and may still be met with occasionally in flocks of from four to fifteen individuals" (I. S. Trostler).

Eastern border of Great Plains, from Nebraska (?), southwestern Kansas, southwestern Missouri (?), and western part of Indian Territory to western Texas (Ridgway); Vermillion, S. Dak. * (Agersborg); a number of years ago several specimens were reported as having been seen in Cuming county near West Point (L. Bruner); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates). Hon. E. K. Valentine, of West Point, just recently told me that in the early fall, 1870, he killed two of these birds, and that H. C. Plimpton and Sam Gregory killed one each out of a flock of about a dozen that was found on the west side of the Elkorn river in Cuming county. In the winter of 1871-'72, while at home for holiday vacation, I saw one of these birds in a corn-field just adjoining the town of West Point (L. Bruner). At about this time B. E. B. Kennedy, of Omaha, reports the killing of several of these birds in Washington county by Henry Homan, of Omaha. Still other birds were killed by George A. Hogland, near West Point, in Cuming county, but on the east side of the Elkhorn river (Notes collected by I. S. Trostler).

![Prairie Hen; Pinnated Grouse](image)

308a. *Pediocetes phasinellus columbianus* (Ord.)—*Columbian Sharp-tailed Grouse.*

Pine Ridge near Hay Springs (Wm. Waterman); Sioux county, Feb. 24, 1896—several specimens (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

308b. *Pediocetes phasinellus campestris* Ridg.—*Prairie or Common Sharp-tailed Grouse.*

West Point, Holt county, Harrison, Thedford—breeds (L. Bruner); "Formerly very abundant in Nebraska" (Aughly); "Resident, formerly abundant, becoming rare" (Taylor); "North through western Nebraska" (Bendire); "Plains and prairies east of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Hay Springs—breeds (Wm. Waterman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Wood River,

*Specimen shot by Ed. Spatz, Mechling, Clay county.*
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

O'Neill (D. H. Talbot); "not seen in the vicinity of Omaha, but a fine male taken in Cherry county June 25, 1893, where it is a common resident" (I. S. Trostler).

FIG. 10.—Prairie Sharp-tailed Grouse.

309. Centrocercus urophasianus (Bonap.)—SAGE GROUSE; SAGE COCK.

Hat creek basin, Sioux county (L. Bruner); western Nebraska (Aughey); "An occasional resident in western Nebraska" (Taylor); "through western Nebraska" (Bendire); Indian creek, in Sioux county, Feb., 1896—not rare (Elliott W. Brown).

FAMILY PHASIANIDÆ.—PEASANTS, ETC.

310. Meleagris gallopavo Linn.—WILD TURKEY.

Rockport and Ft. Calhoun (L. Bruner); "Formerly very abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Formerly an abundant resident, but now rapidly disappearing" (Taylor); "It was not uncommon in southern South Dakota and Nebraska within the last ten years" (Bendire); west along the timbered streams to the edge of the Great Plains (Goss); Bellevue (L. Skow); "formerly found in southern part of Lincoln county, in canyons and along Medicine creek, but none left" (M. K. Barnum).

ORDER COLUMBÆ.—PIGEONS.

FAMILY COLUMBIDÆ.—PIGEONS.

The various species of doves or pigeons are not, as a rule, thought of as being especially harmful, yet repeated examinations of their stomach contents would indicate that their food seldom, if ever, consists of anything but grains and various kinds of seeds along with other particles of vegetation. The good done by these birds as destroyers of weed seeds more than balances for the harm done by them as grain eaters.
315. *Ectopistes migratorius* (Linn.).—*Passenger Pigeon.*

West Point, Norfolk (L. Bruner); "Some years abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, irregular, arrives in May and leaves in September" (Taylor); "Deciduous forest regions of eastern North America" (Bendire); west to the great plains (Goss); Florence (L. Skow); "One killed out of flock of fifteen or twenty by Hon. Edgar Howard, of Papillion, in woods five miles south east of that place, in Sarpy county, Nov. 9, 1895,—also a flock of fifteen was by Geo. W. Sabine, of Omaha, seen flying over his residence on morning of Nov. 28, 1895" (L. S. Trostler); Cuming county (J. H. Mockett, Jr.).

![Fig. 11.—Carolina Dove.](image)

316. *Zenaidura macroura* (Linn.).—*Mourning Dove; Carolina Dove.*

Especially common over wooded portions of the state where it breeds (L. Bruner); "Abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant, arrives in April and leaves in September" (Taylor); "Extends over the entire United States" (Bendire); "The whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, breeds, winters (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Genoa (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "an abundant summer resident—breeds Apr. 1 to Sept. 1" (L. S. Trostler).

**Order Raptores.—Birds of Prey.**

In summing up the food-habits of the hawks and owls as found in the state, I can do no better than to quote Dr. C. Hart Merriam's words used in his letter of transmittal to the Secretary of Agriculture when submitting for publication a report on the hawks and owls of the United States. He writes as follows:

"The statements herein contained respecting the food of the various hawks and owls are based on a critical examination, by scientific experts, of the actual contents of about 2,700 stomachs of these birds, and consequently may be fairly regarded as a truthful showing of the normal food of each species. The result proves that a class of birds commonly looked upon as enemies to the farmer, and indiscriminately destroyed whenever occasion offers, really rank among his best friends, and with few exceptions should be preserved and encouraged to take up their abode in the neighborhood of his home. Only six of the seventy-three species and subspecies of hawks and owls of the United States are injurious. Of these, three are so extremely rare they need hardly be considered, and another (the Fish Hawk) is only indirectly injurious, leaving but two (the Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks) that really need be taken into account as enemies to agriculture. Omitting the six species that feed largely on poultry and game, 2,212 stomachs were examined, of which 56 per cent contained mice and other small mammals, 27 per cent insects, and only 3½ per cent poultry or game birds. In view of these facts the folly of offering bounties for the destruction of hawks and owls, as has been done by several states, becomes apparent, and the importance of an accurate knowledge of the economic status of our common birds and mammals is overwhelmingly demonstrated."

**FAMILY CATHARTIDÆ.—AMERICAN VULTURES.**

325. *Cathartes aura* (Linn.).—Turkey Buzzard; Turkey Vulture.

Omaha, West Point, Dismal river—breeding, Crawford, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Summer resident, common, arrive in April and leave in September" (Taylor); "Nearly the whole of temperate and tropical America" (Bendire); do. (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, breeds—common (Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "quite common summer resident" (I. S. Trostler).

326. *Catharista atrata* (Bartram).—Black Vulture; Carrion Crow.

"Casually to * * Kansas and South Dakota" (Bendire); "Casually to Maine, New York, Illinois, Dakota, etc." (Goss); Wolf Creek, Nebr. (D. H. Talbot).

The food-habits of both the Turkey Vulture and the Carrion Crow or Black Vulture, are of such a nature that the destruction of these
birds should be prohibited. In fact, in many of the states this is done by law. They live almost exclusively upon carrion or decomposing animal matter, and in this manner aid in the prevention of diseases that might result from the presence of such filth. They may, however, be the cause of indirectly spreading hog cholera where animals that have died from this disease are left unburied or unburnt.

FAMILY FALCONIDE.—FALCONS, HAWKS, EAGLES, etc.

327. Elanoides forficatus (Linn.).—Swallow-tailed Kite.
Omaha, West Point, Tekamah (L. Bruner); "I have seen this kite as far north as Cedar county and as far west as the meridian of Ft. Kearney" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrive in May and leave in September" (Taylor); north to Wisconsin, Minnesota, Dakota (Goss); "North regularly to Iowa, Minnesota, Illinois, etc." (Fisher); Rockport—breeds (L. Skow); "rarely seen—a pair reported to breed eighteen miles north of Omaha" (L. S. Trostler); Fullerton, Nance county (C. E. Barker).

329. Ictinia mississippiensis (Wils.).—Mississippi Kite.
"A flock of six or seven was seen October 12 at Omaha" (R. E. Dinges); "North to South Carolina, southern Illinois, Kansas, etc." (Goss); "Casually to Iowa and Wisconsin" (Fisher).

328. Elanus leucurus (Vieill.).—White-tailed Kite.
Lanham, Nebr., "one seen March 14, 1893" (Amos Pyfer).
331. *Circus hudsonius* (Linn.).—**Marsh Hawk.**

Entire state—common—breeds (L. Bruner); “Occasionally seen in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common, may remain in the state during the winter” (Taylor); “Nearly the entire North American continent” (Bendire); “The whole of North America” (Goss); “Inhabits the whole of North America” (Fisher); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds, also winters here (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “a not common summer resident—never observed earlier in spring than May 25” (L. S. Trostler).

332. *Accipiter velox* (Wils.).—**Sharp-shinned Hawk.**

West Point, Omaha, South Bend, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Migratory, common, may breed in northern Nebraska” (Taylor); “North America in general” (Bendire); “Nearly the whole of North America” (Goss); “It breeds in most, if not all, of the states” (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “somewhat rare, permanent resident, seen in April, May, and September” (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county (Mrs. Wallace).

333. *Accipiter cooperi* (Bonap.).—**Cooper’s Hawk.**

West Point, Hat Creek Basin—breeding, Lincoln (L. Bruner); common (Aughey); “Resident, common” (Taylor); “Whole of temperate North America” (Bendire); “They breed in suitable localities throughout the United
States (Goss);" "Throughout the United States and the greater part of Mexico" (Fisher); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha (F. J. Brezee); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "common resident, except in coldest weather—breeds April 7-20" (L. S. Trostler).

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Present but rare on the prairies of Nebraska" (Aughey); "South in winter to the Middle States" (Bendire); "West
to and including the Rocky mountains" (Goss); "Northern and eastern North America" (Fisher); Rockport, Florence (L. Skow); Lincoln (F. J. Brezee); Sioux county, Feb. 24, 1896 (L. Skow).

334a. **Accipiter atricapillus striatulus Ridg.**—**Western Goshawk.**

Florence, Nebr., 1889 (L. Skow).

---

337. **Buteo borealis** (Gmel.).—**Red-tailed Hawk.**

Timbered portion of state, breeding (L. Bruner); "Common in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Found in the summer and fall, and may remain all winter" (Taylor); "West to border of Great Plains" (Bendire); "West to the Great Plains" (Goss); do. (Fisher); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Gage county (F. A. Colby); common resident, breeds April 1 to 20 (I. S. Trostler); Jamaica—breeding (R. E. Dinges).
337a. *Buteo borealis kriderii* Hoopes.—**Krider's Hawk.**

West Point, Lincoln, Tecumseh (L. Bruner); "Great plains of the United States, from Minnesota to Texas" (Bendire); "East casually to Illinois and Iowa" (Goss); "Great Plains from Minnesota to Texas" (Fisher); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Omaha, "have twice taken eggs from a pair of very light Red-tails that would probably be classified as Kriderii" (I. S. Trostler).

![Fig. 16.—Goshawk.](image)

337b. *Buteo borealis calurus* (Cass.).—**Western Red-tail Hawk.**

Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); "Baird mentions two specimens taken in August, 1857" (Taylor); "casual east to Illinois" (Bendire); "East to Kansas, casually to Illinois" (Goss); "Country west of the Rocky mountains" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); "this dark phase is occasionally seen in the vicinity of Omaha" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln (Dr. F. L. Riser).

337d. *Buteo borealis harlani* (Aud.).—**Harlan's Hawk.**

Lincoln, Omaha, West Point (L. Bruner); "The records of the Normal Science Society show two specimens killed in April" (Taylor); "North to Kansas, Iowa, and Illinois" (Bendire); "Casually to Iowa, Illinois, and Pennsylvania" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); "One killed on farm near Omaha and mounted by L. Skow" (I. S. Trostler).

339. *Buteo lineatus* (Gmel.).—**Red-shouldered Hawk.**

Omaha, Bellevue, Rulo (L. Bruner); "Probably a common resident" (Taylor); "West to Texas and the Great Plains" (Bendire); "West to the edge of
the Great Plains” (Goss); “West to the Great Plains” (Fisher); Omaha—
breeding (L. Skow); Omaha, “rarely seen” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln (A. I.
Eiche, Dr. F. L. Riser).

342. Buteo swainsoni Bonap.—Swainson’s Hawk.
West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Rather abundant in the state” (Aughey);
“A common summer resident and may remain in the state during the winter”
(Taylor); “east to Wisconsin, Illinois, and Arkansas” (Bendire); do. (Goss);
“As far south as South Dakota and Nebraska it is a migratory species” (Fisher);
Omaha-breeding (L. Skow); “Resident, except in coldest weather, but not
commonly seen” (I. S. Trostler).

343. Buteo latissimus (Wils.).—Broad-winged Hawk.
West Point, Omaha, Harrison, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Rather common dur-
ing the fall along the bluffs of the Missouri” (Taylor); “West to edge of Great
Plains” (Bendire); do. (Goss); “East of the Great Plains” (Fisher); Omaha
—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, rare—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, summer
resident, rather rare—breeds in May” (I. S. Trostler).

347a. Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis (Gmel.).—American
Rough-legged Hawk.
West Point, Oakland, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Rare in southern Nebraska”
(Aughey); “Whole of North America” (Bendire); “The whole of North
92  NEBRASKA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

America north of Mexico" (Goss); "In the west it extends far south in winter" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); "I have never observed this hawk in vicinity of Omaha, but on June 27, 1895, saw a pair in Cherry county flying very low in vicinity of a colony of striped ground squirrels" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln (Dr. F. L. Riser).

FIG. 18.—Swainson's Hawk.

348. Archibuteo ferrugineus (Licht.).—Ferruginous Rough-leg; Ferruginous Buzzard.
Omaha (L. Bruner); "I have seen but one of these hawks in Nebraska" (Aughhey); "Resident, rare" (Taylor); "east to and across the Great Plains" (Bendire); "East into Iowa and casually to Illinois" (Goss); "Ranging to the eastern border of the Great Plains" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); "not observed in vicinity of Omaha, a common summer resident in Cherry county" (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 24, 1896 (W. D. Hunter); Harrison—breeding (E. H. Barbour).

349. Aquila chrysaetos (Linn.).—Golden Eagle.
West Point, Oakland, Decatur, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); "Resident, rare" (Taylor); "Northern portions of northern hemisphere" (Bendire); do. (Goss);
do. (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Grand Island (F. J. Brezee); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); "Straggler, one seen Sept. 21, 1895, in Sarpy county, breeds annually on Scott's Bluff, Scott's Bluff county" (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 19, 1896 (L. Bruner).

Fig. 19.—Peregrine Rough-leg.

352. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (Linn.).—BALD EAGLE; WHITE-HEADED EAGLE.

South Bend, West Point (L. Bruner); "Resident, somewhat common" (Taylor); "Whole of North America" (Bendire); do. (Goss); do. (Fisher); Alliance (O. Bowman); Rockford—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "accidental visitor, not common at North Platte" (M. K. Barnum).

354a. *Falco rusticolus gyrfalco* (Linn.).—GYRFALCON; McFARLANE'S GYRFALCON.

Norfolk, West Point (L. Bruner); "An accidental winter visitant in Kansas" (Goss).

355. *Falco mexicanus* Schleg.—PRAIRIE FALCON.

West Point, Holt county (L. Bruner); "Only occasionally seen in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Has been seen in the state in the summer and fall" (Taylor);
"From eastern border of Great Plains to the Pacific" (Bendire); "East to the eastern border of Great Plains" (Goss); "Eastern border of Great Plains to the Pacific" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); "occasionally seen during spring and fall, one killed near Bellevue, May 12, 1894" (L. S. Trostler); Sarpy county (A. K. Fisher); Sioux county, Feb. 25, 1896, a pair (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

Fig. 20.—Prairie Falcon.

356. *Falco peregrinus anatum* (Bonap.).—Duck Hawk; PErEGrINE FALCON.

West Point (L. Bruner); "Have seen this hawk but three times in the state" (Aughey); "Not uncommon in the spring and fall" (Taylor); "Whole of America" (Bendire); do. (Goss); "Inhabits all of North America" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow).

357. *Falco columbarius* Linn.—Pigeon Hawk.

Pine Ridge in Dawes and Sioux counties, West Point (L. Bruner); "Unfortunately too abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Abundant during spring and fall" (Taylor); "The whole of North America" (Bendire); do. (Goss); "Inhabits the whole of North America" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates).


West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Rather common in Nebraska, breeds here" (Aughey); "Resident, common" (Taylor); "From the Mississippi river to
the Pacific coast” (Bendire); do. (Goss); “Inhabits the interior of North America” (Fisher).

360. **Falco sparverius** Linn.—**American Sparrow Hawk.**

Omaha, Lincoln, West Point, Holt county, etc. (L. Bruner); breeds; “Very abundant and breeds here (Aughey); “Abundant during spring, summer, and fall, and probably during the winter” (Taylor); “Whole of temperate

![Sparrow Hawk](image)

North America” (Bendire); do. (Goss); “Entire temperate North America” (Fisher); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common summer resident (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Ponca (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “common during migrations, a few remain to breed” (I. S. Trostler).

364. **Pandion haliaetus carolinensis** (Gmel.).—**Osprey; Fish-Hawk.**

West Point, Lyons, South Bend, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); “Temperate and tropical America in general” (Bendire); “North America in general” (Goss); tropical and temperate America (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha (F. J. Brezes); Omaha, “occasionally seen during spring and fall” (I. S. Trostler).
Family STRIGIDÆ.—Barn Owls.

365. Strix pratinicola Bonap.—American Barn Owl; Monkey-faced Owl.

West Point, Gilmore, Lincoln, Scribner (L. Bruner); "Only occasionally found in Nebraska, but breeds here" (Aughey); breeding in hole in ground in Saline county, breeding in Lancaster county (R. E. Dinges); "An occasional summer resident" (Taylor); "United States generally" (Bendire); do. (Goss); "Reaches southern Minnesota, Wisconsin, etc." (Fisher); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "occasionally seen in late spring and summer, a set of eggs taken June 12, 1891, at Hebron, Thayer county, others known to have bred in wolf den in Sarpy county" (I. S. Trostler).

![Fig. 22.—Barn Owl.](image)

Family BUBONIDÆ.—Horned Owls, etc.

366. Asio wilsonius (Less.).—American Long-eared Owl.

West Point, Lincoln, Gilmore (L. Bruner); rare (Aughey); "Occasionally found in summer and fall" (Taylor); "Whole of temperate North America" (Bendire); do. (Goss); do. (Fisher); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River, Genoa, Jackson (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, "resident, not common—breeds" (I. S. Trostler).

367. Asio accipitrinus (Pall.).—Short-eared Owl.

West Point, Omaha, Lyons, Holt county, Gilmore, Lincoln, etc., breeding, Dodge county in April (L. Bruner); "This owl is frequently seen on the borders of the Missouri bottoms in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Resident, rare"
(Taylor); "Entire western hemisphere" (Bendire); "The entire continent of America" (Goss); "Greater part of both hemispheres" (Fisher); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River, Elm Creek, Dakota City (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "resident, rare, seen in vicinity of Omaha in summer and winter" (I. S. Trostler).

FIG. 23.—Short-eared Owl.

368. Syrnium nebulosum (Forst.)—Barred Owl.

West Point, Tekanah, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Very seldom seen in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Rarely seen in the state, but may be a constant resident" (Taylor); "West to eastern Nebraska and Kansas" (Bendire); "I have never met with them west of Kansas" (Goss); "Westward to Manitoba, Dakota, Kansas, and Texas" (Fisher); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Lincoln—breeding (A. Cook); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "resident, not rare—breeds in March" (I. S. Trostler).
370. *Scotiapex cinerium* (Gmel.)—Great Gray Owl.

Long Pine, Neb.—specimen in a saloon (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "rare winter resident, one seen Dec. 17, 1893, in county poor farm woods" (I. S. Trostler).

371. *Nyctala tergimali richardsoni* (Bonap.)—Richardson's Saw-whet Owl.

Lincoln, Neb., Dec. 10, 1892 (L. Bruner); "to northern United States in winter" (Bendire).

![Barred Owl](image)

372. *Nyctala acadica* (Gmel.)—Saw-whet Owl.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "rarely south of 40° in eastern portions" (Bendire); "The United States and southern British possessions, from Atlantic to the Pacific" (Goss); "Ranging south to about the thirty-dinth parallel in the east" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Sioux county, Feb. 22, 1896, heard at night (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

373. *Megascops asio* (Linn.)—Screech Owl.

West Point, Omaha, Rockport, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Often met with in the wooded portions of Nebraska, where it breeds" (Aughey); "Resident, abundant" (Taylor); "west to the Great Plains" (Bendire); "Temperate eastern North America" (Goss); "West to the Great Plains" (Fisher); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pears); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Dakota City (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "resident, not
common, breeds in April” (L. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 25, 1896 (L. Skow, W. D. Hunter).

373e. **Megascopsasio maxwelliae** (Ridg.).—**Rocky Mountain Screech Owl.**

“It is likely to be found in the extreme northwestern parts of Nebraska” (Bendire); “From Colorado to eastern Montana” (Fisher).

![Great Gray Owl](image_url)

375. **Bubo virginianus** (Gmel.).—**Great Horned Owl.**

West Point, Tekamah, Bellevue, Lincoln, Rockport, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); Dakota county (Aughey); “Not common during the spring, summer, and fall, and probably remains during the winter” (Taylor); “Eastern North America” (Bendire); “West to the edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); “Ranges from Labrador and the eastern United States south through eastern Mexico” (Fisher); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county—one form (J. M. Bates); Dakota City, Elk Creek (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “resident, not common, usually one pair in each piece of heavy timber—breed in latter part of February and early March” (I. S. Trostler).
375a. **Bubo virginianus subarcticus** (Hoy).—**Western Horned Owl.**

West Point (L. Bruner); "eastward across the Great Plains" (Bendire); "East across the Great Plains to western Texas and western Manitoba" (Goss); do. (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Sioux county, Feb. 26, 1896, several seen but not taken (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

375b. **Bubo virginianus arcticus** (Swains.).—**Arctic Horned Owl.**

West Point (L. Bruner); "South in winter to Manitoba and the mountains of Dakota and Montana" (Fisher); Florence (L. Skow).

375c. **Bubo virginianus saturatus** Ridg.—**Dusky Horned Owl.**

Near Omaha—accidental (?) (L. Skow).

376. **Nyctea nyctea** (Linn.).—**Snowy Owl.**

Omaha, Papillion, West Point, Oakland, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Frequently seen in winter and occasionally in late autumn" (Aughey); "A common winter visitant" (Taylor); "Southward in winter * * * almost across the United States" (Bendire); "Northern portion of the northern hemisphere, migrating south in winter" (Goss); "Sometimes common as far south as the fortieth parallel" (Fisher); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wakefield (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "not rare as a winter resident" (I. S. Trostler).

377a. **Surnia ulula caparoch** (Müll.).—**American Hawk Owl.**

Raymond, Nebr., Nov., 1891 (E. R. Mockett); once near Omaha (?) (L. Skow).
378. **Speotyto cunicularia hypogaea** (Bonap.)—**Burrowing Owl.**

Omaha, Lincoln, West Point, Crawford, Sidney, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Abundant in central and western Nebraska, and sparingly present almost to the Missouri” (Aughey); “Abundant during spring, summer, and fall, and probably remains during the winter” (Taylor); “east throughout the Great Plains” (Bendire); “East to middle Texas and Nebraska” (Goss); “East to Dakota, Nebraska, etc.” (Fisher) Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Genoa (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “none in the vicinity of Omaha within the past twelve years—formerly a small colony about ten miles west” (L. S. Trostler); Sioux county in Hat creek valley (Mr. Plunkett).
Fig. 28.—Hawk Owl.

Fig. 29.—Burrowing Owl.
ORDER PSITTACI.—Parrots, Macaws, Paroquets, etc.

Family Psittacidae.—Parrots and Paroquets.

382. Conurus carolinensis (Linn.).—Carolina Paroquet.

Mouth of Platte river (Cones, Birds of Northwest); not now reaching the state, "Formerly abundant, even in eastern Nebraska, now rare, if found in the state" (Taylor); "Regularly to Ohio, Illinois, and southern Nebraska" (Goss).

ORDER COCCYGES.—Cuckoos, etc.

Family Cuculidae.—Cuckoos.

The cuckoos are among the few birds that habitually feed upon hairy caterpillars, such as the various "tent-making" species. They also destroy large numbers of other caterpillars, and do not object to beetles and other insects which they find among the foliage of trees. Although shy birds they are frequently seen in cities, where they do their share in protecting the trees from the ravages of insect pests.
387. *Coccyzus americanus* (Linn.).—**YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO.**

Omaha, Blair, West Point, Lincoln—breeds (L. Bruner); “More frequently seen in Nebraska than the last one (erythropthalmus)” (Aughey); “Summer resident, arrives in May and leaves in September” (Taylor); “West to eastern Mexico and edge of Great Plains” (Goss); Beatrice—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “common summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10” (I. S. Trostler).

388. *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus* (Wils.).—**BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO.**

West Point, Lincoln, Omaha—breeds (L. Bruner); “only occasionally met in this state” (Aughey); “Summer resident, somewhat rare, arrives in May and leaves in September” (Taylor); “West to the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); “summer resident, not so common as the preceding” (I. S. Trostler).

---

**FAMILY ALCEDINIDÆ.—KINGFISHERS.**

390. *Ceryle alcyon* (Linn.).—**BELTED KINGFISHER.**

West Point, Lyons, Norfolk, Omaha, Lincoln, South Bend, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Frequently seen in Nebraska” (Aughey); “A very common summer resident” (Taylor); “The whole of North America” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “summer resident, quite common, sometimes seen in midwinter” (I. S. Trostler).
ORDER PICIDÆ.—Woodpeckers, Wrynecks, etc.

Family PICIDÆ.—Woodpeckers.

Taking the woodpeckers as a family, there are but few persons but who will readily admit that these birds are a very useful group. Feeding as many, in fact most of them, do, upon the larvae of wood-boring insects, they can readily do much greater good for the actual number destroyed in comparison with others that feed upon the foliage of trees. Not un frequently will a single borer kill an entire tree if left to itself, while hundreds of foliage-feeding caterpillars of the same size make but little effect upon the appearance, to say nothing of the health of it.

Separately, the different species of woodpeckers vary much in habits and the nature of food taken, therefore it would be quite difficult to summarize as to the group with respect to their relation to agriculture. Several years ago the United States Department of Agriculture undertook the study of these birds from this standpoint, with the result, so far as made public, at least, of showing that all of the species and subspecies embraced in the study—nineteen—with but a single exception,
possibly, are beneficial. The Downy Woodpecker seems to possess the fewest traits that might count against it, while the Yellow-bellied species has been found to do much harm at times in "sap-sucking." The Flicker and Red-headed Woodpecker both eat fruit and more or less grain, and most of the other species at times eat various proportions of different wild seeds and berries.

Mr. F. E. L. Beal, assistant in the Division of Ornithology and Mammology of the United States Department of Agriculture, in summing up the results obtained from the examination of 679 stomachs of these birds, writes as follows:

"In reviewing the results of these investigations and comparing one

*See Bull. No. 7, Div. Ornith. & Mamalog., p. 9."
species with another, without losing sight of the fact that comparative
good is not necessarily positive good, it appears that of seven species
considered the Downy Woodpecker is the most beneficial.” He then
goes on to give the food habits based on contents of the stomachs of our
most common species. “Judged by the results of the stomach exami-
nations of the Downy and Hairy Woodpecker and Flicker it would be
hard to find three other species of our common birds with fewer harm-
ful qualities.”

392. **Campephilus principalis** (Linn.)—Ivory-billed Woodpecker.

Reported as rare in vicinity of Peru (G. A. Coleman).

393. **Dryobates villosus** (Linn.)—Hairy Woodpecker.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, etc., breeding at West Point (L. Bruner);
“Resident, common” (Taylor); “Atlantic coast to near the base of the Rocky
mountains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearson); Omaha—breeding (L.
Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (?) (J. M.
Bates); Gage county (P. A. Colby); “a not uncommon resident—breeds (I. S.
Trostler).

393a. **Dryobates villosus leucomelas** (Bodd.)—Northern Hairy Woodpecker.

Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, “a rather rare winter visitor” (I. S. Trostler).

393c. **Dryobates villosus harrisi** (Aud.)—Harris’s Woodpecker.

West Point (L. Bruner); “Abundant in the woody portions” (Aughey);
“Given by Baird as taken in Nebraska” (Taylor); Sioux county, Dec.,
1895 (L. Bruner, D. A. Haggard); northeastern Nebraska, common, breeds.
(Dr. Agerborg); Sioux county, Feb. 20, 25, 1896 (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

394. **Dryobates pubescens** (Linn.)—Downy Woodpecker.

West Point, Dakota City, Blair, Omaha, Lincoln, etc.,—breeds (L. Bruner);
“frequently seen among the timber of river bottoms” (Aughey); “Common
during spring, summer, and fall, probably a constant resident” (Taylor);
“Northern North America” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S.
Pease); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, breeds—not common (G. A. Cole-
man); Gage county (P. A. Colby); “a common resident in vicinity of Omaha”
(I. S. Trostler).

394a. **Dryobates pubescens gairdnerii** (Aud.)—Gairdner’s Woodpecker.

Omaha (L. Skow); Sioux county, Feb. 19, 1396 (L. Bruner).

This may possibly be the form 394b, described by Batchelder in Auk, VI, 253. I do not happen to have access to this paper.
400. Picoides arcticus (Swains.)—Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker.

Omaha (F. J. Brezee); Dakota City (Wallace Bruner); Omaha, "a rare winter visitor, one taken Dec. 15, 1895" (I. S. Trostler).

402. Sphyrapicus varius (Linn.).—Yellow-bellied Woodpecker; Yellow-bellied Sap-sucker.

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Rather common * * in eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Common during spring, summer, and fall" (Taylor); "North and east of the Rocky mountain slope" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, rare—probably breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "not rare as a summer resident—breeds late in May" (I. S. Trostler).

Rockport, Tekamah (L. Bruner); "In the heavily wooded districts of North America at large" (Goss); Rockport (L. Skow); "Probably only a winter visitor in the heavy timber along the Missouri river" (Dr. Agersborg); Omaha, "a very rare straggler, one seen May 29, 1895" (I. S. Trostler).


Omaha, West Point, Lincoln, Sioux county, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "wherever there is timber enough" (Aughey); "Common during spring, summer, and fall" (Taylor); "Westward to within the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L.
The Red-headed Woodpecker, according to the results obtained from examinations of stomach contents of various birds belonging to this family, is a trifle more inclined to eat fruits of the orchard than are its allies. It is said to partake “rather freely of cultivated varieties, showing some preference for the larger ones, such as apples.” It also feeds upon corn and beechnuts in winter where these are to be had. To counteract these injuries it eats large numbers of grasshoppers and other injurious insects.

408. Melanerpes torquatus (Wils.).—Lewis’s Woodpecker.

Sioux county (L. Bruner); “Given by Baird as taken in August and March” (Taylor); “East to the Black hills and western Texas” (Goss); Cherry county (J. M. Bates).
409. **Melanerpes carolinus** (*Linn*.). — **RED-BELLIED WOOD-PECKER.**

West Point, Omaha, Harrison (L. Bruner); "Rather common in spots in southern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Resident, not uncommon" (Taylor) "West to eastern base of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Lincoln (F. J. Brezee); "Not commonly seen—breeds in Sarpy county" (I. S. Trostler).

412. **Colaptes auratus** (*Linn*.).—**FLICKER; YELLOW-SHAFTED FLICKER.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Pine Ridge, Holt county (L. Bruner); breeds; "Wooded portions of Nebraska—breeds" (Aughey); "Abundant during spring, summer, and fall, and probably a constant resident" (Taylor); "West to the eastern slopes of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Wood River, Newcastle, Genoa, O'Neill (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "a common resident—becoming scarcer and being replaced by the Red-shafted Flicker" (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 25, 1896 (L. Skow).

*Fig. 37.—Flicker.*

The Flicker is one of our most common woodpeckers in Nebraska, and does much towards keeping down a number of different kinds of insects. It is very fond of, in fact it is partial to, ants as a diet and
this element forms almost half of its entire food-supply during the year. It also occasionally feeds upon the Chinch-bug, as can be attested by the fact that the stomach of a specimen killed near Lincoln contained in the vicinity of 1,000 of these bugs. It is also a fruit eater to the extent of about one-quarter of its entire bill of fare, but nature, not man, furnishes the supply. It takes the wild kinds in preference to those that are cultivated.

413. Colaptes cafer (Gmel.)—Red-shafted Flicker.
West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “is not abundant” (Aughey); “Found in the summer and late fall” (Taylor); “Western United States” (Goss); De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow), Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Lincoln (D. A. Haggard); Wood River, Genoa, St. Edward (D. H. Talbot); “formerly rare but gradually becoming more common—breeds same time as preceding” (I. S. Trostler).

ORDER MACROCHIRES.—Goatsuckers, Swifts, etc.

FAMILY CAPRIMULGIDÆ.—Goatsuckers, etc.

417. Antrostomus vociferus (Wils.).—Whippoorwill.
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Thomas county (L. Bruner); “Occasionally found in eastern Nebraska, where it breeds” (Aughey); “Summer resident, not uncommon” (Taylor); “Eastern United States to the plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—perhaps breeds (J. M. Bates); “a common summer resident—breeds May 16 to July 1” (I. S. Trostler).

418. Phalænopillus nuttalii (Aud.).—Poorwill.
Crawford, Harrison (L. Bruner); “Rather in central and western Nebraska in the vicinity of timber” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common” (Taylor); “East into Iowa and Missouri” (Goss).

420. Chordeiles virginianus (Gmel.).—Nighthawk.
West Point, Omaha, Holt county, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Common in Nebraska, and breeds here” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common” (Taylor); “West to edge of Great Plains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “common summer resident—breeds in latter May and early June” (I. S. Trostler).

420a. Chordeiles virginianus henryi (Cass.).—Western Nighthawk.
Holt county, Harrison, Thedford—breeds (L. Bruner); “Occasionally straggling east into Illinois” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

breeds (J. M. Bates); North Platte, "summer resident, common" (M. K. Barnum); Omaha, one killed Aug. 1, 1892, from flock seen in evening (I. S. Trostler).

Family **MICROPODIDÆ**—Swifts.

423. *Chaetura pelagica* (Linn.)—Chimney Swift.

Omaha, West Point, Lincoln—breeds (L. Bruner); "Abundant in eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrive in May" (Taylor); "West to the edge of the plains" (Goss); Beatrice—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "common summer resident, breeds in Omaha in large numbers" (I. S. Trostler).


Harrison, Crawford—breeds (L. Bruner).

Family **TROCHILIDÆ**—Hummingbirds.


West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); Lincoln, June (Aughey); "Summer resident, common (Taylor); "West to the high central plains" (Goss); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); "not uncommon in residence portions of Omaha, where it nests among vines on porches, etc." (I. S. Trostler).

432. *Selasphorus platycercus* (Swains.)—Broad-tailed Hummingbird.

Cheyenne, Wy.—common (Allen, Cones); Black Hills—quite common (C. H. Holden); several specimens, supposed to be this bird, were seen on Pine Ridge, Sioux, and Dawes counties in the summer of 1891 (L. Bruner).

Order **PASSERES**.—Perching Birds.

Family **TYRANNIDÆ**—Tyrant Flycatchers.

The various species of flycatchers, as the name implies, feed upon insects which they capture for the most part while on the wing. Flies and allied insects are quite prominent on the bill-of-fare; but these by no means are the only kinds of insects destroyed by them. Many a luckless locust, butterfly, moth or even beetle is snapped up and devoured by the different species of the family.

The "Bee-bird," or Kingbird as it is more frequently called, some times even catches bees. These latter, however, consist largely of
drones, and hence comparatively little harm is done. If worker bees should be persistently destroyed by some individual bird that develops an abnormal appetite, he should be killed.

443. Milvulus forficatus (Gmel.)—Scissor-tailed Flycatcher.  
Once near Lincoln, fall of 1872 (L. Bruner); “Accidental * * * Manitoba, and even at York Factory Hudson's Bay Territory” (Goss).

444. Tyrannus tyrannus (Linn.)—Kingbird; Bee-bird.  
All parts of state, breeds (L. Bruner); “Abundant as far west as the middle of Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, abundant, arrive in April and May, leave in September” (Taylor); “Chiefly east of the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); Omaha, common summer resident, arrives April 20 to May 12, breeds May 16 to 30, departs about September 15” (I. S. Trostler).

447. Tyrannus verticalis Say.—Arkansas Flycatcher.  
West Point, Sidney, Ft. Robinson, Lincoln, etc., breeds (L. Bruner); “This bird abounds along the wooded streams in southwestern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common, arrives in May” (Taylor); “Western United States, east to Missouri and western Minnesota” (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “a scarce summer visitor, one seen September, 1895” (I. S. Trostler).

452. Myiarchus crinitus (Linn.)—Great-Crested Flycatcher.  
West Point (L. Bruner); southeastern portion of state (Aughey); “Summer resident, common” (Taylor); “East [west?] to the edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Lincoln (D. A. Haggard); “a not rare summer resident—breeds in June” (I. S. Trostler).

456. Sayornis phoebe (Lath.)—Phoebe; Pewee.  
Omaha, Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); breeds, along the Missouri (Aughey); “Summer resident, common” (Taylor); “West to eastern Colorado and western Texas” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common, breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “a common summer resident, earliest seen 15th—breed in late April, depart in September” (I. S. Trostler).

457. Sayornis saya (Bonap.)—Say's Phoebe.  
Lincoln (L. Bruner) “Have only observed it in central and western Nebraska” (Aughey); “Abundant in western Nebraska, where it breeds” (Taylor); “East to Dakota, south through middle Kansas” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); “Summer resident, common,” North Platte (M. K. Barnum).
459. *Contopus borealis* (Swains.).—Olive-sided Flycatcher.

Lincoln (L. Bruner); "only occasionally met it in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare" (Taylor); "The whole of northern North America" (Goss).

461. *Contopus virens* (Linna.).—Wood Pewee.

Lincoln, Weeping Water, Nebraska City (L. Bruner); eastern Nebraska (Aughey); "Summer resident, common" (Taylor); "West to edge of Great Plains" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "a not common summer resident, breeds" (I. S. Trostler).

462. *Contopus richardsonii* (Swains.).—Western Wood Pewee.

Sioux county, Dismal River (L. Bruner); "Frequently seen wherever there is woodland or timber-skirted streams in western Nebraska" (Aughey); "Given by Bayard and Aughey as a summer resident in the western part of the state" (Taylor); "East to western Nebraska and Texas" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow).

463. *Empidonax flaviventris* Baird.—Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.

Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); sparingly in eastern Nebraska (Aughey).

465. *Empidonax virescens* (Vieill.).—Green-crested Flycatcher; Acadian Flycatcher.

West Point (L. Bruner); "West into Nebraska and middle Texas" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); "a common summer resident, breeds in June and departs in September" (I. S. Trostler.)


Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "most abundant of the two [forms]" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, has been seen in the western part of the state in August" (Taylor).
lor); “Eastern North America, to the plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, rare—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, “a common summer resident” (I. S. Trostler).

467. Empidonax minimus Baird.—Least Flycatcher.

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Rather common in Nebraska, and occasionally breeds in northeastern portion of the state” (Aughey); “Migratory, common; summer resident, occasional” (Taylor); “West to the Yellowstone river and base of Rocky mountains in Colorado” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); “a rare summer visitor, one taken Aug. 2, 1892” (I. S. Trostler).

FAMILY ALAUDIDÆ.—Larks.

474. Otocoris alpestris (Linn.).—Horned Lark; Shore Lark.

West Point, Lincoln, Omaha, etc. (L. Bruner); “A winter resident in Kansas and Dakota, and probably Nebraska” (Taylor); Covington, Nebr. (D. H. Talbot).

474a. Otocoris alpestris leucoloma (Coues).—Pallid Horned Lark; White-throated Horned Lark.

West Point (L. Bruner); Lincoln (Aughey); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Lincoln (F. J. Brezee, D. A. Haggard); Omaha, abundant resident—breeds (I. S. Trostler).

474b. Otocoris alpestris praticola Hensh.—Prairie Horned Lark.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln—breeds (L. Bruner); “Some seasons quite abundant in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Common, probably a resident” (Taylor); “West to central Dakota and Kansas” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—breeds, common (G. A. Coleman); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “an abundant resident, found breeding March 23 to July 30” (I. S. Trostler).

474c. Otocoris alpestris arenicola Hensh.—Desert Horned Lark.

Hat creek basin, Sidney (L. Bruner); “Resident, common” (Taylor); “Resident in the western to middle portion of the state”—Kansas (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Sioux county, Feb. 18 to 26, very numerous (L. Bruner, W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

FAMILY CORVIDÆ.—Crows, Jays, Magpies, etc.

One should be unprejudiced in order to write a fair biography of even a bird, or group of birds. To say that I am without such prejudice with reference to some of the members of the family of birds now under consideration, would be a falsehood. Still, I shall endeavor to
give as unbiased testimony as possible with reference to their food-habits at least, and let the reader judge for himself as to what would be the proper treatment for these birds.

Taking the family as a whole, it is made up of birds like the crows, ravens, magpies, jays, nut-crackers, camp-robbers, etc., many of which have unenviable reputations at least if they are not really as bad as we are sometimes requested to believe they are.

The crows, ravens, magpies, and immediate relatives are what might be termed "omnivorous" in food-habit—eating everything that comes their way. The crows, however, have been shown to feed largely upon insects, which in a great measure, at least, offsets the harm done in other directions. They also feed upon various substances, the removal of which is for the general good.

The Raven is too rare a bird in this state to be taken into consideration in respect to food-habit, and the Magpie certainly can be put out of the question of doing any possible harm for the same reason. This leaves then to be considered, the jays, of which we seem to have six or seven distinct kinds; but only two of these are at all common. The Blue Jay is found over the entire state, and is familiar to everybody. The second species is found only in the western and northwestern portions among the pine forests, and is known as the Piñon Jay or Camp Robber—the latter name not very flattering to the bird I must confess.

For a more explicit account of each the reader is referred to the different species recorded below.

475. **Pica pica hudsonica** (Sauz.).—**American Magpie**.

West Point, Norfolk, Harrison—breeds latter locality (L. Bruner); "Occasional in northern and more common in western Nebraska" (Augey); "Fall and winter visitant, somewhat rare" (Taylor); summer resident (L. E. Hicks); "East to the Great Plains" (Goss); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Cherry county, breeding (I. S. Trostier).

477. **Cyanocitta cristata** (Linn.).—**Blue Jay**.

Throughout state—breeds (L. Bruner); "Comparatively few in Nebraska" (Augey); "Resident, abundant" (Taylor); "West to the Great Plains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "a common resident, breeds May 1 to June 15" (I. S. Trostier).

478c. **Cyanocitta stelleri annectens** (Baird).—**Black-headed Jay**.

Sioux county, April, 1891 (L. Bruner).
Fig. 40.—Blue Jay.
In writing about the Long-crested Jay, Dr. Elliott Coues says:

"All jays make their share of noise in the world; they fret and scold about trifles, quarrel over anything, and keep everything in a ferment when they are about. The particular kind we are now talking about is nowise behind his fellows in these respects—a stranger to modesty and forbearance and the many gentle qualities that charm us in some little birds and endear them to us; he is a regular fillibuster, ready for any sort of adventure that promises sport or spoil, even if spiced with danger. Sometimes he prowls about alone, but oftener has a band of choice spirits with him, who keep each other in countenance (for our jay is a coward at heart, like other bullies), and share the plunder on the usual terms in such cases, of each one taking all he can get. Once I had a chance of seeing a band of these guerillas on a raid; they went at it in good style, but came off very badly, indeed. A vagabond troop made a descent upon a bush-clump, where, probably, they expected to find eggs to suck, or at any rate a chance for mischief and amusement. To their intense joy they surprised a little owl quietly digesting his grasshoppers, with both eyes shut. Here was a lark! and a chance to wipe out a part of the score that jays keep against owls for injuries received time out of mind. In the tumult that ensued the little birds scurried off, the woodpeckers overhead stopped tapping to look on, and a snake that was basking in a sunny spot concluded to crawl into his hole. The jays lunged furiously at their enemy, who sat helpless, bewildered by the sudden onslaught, trying to look as big as possible, with his wings set for bucklers and his bill snapping; meanwhile twisting his head till I thought he would wring it off trying to look all ways at once. The jays, emboldened by partial success, grew more impudent, till their victim made a break through their ranks and flapped into the heart of a neighboring juniper, hoping to be protected by the tough, thick foliage. The jays went trooping after, and I hardly knew how the fight would have ended had I not thought it time to take a hand in the game myself. I secured the owl first, * * * and then shot four of the jays before they made up their minds to be off."

"It is difficult to describe the notes of this jay, he is such a gar­rulous creature and has such a variety of outcries. He ordinarily screams at the top of his voice, until he is tired or something attracts

* * * "Birds of the Colorado Valley."
his attention. This cry is something like that of a Blue Jay, but hoarser and heavier. * * * He has also a call sounding like the rataplan of a Flicker; and again, when greedily regaling on acorns, and hopping aimlessly about, or peering curiously down through the pine fronds to watch a suspicious character, he talks to himself in a queer way, as if thinking aloud, and chuckling over some comical notions of his own. * * *

"The Long-crested Jay will eat anything eatable. It is said jays kill and devour small birds, and doubtless they do so on occasion, though I do not think it is habitual with them. They suck eggs, despoiling many a pretty nest; and if they cannot catch winged insects, fat larvae and beetles do not come amiss; but after all, they are principally vegetarians, feeding mainly upon seeds, hard fruits, and berries. * * * Wherever he goes he has it pretty much his own way, hated and feared by the other birds, whom he silences with a scream and subdues by a show of authority. But who of his kind has not enemies? Cassin's Flycatcher, almost as noisy and audacious, has many a set-to with him, and even the nimble little Wood Pewees pester him sometimes. The woodpeckers tease him persistently; they can scramble about faster than he can follow, and laugh at him from the other side of a bough, till he quite loses his temper. But after all, our Jay has good points, and I confess to a sneaking sort of regard for him. An elegant dashing fellow, of good presence, if not good manners; a tough, wiry, independent creature, with sense enough to take precious good care of himself, as any one who wants his skin will discover."

The above will apply equally well to our Blue Jay, only that he is more of a coward and will not attempt as many conquests as will Steller's Jay. He does much of the mischief that is laid at the door of the Robin, Oriole, thrushes, and other birds, and then sneaks away unserved. He is a good bird to practice on, both for the sportsman and taxidermist.

480. **Ampelocoma woodhouseii** (Baird).—**Woodhouse's Jay.**

"Transient visitor" at North Platte—common (M. K. Barnum); east to Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico (A. O. U. Check List).

484. **Perisoreus canadensis** (Linn.).—**Canada Jay.**

West Point, Crawford (L. Bruner).

486. **Corvus corax sinuatus** (Wagl.).—**American Raven.**

Sand Hills of Brown county, Sidney (L. Bruner); "Formerly frequently seen in Nebraska, especially in its northern part" (Aughey); "Resident, formerly
abundant, but at present rare" (Taylor); "Western United States" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow).

487. *Corvus cryptoleucus* Couch.—White-necked Raven.

Once near Sidney (L. Bruner); "Republican river near west line of state" (Aughey); "East to the edge of the plains" (Goss); "a mounted specimen seen in Cherry county,—ranchers say that they are seen occasionally during fall and winter in northwestern part of state” (I. S. Trostler).

488. *Corvus americanus* Aud.—Common Crow.

Omaha, West Point, Lincoln, Fremont, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Exceedingly abundant" (Aughey); "Extremely abundant in all eastern Nebraska, resident" (Taylor); "North America, from the fur countries to Mexico" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River, Genoa, Omaha (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant resident in vicinity of Omaha—breeds March 20 to May 25" (I. S. Trostler).

The common crow has recently received special study in the Division of Ornithology and Mammology of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the results have been published in Bulletin No 6 of that division. The report in question was based on the examination of the contents of nearly one thousand stomachs of these birds collected at different localities and scattered throughout the year. Dr. Merriam, in summing up the results of this study, says in his letter of submittal to the Assistant Secretary of Agriculture that "The quantity and quality of the evidence seems sufficient to justify a final conclusion respecting the economic status of the crow, although a larger number of stomachs from some parts of the country would have been acceptable.

"The most important charges brought against the crow are: (1) That it pulls sprouting corn; (2) that it injures corn in the milk; (3) that it destroys cultivated fruit; and (4) that it feeds on the eggs and young of poultry and wild birds.

"All of these charges are sustained by the stomach examinations, so far as the simple fact that crows feed upon the substances named. But the extent of the injury is a very different matter.

"In order to ascertain whether the sum of the harm done outweighs the sum of the good, or the contrary, the different kinds of food found in the stomachs have been reduced to quantitative percentages and contrasted. The total quantity of corn eaten during the entire year amounts to 25 per cent of the food of adult crows, and only 9.3 per
cent of the food of young crows. Leaving the young out of consider­
eration, it may be said that in agricultural districts about one-fourth of
the food of crows consists of corn. But less than 14 per cent of
this corn, and only 3 per cent of the total food of the crow, consists of
sprouting corn and corn in the milk; the remaining 86 per cent of
corn, or 97 per cent of the total food, is chiefly waste grain picked up
here and there, mainly in winter, and of no economic value.

"In the case of cultivated fruits the loss is trivial. The same is
ture of the eggs and young of poultry and wild birds, the total for
the year amounting to only 1 per cent of the food.

"As an offset of his bad habits, the crow is to be credited with the
good done in destroying noxious insects and other injurious animals.
Insects form 26 per cent of the entire food, and the great majority of
these are grasshoppers, May beetles, cut-worms, and other injurious
kinds. It is shown by Mr. Schwarz that during the May-beetle season,
in May and June, these beetles form the principal insect food of the
crow. Only a few stomachs do not contain them, and stomachs are
often filled with them. The fact that the May-beetle season coincides
with the breeding season of the crow is of special importance, the
principal insect food of nestling crows consisting of these beetles. Mr.
Schwarz also finds that grasshoppers occur in the stomachs through­
out the year; that during the May-beetle season they occur in the vast
majority of stomachs, but usually in moderate numbers; that with the
disappearance of May beetles toward the end of June they increase
in number until in August, and throughout the fall they constitute by
far the greater part of the insect food, often occurring in astonishing
numbers, and often forming the only insect food.

"To the same side of the scale must be added the destruction of
mice, rabbits, and other injurious rodents by the crow.

"In summing up the benefits and losses resulting from the food­
habits of this bird, it is clear that the good exceeds the bad and that
the crow is a friend rather than an enemy of the farmer."

491. *Nucifraga columbiana* (Wils.) — CLARK'S NUTCRAKER.

Sidney, Pine Ridge (L. Bruner); Ft. Kearney (Dr. Cooper); "Only found
in the western part of the state" (Augshey); "To edge of Great Plains"
(Goss); North Platte—abundant in town both winter of 1895 and 1896 (E. D.
Snyder); "Two seen and one shot, October, 1883 (Dr. Agersborg, Birds of
Southeastern Dakota).
492. Cyanocephalus cyanoccephalus (Wied.).—Maximilian's Nutcracker; Pinon Jay.

Pine Ridge, near Ft. Robinson, Pine Bluffs (L. Bruner); "A rare visitant" in Kansas (Goss); Cherry county, Long Pine—winters here (J. M. Bates); Sioux county, Feb. 18, 1896 (L. Bruner, W. D. Hunter, L. Skow); do., December, 1895 (D. A. Haggard); Fullerton, Nance county, February, 1889 (Chas. E. Barker.)

**Family Icteridae.—Blackbirds, Orioles, etc.**

The various members of the family Icteridae differ so much among themselves in food-habit that it would be quite difficult to briefly summarize this. This much, however, can be said of the group, viz., that it is essentially insectivorous. The Meadowlark, orioles, Red-winged and Yellow-headed blackbirds certainly have this trait very marked indeed while with us; and, if we are to believe the results obtained by the United States in the recent examinations into the food of the Crow blackbirds, where 2,258 stomachs were examined covering the entire year with the result of 46 per cent being insects, we must acknowledge that the work of these birds is beneficial in the main.

This leaves to be considered by us the Bobolink and Cowbird, both of which as Nebraska birds are insectivorous. A more detailed account of the food-habits of these birds will be found under the respective species beyond.

494. Dolichonyx oryzivorus (Linn.).—Bobolink.

Omaha, Scribner, Holt county, Norfolk—breeds (L. Bruner); "abundant in Nebraska, where it breeds" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant, arrives in May" (Taylor); "West to the high plains" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); numerous Nebraska localities (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); a common migrant and rare summer resident in vicinity of Omaha, but common summer resident and breeder in Cherry county" (I. S. Trostler).

495. Molothrus ater (Bodd.).—Cowbird.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Thedford, Crawford, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "This bird is unfortunately abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrive in May and leave in October" (Taylor); "From the Atlantic to the Pacific" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county, Holt county—breeds, "saw a nest of Redwing Blackbird at Stuart with five eggs of this bird and three of its host" (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "an abundant migrant and summer resident—May 2 to Oct. 15" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Oct. 10 (D. A. Haggard).
The Cowbird is peculiarly distinct from all other species of the feathered tribe as represented in our state. Unlike other birds that seem to enjoy nest-building and caring for their young, this species is a genuine parasite, building no nest itself, "but inflicting its eggs usually on smaller birds, leaving to them the labor and care of rearing its young. It appears to be entirely devoid of conjugal affection, and practices polyandria, the small flocks in which it is found during the season of reproduction generally containing several more males than females" (Bendire). Of course the bird is harmful if we judge it from this particular feature of its life-history, but if we take into account its food-habits it is beneficial.

Living, as it does, about cattle, and including in its bill of fare a large number of various insects like flies, ticks, lice, grasshoppers, caterpillars, beetles, etc., this habit partly offsets the bad traits above referred to.

Bendire lists ninety different species and subspecies of birds in the nests of which the eggs of this bird have been taken. To this large list Mr. I. S. Trostle adds the three following, viz.: The Chestnut-sided Warbler (Dendroica pennsylvanica), Bell's Vireo (Vireo bellii), and the Grasshopper Sparrow (Ammodramus savannarum passerinus).

497. Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus (Bonap.). — Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Omaha, Lincoln, West Point, Holt county, breeds (L. Bruner); "Very abundant in Nebraska, where it breeds" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common; migratory, abundant" (Taylor); "Temperate western North America" (Goss); Omaha-breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common-breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county-breeds (J. M. Bates); O'Neil, Holt county (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "abundant migrant and common summer resident, abundant breeder in Cherry county" (I. S. Trostler).


Entire state-breeds (L. Bruner); "Common along water-courses in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common" (Taylor); "Temperate North America in general" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha-breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common-breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry and Holt counties-breeds, occasionally remains throughout winter about cattle yards (J. M. Bates); several Nebraska localities (D. H. Talbot); Gage county-breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant migrant and summer resident, arrives March 15 to April 1—breeds May 15 to July 4, departs Sept. 25 to Oct. 16" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 12, Oct. 10 (D. A. Haggard).

In the Red-winged Blackbird we have a friend that we little dream of when we see the large flocks gathering about our corn-fields during
late summer and early fall. During the balance of the year it is engaged most of the time in waging war upon various insect pests, including such forms as the “grub-worms,” cut-worms, grasshoppers, army worm, beet caterpillar, etc. Even when it visits our corn-fields it more than pays for the corn it eats by the destruction of the worms that lurk under the husks of a large per cent of the ears in every field.

Several years ago the beet-fields in the vicinity of Grand Island were threatened great injury by a certain caterpillar that had nearly defoliated all the beets growing in many of them. At about this time large flocks of this bird appeared and after a week’s sojourn the caterpillar plague had vanished, it having been converted into bird tissues. Numerous other records of the efficiency of their labor as destroyers of insect pests might be quoted in favor of these birds, but I do not believe this to be necessary, although considerable evidence has been recorded of its destroying both fruits and grains.

501. **Sturnella magna** (Linn.).—**MEADOWLARK.**

Entire state, breeds (L. Bruner); eastern form not beyond Ft. Kearney; “Resident, common” (Taylor); “West to the edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “probably occurs here, have heard it in Iowa opposite Omaha” (I. S. Trostler); Long Pine (J. M. Bates).

501b. **Sturnella magna neglecta** (Aud.).—**WESTERN MEADOWLARK.**

West Point, Lincoln, Thedford, Sidney, Ft. Robinson, Harrison, etc.—breeds. Only occasionally in eastern part, very common in western part of state (L. Bruner); “neglecta most abundant” (Angehy); “Resident, common” (Taylor); “From Nebraska and Texas to the Pacific coast” (Goss); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—nesting, also occasionally wintering (J. M. Bates); numerous localities in state (D. H. Talbot); “An abundant resident—breeds April 20 to Aug. 3” (I. S. Trostler); Hat creek basin, one specimen remained throughout winter (Elliott W. Brown).

506. **Icterus spurius** (Linn.).—**ORCHARD ORIOLE.**

Omaha, Lincoln, West Point, South Bend, Bellevue—breeds (L. Bruner); “Common but not abundant in Nebraska, and breeds here” (Angehy); “Summer resident, abundant” (Taylor); “West to the base of the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Newcastle (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “a common summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10, breeds June 10 to 20, depart in September” (I. S. Trostler).
507. *Icterus glabula* (Linn.).—Baltimore Oriole.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, South Bend, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Common all over eastern Nebraska where there is woodland or orchard" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant, arrive in April and May" (Taylor); "West to the base of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeds (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Ponca, Hartington (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "a common summer resident, arrives May 6 to 20, breeds June 1 to 20, depart middle of September" (I. S. Trostler).

The Baltimore Oriole has received such a bad reputation here in Nebraska as a grape thief during the past two or three years that I feel inclined to give extra time and space in endeavoring to "clear him" of such an unenviable a charge. This, however, I hardly think necessary when the facts in the case are known. As insect destroyers both this bird and the Orchard Oriole have had an undisputed reputation for many years; and the kinds of insects destroyed by both are of such a class as to count in their favor. Caterpillars, and beetles belonging to injurious species comprising 96 per cent of the food of three specimens killed, is the record we have in their favor. On the other hand grapes have been punctured only "presumably by this bird, since he has so frequently been found in the vineyard and must be the culprit." Now, I myself have seen the oriole in apple orchards un-
der compromising circumstances, and have heard pretty strong evidence to the effect that it will occasionally puncture ripe apples. It also belongs in the same family with some generally acceded “rascals,” hence I will admit that possibly some of the charges with which he is credited may be true; but I still believe that most of the injuries to grapes in this and other states must be laid to other origin.

If we take pains to water our birds during the dry seasons they will be much less apt to seek this supply from the juices of fruits that are so temptingly near at hand. Place little pans of water in the orchard and vineyard where the birds can visit them without fear of being seized by the house cat or knocked over by a missile from the alert “small boy,” and I am sure that the injury to fruit, to a great extent at least, will cease. (See also account of English Sparrow.)

508. Icterus bullocki (Swains.).—Bullock’s Oriole.

West Point, Ft. Robinson—breeds (L. Bruner); “is also frequently seen in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common; found mostly in the western part of the state” (Taylor); “East to Dakota and Texas” (Goss).

509. Scolecophagus carolinus (Müll.).—Rusty Blackbird.

West Point, Lincoln, Lyons, a few remain with us all winter (L. Bruner); “This species abounds in early spring and in the last of September and October during its migrations” (Aughey); “Found in early spring and September and October, probably remains in the state during winter” (Taylor); “West to Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); “An abundant migrant” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Oct. 8, 10, 25 (D. A. Haggard).

510. Scolecophagus cyanocephalus (Wagl.).—Brewer’s Blackbird.

West Point, Lincoln, Holt county (L. Bruner); “very abundant in Nebraska, where it breeds” (Aughey); “Migratory, common; summer resident, not common; arrives in April and leaves in September” (Taylor); “East to western Minnesota and Texas” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “a common migrant, usually in company with Bronzed and Purple grackles” (I. S. Trostler).

511. Quiscalus quiscula (Linn.).—Purple Grackle.

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “abundant in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); “an abundant migrant and somewhat common summer resident, arrives March 20 to April 10, breeds May 10 to 20, departs last of September and early October” (I. S. Trostler).

511b. Quiscalus quiscula eneus (Ridgw.).—Bronzed Grackle.

Lincoln, West Point, Omaha, Fremont, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Summer resident, common, probably remains in the state during winter” (Taylor);
"West to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—nesting (L. Skow); Peru, breeds occasionally (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "common summer resident, dates same as the preceding species" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 25, 28 (D. A. Haggard).

Mr. Beal, in his summary of the food-habit study of the Crow-blackbirds, says of them: "From the foregoing results it appears that if the mineral element be rejected as not properly forming a part of the diet, the food of the Crow-blackbird for the whole year consists of animal and vegetable matter in nearly equal proportions. Of the animal component twenty-three twenty-fourths are insects, and of the insects five-sixths are noxious species. The charge that the blackbird is a habitual robber of other bird's nests seems to be disproved by the stomach examinations."

"Of the vegetable food it has been found that corn constitutes half and other grain one-fourth. Oats are seldom eaten except in April and August, and wheat in July and August. Fruit is eaten in such moderate quantities that it has no economic importance, particularly in view of the fact that so little belongs to cultivated varieties."

* * *
“Upon the whole, Crow-blackbirds are so useful that no general war of extermination should be waged against them. While it must be admitted that at times they injure crops, such depredations can usually be prevented. On the other hand, by destroying insects they do incalculable good.”

Family Fringillidae.—Finches, Sparrows, Grosbeaks, etc.

Our sparrows and their allies, taken together, form a very extensive family of very beautiful as well as useful birds. Like the warblers, they occupy themselves with searching for and destroying insects; but this is not all they do that is good. In fall, winter, and early spring, when mother earth has lost her brilliant green and rests in sombre browns or beneath ice and snow, the longspurs, snow buntings, snowbirds, and some of the sparrows that have remained with us, are busily engaged in gathering for themselves a living. They hop and fly about from place to place searching for and picking up little seeds of grass, grain, and weeds, of shrubs and trees, and appropriating the same to their use, chirping merrily as they work away.

514. Coccothraustes vespertinus (Cooper).—Evening Grosbeak.

West Point, November 19, 1885 (L. Bruner); “a few times in winter” (Aughey); “Migratory, rare” (Taylor); “East to Manitoba, Michigan, and Illinois” (Goss); Peru, rare (G. A. Coleman); North Platte, “accidental visitor; a pair was seen in town frequently, and one killed May 11, 1885” (M. K. Barnum).

515. Pinicola enucleator (Linn.).—Pine Grosbeak.

Grand Island (F. J. Brezee); Alda (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith., p. 178); “This species occurs in southeastern Nebraska in winter, but in small numbers” (Aughey); “Winter resident, rare, has been found as early as November and late as February” (Taylor); “Casually to Kansas, Kentucky, etc.” (Goss); Lincoln, Nov. 11, 1895 (L. Bruner); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, “an irregular winter visitor—usually met with after cold north winds in midwinter” (I. S. Trostler).

517. Carpodacus purpureus (Gmel.).—Purple Finch.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “have only seen this bird in Nebraska in October” (Aughey); “Has been found in the state in May and October” (Taylor); “West to the high plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, not common (G. A. Coleman); “An irregular migrant and winter resident—occurs about Omaha during latter October to April 15” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Oct. 30 (D. A. Haggard).
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

518. **Carpodacus cassini** **Baird.**—Cassin’s Purple Finch.  
Sioux county (J. B. White).

521. **Loxia curvirostra minor** **(Brehm).**—American Crossbill.  
West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Entered upon authority of Baird” (Taylor); “Chiefly for northward and east of the Great Plains” (Goss); Sioux county, Dec. 14, 1895 (L. Bruner); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare migrant (G. A. Coleman); Gage county, (F. A. Colby); “an irregular migrant and winter resident, occurs in vicinity of Omaha from latter part of October to March 1” (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 19 to 27, quite common (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow); Fullerton, Nance county (C. E. Barker).

521a. **Loxia curvirostra stricklandi** **Ridgwy.**—Mexican Crossbill.  
Mr. L. Skow of Omaha reports having taken a number of specimens of what might be this Crossbill. “From eastern Kansas, Colorado, New Mexico, etc.—wintering on Agricultural College grounds, Manhattan, Kansas” (Goss).

522. **Loxia leucoptera** **Gmel.**—Write-winged Crossbill.  
West Point, Omaha, December, 1887 (L. Bruner); “Entered upon the authority of Baird” (Taylor); “South in winter to about latitude 39°” (Goss); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); “an irregular winter resident, rare, seen in company with the American Crossbill, but only in coldest midwinter” (I. S. Trostler).

524. **Leucosticte tephraeotis** **Swains.**—Gray-crowned Leucosticte.  
“This bird is frequently seen in Nebraska in winter, but rarely in summer” (Aughey); Omaha (L. Skow); Sioux county, Feb. 18, 1896 (L. Bruner and L. Skow); “south in winter throughout the entire Rocky mountain region of the United States, but most abundant on the eastern slope” (A. O. U. Check List); reported by Elliott W. Brown of Hat Creek, Wyo., as living in the nests of the Cliff or Eave Swallow during very cold winter weather (W. D. Hunter).

528. **Acanthis linaria** **(Linn.).**—Common Redpoll.  
West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “This bird appears irregularly in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Winter resident, rare, has been seen as early as November and as late as February (Taylor); “South in winter through the northern to middle United States” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha (F. J. Brezee); “common winter resident and migrant, earliest seen in fall at Omaha, Sept. 30” (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, December and February, exceedingly common (L. Bruner, D. A. Haggard, F. W. Taylor, W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

528a. **Acanthis linaria rostrata** **(Coues).**—Greater Redpoll.  
“A common winter resident and migrant, a large flock seen near Omaha, Nov. 17, 1895” (I. S. Trostler).

529. **Spinus tristis** **(Linn.).**—American Goldfinch.  
Omaha, West Point, Lincoln, Fremont, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Common in northern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common” (Taylor);
"Temperate North America generally" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A.
S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry
county—breeds (J. M. Bates); several localities in state (D. H. Talbot); Gage
county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant resident, breeds July 20 to Sept.
1 (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Nov. 5 (D. A. Haggard).

533. Spinus pinus (Wils.).—Pine Siskin; Pine Goldfinch.
   Omaha, West Point (L. Bruner); "In December, 1887, two specimens were
   collected by members of the zoology class—has been found in the state as early
   as September" (Taylor); "Temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha (L.
   Skow); Genoa, Wood River (D. H. Talbot); "an irregular migrant and winter
   resident—earliest seen October 10" (I. S. Trostler).

000. Passer domesticus (Linn.).—European House Sparrow;
   English Sparrow.
   Nearly all of state in towns—breeds most of year (L. Bruner); Beatrice (A.
   S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Gordon, Nebr., and in towns this side—
est—breeds (J. M. Bates); Beatrice (F. A. Colby); Omaha, "a very abundant
resident, breeds every month in the year except December, January, and Feb-
uary—rapidly driving out the Purple Martin, House wrens, and Bluebird"
(I. S. Trostler).

The European House Sparrow, or English Sparrow, as it is more
commonly called in this country, while doing considerable in the line
of destroying insects of various kinds that are common to the garden,
is a nuisance in many ways. To those who are familiar with the bird
no description of its habits are necessary; but to those who are not
acquainted with it a few words may be of service.

A lover of cities and towns and the company and protection of man,
this bird has become exceedingly numerous. It is very pugnacious,
incessantly fighting with its own kind, as well as with all other birds
that it can overawe by its repeated onslaughts. In this way it soon
drives away orioles, bluebirds, wrens, etc., that would otherwise make
their homes in our parks. Among the many other charges that have
been made against this bird is that of injury to fruits; and I believe
that much of the blame that has been laid to the orioles, robins, and
thrushes should be laid to him. Quoting from Bulletin No. 1 of the
Division of Economic Ornithology and Mammology, United States
Department of Agriculture, we have the following:

"Among fruits, grapes appear to suffer most, and, although many
grapes are raised without protection in places where sparrows are con-
sidered fairly abundant, there is every reason to believe that sooner or
later this bird will discover and injure them wherever its increase is
tolerated. It has been shown that grape buds are frequently destroyed
in the early spring, and the fact that one hundred and twenty-seven
observers, representing twenty-six states and the District of Columbia,
now (1888) bear witness to injury to ripening fruit, may well cause
apprehension among grape-growers who have not suffered any loss as
yet." * * *

"Those who have watched closely the movements of the sparrow
when among the grapes agree that he pecks many more grapes than
he eats, and his actions at such times, together with the fact that he
frequently picks off leaves and shoots, which he does not eat, lend
some color to the statements that he willfully destroys simply for the
pleasure of destruction."

534. Plectrophenax nivalis (Linn.).—Snow Bunting; Snow-
flake.

West Point, Omaha, Norfolk, Sidney, etc. (L. Bruner); "abundant in Ne-
braska in winter" (Aughey); "Winter resident, common, has been seen in
November and February" (Taylor); "Casually to Georgia, southern Illinois,
and Kansas" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "irregular migrant and
winter resident, Nov. 5 to March 1" (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 19,
1896 (L. Bruner).

536. Calcarius lapponicus (Linn.).—Lapland Longspur.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Present in Nebraska" (Aughey);
"South in winter to Kentucky, southern Illinois, Kansas, etc." (Goss); Beat-
NEBRASKA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

rice (A. S. Pearce); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “common winter resident, Nov. 20 to March 1” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Feb. 8, March 2 (D. A. Haggard).

537. *Calcarius pictus* (Swinhoe.)—Smith’s Longspur.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Probably migratory, passing through the state in April and October” (Taylor); “From the Arctic coast to Illinois and Texas” (Goss); Lincoln, Oct. 25 (D. A. Haggard).

538. *Calcarius ornatus* (Towson.)—Chestnut-collared Longspur.

West Point, Grand Island, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Abundant in Nebraska, where it breeds” (?)(Aughey); “Summer resident, common, arrives in May” (Taylor); “A bird of the plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Albion, O’Neill, Wood River (D. H. Talbot); a common migrant, March 20 to April 16, Oct. 1 to 15 (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Oct. 25 (D. A. Haggard).


West Point (L. Bruner); “A few found in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, rare” (Taylor); “South in winter through Kansas” (Goss); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River (D. H. Talbot); “A not very common migrant, March 20 to April 16, Oct. 1 to 15” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 11 (D. A. Haggard).

540. *Poecetes gramineus* (Gmel.)—Vesper Sparrow; Grass Finch.

West Point, Lincoln, breeds (L. Bruner); “Abundant only in certain localities” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common, probably arrives in April and has been seen as late as September” (Taylor); “Eastern North America to the plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, rare—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); several localities in east central part of state (D. H. Talbot); Omaha, “a not common summer resident, April 20 to Oct. 10” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, April 12 (D. A. Haggard).


Holt county, Sand Hills (L. Bruner); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates).


West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Migratory, common, arrives in April, May, and September” (Taylor); “West to the plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); O’Neill, Genoa, Wood River—exceedingly common (D. H. Talbot); “a not common summer resident, arrive early in May—
breads June 1 to 12, departs late August and September" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, April 19, Oct. 14, 16, 23 (D. A. Haggard).

542b. **Ammodramus sandwichensis alaudinus** (Bonap.).—**Western Savannah Sparrow.**
Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Western North America in general" (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Lincoln, Oct. 10 (D. A. Haggard).

545. **Ammodramus bairdi** (Aud.).—**Baird's Bunting.**
Lincoln, West Point, Sioux county—breeding in latter locality (L. Bruner); "One specimen mentioned by Baird as collected at Ft. Union, Nebraska (Taylor); O'Neill, Nebr., September 1884 (D. H. Talbot); "from the plains of the Red river and Saskatchewan south to Texas" (A. O. U. Check List); "quite a common migrant—I have a set of five eggs taken by myself May 30, 1893, near Omaha that I feel positive are of this species" (I. S. Trostler).

546. **Ammodramus savannarum passerinus** (Wils.).—**Grasshopper Sparrow; Yellow-winged Sparrow.**
West Point, Lincoln, Holt county (L. Bruner); "Abundant in Nebraska, and breeds here" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant" (Taylor); "West to the plains" (Goss); Peru, abundant—breeds (G. A. Coleman); a number of east middle Nebraska localities (D. H. Talbot); "common summer resident, arrives April 10 to May 1, breeds May 15 to 35, departs Sept. 5 to 30" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, May 10, 17 (D. A. Haggard).

546a. **Ammodramus savannarum perpallidus** (Ridg.).—**Western Grasshopper Sparrow.**
Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates).

547. **Ammodramus henslowii** (Aud.).—**Henslow's Sparrow.**
Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); "I have only occasionally met with this bird in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, has been found in the state as late as September" (Taylor); "West to the Plains" (Goss).

548. **Ammodramus leconteii** (Aud.).—**Le Conte's Sparrow.**
West Point, Lincoln, Omaha, Holt county (L. Bruner); "The Great Plains, north to Manitoba" (Goss); Wood River, Ponca (D. H. Talbot); "from the plains eastward to Illinois" (A. O. U. Check List); Lincoln, May 17 (D. A. Haggard); Lincoln (B. Shimek).

549a. **Ammodramus cadacutus nelsoni** Allen.—**Nelson's Sparrow.**
"From northern Illinois northward to North Dakota and Manitoba, south in winter to Texas" A. O. U. Check List; "chiefly in the Mississippi valley (Goss); Ft. Sisseton and Devil's lake, N. Dak. (Vernon Bailey).

552. **Chondestes grammacus** (Say).—**Lark Finch; Lark Bunting.**
Lincoln, West Point—breeds (L. Bruner); Abundant—breeds (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant, arrives in May and remains as late as Septem-
BER" (Taylor); “Mississippi valley, north to Iowa, Wisconsin, etc.” (Goss); Beatrice—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Jackson, Ponca, Newcastle (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); abundant summer resident, arrives April 1 to 10, breeds May 20 to June 10, departs Sept. 5 to 30 (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, May 10 (D. A. Haggard).

553. Zonotrichia querula (Nutt.).—HARRIS'S SPARROW.
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Common in eastern Nebraska along the Missouri” (Aughey); “Common” (Taylor); “west to eastern Montana and western Nebraska” (Goss); Beatrice (M. L. Eaton); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Wood River, Genoa (D. H. Talbot), Lincoln (D. A. Haggard, D. F. Hall).

554. Zonotrichia leucophrys (Forst.).—WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW.
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Only occasionally seen in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, common; summer resident, rare” (Taylor); “North America at large” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); “A common migrant April 12 to May 1—not noted in autumn” (I. S. Trostler).

554a. Zonotrichia leucophrys intermedia Ridg.—INTERMEDIATE SPARROW.
Lincoln, West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “From the eastern edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. H. Bates); An abundant migrant and common winter resident, Omaha, Oct. 1 to April 2 to 30” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Crete, April 19 (D. A. Haggard).

554b. Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli Nutt.—GAMBEL’S SPARROW.
Baird mentions two specimens taken in 1856” (Taylor).

558. Zonotrichia albicollis (Gmel.).—WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.
West Point, Lincoln, Weeping Water (L. Bruner); “abundant in Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrives in May, September, and October” (Taylor); “West to the edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare migrant (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, “a common migrant April 12 to May 15, Sept. 20 to Nov. 1” (I. S. Trostler).

559. Spizella monticola (Gmel.).—TREE SPARROW.
West Point, Lincoln, Omaha, Weeping Water, etc. (L. Bruner); “Abundant in winter and a few breed here in summer” (Aughey); “West to the edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county—winters (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “an abundant winter resident, arrives Oct. 1 to Nov. 1, departs before April 1” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 25, Oct. 21, Nov. 5 (D. A. Haggard).
559a. **Spizella monticola ochracea** Brewst.—**Western Tree Sparrow.**

"Possibly may be found in Nebraska, mentioned in A. O. U. Check List as 'east to Dakota and western Kansas'" (Taylor); "East to Dakota, middle Kansas and Texas" (Goss); Peru, common winter resident (G. A. Coleman); Omaha (L. Skow); Sioux county, Feb. 18, 1896 (L. Bruner).

560. **Spizella socialis** (Wils.)—**Chipping Sparrow.**

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Very abundant in portions of Nebraska" (Aughey); "Abundant in spring and fall, and probably breeds in the state" (Taylor); "west to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "an abundant migrant and common summer resident, arrives April 1 to 15, breeds in June, departs Sept. 10 to Oct. 1" (I. S. Trostler).

Fig. 44.—Chipping Sparrow.

561. **Spizella pallide** (Swains.)—**Clay-Colored Sparrow.**

West Point, Lincoln, Rulo (L. Bruner); "abundant in portions of Nebraska in May and October" (Aughey); "Migratory, common; summer resident, occasional; arrives in May and October" (Taylor); "Interior of North America; I am inclined to believe that the bird occasionally breeds in Nebraska" (Goss); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Omaha, "a common migrant, May 1 to 25 and Sept. 20 to Oct. 25" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, May 17 and Oct. 7 (D. A. Haggard).

562. **Spizella breweri** Cass.—**Brewer's Sparrow.**

Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates).
563. **Spizella pusilla** (Wilson).—**Field Sparrow.**

Lincoln, West Point, Rulo, Weeping Water, etc. (L. Bruner); "Summer resident, common, arrives as early as the last of April and has been found as late as September" (Taylor); "West to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss), Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G A. Coleman); Omaha, "an abundant migrant and common summer resident, arrives March 20 to May 1, breeds May 10 to Aug. 1—three broods—departs Sept. 15 to Oct. 10" (I. S. Trostler).

563a. **Spizella pusilla arenacea** Chadb.—**Western Field Sparrow.**

Cherry county (J. M. Bates); "Great Plains, from Texas to Montana and Dakota" (A. O. U. Check List).

566. **Junco aikeni** Ridg.—**White-winged Junco.**

"Rocky mountains in Colorado and Wyoming, straggling east in winter to middle Kansas and Indian Territory" (Goss); Ft. Robinson, Sioux county, December, 1895 (L. Bruner, D. A. Haggard); Sioux county, Feb. 18 to 29, 1896, abundant (L. Bruner, W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

Several specimens were taken in which the white wing-bands were wanting, and a single one with decidedly pinkish sides.

567. **Junco hyemalis** (Linn.).—**Junco; Slate-colored Snowbird.**

Lincoln, Omaha, Bellevue, West Point, Rulo, etc. (L. Bruner); "A few are found here during the whole year, but the great mass pass northward in spring" (Aughey); "Winter resident, abundant" (Taylor); "South in winter throughout the eastern United States and straggling westward to the Pacific coast" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, an abundant winter resident, Oct. 10 to 30, March 20 to April 10—a few seen during summer—probably breeds here" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 25 (D. A. Haggard).

567a. **Junco hyemalis oregonus** Towns.—**Oregon Junco.**

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Baird mentions two specimens taken in October, probably a rare winter resident in the western part of the state" (Taylor); "In winter straggling east to the Mississippi river" (Goss); Sioux county, December, 1895 (L. Bruner, D. A. Haggard); "In winter to middle Kansas" (Ridgeway); Omaha (L. Skow); Sioux county, Feb. 19, 1896 (L. Skow); Long Pine, April 8 (J. M. Bates).

567b. **Junco hyemalis shufeldti** Coale.—**Shufeldt’s Junco.**

Cherry county, Nebr. (J. M. Bates); "Accidental in Michigan, Illinois, Massachusetts, Maryland, etc. (A. O. U. Check List).

568. **Junco annectens** Baird.—**Pink-sided Junco.**

Lincoln, March 11, 1895 (Student).
569. **Junco caniceps** (Woodh.).—**Gray-headed Junco.**

578. **Poepeae cassini** (Woodh.).—**Cassin’s Sparrow.**
Summer resident in middle and western part of Kansas (Goss); central and western Kansas (A. O. U. Check List); this bird very likely reaches the Republican river valley in Nebraska (L. Bruner).

581. **Melospiza fasciata** (Gmel.).—**Song Sparrow.**
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Great numbers pass through Nebraska in spring and fall” (Aughey); “Summer resident; common, arrives in April and May, and found as late as September,probably a winter resident in some parts of the state” (Taylor); “West to the base of the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); an abundant winter resident, also common resident, commonest Oct. 1 to March 20” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 25, Oct. 7, 23, 30, Crete, April 19 (D. A. Haggard); Crawford, Dec. 12 (L. Bruner); Long Pine, April 9 (J. M. Bates).

583. **Melospiza lincolnii** (Aud.).—**Lincoln’s Sparrow.**
West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Great numbers pass through Nebraska in spring and fall” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant, arrives in April, May, September, and October” (Taylor); “North America at Large” (Goss); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Lincoln, April 22, May 8, 10, Oct. 7, 8 (D. A. Haggard).

584. **Melospiza georgiana** (Lath.).—**Swamp Sparrow.**
Lincoln, West Point, Lyons (L. Bruner); “One specimen mentioned by Baird” (Taylor); “West to the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Lincoln, April 26, May 3, Dec. 15 (D. A. Haggard).

585. **Passerella iliaca** (Merrem).—**Fox Sparrow.**
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “One specimen mentioned in the records of the Normal Science Society” (Taylor); “West to the plains and Alaska” (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pease); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “a common migrant, Oct. 1 to 26, March 20 to April 10—occasionally seen during warm winter weather” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, April 9, Oct. 29 (D. A. Haggard).

585c. **Passerella iliaca schistacea** (Baird).—**Slate-colored Sparrow.**
Omaha, Florence, Rockport (L. Skow).

587. **Pipilo erythropthalmus** (Linn.).—**Cheewink; Towhee.**
West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Rulo, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Large numbers pass through northern Nebraska on their migration, a few stop to breed” (Aughey); “Migratory, abundant; summer resident, somewhat rare; arrive in March and April, may occasionally spend the winter in the state” (Taylor); “West to eastern Dakota and Texas” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A.
S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Genoa, Wood River—abundant (D. H. Talbot); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "an abundant migrant and common resident, breeds April 20 to June 25,—two or three broods—have taken fresh eggs and two-weeks-old young in same nest" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln (D. A. Haggard).

588. **Pipilo maculatus arcticus** (Swains.).—**Arctic Towhee.**

Sioux county (L. Bruner); "Baird mentions eighteen specimens collected in western Nebraska, ten in May, four in summer, and three the latter part of September" (Taylor); "East to Kansas, Nebraska, etc." (Goss); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Sioux county—breeding (R. E. Dinges).

590. **Pipilo chlorurus** (Towns.).—**Green-tailed Towhee.**

"Baird mentions several taken in August in extreme western Nebraska" (Taylor).

593. **Cardinalis cardinalis** (Linn.).—**Cardinal Grosbeak.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln Rulo, Nebraska City, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Abundant in southern Nebraska, where it breeds" (Aughey); "Resident, common" (Taylor); "West to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); Omaha, Rockport—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "a not uncommon resident, commonest in winter, breeds in latter part of May" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 5, Rulo, April 18 (D. A. Haggard).

595. **Habia ludoviciana** (Linn.).—**Rose-breasted Grosbeak.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Bellevue, etc., breeds (L. Bruner); "Rather abundant in northern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrives in April and May" (Taylor); "West to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Beatrice (M. L. Eaton); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); a common summer resident, arrives April 20 to May 10, "breeds May 25 to June 10, departs for the south during latter September" (I. S. Trostler).

596. **Habia melanocephala** (Swains.).—**Black-headed Grosbeak.**

Sioux county (L. Bruner); Lincoln (R. E. Dinges); "I have seen this bird myself only along the Republican river in southwestern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, arrives in May and has been found as late as September" (Taylor); "East to middle Nebraska" (Goss); Omaha, "a rare straggler—one found dead under telegraph wire Oct. 26, 1894" (I. S. Trostler).

597. **Guiraca caerulea** (Linn.).—**Blue Grosbeak.**

Grand Island (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, has been seen as late as September" (Taylor); "North occasionally to New England and southern Nebraska" (Goss); Gage county (Fred Wesphal, F. A. Colby); Omaha, "a straggler, rare, one seen Oct. 26, 1894" (I. S. Trostler).
597a. Guiraca caerulea eurhyncha Coues.—Western Blue Grosbeak.

"From South Dakota, Colorado," etc. (A. O. U. Check List).

598. Passerina cyanea (Linn.).—Indigo Bunting; Indigo Bird.

Omaha, West Point, Weeping Water, Lincoln—breeds (L. Bruner); "Rare in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrives in May" (Taylor); "West to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "common summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10, breeds June 3 to 15, departs early in September" (L. S. Trostler); Lincoln, Aug. 15 (D. A. Haggard).

599. Passerina amoena (Say).—Lazuli Finch; Lazuli Bunting.

West Point, Sioux county—breeds (L. Bruner); "Summer resident, rare" (Taylor); "East to the Great Plains" (Goss).

604. Spiza americana (Gmel.).—Dickcissel; Black-throated Bunting.

West Point, Omaha, Norfolk, Schuyler, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Common in eastern Nebraska, and found to the west line of the state" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant, found as late as September" (Taylor); "North to New England and southern Dakota" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, abundant—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); numerous localities in state (D. H. Talbot); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "An abundant migrant and common summer resident, arrives May 7 to 15, breeds June 2 to July 15" (L. S. Trostler).

605. Calamospiza melanocorys Stejn.—Lark Bunting.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Rather abundant in southern Nebraska, where it breeds" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, probably arrives in May" (Taylor); "West to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Lincoln (D. A. Haggard); Beatrice—breeding, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Thomas county—breeding (L. Bruner).

Family TANAGRIDÆ.—Tanagers.

607. Piranga ludoviciana (Wils.).—Louisiana Tanager; Crimson-headed Tanager.

Sioux county—breeds (L. Bruner); "Baird mentions five specimens collected in western Nebraska in August and September" (Taylor).

608. Piranga erythromelas Vieill.—Scarlet Tanager.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, La Platte, Weeping Water, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "in the southeastern part of the state" (Aughey); "Summer resi-
dent, somewhat rare” (Taylor); “West to the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha—
breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. 
A. Colby); “quite common summer resident, arrives about May 1, breeds June
5 to 20, and departs early in September” (I. S. Trostler).

610. **Piranga rubra** (*Linn.*).—**SUMMER REDBIRD.**

Lincoln, breeds (R. E. Dinges); “Have seen this bird only in southeastern 
Nebraska (Aughey); “Summer resident, rare, arrives in May” (Taylor); 
“North to New Jersey, Illinois, and Nebraska” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); “a 
rare summer resident, one seen in western part of Douglas county, July 7, 1894”
(I. S. Trostler).

**FAMILY HIRUNDINIDÆ.—SWALLOWS.**

All of our swallows are insect destroyers, feeding upon such forms
as gnats, flies, etc., which they capture on the wing. The large colonies of 
different species of these birds that breed within the state, as 
well as those that pass through during their migrations, destroy vast 
numbers of these insects. They should be protected.

611. **Progne subis** (*Linn.*).—**PURPLE MARTIN; HOUSE MARTIN.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Norfolk, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Rather com-
mon in Nebraska, where it breeds” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common, 
arries in May” (Taylor); “The whole of temperate North America” (Goss); 
Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, 
common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); Omaha, “a 
common resident, formerly abundant, but being driven out by European House 
Sparrow; arrives March 10 to April 1, breeds April 25 to June 1” (I. S. Trost·
ler).

612. **Petrochelidon lunifrons** (*Say*).—**CLIFF SWALLOW; EAVES 
SWALLOW; MUD SWALLOW.**

West Point, Lincoln, Sioux county, Omaha, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Occu-
ces in eastern Nebraska in great numbers” (Aughey); “Summer resident, 
arries in May” (Taylor); “North America at large” (Goss); Omaha—breeds
(L. Skow); Cherry county—breeding (J. M. Bates); Omaha, “common sum-
mer resident, arrives May 1, breeds May 20 to July 1, departs Aug. 10 to Sept.
15” (I. S. Trostler).

613. **Chelidon erythrogastra** (*Bodd.*).—**BARN SWALLOW.**

Holt county, Omaha, Lincoln, West Point, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “various 
localities in eastern Nebraska, and also breeds here (Aughey); “Summer resi-
dent, common, arrives in May” (Taylor); “North America in general” (Goss); 
Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breed (L. Skow); Cherry 
county—breeds Jan. 2, 1892 (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); 
Omaha, “a common summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10, breeds May 25 to 
July 10, departs Aug. 10 to Sept. 15” (I. S. Trostler).
614. **Tachycineta bicolor** (Vieill.).—**WHITE-BELLIED SWALLOW; TREE SWALLOW.**

West Point, Lincoln, Sioux county, breeds in latter locality (L. Bruner); "found but sparingly in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, arrives in April" (Taylor); "The whole of North America" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); "a common migrant, but as summer resident not common in vicinity of Omaha, arrives April 10 to May 1, breeds June 1 to 10, departs Sept. 1 to 25" (I. S. Trostler).

615. **Tachycineta thalassina** (Swainson).—**VIOLET-GREEN SWALLOW.**

West Point, Sioux county—breeds in latter locality (L. Bruner); "in western Nebraska, where I found it nesting" (Aughey); "Mentioned by both Baird and Aughey as taken in the summer season in western Nebraska" (Taylor).

616. **Clivicola riparia** (Linnaeus).—**BANK SWALLOW.**

Entire state—breeds in suitable localities (L. Bruner); "Common in eastern Nebraska—breeds (Aughey); "Summer resident, common" (Taylor); "Northern hemisphere in general" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeds (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant summer resident—breeds" (I. S. Trostler).

617. **Stelgidopteryx serripennis** (Aud.).—**ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW.**

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); "breeding in Richardson county" (Aughey); "summer resident, common" (Taylor); "United States at large" (Goss); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); "rare summer resident, a small colony seen nesting in bank of Elkhorn river in western part of Douglas county July 15, 1894" (I. S. Trostler).

**Family AMPELIDÆ.—WAXWINGS.**

The "waxwings," both the Cedar Bird and Bohemian Waxwing, feed principally upon berries, etc., which they find throughout the year. Still, in his studies of the food contents of the stomachs of a variety of birds taken in a certain orchard that was overrun with canker-worms, Professor Forbes found that the seven specimens of the Cedar Waxwing had eaten nothing but canker-worms and a few dung beetles—these latter in such small numbers as to scarcely count. The number of caterpillars eaten by each bird ranged from 70 to 101.

618. **Ampelis garrulus** Linnaeus.—**BOHEMIAN WAXWING; NORTHERN WAXWING.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Rare in Nebraska in winter" (Aughey); "Winter resident" (Taylor); "in North America south in winter
more or less regularly to latitude 40°" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); "a very irregular winter resident" (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, common (George Toole); Lincoln, Dec. 7 (D. A. Haggard); Lincoln, Nov. 14, 28—fourteen specimens (J. S. Hunter); Fullerton, Nance county (C. E. Barker).

Fig. 45.—Bohemian Waxwing.

619. **Ampelis cedrorum** (Vieill.)—CEDAR BIRD; CEDAR WAXWING; CHERRY BIRD.

West Point, Omaha, Tekamah, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); "only a few times in Nebraska" (Aughey); "an irregular resident, generally common" (Taylor); "the whole of temperate North America" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates);
SOME NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Gage county (F. A. Colby); "not uncommon as a late migrant in autumn and early spring—probably breeds in Nebraska" (J. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 8 (D. A. Haggard).

FAMILY LANIIDÆ.—SHRIKES.

The shrikes or "butcher birds" are known as veritable "brigands" or "pirates" when it comes to the destruction of other forms of life. They are true to their name, and "butcher" for pastime large numbers of insects, mice, lizards, small snakes, and even birds. They then fly to some thorn bush or barb-wire fence and impale the luckless victim and leave it for future use, or to dry up and finally blow away. The good they do will outweigh the harm.

621. Lanius borealis Vieill.—GREAT NORTHERN SHRIKE.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Rulo, etc. (L. Bruner); "fall of the year sparingly" (Aughey); "Winter resident, common, arrive in September and probably leave in March" (Taylor); "South in winter to about latitude 35°" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearson); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, winter resident (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Lincoln (R. E. Dinges, J. B. White, D. A. Haggard, etc.); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "quite a common winter resident, arriving at the same time and preying upon the smaller sparrows" (J. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 27, 1896 (W. D. Hunter).

![Fig. 46.—Great Northern Shrike.]

622. Lanius ludovicianus Linn.—LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE; BUTCHER BIRD.

West Point—breeding, Omaha (L. Bruner); "North irregularly to Ohio, Vermont, etc." (Goss); Lincoln (Dr. F. L. Riser).

West Point, Lincoln, Omaha (L. Bruner); Lincoln—breeding (R. E. Dinges);
“Rather abundant in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, arrive in April and found as late as September” (Taylor); “The central regions of North America” (Goss); Beatrice—nesting (A. S. Pearse); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “Summer resident—breeds, not common, earliest seen March 23—departs late in September” (I. S. Trostler).

**Family Vireonidae.—Vireos.**

The food of the various “greenlets” or vireos is made up almost entirely of insects, of which a large per cent is composed of the caterpillars of different moths, such as infest trees and the larger shrubs. They should be protected and encouraged about the orchard in particular.

624. *Vireo olivaceus* (Linn.).—Red-eyed Vireo.

Common over eastern half of state—breeds (L. Bruner); “common in the timber belts along the Missouri and its tributaries in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, abundant, probably arrives in May” (Taylor); “West to the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); common summer resident, arrives May 1, breeds May 22 to July 1—departs Sept. 1 to 25” (I. S. Trostler).


West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “common in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); Omaha (L. Skow).

627. *Vireo gilvus* (Vieill.).—Warbling Vireo.

West Point (L. Bruner); “abundant in northeastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common, arrives in May” (Taylor); “North America in general” (Goss); Omaha—breeding (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); “a not uncommon summer resident, arrives, breeds, and departs same as Red-eyed Vireo” (I. S. Trostler).

628. *Vireo flavifrons* Vieill.—Yellow-throated Vireo.

Lincoln (L. Bruner); Fairbury (Dr. Eaton); “Somewhat abundant in southeastern Nebraska, but rare north of the Platte” (Aughey); “Summer resident” (Taylor); “Eastern United States” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, “not rare as a summer resident, arrives about May 1, departs late in August, seen during summer, doubtless breeds” (I. S. Trostler).


West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Found in the timber belts of eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, rare, arrives in May” (Taylor);
"Eastern North America, migratory in Kansas" (Goss); Omaha, Child's Point (L. Skow); Omaha, "a rare summer resident, occasionally seen during May, June, and July during past six years" (I. S. Trostler).

630. Vireo atricapillus Woodh.—BLACK-CAPPED VIREO.
Bellevue (L. Skow); Omaha, "a rare straggler, one seen June 19, 1894 (I was very close to this bird and positively identified it)" (I. S. Trostler).

631. Vireo novoeboracensis (Gmel.)—WHITE-EYED VIREO.
Omaha, Lincoln, West Point (L. Bruner); "Occasionally met with in Nebraska"—nesting (Aughey); "Probably a summer resident" (Taylor); "West to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Omaha, "not uncommon summer resident, arrives early in May, breeds June 24 to 30, departs Sept. 20 to 30" (I. S. Trostler).

633. Vireo bellii Aud.—BELL'S VIREO.
Lincoln (L. Bruner); "This bird is sparingly present in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare" (Taylor); "From Illinois and Minnesota west to the eastern base of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "a common summer resident—by far our commonest Vireo, arrives May 1 to 10, breeds May 25 to July 24, departs Aug. 15 to Sept. 1" (I. S. Trostler).

Family Mniotiltidae.—Wood Warblers.

In the words of that pleasing writer, Dr. Elliott Coues,* "The warblers have we always with us, all in their own good time; they come out of the south, pass on, return, and are away again, their appearance and withdrawal scarcely less than a mystery; many stay with us all summer long, and some brave the winters in our midst. Some of these slight creatures, guided by unerring instinct, travel true to the meridian in the hours of darkness, slipping past like a 'thief in the night,' stopping at daybreak from their lofty flights to rest and recruit for the next stage of the journey. Others pass more leisurely from tree to tree, in a ceaseless tide of migration, gleaning as they go; the hardier males, in full song and plumage, lead the way for the weaker females and the yearlings. With tireless industry do the warblers befriend the human race; their unconscious zeal plays due part in the nice adjustment of nature's forces, helping to bring about the balance of vegetable and insect life without which agriculture would be in vain. They visit the orchard when the apple and pear, the peach, plum, and cherry are in bloom, seeming to revel carelessly amid the sweet-scented and delicately-tinted blossoms, but never faltering in their good work.

*Key to North American Birds, p. 288.
They peer into the crevices of the bark, scrutinize each leaf, and explore the very heart of the buds, to detect, drag forth, and destroy those tiny creatures, singly insignificant, collectively a scourge, which prey upon the hopes of the fruit-grower, and which, if undisturbed, would bring his care to naught. Some warblers flit incessantly in the terminal foliage of the tallest trees; others hug close to the scored trunks and gnarled boughs of the forest kings; some peep from the thicket, coppice, the impenetrable mantel of shrubbery that decks tiny water-courses, playing at hide-and-seek with all comers; others more humble still, descend to the ground, where they glide with pretty mincing steps and affected turning of the head this way and that, their delicate flesh-tinted feet just stirring the layer of withered leaves with which a past season carpeted the ground. We may seek warblers everywhere in the season; we shall find them a continual surprise; all mood and circumstance is theirs.”


West Point, Plattsmouth, Omaha, Lincoln, (L. Bruner); “wooded sections of Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common, arrives in April and May” (Taylor); “West to the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); “common migrant and not uncommon summer resident and breeder, arrives early in April, departs Sept. 2 to 25—G. W. Sabine saw young in nest in middle of June, 1894, in northern Sarpy county—breeds about May 15” (I. S. Trostler).

637. *Protonotaria citrea* (Bodd.).—Prothonotary Warbler.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Have only seen this bird a few times in southeastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “summer resident, somewhat rare” (Taylor); “North regularly to Georgia, Iowa, and Nebraska” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); “a not uncommon summer resident, arrives May 1 to 15, departs Aug. 25 to Sept. 10—breeds” (I. S. Trostler).

639. *Helmitherus vermivorus* (Gmel.).—Worm-Eating Warbler.

Omaha (F. J. Brezee); “extends to Nebraska” (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); “have only seen this species in the southeastern part of the state” (Aughey); “West to eastern Nebraska and Texas” (Goss); Omaha, “a rare summer resident, seen during July and August” (I. S. Trostler).

641. *Helminthophila pinus* (Linn.).—Blue-Winged Yellow Warbler.

Omaha, Weeping Water, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “southeastern part of the state” (Aughey); “West to Nebraska, middle Kansas, and Texas” (Goss);
Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, rare, probably breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, “a rare summer resident, probably breeds, but have never found the nest, earliest seen May 20, latest August 25” (I. S. Trostler).

642. Helminthophila chrysoptera (Linn.).—Golden-winged Warbler.
   “It has been found a few times in Nebraska” (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); “Occasionally seen in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey).

644. Helminthophila virginiae (Baird).—Virginia’s Warbler.
   “Have only seen one specimen of this bird in southwestern Nebraska” (Aughey).

645. Helminthophila ruficapilla (Wil8.).—Nashville Warbler.
   West Point, Omaha, Weeping Water (L. Bruner); “This bird arrives in eastern Nebraska about May 1” (Aughey); “Summer resident, rare, arrives in May—probably common during migration” (Taylor); “West to the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha, “a not uncommon migrant and rare summer resident—probably a rare breeder” (I. S. Trostler).

646. Helminthophila celata (Say).—Orange-crowned Warbler.
   West Point, Lincoln, Omaha (L. Bruner); “One specimen mentioned in the records of the Normal Science Society” (Taylor); “Quite common in the middle states and throughout the Mississippi valley” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman).

647. Helminthophila peregrina (Wil8.).—Tennessee Warbler.
   Lincoln, West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Occurs sparingly in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrive in May” (Taylor); “West to the base of the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, “a somewhat common migrant, May 1 to 15, Sept. 10 to 20” (I. S. Trostler).

648. Compsothlypis americana (Linn.).—Blue Yellow-backed Warbler; Parula Warbler.
   “Rearing their young in various parts of Nebraska” (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); “It reaches Nebraska about the 1st of May” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrive in April and May” (Taylor); “West to the base of the Rocky mountains” (Goss).

650. Dendroica tigrina (Gmel.).—Cape May Warbler.
   Alda (F. W. Powell).

652. Dendroica aestiva (Gmel.).—Yellow Warbler; Summer Yellow Bird.
   West Point, Holt county, Omaha, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Abundant in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, abundant, arrives in May”
(Taylor); “North America at large” (Goss); Beatrice—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “an abundant summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10, breeds May 25 to July 16, departs Aug. 15 to Sept. 1” (L. S. Trostler).

654. Dendroica caerulescens (Gmel.)—Black-throated Blue Warbler

Omaha, West Point (L. Bruner); “Is present in spring and fall during its migrations” (Aughey).

655. Dendroica coronata (Linn.)—Yellow-rumped Warbler; Myrtle Warbler.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Rulo, Fremont, etc. (L. Bruner); “It is frequently seen along our timber belts” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrives in April and May” (Taylor); “The whole of North America” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, abundant migrant (G. A. Coleman); “a common migrant, April 1 to 20, Oct. 1 to Nov. 1” (L. S. Trostler); Crete, Nebr., April 19 (D. A. Haggard).

656. Dendroica auduboni (Town).—Audubon’s Warbler.

Belmont, on Pine Ridge (L. Bruner); “One specimen mentioned by Baird as found in the western part of the state” (Taylor); “east to the eastern border of the Great Plains” (Goss).

657. Dendroica maculosa (Gmel.)—Magnolia Warbler; Black and Yellow Warbler.

Omaha (F. J. Brezee); “Occasionally seen on its migrations in northeastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, rare, arrive the first of May” (Taylor); “West to the base of the Rocky mountains” (Goss).

658. Dendroica caerulea (Will.)—Cerulean Warbler.

West Point, Blair (L. Bruner); “Abundant in eastern Nebraska along the wooded river-bottoms, where it is in the habit of breeding” (Aughey); summer resident, common” (Taylor); “West to the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha “a quite common migrant and not rare summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10, departs latter August—seen in summer and doubtless breeds” (L. S. Trostler).

659. Dendroica pensylvanica (Linn.)—Chestnut-sided Warbler.

Omaha, Weeping Water (L. Bruner); “Rather common in eastern Nebraska during its migrations” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrives the last of April and in September” (Taylor); “West to the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Omaha, “not rare migrant and an occasional summer resident, took a set of four eggs and nest June 23, 1894” (L. S. Trostler).
660. Dendroica castanea (Wil.)—Bay-breasted Warbler.
"It has been found in Nebraska" (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); "Occasionally met with in eastern Nebraska" (Aughey).

661. Dendroica striata (Forst.)—Black-poll Warbler.
West Point, (L. Bruner); "Rather common in eastern Nebraska during its migrations" (Aughey); "Migratory, common, arrives in May (Taylor); "West to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common—probably breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Lincoln (F. J. Bresee); Omaha, "quite common migrant, earliest seen May 7, returning in latter August" (L. S. Trostler).

662. Dendroica blackburnia (Gmel.)—Blackburnian Warbler.
West Point, Omaha, (L. Bruner); "occasionally, in eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare" (Taylor); "West to the Great Plains" (Goss); North Platte, "transient visitor, common" (M. K. Barnum).

663a. Dendroica dominica albilora Ridgeway.—Sycamore Warbler.
"Migratory, rare, may breed in the state" (Taylor); "North to southern Michigan and northern Illinois, west to eastern Kansas and Texas" (Goss).

667. Dendroica virens (Gmel.)—Black-throated Green Warbler.
Omaha, Florence, Weeping Water (L. Bruner); "Migratory, rare, has been seen in June" (Taylor); "west to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss).

671. Dendroica vigorsii (Aud.)—Pine-Creeping Warbler.
Sioux county (L. Bruner); "passes through Nebraska in early spring, and loafers here in autumn" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, arrives in April and September" (Taylor); "West to the plains" (Goss).

672. Dendroica palmarum (Gmel.)—Red-poll Warbler; Palm Warbler.
"Abundant in eastern Nebraska in early spring while passing north" (Aughey); "Migratory, abundant, arrives in April, May, September, and October" (Taylor); "migrating through the Mississippi valley, and wintering in the Gulf states" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow).

673. Dendroica discolor (Vieill.)—Prairie Warbler.
Omaha, West Point (L. Bruner); "eastern Nebraska (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); "Abundant in eastern Nebraska, where it breeds" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common" (Taylor); "West into Nebraska and Kansas" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow).

674. Seiurus aurocapillus (Linnaeus).—Oven-Bird; Golden-crowned Thrush.
West Point, Lincoln, Bellevue (L. Bruner); "rather abundant—breeds" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrives in April" (Taylor); "West to
the base of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Child's Point, Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); "quite common summer resident, arrives May 1 to 15, breeds June 1 to 20, departs latter August" (I. S. Trostler).

675. Seiurus noveboracensis (Gmel.)—Water Thrush.
   "Occasionally met with in northeastern Nebraska, where, near Ponca, in Dixon county, I found the young, but never saw the nest" (Aughey); "Migration, rare, probably arrives in May" (Taylor); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow).

675a. Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis (Ridgew.)—Grinnell’s Water Thrush.
   West Point, Sioux county, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "east into the Mississippi valley, straggling to Illinois, Indiana, etc." (Goss).

676. Seiurus motacilla (Vieill.)—Louisiana Water Thrush; Large-billed Water Thrush.
   Southeastern Nebraska (Aughey); "is rare in Nebraska" (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); "Probably summer resident" (Taylor); "west to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, rare-breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "a rare summer resident and breeder" (I. S. Trostler).

677. Geothlypis formosa (Wils.)—Kentucky Warbler.
   "Rather common in southeastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "summer resident, common, probably arrive in May" (Taylor); "West to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "one seen by G. W. Sabine, Nov. 28, 1895, in this city" (I. S. Trostler).

679. Geothlypis philadelphia (Wils.)—Mourning Warbler.
   "Found in eastern Nebraska, and breeds in at least the southeastern part" (Aughey); "Eastern North America, west to the Great Plains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow).

680. Geothlypis macgillivrayi (Aud.)—Macgillivray’s Warbler.
   "Both Baird and Aughey mention this species as seen in extreme western Nebraska in the month of August" (Taylor).

681. Geothlypis trichas (Linn.)—Maryland Yellow-throat.
   West Point, Norfolk, Omaha, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Common in Nebraska and breeds here" (Aughey); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county, Sept. 23 (J. M. Bates).

681a. Geothlypis trichas occidentalis Brewst.—Western Maryland Yellow Throat.
   West Point, Sioux county, Holt county (L. Bruner); "summer resident, abundant, arrives in April and has been seen as late as September" (Taylor); "East to the Mississippi valley" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru,
common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “a quite common summer resident, arrives April 20 to May 10, breeds June 10 to 20, departs middle of September” (I. S. Trostler).

683. *Icteria virens* (Linn.).—**Yellow-breasted Chat.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Bellevue, Weeping Water, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Found over the greater part of Nebraska, and breeding in at least the eastern part of the state” (Aughey); “Summer resident, abundant, arrives in May” (Taylor); “west to the edge of the Great Plains, north to southern New England, Ontario, Iowa, etc.” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county (F. A. Colby); “an abundant summer resident, arrives May 1 to Sept. 1, breeds May 26 to June 24, departs Sept. 1 to 10” (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, May 12 (D. A. Haggard).

683a. *Icteria virens longicauda* (Laur.).—**Long-tailed Chat.**

“Summer resident, common, arrives in May and has been seen in September” (Taylor); “East to the eastern edge of the Great Plains” (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Lincoln, (F. J. Brezee).

---

684. *Sylvia mitrata* (Gmel.).—**Hooded Warbler.**

Southeastern part of the state (Aughey); “Summer resident, probably not uncommon, arrives in May, and has been seen as late as September” (Taylor); “west to eastern Nebraska and Texas” (Goss).

685. *Sylvia pusilla* (Wils.).—**Wilson’s Warbler; Black-capped Yellow Warbler.**

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Met sparingly in both eastern and western Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, rare, arrive in May” (Taylor); “west to and including the Rocky mountains” (Goss).
Sylvana canadensis (Linn.).—Canadian Warbler.

"Observed only during spring migration in eastern part of state" (Aughey);
"Migratory, rare, arrive in May" (Taylor); "west to Minnesota, eastern Nebraska and Texas" (Goss).

Setophaga ruticilla (Linn.).—American Redstart.

West Point, Omaha, Blair, Bellevue, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Common in the timbered river-bottoms of Nebraska, and breeding extensively" (Aughey); "Summer resident, common, arrive in May" (Taylor); "west to and including the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "a common summer resident, arrives May 1 to 10, breeds June 10 to 25, departs Sept. 1 to 15" (I. S. Trostler).

FAMILY MOTACILLIDÆ.—Wagtails.

Anthus pensilvanicus (Lath.).—American Pipit; Tittlelark.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); Lancaster county (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, arrives in May and September" (Taylor); "The whole of North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); "a common migrant April 10 to May 1, Sept. 20 to Oct. 10" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln Oct. 19-25 (D. A. Haggard).

700. Anthus spragueii (Aud.).—Sprague's Tittlelark; Missouri Tittlelark.

West Point, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "One specimen mentioned by Baird" (Taylor); "Interior plains of North America, east to western Manitoba and eastern Kansas" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow).

FAMILY CINCLIDÆ.—Dippers.

Cinclus mexicanus Swains.—American Diper; Water Ouzel.

White river in northwest Nebraska (L. Bruner); "Otoe county" (Aughey); "in August on the Niobrara about seven miles from its mouth" (Aughey).

FAMILY TROGLODYTIDÆ.—Wrens, Thrashers, etc.

Much could be written concerning the food-habits of the various members of this group of birds. Three of the species at least are known to be more or less destructive to fruits, viz., the Catbird, Brown Thrasher, and Mockingbird. Still if we take into account what these birds eat during the entire time spent within the state, the balance sheet stands in favor of the birds as insect destroyers.

The wrens are pre-eminently insect destroyers, and the others are not much behind them in this respect.
702. Oroscopites montanus (Townes).—Sage Thrasher.

"Mentioned by Baird as collected in extreme western Nebraska" (Taylor); "Sage-brush plains of western United States" (Ridgeway); "east to Ft. Laramie and Black Hills" (Cones); Hat Creek valley, Nebr. (?) (L. Bruner).

703. Mimus polyglottos (Linn.).—Mockingbird.

Omaha, Bellevue, Weeping Water, Nebraska City, Lincoln, etc. (L. Bruner); "Rare in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, formerly rare, but becoming common" (Taylor); "north to Massachusetts, southern Iowa, southern Wyoming, etc." (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow).

The food-habits of the Mockingbird matter but little so far as this bird is concerned in the state of Nebraska, since it is not at all plentiful even in the extreme southeastern corner of the state. It is safe to assert, however, that the food of this bird includes an equally large per cent of insect life as that taken by either the Catbird or Brown Thrush.

![Catbird](image)

704. Galeoscoptes carolinensis (Linn.).—Catbird.

Entire state in suitable places—breeds (L. Bruner); "Abundant in the wooded portions of Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant, arrives in April and May" (Taylor); "west to the western base of the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, abundant—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant migrant and summer resident" (I. S. Trostler).
Professor S. A. Forbes, whom we have quoted quite extensively in this paper relative to the food-habits of different ones of our birds, says of the Catbird: “Remembering that the chief economical service of the Robin is done before and after the midsummer wealth of fruits tempts it from the chase of insects, we find it not unreasonable that the Catbird, coming later and departing earlier, scarcely anticipating the garden fruits in its arrival and disappearing when the vineyard and orchard are at their best, should be a much less useful bird than its companion. The credit I have given it must be still further reduced because of its serious depredations in the apple orchard. I have often seen it busily scooping out the fairest side of the ripest early apples, unsurpassed in skill and industry at this employment by the Red-headed Woodpecker or the Blue Jay.”

The percentages of insect food taken by this bird for five months, as recorded by Forbes, are as follows, beginning with May and ending with September: 83, 49, 18, 46, 21, or an average of 43. Each farmer and fruit-grower can judge for himself as to what should be done with this bird. For my part I would protect, but chastise him.

705. Harporhynchus rufus (Linn.).—Brown Thrasher.

West Point, Holt county, Sioux county, Omaha, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); “Abundant in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, abundant, arrives in April and remains till October” (Taylor); “west to the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “an abundant summer resident, arrives April 5 to May 30, breeds May 21 to June 15, departs Sept. 15 to 30” (I. S. Trostler).

Although the Brown Thrush or Sandy Mockingbird is known to feed largely upon fruits, and even to take considerable corn and other grains, the per cent of insect food eaten by it during the time it is with us will amount to about 51. This, taken together with its reputation as a songster, will warrant us in abstaining from killing it. Especially will this be the case where we plant the Russian mulberry to supply in part the place of the more useful fruits.

715. Salpinetes obsoletus (Say).—Rock Wren.

Sioux county, West Point, Sidney (L. Bruner); “Frequent in Nebraska” (Aughey); “Summer resident, common” (Taylor); “east into western Iowa, middle Kansas, and Texas” (Goss); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates).
718. **Thryothorus ludovicianus** (*Lath.*).—**CAROLINA WREN.**

Rulo (L. Bruner); Richardson county, "Only saw it once in Nebraska" (Aughey); southern Nebraska (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); "north to southern New England and southern Nebraska" (Goss).

![Fig. 49.—Carolina Wren.](image)

719. **Thryothorus bewickii** (*Aud.*).—**BEWICK'S WREN.**

"Rare in Nebraska" (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); Otoe county (Aughey); "north to New Jersey and Minnesota, west to the edge of the Great Plains and eastern Texas" (Goss).

719b. **Thryothorus bewickii bairdi** (*Salv. & Godm.*).—**BAIRD'S WREN.**

"Aughey speaks of finding a nest of *T. bewickii*, which were probably *T. bewickii bairdi*" (Taylor); "From middle Kansas, Colorado and Utah south" (Goss).

721. **Troglodytes aedon** *Vieill.*.—**HOUSE WREN.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "This species is abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant summer resident, arrives April 10 to 25, breeds May 25 to July 30, departs Sept. 1 to 15" (L. S. Trostler).

721b. **Troglodytes aedon aztecus** (*Baird.*).—**WESTERN HOUSE WREN.**

West Point, Dawes county (L. Bruner); "common in Nebraska" (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); "abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "summer resident,
common" (Taylor); "east to Illinois" (Goss*); Peru, common—probably breeds (G. A. Coleman).

722. **Troglodytes hiemalis** Vieill.—**Winter Wren.**

West Point, Blair, Omaha (L. Bruner); Lincoln (Aughey); "Winter resident, rare" (Taylor); "Eastern North America, west to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Child’s Point, Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, rare winter visitor (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "a somewhat rare winter resident, arrives Oct. 1 and departs in early spring (I. S. Trostler).

724. **Cistothorus stellaris** (Licht.).—**Short-billed Marsh Wren.**

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); Dixon county, Nebraska—breeding (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, probably arrives in May" (Taylor); "west to the Great Plains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); "a rare summer resident, one pair observed June 2, 1894, at Cut-off lake near Omaha" (I. S. Trostler).

* See Goss, Birds of Kansas, p. 612.
725. *Cistothorus palustris* (Wils.)—**Long-billed Marsh Wren**.

Lyons, Omaha, Tekamah, West Point (L. Bruner); "Only occasionally met with in the marshes along the Missouri" (Aughey); "Summer resident, rare, arrives in May" (Taylor); "west to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); "a common summer resident, arrives April 10 to 20, breeds June 20 to July 15, latest seen August 10" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, May 23 (D. A. Haggard).

**FAMILY CERTHIDÆ.—Creepers.**

726. *Certhia familiaris americana* (Bonap.)—**Brown Creeper**.

West Point, Oakdale, Ponca, Rockport, Omaha, Lincoln, Rulo, etc. (L. Bruner); "Found a nest of this bird in a knot-hole, near Dakota City" (Aughey); "temperate North America, west to the Great Plains" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); a somewhat rare resident—breeds (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 25 (D. A. Haggard).

726b. *Certhia familiaris montana* Ridg.—**Rocky Mountain Creeper**.


**FAMILY PARIDÆ.—Nuthatches and Tits.**

The members of this family of hardy little birds feed for the most part on insects. But we lack very definite figures regarding the kinds and numbers of insects that each destroys. We can be sure, however, that any favors shown them will not be thrown away.

727. *Sitta carolinensis* Lath.—**White-bellied Nuthatch**.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); "Recorded by the Normal Science Society as 'resident, common'" (Taylor); "resident west to the Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Gage county (F. A. Colby); "quite common resident—breeds in June" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 23 (D. A. Haggard).

727a. *Sitta carolinensis aculeata* (Coss.)—**Slender-billed Nut-hatch**.

Blair, Tekamah, Ponca (L. Bruner); "Frequently met with in the timbered tracts of eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); Sioux county, Dec. 12, 1895 (L. Bruner); "A rare resident in vicinity of Omaha—breeds" (I. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 19 to 26, fairly common (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow).

728. *Sitta canadensis* Linn.—**Red-bellied Nuthatch**.

Lincoln (L. Bruner, B. Shimek, D. A. Haggard); Omaha (F. J. Brezee); "Occasionally in northeastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Somewhat rare, has been
seen in June and September" (Taylor); "The whole of wooded temperate North America" (Goss); Sioux county, Feb. 25, 26, 1896 (L. Skow).

729. *Sitta pusilla* Lath.—**BROWN-HEADED NUTHATCH.**

Sioux county, Feb. 26, 1896, "a single specimen of a nuthatch with brown head seen but not obtained" (L. Skow).

![Fig. 51.—White-bellied Nuthatch.](image)

730. *Sitta pygmaea* Vig.—**PYGMY NUTHATCH.**

Niobrara river in northern Nebraska (Aughey); Child's Point, Douglas county (L. Skow); Omaha, "a rare resident, breeds" (I. S. Trostler).

731. *Parus bicolor* Linn.—**TUFTED TITMOUSE.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Rulo, etc. (L. Bruner); "Abundant in eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Common in May and June, probably a constant resident" (Taylor); "north to New Jersey and southern Nebraska" (Goss); Peru, rare—may breed (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "a rare resident, seen only in wilder parts" (I. S. Trostler); Rulo, April 18 (D. A. Haggard).

735. *Parus atricapillus* Linn.—**BLACK-CAPPED TITMOUSE.**

Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); Lincoln (W. D. Hunter); "Resident, common" (Taylor); "west to the edge of the Great Plains" (Goss); De Witt (A. S. Pease); Ft. Robinson, Sioux county, Dec. 13, 1895 (L. Bruner); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "an abundant resident, breeds April 22 to May 25" (I. S. Trostler).

735a. *Parus atricapillus septentrionalis* (Harris).—**LONG-TAILED CHICKADEE.**

West Point, Tekamah, Sioux county, Lincoln—breeds (L. Bruner); "Very abundant in eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Resident, common" (Taylor);
"east to eastern Kansas and Manitoba" (Goss); Ft. Robinson, Sioux county, Dec. 13, 1895 (L. Bruner); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Cherry county—breeds (J. M. Bates); "a not rare resident, commoner in winter" (L. S. Trostler); Sioux county, Feb. 19 to 27, common (W. D. Hunter, L. Skow); Lincoln, March 3 (D. A. Haggard).

738. Parus gambeli Ridgew.—Mountain Chickadee.
"Mentioned by Baird as collected in August." (Taylor).

740. Parus hudsonicus Forst.—Hudsonian Chickadee.
On Dec. 13, 1895, a bird was seen by me about nine miles northwest of Ft. Robinson that was probably this species (L. Bruner).

FAMILY SYLVIIDÆ.—Warblers, Kinglets, Gnatcatchers.

748. Regulus satrapa Licht.—Golden-crowned Kinglet.
West Point (L. Bruner); Lincoln (W. D. Hunter); "Abundant during some years in northern Nebraska" (Aughey); "eastern and northern North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Omaha, "a quite common winter resident, arrives Oct. 1 to 15, departs March 5 to 20" (L. S. Trostler); Long Pine, April 9, 1896 (J. M. Bates).

749. Regulus calendula (Linn.).—Ruby-crowned Kinglet.
West Point, Lincoln, Omaha (L. Bruner); "Only occasionally met with in Nebraska" (Aughey); "Migratory, rare, arrive in April and May" (Taylor); "North America" (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Peru, common migrant (G. A. Coleman); Omaha, "a not rare winter resident—dates same as preceding species" (L. S. Trostler).

751. Polioptila caerulea (Linn.).—Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.
West Point (L. Bruner); eastern Nebraska (Aughey); "Has been seen in April and June, probably breeds in the state" (Taylor); "United States, chiefly south of 42°" (Goss); Peru, common—probably breeds (G. A. Coleman); "A rare summer resident, two were seen Sept. 10, 1895, in north part of Sarpy county" (L. S. Trostler).

FAMILY TURDIDÆ.—Thrushes, Solitaires, Bluebirds, etc.
The thrushes are all beneficial as insect destroyers, and might be well compared with the Robin, which is described quite fully beyond, only they are even less liable to commit injuries to fruits.

754. Myadestes townsendii (Aud.).—Townsend's Solitaire.
Niobrara river (Aughey); Alda (Powell); southeastern Nebraska (Hall); "east to Dakota and Texas" (Goss); Sioux county, Feb. 19, 1896 (L. Skow).

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, Bellevue (L. Bruner); "Abundant in all the woodlands of eastern Nebraska" (Aughey); "Summer resident, abundant,
arrives the first of May, and has been found as late as October” (Taylor); “north to Massachusetts, Ontario, Wisconsin, and eastern Dakota” (Goss); Beatrice (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “a quite common summer resident—breeds” (I. S. Trostler).

756. *Turdus fuscescens* Steph.—**Wilson’s Thrush.**

West Point, Omaha (L. Bruner); “Occasionally in Nebraska, especially in the southeastern part of the state” (Aughey); “Migratory, rare, arrive the first of May” (Taylor); “west to the plains” (Goss); “a rare summer resident, a pair seen in East Omaha, in thicket, May 22, 1894, where they probably bred” (I. S. Trostler).

757. *Turdus aliciae* Baird.—**Gray-cheeked Thrush.**

“Migratory, rare, arrive in May” (Taylor); “eastern and northern North America, west to the Rocky mountains” (Goss); “west to the plains (A. O. U. Check List).

758a. *Turdus ustulatus swainsonii* (Caban.)—**Olive-backed Thrush.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); “Abundant in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “Migratory, common, arrive in May” (Taylor); “west to and including the Rocky mountains” (Goss); Omaha (L. Skow); Valentine and Long Pine (J. M. Bates); “migratory, rare, one flock and well observed Sept. 16, 1895, near Papillion” (I. S. Trostler).

759b. *Turdus aonalasechke pallasi* (Caban.)—**Hermit Thrush.**

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln (L. Bruner); Alda—breeds (Bull. No. 2, Div. Ornith.); “Have seen a few of this species in eastern Nebraska” (Aughey); “west casually to the Great Plains” (Goss); Fairbury (M. L. Eaton); Omaha (L. Skow).

761. *Merula migratoria* (Linn.)—**American Robin.**

All of Nebraska—breeds (L. Bruner); “Resident, abundant” (Taylor); “Not abundant in Nebraska, but slowly increasing” (Aughey); “Northern and eastern North America” (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt—breeding (A. S. Pearse); Beatrice, De Witt—nesting (A. S. Pearse, F. A. Colby); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru, common—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county—breeds and sometimes winters (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); “an abundant resident except in coldest winters, breeds April 23 to June 20” (I. S. Trostler).

The Robin has certainly been accused often enough of being a first-class rascal to warrant the belief that there must be at least some grounds for such accusations being made.

In his examination of 114 stomachs of this bird, taken during ten
months of the year, Professor Forbes, of Illinois, found the contents to consist of 65 per cent insects and 34 per cent of fruits and seeds.

In the estimates of these food percentages taken by the Robin, as well as by other birds, bulk for bulk is taken, i. e., a quart of caterpillars or other insects is equivalent to a quart of cherries or a quart of berries.

Professor Forbes asks this question: "Will the destruction of seventeen quarts of average caterpillars, including at least eight quarts of cut-worms, pay for twenty-four quarts of cherries, blackberries, currants, and grapes?" and then answers it in these words: "To this question I, for my own part, can only reply that I do not believe that the horticulturist can sell his small fruits anywhere in the ordinary markets of the world at so high a price as to the Robin, provided that he uses proper diligence that the little huckster doesn't overreach him in the bargain."

Much more might be said in favor of this bird had I the time and space at my command.


"Western United States, north to British Columbia, east to the eastern edge of the Great Plains" (Goss).

766. *Sialia sialis* (Linn.).—Bluebird.

West Point, Omaha, Lincoln, etc.—breeds (L. Bruner); "Resident, abundant" (Taylor); "Abundant in Nebraska" (Aughey); "west to base of Rocky mountains" (Goss); Beatrice, De Witt (A. S. Pearse); Omaha—breeds (L. Skow); Peru—breeds (G. A. Coleman); Cherry county (J. M. Bates); Gage county—breeds (F. A. Colby); "a common summer resident, breeds May 1 to July 15, departs Sept. 20 to Oct. 15" (I. S. Trostler); Lincoln, March 23 (D. A. Haggard).

767. *Sialia mexicana occidentalis* (Towns.).—Western Bluebird.

"Once on the Niobrara" (Aughey).

768. *Sialia arctica* Swains.—Rocky Mountain Bluebird.

Sioux county, Dawes county—breeds, Sidney, Pine Bluffs (L. Bruner); Western Nebraska (Aughey, Baird); "east into Dakota and Texas" (Goss).*

* Persons wishing to take up the study of our birds systematically will find Ridgeway's "Manual of North American Birds" indispensable.
APPENDIX.
THE BIRD LAW OF NEBRASKA.
(Consolidated Statutes of Nebraska, Cobbey, 1891, and Sessions Laws of 1893 and 1895.)

Sec. 5664. It shall be unlawful for any person in the state of Nebraska to knowingly and intentionally kill, injure, or harm, except on the lands owned by such person, any robin, lark, thrush, blue-bird, king-bird, sparrow, wren, jay, swallow, turtle-dove, oriole, wood-pecker, yellowhammer, cuckoo, yellow-bird, bobolink, or other bird or birds of like nature that promote agriculture and horticulture by feeding on noxious worms and insects, or that are attractive in appearance or cheerful in song. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section shall be fined not less than three (3) nor more than (10) dollars for each bird killed, injured, or harmed.

Sec. 5666. (As amended in Session Laws, 1893.) It shall also be unlawful for any person, at any time, by the aid or use of any swivel, punt gun, big gun (so called), or any other than the common shoulder gun; or by the aid or use of any punt boat, or sneak boat used for carrying such gun, to catch, kill, wound, or destroy, or to pursue after with intent to catch, kill, wound or destroy, upon any waters, bays, rivers, marshes, mud flats, or any cover to which wild fowl resort within the state of Nebraska, any wild goose, wood duck, teal, canvas-back, blue-bill, or other wild duck, or to destroy or disturb the eggs of any of the birds above named; and any person offending against any of the provisions of this act shall be fined in any sum not less than two ($2) dollars, nor more than twenty ($20) dollars, for each offense, or be imprisoned in the county jail not more than twenty (20) days.

Sec. 5667. (In part.) It shall be unlawful for any person to kill, ensnare, or trap any grouse between the first day of January and the first day of September in each year, or to kill, ensnare, trap, or net quail or wild turkey between the first day of January and the first day of October in each year, or to ensnare, trap, or net the same at any time of the year, or to buy, sell, ship, transport, or carry, or have
in possession any such animals or birds, between the dates within which the killing, ensnaring, trapping, or netting of such animals or birds is prohibited by law. It shall also be unlawful for any person, agent, or employee of any association, corporation, railroad company, or express company to receive, carry, transport, or ship any such animal or bird at any time of the year. It shall be unlawful for any person to go upon the premises of another person or corporation for the purpose of hunting, trapping, netting, ensnaring, or killing any animal or bird at any season of the year, unless by the consent of the owner or owners of said premises. It is further enacted that any person, agent, or employee, as aforesaid, who shall violate any provision of this section shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall pay a fine of fifteen ($15) dollars for each wild turkey so as aforesaid killed, trapped, ensnared, netted, bought, sold, shipped, transported, or held in possession in violation of this section, and the sum of five ($5) dollars for each grouse or quail so as aforesaid killed, trapped, ensnared, netted, bought, sold, shipped, transported, or held in possession in violation of the provisions of this section. Having in possession any of the named animals or birds between said dates shall be deemed and taken as presumptive evidence that the same were killed, ensnared, netted, or trapped in violation of this section, and the civil authorities of any city, town, or precinct where any animal or bird shall have been killed, or held in possession in violation of law be found, are hereby authorized to cause the same to be seized with or without warrant, and to be distributed among the poor persons of such city, town, or precinct; and any person who shall go upon the land of another, in violation of this section, shall, upon conviction thereof, pay for such offense in any sum not less than five ($5) dollars, nor more than fifty ($50) dollars, and shall be liable to the owner of the premises in an action for trespass.

Also “An act to protect Mongolian pheasants” (Session Laws, 1895, Senate File No. 38):

Be it Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Nebraska:

SECTION 1. It shall be unlawful for any person in the state of Nebraska for and during the term of six years from and after the passage of this act, to injure, take, kill, expose or offer for sale or have in possession, except for breeding purposes, any ring-neck Mongolian
pheasant, any green Japanese pheasant, any copper pheasant, or scholmeringn, any tragopan pheasant, silver pheasant or golden pheasant, being the species of pheasants imported into the United States by the Hon. O. N. Denny, ex-United States consul-general to Shanghai, China.

Sec. 2. Any person violating the provisions of this act shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty ($50) dollars nor more than one hundred ($100) dollars, and in default of payment of the fine imposed shall be imprisoned in the county jail at the rate of one day for each two dollars of the fine imposed.

Sec. 3. The one-half of all fines imposed and collected under the provisions of this act shall be paid to the informer, and the rest into the county treasury of the county in which the crime was committed.

Sec. 4. Justice courts shall have jurisdiction of the offenses defined in this act.

Sec. 5. Whereas an emergency exists, this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage.

Approved March 30th, A. D. 1895.
INDEX TO NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

INDEX.

Acanthis linaria, 131
    linaria rostrata, 131
Accipiter atricapillus, 88
    atricapillus striatulus, 89
    cooperi, 87
    velox, 87
Actitis macularia, 76
    Echmophorus occidentalis, 58
    Egialtis melodia circumcincta, 77
    montana, 77
    nivosa, 77
    semipalmata, 77
    vocifera, 76
Aeronautes melanoleucus, 113
Agelains phoeniceus, 125
Alaudidre, 116
Alectridae, 104
Ammodramus bairdi, 135
    cadacutus nelsoni, 135
    henslowii, 135
    lecontei, 135
    sandwichensis alaudinus, 135
    sandwichensis savanna, 134
    savannarum passerinus, 125, 135
    savannarum perpallidus, 135
Ampelidre 143
Ampelia cedrorum, 144
    garrulus, 143
Ampelocoma woodhouseii, 121
Anas americana, 63
    boschas, 62
    carolinensis, 63
    cyanoptera, 64
    discors, 64
    obscura, 63
    penelope, 63
    strepera, 63
Anatida, 62
Anhinga, 61
    anhinga, 61
Anhingidre, 61
Anser albitrons gambeli, 66
Anseres, 62
Anthus pensilvanicus, 154
    spraguei, 154
Antrostomus vociferus, 112
Aphegism, 78
Appendix, 164
Aquila chrysaetos, 92
Archibuteo ferrugineus, 92
    lagopus sancti-johannis, 91
Ardes candidissima, 65
    coronula, 68
    egretta, 68
    herodias, 68
    virescens, 69
Ardeida, 68
Ardetta e;xxis, 68
 Arenaria interpres, 78
Asio accipitrinus, 96
    wilsonius, 96
Avocet, American, 72
Aythya affinis, 65
    americana, 64
    collaris, 65
    marila nearctica, 65
    vallisneria, 65
Bartramia longicauda, 75
Bee-bird, 113, 114
    food-habits of, 113
Bird, Butler, 145
    Cedar, 143, 144
    Cherry, 144
    Indigo, 141
    Summer Yellow, 149
    day in our schools, 56
    law of Nebraska, 164-166
Birds, as destroyers of weed seeds, 55
better known than other animals, 50
distribution of, 51
fond of joking, 52
food-habits of, 53, 54, 56
how numerous, 50, 53, 54
list of Nebraska, 57-163
migration of, 51
Nebraska as a home for, 57
nest building of, 52
numbers of insects destroyed by, 54
plumage of, 52
remarks about, in general, 50-56
speed of flight, 51
their relation to horticulture, 50
their relation to other animals, 50
variation of, in size, 51
Gallinaceous, 78
Perching, 113
of prey, 84
Bittern, 68
Least, 68
love-song of, 52
Blackbird, Brewer's, 128
Crow, 129, 130
food-habits of, 129, 130
Red-winged, 124, 125
Rusty, 128
Yellow-headed, 124, 125
Bluebird, 163
Rocky Mountain, 163
Western, 163
Bluebirds, food-habits of, 161
Bobolink, 124
Bob-white, 79, 80
Bonassa umbellus, 81
Botaurus lentiginosus, 68
Brant, 67
Branta bernicia, 67
canaeensis, 67
canaeensis hutchinsii, 67
Brants, 62
Brown Thrush as an insect destroyer, 56
injuring apples, 56
Bunting, Baird's, 135
Black-throated, 141
Indigo, 141
Lark, 135, 141
Bunting, Lazull, 141
Snow, 133
Bubo virginianus, 99
virginianus arcticus, 100
virginianus saturatus, 100
virginianus subarcticus, 100
Bubonidae, 90
Buteo borealis, 89
borealis calurus, 90
borealis harlanii, 90
borealis krideri, 90
latissimus, 91
lineatus, 90
swainsoni, 91
Buzzard, Ferruginosus, 92
Turkey, 85
Calamospiza melanocorys, 141
Calcarius lapponicus, 133
ornatus, 134
pictus, 134
Calidris arenaria, 74
Campephilus principalis, 107
Camp Robber, 118
Caprimulgidae, 112
Cardinalis cardinalis, 140
Carpodacus cassini, 130, 131
purpureus, 130
Carrion Crow, nature of food, 88
Cathbird, 154, 155
food-habits of, 156
Catharista atrata, 85
Cathartes aura, 85
Cathartidae, 85
Centrocercus urophasianus, 83
Cephalus pileatus, 109
Certhia familiaris americana, 159
ciliaris montana, 159
Certhidae, 159
Ceryle alcyon, 104
Chaturola pelagica, 113
Charadriidae, 79
Charadrius dominicus, 76
squatarola, 76
Charionetta albeola, 65
Chat, Long-tailed, 153
Yellow-breasted, 153
Chelidon erythrogaster, 142
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Entry</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chen</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chen hyperborea</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chen hyperborea nivalis</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chewink</td>
<td>139</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickadee</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickadee Hudsonian</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickadee Long-tailed</td>
<td>160</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chickadee Mountain</td>
<td>161</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chondestes grammacus</td>
<td>135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordelius virginianus</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chordelius virginianus henryi</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinclidae</td>
<td>164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinclus mexicanus</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cinclus mexicanus</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circus hudsonius</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulothorus palustris</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Circulothorus palustris stellaris</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clangula hyemalis</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cliviola riparia</td>
<td>143</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coccothraustes versipinus</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coccyge</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coccyx americanus</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coccyx erythrophthalmus</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coeloptes auratus</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colius virginianus</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columba</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Columbia</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colymbus auritus</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colymbus auritus holbrellii</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colymbus nigricollis californicus</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compothlypis americana</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contopus borealis</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contopus richardsonii</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contopus virens</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conurus carolinensis</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coot</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormorant</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormorant Double-crested</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormorant Florida</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cormorant Mexican</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corvidae</td>
<td>116</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corvus corax sinuatus</td>
<td>121</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowbird</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowbird</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cowbird parasitic habits of</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crane Little Brown</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandhill</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whooping</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbill</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbill American</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbill Mexican</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crossbill White-winged</td>
<td>131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow Common</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow Common food-habits</td>
<td>122</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow Common food-habits</td>
<td>123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow Carrion</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crow Carrion</td>
<td>86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuckoo</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuckoo Black-billed</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuckoo Yellow-billed</td>
<td>104</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuckooes, caterpillar destroyers</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuculidae</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curlew, Eskimo</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curlew, Hudsonian</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Curlew, Long-billed</td>
<td>76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanocapillus cyanocapillus</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanocapillus cyanocapillus</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanocapillus stelleri annectars</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dabchick</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dafila acuta</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darter</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendragapus obscurus richardsonii</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva aduboni</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva blackburnie</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva caerulea</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva ceruleo</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva castanea</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva coronata</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva discolor</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva dominica albiora</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva maclella</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva palmarum</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva pennsylvania</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva striata</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva tigrina</td>
<td>149</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva vigorsii</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dendroica aestiva virens</td>
<td>151</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dickcissel</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dipper</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dipper American</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diver</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diver Red-throated</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diving birds</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dolichonyx ornitorhyncus</td>
<td>124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove Carolina</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove Carolina Mourning</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dove Carolina Turtle</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowitcher</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowitcher</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dowitcher Long-billed</td>
<td>73</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dryobates pubescens, 107  
  pubescens gairdnerii, 107  
  villosus, 107  
  villosus harrisi, 107  
  villosus leucomelas, 107  
Duck, American Widgeon, 63  
  Baldpate, 63  
  Barrow’s Golden-eye, 65  
  Black, 63  
  Blue-bill, 65  
  Blue-winged Teal, 64  
  Buffle-head, 65  
  Butterball, 65  
  Canvas-back, 65  
  Cinnamon Teal, 64  
  Dusky, 63  
  Gadwall, 63  
  Golden-eye, 63  
  Green-winged Teal, 63  
  Harlequin, 66  
  Lesser Scaup, 65  
  Little Blue-bill, 65  
  Mallard, 62  
  Old Squaw, 66  
  Pintail, 64  
  Red-head, 64  
  Ring-necked, 65  
  Rocky-mountain Whistler, 65  
  Ruddy, 66  
  Scaup, 65  
  Shoveller, 64  
  Spirit, 65  
  Sprigtail, 64  
  Summer, 64  
  Surf Scoter, 66  
  Whistler, 65  
  White-winged Scoter, 66  
  Widgeon, 63  
  Wood, 64  
Eagle, Bald, 93  
  Golden, 92  
  White-headed, 93  
Ectopistes migratorius, 84  
Egret, Great White, 68  
  Little White, 68  
Elanoides forficatus, 86  
Elianus leucurus, 86  
Empidonax flaviventris, 115  
  minimus, 116  
  traillii, 115  
  virgátus, 115  
English Sparrow, injurious to fruit, 56  
Ereunetes occidentalis, 74  
  pusillus, 74  
Eriocnáura rubida, 66  
Falco columbarius, 94  
  mexicanus, 93  
  peregrinus anatum, 94  
  richardsonii, 94  
  rusticolus gyralfalco, 93  
  sparverius, 95  
Falcon, Peregrine, 94  
  Prairie, 93, 94  
Falconidae, 86  
Finch, Cassin’s Purple, 131  
  Grass, 134  
  Lark, 135  
  Lazuli, 141  
  Purple, 130  
Flicker, 106, 107, 111  
  Red-shafted, 112  
  Yellow-shafted, 111  
Flycatcher, Acadian, 115  
  Arkansas, 114  
  Cassin’s, 121  
  Great-crested, 114  
  Green-crested, 115  
  Least, 116  
  Olive-sided, 115  
  Scissor-tailed, 114  
  Traill’s, 115  
  Yellow-bellied, 115  
Flycatchers, food-habits of, 113  
  Tyrant, 113  
Fringillidae, 130  
Fulica americana, 72  
Galeoscoptes carolinesis, 155  
Gallinule, 78  
Gallinago delicata, 73  
Gallinula galeata, 71  
Gallinula, Florida, 71  
  Purple, 71  
Geothlypis formosa, 152  
  macgillivrayi, 152
INDEX TO NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Geothlypis philadelphia, 152
trichas, 153
trichas occidentalis, 152
Glaucionetta clangula americana, 65
islandica, 65
Gnatcatcher, Blue-gray, 161
Godwit, Hudsonian, 75
Marbled, 74
Goldfinch, American, 131
Pine, 132
Goose, American White-fronted, 66
Bernicle, 67
Blue, 66
Canada, 67
Greater Snow, 66
Hutchin’s, 67
Lesser Snow, 66
Goshawk, 99
American, 88
Western, 89
Grackle, Bronzed, 128
Purple, 128
Grebe, American Eared, 58
American Red-necked, 58
Horned, 58
Pied-billed, 59
Western, 58
Grebes, food-habits of, 57
Greenlets, 146
Grosbeak, Black-headed, 140
Blue, 140
Cardinal, 140
Evening, 130
Pine, 130
Rose-breasted, 140
Western Blue, 141
Grouse, Columbian Sharp-tailed, 82
Common Sharp-tailed, 82
Pintailed, 81
Prairie Sharp-tailed, 82, 83
Richardson’s Dusky, 81
Ruffed, 81
Sage, 83
Sharp-tailed, 78
Gruide, 70
Grus americana, 70
canadensis, 70
mexicana, 70
Guiraca caerulea, 140
cerulea eurhyncha, 141
Gull, Bonaparte’s, 60
Franklin’s, 60
Great Black-backed, 60
Herring, 60
Laughing, 60
Ring-billed, 60
Sabine’s, 60
Gulls, food-habits of, 59
Gyrfalcon, 93
McFarlane’s, 93
Habia ludoviciana, 140
melanoleuca, 140
Hematopus palliatus, 78
Halizetus leucocephalus, 93
Harpornynchus rufus, 156
Hawk, American Rough-legged, 91
American Sparrow, 95
Broad-winged, 91
Cooper’s, 87, 89
Duck, 94
Ferruginous Rough-leg, 92
Fish, 95
Harlan’s, 90
Krider’s, 90
Marsh, 87, 88
Pigeon, 94
Red-shouldered, 90, 91
Red-tailed, 89
Sharp-shinned, 87
Swainson’s, 91, 92
Western Red-tailed, 90
Hawks, food-habits of, 84, 85
Hell-diver, 59
Helmintherus vermivorus, 148
Helminthophila celata, 149
chrysoptera, 149
pergrina, 149
pinus, 148
rufescens, 149
virginiae, 149
Herodiones, 67
Heron, Black-crowned Night, 69
Great Blue, 68
Green, 69
Little Blue, 68
Heron, Snowy, 68
Yellow-crowned Night, 69
Himantopus mexicanus, 72
Hirundinidae, 142
Histrionicus histrionicus, 66
Hummingbird, Broad-tailed, 113
Ruby-throated, 113
Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis, 61
Ibide, 67
Ibis, Glossy, 67
White-faced Glossy, 67
Wood, 68
Icteria virens, 153
virens longicauda, 153
Icterus, 124
Icterus bullocki, 128
spurii, 126
Ictinia mississippiensis, 86
Inornis martinica, 71
Introduction, 48
Jaeger, Pomarine, 59
Jay, Black-headed, 118
Blue, 118, 119, 121
Blue, food habits, 156
Canada, 121
Long-crested, 120, 121
Píton, 118, 124
Steller's, 121
Woodhouse's, 121
Junco, 138
aikeni, 138
annectens, 138
caniceps, 139
Gray-headed, 139
hyemalis, 138
hyemalis oregonus, 138
hyemalis shufeldti, 138
Oregon, 138
Pink-sided, 138
Shufeldt's, 138
White-winged, 138
Killdeer, 76
Kingbird, 113, 114
Kingsfisher, Belted, 104, 105
Kinglet, Golden-crowned, 161
Kinglet, Ruby-crowned, 161
Kite, Mississippi, 86
Swallow-tailed, 88, 87
White-tailed, 86
Knot, 73
Laniidae, 145
Lanius, borealis, 145
ludovicianus, 145
ludovicianus excubitoroides, 146
Laridae, 59
Lark, Desert Horned, 116
Horned, 116
Pallid Horned, 116
Prairie Horned, 116
Shore, 116
White-throated Horned, 116
Larus argentatus smithsonius, 60
atricilla, 60
delawarensis, 60
franklinii, 60
marinus, 60
philadelphus, 60
Leucosticte, Gray-crowned, 131
tephrocotis, 131
Limicola, 73
Limosa fedoa, 74
hemastica, 75
Longipennes, 59
Longspur, Chestnut-collared, 134
Lapland, 133
McCown's, 134
Smith's, 134
Loon, 59
Lophodytes cuelatus, 62
Loxia curvirostra minor, 131
curvirostra stricklandi, 131
leucoptera, 131
Macaws, 103
Macrochires, 112
Macrorhamphus griseus, 73
eolopacens, 73
Magpie, American, 118
Martin, House, 142
Purple, 142
Meadowlark, 124, 126
food-habits of, 124
Western, 129
INDEX TO NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Megascopsasio, 98
asio maxwellii, 99
Melanerpes carolinus, 111
erthrocephalus, 109
torquatus, 110
Melospiza gallopavo, 83
Melospiza fasciata, 139
gerolinii, 139
Melanerpes carolinus, 111
erthrocephalus, 109
torquatus, 110
Merula migratoria, 162
migratoria proplinqua, 163
Micropalama himantopus, 73
Micropodidae, 113
Minus polyglottos, 155
Milvulus forficatus, 114
Mniotitla varia, 148
Mniotitlidae, 147
Mockingbird, 154, 155
Sandy, food-habits, 156
Molothrus ater, 124
Motacillidae, 154
Mud Hen, 72
Myadestes townsendii, 161
Myiarchus crinitus, 114
Nighthawk, 112
Nucifraga columbiana, 123
Numenius borealis, 76
hudsonicus, 76
longirostris, 76
Nutcracker, Clark’s, 123
Maximilian’s, 124
Nuthatch, Brown-headed, 160
Pygmy, 160
Red-bellied, 159
Slender-billed, 159
White-bellied, 159, 160
Nyctala acadica, 98
tengmalmi richardsoni, 98
Nyctea nyctea, 100
Nycticorax nycticorax navus, 69
violacea, 69
Oldemia deglandi, 66
perspicillata, 66
Olor buccinator, 67
columbianus, 67
Oriole, Baltimore, 127
Bullock’s, 128
Orchard, 126, 127
Orioles, as insect destroyers, 56
injuries to fruit, 56
Orocopes montanus, 155
Osprey, 95
Otocoris alpestris, 116
alpestris arenicolor, 116
alpestris leucoloma, 116
alpestris praticola, 116
Oven-bird, 151
Owl, American Barn, 96
American Hawk, 100
American Long-eared, 96
Arctic Horned, 100
Barred, 97
Burrowing, 101, 102
Hawk, 102
Dusky Horned, 100
Great Gray, 98, 99
Great Horned, 99, 101
Great Horned, song, 52
Monkey-faced, 96
Richardson’s Saw-whet, 98
Rocky-mountain Screech, 99
Saw-whet, 98, 100
Screech, 98
Short-eared, 98, 97
Snowy, 100
Western Horned, 100
Owls, food-habits of, 84, 85
Paludicola, 70
Pandion haliaetus carolinensis, 95
Paridae, 159
food-habits of, 159
Paroquet, Carolina, 103
Partridges, 78
Parus atricapillus, 160
atripilina septentrionalis, 160
bicolor, 160
gambelli, 161
hudsonicus, 161
Passer domesticus, 132
Passerella iliaca, 139
tiliae schistacea, 139
Passeres, 113
Passerina amena, 141
cyanea, 141
Pedicetes phasianellus campestris, 82
phasianellus columbianus, 82
Pelican, American White, 62
Brown, 62
Pelecanidae, 62
Pelecanus erythrorhynchos, 62
fuscus, 62
Perisoreus canadensis, 121
Petrochelidon lunifrons, 142
Pewee, 114
Western Wood, 115
Wood, 115
Phalacrocorax dilophus, 61
dilophus floridanus, 61
mexicanus, 61
Phalacrocoraciidae, 61
Phalacrocorax nuchalis, 112
Phalarope, Northern, 72
Wilson's, 72
Phalaropodidae, 72
Phalaropus lobatus, 72
tricolor, 72
Phasianidae, 83
Pheasants, Mongolian, to protect, 165
Philohela minor, 72
Phoebe, 114
Say's, 114
Pica pica hudsonica, 118
Pic, 105
Picidae, 105
Picoides arcticus, 108
Pigeon, Passenger, 84
Pigeons, food-habits of, 83
Pinicola enucleator, 130
Pipilo chlororhynchos, 140
euryrhopthalminus, 139
maculatus arcticus, 140
Pipit, American, 154
Piranga erythromelas, 141
ludoviciana, 141
rubra, 142
Plectrophenax nivalis, 133
Plegadis autumnalis, 67
guarauna, 67
Plover, American Golden, 76
Belted Piping, 77
Black-bellied, 76
Field, 75
Mountain, 77
Semipalmated, 77
Snowy, 77
Podicipedidae, 57
Podilymbus podiceps, 59
Poke, 69
Polioptila caerulea, 161
Poecetes gramineus, 134
Poorwill, 112
Porzana carolina, 70
jamaicensis, 71
novoboracensis, 71
Prairie Hen, 78, 81
Lesser, 82
Frogne subis, 142
Protonotaria citrea, 148
Psittacididae, 103
Pygopodes, 57
Quail, 78, 79, 80
food-habits of, 79, 80
value of, on farm, 79, 80
Quiscalus quiscula, 128
quiscula mexicanus, 128
Rail, Black, 71
Carolina, 70
King, 70
Sora, 70
Yellow, 71
Virginia, 70
Rallidae, 70
Rallus elegans, 70
virginianus, 70
Raptors, 64
Raven, 118
American, 121
White-necked, 122
Recurvirostra americana, 72
Recurvirostridae, 73
Redbird, Summer, 142
INDEX TO NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Redpoll, Common, 131
   Greater, 131
Redstart, American, 154
Regulus calendula, 161
   satrapa, 161
Robin, American, 162
   as an insect destroyer, 56, 163
   food-habits of, 163
   injuring apples, 56
   Western, 163
Rhyncophanes mccownii, 134
Sage cock, 83
Salpinoetes obsoluetus, 156
Sanderling, 74
Sandpiper, Baird's, 74
   Bartramian, 75
   Bonaparte's, 74
   Buff-breasted, 75
   Least, 74
   Pectoral, 73
   Red-backed, 74
   Semi-palmated, 74
   Solitary, 75
   Spotted, 76
   Stilt, 73
   Western, 74
   White-rumped, 74
Sap-sucker, Yellow-bellied, 106, 108
Sayornis phoebe, 114
   saya, 114
Scolelephantus carolinus, 128
   cyanocephalus, 128
Scolopacidae, 72
Scotiapts cinerium, 98
Sea Swallow, 69
Selurus aurocapillus, 151
   motacilla, 152
   noveboracensis, 152
   noveboracensis notabilis, 152
Selasphorus platyrhynchos, 113
Setophaga ruticilla, 154
Shore Birds, 72
Shrike, Great Northern, 145
   Loggerhead, 145
   White-rumped, 146
Shrikes, food-habits of, 145
   ialia arctica, 163
Sialia mexicana occidentalis, 163
   sialis, 163
Siakin, Pine, 132
Sitta canadensis, 159
   carolinensis, 159
   carolinensis aculeata, 159
   pusilla, 160
   pygmaea, 160
Snake Bird, 61
Snipe, Jack, 73
   Red-breasted, 73
   Robin, 73
   Wilson's, 73
Snowbird, Slate-colored, 138
Snowflake, 133
Solitaires, Townsend's, 161
Solitaires, food-habits of, 161
Sparrow, Brewer's, 137
   Chipping, 137
   Clay-colored, 137
   English, 132
   European House, 132
   Field, 138
   Fox, 139
   Gambel's, 136
   Grasshopper, 125, 135
   Harris's, 116
   Henslow's, 135
   Intermediate, 136
   Leconte's, 135
   Lincoln's, 139
   Nelson's, 135
   Savannah, 134
   Slate-colored, 139
   Song, 139
   Swamp, 139
   Tree, 136
   Vesper, 134
   Western Field, 138
   Western Grasshopper, 135
   Western Savannah, 135
   Western Tree, 137
   Western Vesper, 134
   White-crowned, 136
   White-throated, 139
   Yellow-winged, 135
Spatula clypeata, 64
Speotyta cunicularia hypogea, 101
Sphyrapicus varius, 108
Spinus pinus, 132
tristis, 131
Spiziza americana, 141
Spizella breweri, 137
monticola, 136
monticola ochracea, 137
pallida, 137
pusilla, 138
pusilla arenacea, 138
socialis, 137
Steganopodes, 61
Stelgidopteryx serripennis, 143
Stercorarilidae, 59
Stercorarius pomarinus, 59
Stern antillarum, 61
forsteri, 60
hirundo, 60
paradisaea, 61
tchehryga, 60
Stilt, Black-necked, 72
Strigidae, 96
Strix pratantica, 96
Sturnella magna, 126
magna neglecta, 126
Surnia ulula caproch, 100
Swallow, Bank, 143
Barn, 142
Cliff, 142
Eaves, 142
Mud, 142
Rough-winged, 143
Tree, 142
Violet-green, 143
White-bellied, 143
Swallows, food-habits of, 142
Swan, Trumpeter, 67
Whistling, 67
Swift, Chimney, 113
White-throated Rock, 113
Swimmers, Long-winged, 59
Short-winged, 62
Totipalmate, 61
Sylvaria canadensis, 154
mitrata, 153
pusilla, 153
Sylviidae, 161
Symphemia semipalmata inornata, 75
Symnium nebulosum, 97
Tachycineta bicolor, 143
thalassina, 143
Tanager, Crimson-headed, 141
Louisiana, 141
Scarlet, 141
Tangares, 141
Tantalius loculator, 68
Terf, Arctic, 61
Black, 61
Caspian, 60
Common, 60
Forster’s, 60
Least, 61
Tetronidae, 78
Thrasher, Brown, 154, 156
Sage, 155
Thrash, Brown, 155
Golden-crowned, 151
Gray-cheeked, 162
Hermit, 162
Olive-backed, 162
Wilson’s, 162
Wood, 161
Thrashers, food-habits of, 161
Thryothorus bewickii, 157
bewickii bairdi, 157
ludovicianus, 157
Thunder Pumper, 68
Titlark, 154
Missouri, 154
Sprague’s, 154
Tit-mouse, Black-capped, 160
Tufted, 160
Totanus flavipes, 75
melanoleucus, 75
Bolitarius, 75
Towhee, 139
Arctic, 140
Green-tailed, 140
Tringa alpina pacifica, 74
bairdii, 74
canutus, 73
fuscicollis, 74
maculata, 73
minutilla, 74
INDEX TO NOTES ON NEBRASKA BIRDS.

Tringites subrubricollis, 75
Trochilidae, 113
Trochilus colubris, 113
Troglodytes aedon, 157
  aedon aztecus, 157
  hiemalis, 158
Troglodytidae, 154
Turdidae, 161
Turdus aliciae, 162
  aonalaschke pallasi, 162
  fuscescens, 162
  mustelinus, 161
  ustulus swainsoni, 162
Turkey, Wild, 78, 83
Turnstone, 78
Tympanuchus americanus, 81
  pallidicinctus, 61
Tyrannidae, 113
Tyrannus tyrannus, 114
  verticalis, 114
Urinatoridae, 59
Urinator imber, 59
  irrorrei, 59
Vireo atricapillus, 147
  bellii, 125, 147
  Bell's, 125, 147
  Black-capped, 147
  Blue-headed, 146
  flavifrons, 146
  gilvus, 146
  nolovecoraensis, 147
  olivaceus, 146
  Philadelphia, 146
  philadelphia, 146
  Red-eyed, 146
  solitarius, 146
  Warbling, 146
  White-eyed, 147
  Yellow-throated, 146
Vireonidae, 146
Vireos, food-habits of, 146
Vulture, Black, 85, 86
  Turkey, 85
Vultures, American, 85
Waders, peculiarities of, 52
Warbler, Audubon's, 150
  Bay-breasted, 151
  Black and White Creeping, 148
  Black and Yellow, 150
  Blackburnian, 151
  Black-capped Yellow, 153
  Black-poll, 151
  Black-throated Blue, 150
  Black-throated Green, 151
  Blue-winged Yellow, 148
  Blue Yellow-backed, 149
  Canadian, 154
  Cape May, 149
  Cerulean, 150
  Chestnut-sided, 125, 150
  Golden-winged, 149
  Hooded, 153
  Kentucky, 152
  Macgillivray's, 153
  Magnolia, 150
  Mourning, 152
  Myrtle, 150
  Nashville, 149
  Orange-crowned, 149
  Parula, 149
  Pine-creeping, 151
  Prairie, 151
  Prothonotary, 148
  Red-poll, 151
  Sycamore, 151
  Tennessee, 149
  Virginia's, 149
  Wilson's, 153
  Worm-eating, 148
  Yellow, 149
  Yellow-rumped, 150
Warblers, Wood, 147
  food-habits of, 147, 148
Water Ouzel, 154
  Thrush, 152
  Thrush, Grinnell's, 152
  Thrush, Large-billed, 152
  Thrush, Louisiana, 152
Waxwing, Bohemian, 143, 144
  Cedar, 143, 144
  Northern, 143
Waxwings, food-habits of, 143
Whippoorwill, 112
Wild Turkey, 78
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Willet, Western</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodcock, American</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodpecker, Arctic Three-toed</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Downy</td>
<td>106, 107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gairdner's</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hairy, 106, 107</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harris's</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ivory-billed</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lewis's</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Hairy</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pileated</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-bellied</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed, 108, 109, 110, 116</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed, injuring</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red-headed, injuring fruit</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-bellied</td>
<td>106, 108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodpeckers, food-habits of</td>
<td>105, 106</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wren, Baird's</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bewick's</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolina</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Animal</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wren, House</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long-billed Marsh</td>
<td>159</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rock</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Short-billed Marsh</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western House</td>
<td>157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wrens, food-habits of</td>
<td>154</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xema sabinii</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-legs</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow-throat, Maryland</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Western Maryland</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zenaidura macroura</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zonotrichia albicollis</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leucophrys</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leucophrys gambeli</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>leucophrys intermedia</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>querula</td>
<td>136</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>