N.B. This is not a communication to the Auk.

Rehoboth Mass
Jan - 20. / 85

Thos Wm. Brewster,
Cambridge. Mass -

Sir. I take considerable liberty and venture to write you.

You doubtless remember that during the last summer of 84 I mailed to J A Allen the skin of the Oregon Robin or Varied Thrush. (Turdus nævius) being a specimen taken by myself in western Mass - he forwarded the specimen to you - you in turn kindly sent it to me -

I now write you about the

matter. and to inform you I shall admit of no insinuation as to the authenticity of the record. Why do I say this? because first — no record of it has yet appeared in the "Auk" contrary to Mr Allens statement "I shall be pleased to make note of it." second — A certain Providence R.I. Dealer's remark to me in which he stated that ~~while~~ on a visit to him last summer you inferred it was in rather good plumage for a wanderer" Did you say so? third — Knowing your extreme carfulness in inserting records

I judged you might possibly think it a type of "Emery Greenwood's records". I sincerely hope I am mistaken. I hope to be informed that the ~~notices~~ note was not of sufficient interest or value to insert in the Auk. I hope the Prov. Dealer misinformed me.—if such is the case I most humbly apologize. But if you do doubt the instance of the capture in Mass. I shall prove the fact, that is if human evidence will be accepted as the tribunal of Ornithology, for I can ill afford to have suspicion ~~to~~ affix itself to me, in

the commencement of my career.

I would also candidly ask you. Whether the man who spends five days of the week rain or shine in the field or ~~over~~ who takes an occasional trip. to relieve his "close" duties, can judge best or produce the greatest amount of actual field notes and faunal observations.

I have in my cabinet two other specimens, much rarer than the Fundulus heteroclitus, taken in N.E. but shall not give it the public the record. because it will be doubted by some "closer ornithologist" who will be unable-

to find it in any previous "Proceedings" or "Bulletin" and therefore thinks that because the Prof. or Doctor did not discover it, that as a matter of fact plain Mr. H. C. didn't.

I will say I do not want the notes of the thrush inserted in the Auk and shall be much displeased to find it in any future number.

If at any time you happen in Prov. and will let me know in time I will meet you, and we will drive out to my place, and then you can see what little I have done and am trying to do in my attempts to study bird

F. H. Carpenter
Jan. 20, 1885

life. I may sometimes be mistaken in my analysis and structure. but in field observations and specimens. I may say — "never" — i.e. when I give

the Forest to the Public

I suppose it is needless to apologize for this epistle you by this time would not receive one. but I was really somewhat "piled" — by what I have heard. and repeat again if I am mistaken I am sorry for troubling you to read this. but if it is as I think it is. I desire an explanation.

Respectfully

F. H. Carpenter

Rehoboth
Mass

F. H. Carpenter
January 30 - 1885.

Rehoboth Mass
Jan 30 1885

Mr Brewster
Sir

On arriving home last evening I found your letter awaiting me.

That you are mistaken and I think convinced by prejudiced information will be shown in time.

I can explain to you the fact of the difference in label & note.

As to the plumage of the Thrush. I do not know whether it was a midsummer or not, as I have not had experience in

their native haunts. in truth it was the first one I had ever seen. and identified it only by Cones Key.

Am much obliged for your statement "strong imagination coupled with a defective memory" etc "Perhaps you are one of them"

Thank you. I have friends who can judge better than you. who can fittingly rebuke the insult

I assure you that "closet naturalists" was used as a general term and neither Mr Allen or you were in mind in that connection

Your inability to credit

certain statements" of mine makes them none the less true and when approached in a manner of one really seeking the exact truthful facts, rather than a desire to condemn. I will fully tell the story of my life, in its anthological experience.

You may like to know that there were two Eye-witnesses to the thrash capture besides myself. Who do you really desire to convey by the Statement that of his stating the facts were known only to Mr Allen Mr Jenks and myself "you say" If you act wisely they will go no further"?

I shall act as circumstances

and a truthful representation of my record dictate. And (I say this under advice) any published statement of a character derogatory to my reputation amounts to — Libel (without a hearing of my evidence)

I would be pleased to meet you and have the opportunity to tell you some things that you now doubt.

I am obliged to work all the time now, in order to take to the field in the spring. so my time is limited but any time after April 12. I would be pleased to show you the original result of the rules you do not credit.

Fred. H. Carpenter

[illegible] Texas Feb [illegible]

Mr. [illegible]

Dear Sir.

I will [illegible] your [illegible] [illegible] fully and promptly [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I shall use no argument, simply tell you a few things as they are without [illegible] myself on the books for [illegible] [illegible].

For the past three seasons I have worked in the field the entire time from April until October. [illegible] in the field [illegible] my attention [illegible]

I would get off [illegible] with my experience, [illegible] together with my [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] and [illegible] would [illegible] [illegible]. In the meantime I would be working on new fields with [illegible] [illegible]. My reason for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] my [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] of the [illegible] of [illegible].

I had just [illegible] my [illegible] with the [illegible] "[illegible]" attached to the first. [illegible] I [illegible]

offer a colored of bonaze for the [illegible]
I laid them away in [illegible] boxes, together with a flag of [illegible] my field
blank. Also [illegible] with a [illegible] thanks for
the loan [illegible] of the and [illegible] to [illegible]
a visitor under [illegible] [illegible]

I would [illegible] down the [illegible]
on the field [illegible] the [illegible] number of the
bird. [illegible] number in the book
over the date, in a [illegible] [illegible]
bird. So my book was [illegible]

My [illegible] would fall out of the [illegible]
from the book and [illegible] away with the
bird. I thought such [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] time that [illegible] on the
[illegible] [illegible] method.

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] of a high [illegible] [illegible] Mass
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Mr. Fuller of
the town [illegible] him [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] J. R. Carpenter. I made the date and
before a week was overwhelmed [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Bedford [illegible]

I [illegible] a note to Mr Allen [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] the thrush. I was about to start for Maine
and [illegible] [illegible] I told my [illegible]
label the thrush with a tag, to mention "County, State
[illegible] name. [illegible] number, my [illegible] number, with date
and sex and send the bird. I wrote to Mr Allen
[illegible] [illegible] left home.

[illegible] [illegible] left [illegible] I found the

which had been returned. (I sent you I think
postage for the reply.) I had yet to see
the label [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] any illustration
[illegible] handed [illegible] by my friend old Dr. [illegible]
The label was ~~[illegible]~~ on the box at the time [illegible] questioned
my Cousin [illegible] tell you as he told me
he [illegible] [illegible] he thought that I [illegible]
the [illegible] [illegible], I only mentioned the town in
my data. and as many [illegible] [illegible] Berkshire and
I told him [illegible] mention the County he also thought
it was Berkshire Co". thats all I can say.
but as the unaccountable carelessness of a young
collector. I may be condemned. Such manner
of collecting may be not right. but I have
no [illegible] to [illegible] or [illegible] [illegible] company
and am obliged to [illegible] my own methods.
I have spent time & money in my efforts to [illegible]
my work and am afraid I cannot collect the
[illegible] of money. or my [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
or [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] "[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]"

About the "hint of suspicion" in all of your
[illegible] notes" I am sorry to see that. I havnt
the heart to discuss them. it brings [illegible]
[illegible]. of the past. you seem to doubt all
[illegible] [illegible] the late [illegible] [illegible], and that
you should think him a "[illegible]" I ask you to
look [illegible] [illegible] of the members of the [illegible]
[illegible] Refund is
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]) [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]. he collected eggs only. but delighted
5 [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] all the birds he [illegible].

his collection and notes thereof for 30 years of field work he gave to me when he died. His hunting partner told him after the "Barrier and Other Northern Regions" P.O. from 40 years experience of 19 years. (as the regard of the editor the Isle was most grown). Why did I have his notes as thoroughly as reference? A friend or another an acquaintance in printing mine and looking over my Arctic journals, advised me to publish the notes. I told him my Uncle was deceased and he said he would have the copyright in authorship of field by another. He told me to write it up as if it were my own observations, as I knew them to be authentic. I yielded and now it is up to. I have not been as a mere compiler of a history more and more other of the other notes, and I can say - I must come time with you. However I have the appearance of facts of them as I have lately met with an article which discussed a number of sets choice ones, and now feel disposed as I can now be flexible this year (last winter) two of the young owls (bred hatched in confinement) to L & D of Bos.

Dr Edward A Sitton of Pennsylvania, has a set of Lands, many of which I found the 1st Edgerton Island, can also be could help me out. ex. I sent him several sets

I will not ask you to believe anything you can do so fully and willingly although I would like to convince a friend some who knew had the experience of many years, my efforts in vain, I am painfully aware of the burden I place upon the life of a friend, I would gladly share it with you, nothing in life I am quite young and hoping attained my majority (Nineteen years old)

I will here state that I have the knowledge of the place mentioned on the land, will also accept the author's [illegible] [illegible] life in and by giving experiment should be found to be [illegible] months from now for [illegible] [illegible] for [illegible] of [illegible]

I will answer any inquiries in any point in regard to my notes already published but it is a far from pleasant task to write to one not continually subscribing word.

Hoping to receive at least a kind word from you.

I remain

Sincerely yours

Paul H. Gifford

F. H. Carpenter

Feb. 4. 1885.

B & P. R R Cor.
Feb 13 1873

without expressing an

the correspondence in a

[illegible] that I [illegible]
on the [illegible] school
[illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

F. C. Carpenter

Feb. 13 - 1885

(I decided not to answer this letter)

must be preserved. in the matter

[illegible]

Rehoboth
March 2nd 18[illegible]

Mr. S. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Feb. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

courtsey to [illegible]

[illegible]

Yours &c
J. H. Co[illegible]

(Answer dated Mar. 5 - 1880)

Your letter of Feb. 13 was duly received. Like yourself I have come to the conclusion that any further correspondence between us is not likely to prove profitable. Yours Truly. [illegible]

F. H. Carpenter

March 2 - 1885

ESTABLISHED 1875.

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Entomology,
Editors, WRIGHT & BATES,
73 HANOVER STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

Subscription and Financial,
FRANK B. WEBSTER, Publisher, 409 Washington Street, Boston, Mass.

Chicago 18 - 1886

Thos Brewster.
Concord, Mass.

Mr Webster informs me of yr inquiry of the 15th inst.

Dr Wayne is absent on a hunting cruise, on the return of which he will accompany me to Maine.

His present address is
Arthur E. Wayne. M.D.
Rehoboth Mass.

Yrs F H Carpenter.

Any communications regarding his articles in O&O. should be addressed to the inscriber.

Am happy to say a Nat. Directory is now started & in progress

Yours etc
F H Carpenter

F. H. Carpenter

Aug. 18 - 1886

407 Wash St.

Mch 4 — 1887.

Received 4.30 P.M. Friday Mch 4 1887.

MUSEUM BURNED AT WORCESTER.

[Special Dispatch to the Boston Herald.]

WORCESTER, March 3, 1887. The residence of Mr. F. H. Carpenter, near here, was partially destroyed by fire Tuesday night. Mr. Carpenter's large collection of bird skins was consumed. The fire was caused by an overheated furnace. Mr. Carpenter's collection of birds was considered one of the finest and most extensive private museums in the country.

BLAZE AT HILLSBORO BRIDGE.

Dear Mr Brewster.

Probably the enclosed slips will amply explain why I shall be unable to show the Bachman Warbler to you (or anyone else).

Will now have the pleasure of announcing new — almost disheartening — when we think of so yesterday it go up in smoke. Shall now have no opportunity of refuting the unfavorable opinion you understand of me, as appeared a few years ago.

Very truly yours F H Carpenter

I spent an hour or more talking with Mr. Carpenter on the afternoon of Thursday, March 3, 1887. He was in the best of spirits and spoke of his collection as stored in the house of a friend (or, at least, a house occupied by a friend) at Worcester. He made no reference whatever to the fire described on this sheet.

As to the Bachman's Warbler he told me about two weeks ago that it was at his house in Rehoboth and that as soon as he could get a chance to go there he would bring it to Boston to show me. He did not mention it yesterday.

William Brewster.

H. H. Carpenter
March 4, 1887
He is moving of
collection.

7/3 -1857

Wm Brewster.

Dear Sir.

It would be very unpatriotic in me not to acknowledge your kind note of Friday. My only object in writing you now is to explain my inability to render you a specimen for examination

Respectfully

J H Carpenter.

returned from W — to day. & have contracted for erection of Brick Edifice
Due you any plans Good [illegible]

F. H. Carpenter

Mch. 7. 1887

Boston March 17
1887

Mr Brewster
Dear Sir.
Thank you very much.
for your of to day
I did not intend to
put you to so much trouble.
I enclose an outline of my
own affair. Seems like wasting
money don't it?. We must how-
ever have a hobby. I like your
plan very much wish I could
have library & study in same building
but for sake of cupple cousin I shall
let it remain in house.
My basement is exceptionally fine,
& will do for a "Shop"
Thanking you again
very truly
F. A. Carpenter.

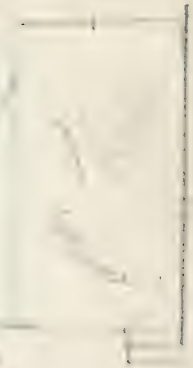
F. H. Carpenter

Mich. 17 1887

In re [illegible]

SE ¼ 21

Farmhouse - Cabin shack roof of one or
a rectangular pitched roof with flat
walls front & floor in [illegible]
Difference walls for fire proof building



Basement may light-dry & damp could be used
for a workshop & storage. Heat could be derived from stoves
from house formerly used in such in Erick after for my building

BRISTOL COUNTY ORNITHOLOGICAL CLUB.

119 Washington St.
Boston
May 6-97

Mr Wm. Brewster
Dear Sir

At any time or place you may designate I desire to see you in regard to our correspondence of two years ago regarding the Varied Thrush, which you doubtless remember.

It is almost time I should be able to satisfy myself from your allegations

Very respectfully

David H Carpenter

[and asking to defer meeting until last of June or first July to be sure of better terms]

T. N. Carpenter

Mar. 13 1878

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May 12-87

Mr Wm Brewster,
Dear Sir

Yours at hand.
Please bear in mind that in no sense are you the judge to decide this matter. My own note book regarding the capture is open to your inspection at any time - as a personal favor, in no way a duty to you. My two companions will, as I have previously stated, verify the capture & my cousin, now Mrs Lippitt of Providence will testify to her mistake, as a favor to me - not to you. Regarding any of your insinuations against my truthfulness, I have nothing to say, as it does not concern me. My father will meet you more than halfway if you continue in any published remarks

I cannot quite comprehend your stubbornness in this matter.

My position is now different than it was

when we corresponded in 74. Then I was a student & on the road with no definite idea of a science - now with a fixed idea and spending annually a considerable sum in the pursuit of ornithology, I desire to clear away the very false impression which you have created in the minds of others.

I expect to publish the account in July & will if necessary, print the entire correspondence between us as I have your letters & copies of my own.

I trust we can satisfactorily prove to your mind that you are in error.

I shall also require something of you viz to apologize publicly - & write to such parties as I may mention autographic letters stating your mistake into which you have led them.

My collection at Worcester, is my own - gentlemen whose names you respect in finance will testify to this extent, under the existing circumstances you must anent my pleasure - & I shall only follow your own example in so doing - & not bring "at home"

The Thrush is in my collection at Nahant and is accessible in Boston. You have seen it why again - I am impatient in the matter

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I must have some understanding at once. If you will not receive proofs from me I shall place the matter in the hands of my counsel, but I sincerely hope the matter will not come to this extreme.

It is difficult to settle with you, you avoid a statement of facts & refuse proofs. Of course you can have an opinion of your own & obstinately refuse to blame me but in such a case we can do nothing except to be as strangers in the future.

I will admit I am rather forced to this by family pride, and to apologize in blunt truth for not fulfilling my invitation to take you to see the Ospreys was to cause my Father refused to allow me to bring you home a disgraceful acknowledgement maybe but one I felt bound to comply as I could not allow myself to have you come & not share the hospitality which our family is

rather would, & which would be most cordially extended to you if matters were different

I am very sorry to not accommodate you but I am compelled to ask that you either retract your statements or proceed to substantiate your slanderous allegations.

I shall not again take the liberty to write you so fully.

Meanwhile hoping a pleasant settlement

I remain

Very truly

F. Everett Carpenter

Esq

F. H. Carpenter
May 12-1887
Re investigation

1875.

...AND ✻ OÖLOGIST,

...evoted to Natural History.

...PARTMENTS, IN ORDER TO SECURE PROMPT ATTENTION.

...neral Natural History,
...B. Managing Editor,
~~...H. MASS.~~

Entomology,
Editors, WRIGHT & BATES,
73 HANOVER STREET,
BOSTON, MASS.

...and Financial,
...09 Washington Street, Boston.

Rockbottom
May 21 — 87

Mr Wm Brewster
Concord
Mass

Mr Wm Brewster
Dr Sir.

Yrs at hand to day.
In company with Mr Elwes & Capen I have spent the week among the Ospreys & read no mail until date.

Arrangements made months ago will take me to N.Y. to the Flycasting tournament next week

Your offer is satisfactory. I did not intend to take yr personal time.

Will see Mr Lippit & Fred Dayson.

As I only desire to sustain my reputation a deposition from my two friends & Mrs Lowell answer the purpose — & as I expect to visit Fr Grand Menan soon will leave matter in charge of my atty. Shall probably retain Mr F.W. Bliss of Bliss & Charles — allys at Law Court St city.

Can see you at Mr Webster's on Tuesday next & you can see my note Book & diary if you choose — which would be evidence sufficient for almost everyone

Can offer no evidence regarding my notes on Rollins of Nor N.E. unless the grave will open –

As my collection at Worcester will give no "evidence" as you ask – it would be a favor if you would wait until my visits are completed. Then you would be welcome, & could derive greater satisfaction.

I would like to see you soon regarding a house here & Mass. if not N.E. which was taken at Plymouth.

Expecting to see you Sunday & ascertain your arrangements as to N.E. I remain & trust

Very hastily

Yours truly

F. H. Carpenter

40 Hawley St
Boston

P.S. I may accept the invitation of my friend Mr Barrett & run up to Concord before I go North – & can see you there

F. H. Carpenter
May 21 1887

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Dr Wm Brewster 24 May '87

I enclose second copy of Lemoyne's
wh will show how construction of
composition is similar to mine.

Will do all I can to explain
matters without recourse to low or
other unpleasant actions

I trust you will say a good word
for me whenever you can undis-
tributed on any point

Expect Lemoyne back by mid summer &
will have you come down Really his notes are
mine same as Frazar & Cabanis are yours
but I gave him all credit.

Was it not pretty proper
Expect to take a run for N.Y.

Yours truly
F H Carpenter

mountains and without expressing any opinion I would say that I have secured specimens which were true *solitarius*, and also of the darker type, in these mountains, as the following will show.

Vireo solitarius, (860 author's coll.) Monroe county, Tenn., 1,700 feet. Description: Upper parts olive-green; crown and side of head bluish-ash; white line about eye, lore-dusky. Below, white; sides tinged with olive; spurious quill, etc. Enough is given in above description to show it is a specimen of *V. solitarius* without further quotations.

A specimen which may be of the other variety may be described as follows:

Vireo solitarius? (945 author's coll.). Blount county, 3,200 feet. May 18, 1884. Description: ♂, above dark plumbeous, *entire*; beneath white; sides yellowish; wings dark brown, feathers edged with green; two bands of dull white across wing; coverts same as tail; outer tail feathers edged with white; white ring around eye; lore dark.

The above condensed description shows a

DENDROICA DISCOLOR.

Prairie Warbler.

This dainty little warbler was *heard* for the first time in '86 on April 12th, for be it known the curious "breezy" note of this bird may be heard for days before the vocalist is *seen*, unless especial attention is given to the game of hide and seek. It loves the scrub and second growth, and I never found them as plenty as in the small growth which followed a burnt tract of woodland in Blount County. Every clump of bushes contained one of these birds, and their curious song —if it can be called such—was heard on every hand. I hope I may be pardoned when I affirm that these warblers remind me of some insects. They are heard at best on sunny days and in sunny spots, while their notes resemble the buzzing of some large locust. None of these birds are found in the swamps or the evergreen growth of the mountains. Sunshine and heat seem to be necessary to their vitality. As may be assumed, from the habits of the bird its nest is one of the "finds" of red letter days of collectors.

Did I first [illegible] Co., [illegible] in the [illegible]

Literal translation
by J. H. C.

Parula Warbler

This dainty bird was heard first on April 18th. For you know the funny buzzy song is heard for days before the singer is seen unless you look for it like hide and seek

It stays in scrub & small growth

Most plenty in scrub on burnt woods in Blount County. There was one in every clump of bushes and their song, if it can be called such was heard every where. Pardon me if I affirm that they reminded me of some insects for they are heard but on sunny days on Esp. sunny places, and seem like some locust. None are seen in swamps or pines at mountains. Sun and heat seem necessary. As may be seen, from their habits its nest is a find and red-letter day

F. H. Carpenter
May 25 - 1887.
(With documents relating
to De Moyne etc.)

Dr. Le Moyne's ordinal

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24 May '87

Wm. Brewster

Dear Sir,

I enclose my correction of my notice regarding the 'northern sap tree' article in Jan O&O - 1884. A letter which I have on file from Mr Bliss will acknowledge the fact that he left out data which my MSS contained.

I have looked up copy of note sent to "Auk" regarding Thrush - The "mountain" you mention - was a hill. 'Little Wachusett mountain'

I thank you for yr kindness in informing me of Mr Jencks remarks concerning me. There need be no secrecy on yours part regarding yr. confidential information. My friends in Providence opened my eyes long ago - and I should treat the slander with the contempt worthy of its source

The only writing of mine which Jencks got hold of outside of correspondence was a sworn list of birds from Camden & Maine and attested by a Justice of Peace in Me. my to customs duty & is a certain town near line - My "defective memory" recalls the fact that it was written with blueing & Jencks asked to keep it. & a friend saw him come turning it with my letters. If Jencks thought he had discovered anything it was his "imagination" as I never asserted it was anybody else's writing but my own -

I hope the "many others" who doubt my recent labors for O & C do actually exist, & will warrant the adjective used I must be pardoned for having my doubts. I presume envy & some jealousy may cause some feeling. I can satisfactorily explain as natural to others.

It would not be best to take any immediate action on simply the Thrush affair. You & my suspicious mind has so many doubts that all branches must be cleared up & I am not to blamed for demanding though low & some recompense for my time & trouble in this headless matter

Yours, very sincerely J. A. Carpenter

China. It is composed of a large leaf of the plaintain formed into a cup and held in that position by a number of stiches—some cotton like fibre being used as thread. The outside of the nest thus formed, the inside is made up of fine grass and roots.

NOTE FROM CANANDAIGUA, N. Y. We had very deep snow and intense cold weather throughout the month of January, still the Common Crows were more abundant than I have ever known them to be in previous Winters. Snow Buntings very rare.—*John M. Howey.*

NOTE FROM GRAVENHURST, ONT. I have lived here seven years but have not been able to obtain a Bittern until last season, when they were plentiful. I have not until this Winter obtained a specimen of the Pigmy Owl, but this Winter have received three. What causes these to be plenty some seasons, and none others?—*R. B. S.*

A Purple Finch was taken at Falmouth, Mass., Feb. 8th, by F. J. C. Swift.

CORRESPONDENCE.

Correspondents making inquiries are requested to be brief and to the point.

We hope for the future to mail our monthly edition on the first of every month. Communications should be sent in as early as possible. Nothing received after the 20th, can be noticed in the number for the following month.

OUR NORTHERN RAPTORES. (O. and O., Jan., page 8.) Our correspondent, F. H. C., desires us to state that three years were spent in collecting the facts he stated there. To economize space he arranged the dates to appear as one year—the scientific facts remaining the same.

MIGRATION NOTES. (*W. W. Gilman, Stoughton, Wis.*) The abbreviations used are as follows: (21) 3.2 F, 4.7, 5.14 L, should be read—Observer No. 21 (whose name and locality are given) saw a certain bird for the first time that season on the 2d of March, saw others on 7th of April, and saw the last of the season on 14th of May. A little care in reading them will make the Notes just as intelligible as if four times as many words were used.

GOLDEN-WINGED WOODPECKER, (High-hole.) *J. Anthony, Jr.* Our correspondent's item is so contrary to the well-known habits of this bird, that we are inclined to think he must have mistaken some other bird for it.

HERRING GULL IN ILLINOIS. *A. H. Mundt, Fairbury, Ill.*, sends drawing of head of a bird which he describes as follows: "The bird was shot flying over a corn field Jan. 21, 1884. Length of head from tip of beak to back of skull just five inches; from tip to tip of outspread wings, lying on its back upon the floor, four feet; and from tip of beak to end of tail, two feet. Plumage, grey and white, spotted; legs and feet very small; legs as thin as pipe stems, all uniform flesh color; feet webbed like a duck, head very eagle like, eyes dark, lower beak flattened." The bird described seems to be a young Herring, or Silvery Gull, (*Larus argentatus.*) They are very common on the east coasts.

BOAT-TAILED GRACKLE. (O. and O., Vol. VIII, page 76.) *Edgar A. Small, Hagerstown, Md.*, asks us to correct his note as to the breeding of this bird in Kent County, Md. His informant only saw the birds, and does not appear to have satisfactorily identified their nests.

NOTES FROM PELHAM, N. H. We thank Dr. Batchelder for the notes of arrivals, which we put aside for comparison some time when we can make them useful.

A CURIOUS MEAL. *E. G. Nicewaner, Baltimore, Md.* Amongst the uses of such birds as the Turkey Buzzard is that of keeping down snakes, which form a very common article of their diet.

peculiar advantages in communicating bird knowledge by such means. In the mind of the reader the birds are constantly associated with their respective and proper times and seasons; the winter records will discover the winter residents, the summer records the summer residents, the winter and summer records the permanent residents. The transient visitors, or migrants will also be sufficiently indicated, the periods of migration and nidification will be disclosed by the various dates of entry. Thus the whole are most apt to be faithfully and permanently fixed in the mind of the young student. The central point of the author's observation was the village of Fairview, county-seat of the (West) Virginia Panhandle, about four miles inland from the Ohio river.

JAN. 1st. But one bird met my eye, but enough perhaps for a New Year's day entry; this was a Tufted Titmouse, (*Lophophanes bicolor*), which, as I drove along an unsheltered road, for some distance kept a little in advance of me by short flights from one fence stake to another. This species, in this locality, is much more numerous than the Black-capped Titmouse, both of which are commonly called Chickadees. It is a permanent resident with us, and its loud, whistling notes—*fair-lee, fair-lee,* deliberately uttered, or *purly, purly, purly,* rapidly repeated, may be heard issuing from our woods almost every month of the year. Its crest and lead-colored coat will sufficiently distinguish it to the observer.

JAN. 2. Saw a pair of Cardinal Grosbeaks, or Crested Red-birds (*Cardinalis virginianus*) in the midst of a small thicket against a high bank at the roadside—a favorite haunt at this season of the year.

Saw several flocks of Snow-birds (*Junco hyemalis,*) also Tree Sparrows, (*Spizella monticola,*) in some instances associating together. By reason of this habit of joining company, perhaps it is, the two species are not infrequently confounded by inexperienced observers, but the Snow-bird may readily be distinguished from the Sparrow kind by its uniformly darker coat (slate color,) and, in its flight, exposing two white feathers in its tail, which are then very conspicuous. The unmarked breast (save an obscure dusky spot in the centre) and white wing bars, of the Tree Sparrow will distinguish it from the Song Sparrow, which remains with us throughout the year.

JAN. 4th. Observed a flock of about a dozen Turtle Doves (*Zenædura carolinensis,*) feeding in a corn field on the bare spots caused by the removal of several shocks of unhusked corn, the ground being covered with several inches of snow. This bird is only partially migratory with us, and may be seen singly or in small companies throughout our coldest winters.

Saw some half dozen Cardinal Grosbeaks amid the thick undergrowth on the banks of a small stream. With this "Virginia Nightingale," I cannot but regard in an ornithological point of view, this district of country as specially favored, in this, while it is one of the most beautiful of our native American birds, and withal a charming and lasting songster, it is here an abundant species, and remains with us all the year round.

JAN. 9. There have been but few days this winter I have not seen one or two White-breasted Black-capped Nuthatches, (*Sitta carolinensis*), moving up or down and around the larger branches of a row of locust trees in front of the parsonage on the village street. To-day, from my study window, I witnessed an interesting performance of one of these birds—not three yards from me, it its effort to break a small particle of matter, of the size and shape of a butter-bean, it had picked up from the ground. Its position was on an oblique limb; holding the substance in its bill it would strike it two or three times against the limb

What would you advise regarding the gown examined yesterday; our learn taking was hurried & I could not talk it over. It is worth looking up very fully and the time in which to do it is limited.

My idea is Bernard indice "Bareheaded Eva".

I fail to find the Cabinet letter.

Yours
J. O. C.

Rehoboth Mass
June 14-87

Dear Mr Brewster,

Mr Andros and myself have just returned from Grand Manan to-night and I answer at once your 8th Ult

Accept my sincerest thanks for your kindness with the letter to Mr Burgess

Would not it be better for you to take the matter in hand, regarding the Boze. I am very busy with other matters, and can not avail myself of your kindness, which you consider me, with your fewer suspicion

Very gratefully yours
Lydia Carpenter

40 E. Washington St
Boston

F. H. Carpenter

June 14. 1887

BOARD OF DIRECTORS,
COMMITTEE ON CONSTRUCTION.

A. C. R. R.

Boston, Mass., July 5 1887

Chairman,

Dear Sir; In reply to your favor of

Dear Mr Brewster
Would you
favor me with Mr Brazos.
present address, as I have
some business to communicate
with him.

Yours very truly
H. H. Carpenter
Jr.

P.S.
Thanks. I had a very pleasant
time at Grand Manan Co.

Yours respectfully,
H. H. Carpenter,
Chairman.

F. H. Carpenter

July 5 1887