

a crevice or on a ledge (perhaps in a cave), or else fixed in an angle of rock, where it is shaped like a sloping teacup divided vertically. The eggs are white.

44. *Selasphorus platycercus*, Bp. BROAD-TAILED HUMMINGBIRD. — A common summer resident. I met one 2,000 feet above timber line. Hum very peculiar, suggesting the Cedar-bird's note, prolonged and intensified, being itself intermittent, owing to the bird's flight being accentuated, instead of straight and steady.

NOTE. — The nests and eggs above described are now in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.

### Recent Literature.

COOPER ON THE MIGRATIONS AND NESTING HABITS OF WEST-COAST BIRDS.\* — Within the space of less than a dozen pages Dr. Cooper has tabulated a large amount of valuable information respecting the times of arrival, departure, and nesting of many of the common West Coast land birds, based mainly on his own observations; a few data recorded by others are incidentally incorporated. Dr. Cooper first discusses the influence of temperature, of the rainy and dry seasons, upon the movements and time of laying of birds at different points along the coast and adjoining interior of the Californian coast region, showing, among other things, that excess of rain late in spring retards the nesting period. The localities to which special reference is made are San Diego, Fort Mohave, Santa Cruz, Saticoy, and Haywood. The number of species tabulated is 73. The first column gives the "season of residence, etc.;" six other columns give the dates of arrival, etc. of the migrants, and the dates of nesting; another column is devoted to other localities and to remarks. The observations relating to Haywood cover the years 1875-1878; those to other localities cover a shorter period. Dr. Cooper has here begun a good work in a praiseworthy way, which it would be gratifying to see continued by other observers for other localities. — J. A. A.

LANGDON'S ORNITHOLOGICAL FIELD NOTES.† — These notes relate to the bird fauna of the immediate vicinity of Cincinnati, and virtually form

\* On the Migrations and Nesting Habits of West-Coast Birds. By J. G. Cooper, M. D. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1879, pp. 241-251, Jan. 20, 1880.

† Ornithological Field Notes, with five Additions to the Cincinnati Avian Fauna. By Frank W. Langdon. Journ. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist., July, 1880, pp. 121-127.

a supplement to the same author's excellent "Revised List of Cincinnati Birds," published in 1879 (cf. this Bulletin, Vol. IV, pp. 112, 113). They add five species to the number there given, and bring the total thus far identified to 263. They relate to 40 species, giving records of further captures of many of the rarer ones, and of the nesting, etc. of others. Among the points of special interest are the capture of two specimens (male and female) of Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandi*) near Cleveland, May 4 and 12, 1880, and the replacement of a colony of several hundred Rough-winged and Cliff Swallows, formerly nesting about the piers and under the floors of a bridge, by "that much to be regretted addition to our fauna," the House Sparrow. The paper is preceded by Dr. Langdon's description of a new species of *Heimathophaga*, which, through the author's kindness, is reproduced, with the accompanying plate, in the present number of this Bulletin. — J. A. A.

STEARNS'S LIST OF THE BIRDS OF FISHKILL, NEW YORK.\* — This is a briefly annotated list of about 130 species, based on ten months' observations by the author in the vicinity of Fishkill, supplemented by information received from Messrs. Peter de Nottbeck and John Lynch. As the author has judiciously endeavored to give only what he "knows," without attempting to "theorize," the list, though very incomplete, is doubtless trustworthy so far as it goes, although its *raison d'être* is not obvious. — J. A. A.

HARVIE-BROWN ON THE EFFECTS OF AN UNUSUALLY SEVERE WINTER UPON SCOTTISH BIRDS. — In the last number of the Bulletin (Vol. V, pp. 175-177) we had the pleasure of directing attention to the systematic way in which certain British ornithologists, especially Messrs. Harvie-Brown and Cordeaux, are gathering data respecting the migratory movements of European birds. But it appears by the paper † now under notice that Scottish birds are subject to a close surveillance at other than the migratory periods. The winter of 1878-79 proved of unusual severity, and its effect upon animal life, and especially upon bird life, attracted the attention of many careful observers, Mr. Harvie-Brown giving a list of more than a dozen published papers relating to the subject. These, with his own observations and the collected notes of his many correspondents, form the basis of the paper above cited, which gives first a general and statistical *résumé* of the weather, followed by a detailed report upon its effects on animal life, nearly fifty pages being devoted to birds. It

\* List of Birds of Fishkill on Hudson, N. Y. By Winfred A. Stearns. 8vo. pp. 16, without date or publisher's impress. Received July, 1880.

† Ornithological Journal of the Winter of 1878-79, with Collected Notes regarding its Effects upon Animal Life, including Remarks on the Migration of Birds in the Autumn of 1878 and the Spring of 1879. By Mr. John A. Harvie-Brown, F. Z. S., M. B. O. U. Proc. Nat. Hist. Soc. Glasgow, 1879, pp. 123-130.

1880

the Bull. of the Nat. Hist. Club S; 232-233