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XXVIII.—*On the Eggs of some American Limicolæ.* By the
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(Plate XI.)

I HAVE pleasure in offering to 'The Ibis' figures of the eggs of three species of North-American Limicolæ, concerning which little has as yet been recorded, although all of them are in the "British List" as occasional stragglers to this country.

1. THE SOLITARY SANDPIPER. *Totanus solitarius* Wils.
(Pl. XI. figs. 1, 2, 3, 4.)

It is unnecessary to repeat the particulars which have already been recorded in the pages of 'The Ibis' (1905, pp. 158-161) and in the 'Bulletin of the B. O. C.' (vol. xix. pp. 35-37) concerning the nesting of this bird. Like its congeners, the Green and the Wood Sandpiper, this species is now known to breed in other birds' nests. So far as has been ascertained at present, the habit appears to be constant, for every clutch which has been taken has been found in either an old or a new nest of some other species. Among these we may mention the American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*), Brewer's Blackbird (*Scolecophagus cyanocephalus*), the Cedar Waxwing (*Ampelis cedrorum*), and the Canada Jay (*Perisoreus canadensis*). As no figures of these rare eggs have hitherto been published, it has been thought advisable to illustrate some of the principal varieties. Fig. 1 (Pl. XI.) represents an egg in the possession of Mr. Raine, and is

exceptionally light in colour and sparsely marked. Fig. 2 is from a clutch of five eggs in Mr. J. M. Goodall's collection, and is unusually dark and thickly marked. Figs. 3 and 4 are more characteristic of the usual type, but possibly the greenish tint has to some extent faded from the ground-colour in the case of the latter, which is in Major Proctor's collection.

Twenty-seven eggs, measured by Mr. Raine, average 35.73×25.42 mm.; maximum 38.1×26.16 mm., minimum 33.78×23.88 mm. The weight of an egg is 367 mg.

2. THE PECTORAL SANDPIPER. *Tringa maculata* Vieill. (Pl. XI. fig. 5.)

The egg figured was obtained during the McIlhenny Expedition to Point Barrow, Alaska, and was taken on June 13, 1898, the incubating bird having been shot from its nest on the dry tundra. It was formerly in Mr. H. Noble's collection. Weight 368 mg., size 37.4×26 mm.

3. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER. *Tringa bairdi* Coues. (Pl. XI. fig. 6.)

This egg was also obtained by the McIlhenny Expedition, on June 15, 1898, at Point Barrow. Only one figure has been previously given of the egg of this bird, which, like the other two species mentioned above, is now admitted to the British List (see 'Catalogue of the Eggs in the Brit. Mus.' vol. ii. pl. ii. fig. 4). The egg was formerly in Mr. H. Noble's collection, and is now in that of Major Proctor. Weight 450 mg., size 34.4×24.5 mm.

EXPLANATION OF PLATE XI.

Figs. 1, 2, and 3 are taken from drawings, by Mr. W. Raine, of eggs of *Totanus solitarius*. The egg represented in fig. 2 was taken on June 15, 1906, in N.W. Alberta, by Mr. Evan Thomson (coll. J. M. Goodall); that in fig. 1 was taken on June 16, 1905. The egg represented in fig. 4 was taken by Mr. Thomson on June 6, 1906, from an old nest of *Turdus migratorius* in a tamarac tree, 15 feet above the ground (coll. F. W. Proctor).

Fig. 5. *Tringa maculata*. This egg was taken at Point Barrow by the McIlhenny Expedition (coll. F. W. Proctor).

Fig. 6. *T. bairdi*. Also taken at Point Barrow (coll. F. W. Proctor).

The figures 4, 5, and 6 are from drawings by the Author.



1



2



3



4



5



6

E. Jourdain & W. Reine, del.

(1-4) *TOTANUS SOLITARIUS*.

Pitcher L^d Lith.

(5) *TRINGA MACULATA*.

(6) *TRINGA BAIRDI*.



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