

attempted by the aid of weeds, a stone, or a large piece of bark. One nest was built on the ground, within a semicircular cavity of a standing tree. The nests were composed mostly of pine needles. One had a lining of soap-root fibre, and another was built of pine needles upon a slight foundation of small sticks. Three nests, taken by Mr. Belding at Big Trees, Cal., June 8 and 9, 1879, and June 10, 1880, contained each four nearly fresh eggs. A set of four, taken at Big Trees, June 15, 1883, from the side of a stump, fifteen inches from the ground, are now before me. They correspond closely to Dr. Coues's description of the eggs of this species given in the last number of the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club' (VIII, p. 239). The measurements, which I can take from two, are  $.89 \times .70$ , and  $.93 \times .70$ .—W. E. BRYANT, *Oakland, Cal.*

**Prehensile Feet of the Crow** (*Corvus frugivorus*).—Apropos of what has lately been published regarding the power of the Crow to carry objects in its claws I will give my latest note on the subject.

I was attracted to a bunch of trees by a commotion among a troop of Robins, and discovered some six individuals fiercely attacking a Crow, a second black form being detected skulking some little distance away. Presently Crow number one flew off, followed by the entire mob of excited Red-breasts, when Crow number two made a dash into the trees, and emerged with an unfledged Robin grasped in his dexter claws; the youngster kicking and piping lustily. The cries brought back the guardians, who at once gave chase to the captor, and while they were off in one direction, Crow number one charged the nest from an opposite point, and retired with another of the brood firmly held in his claws.—MONTAGUE CHAMBERLAIN, *St. John, N. B.*

**Do Crows carry objects in their Claws?**—There is a habit assigned to Crows in Eastern Maine, which, if well authenticated, has an interest in the discussion of the question whether they can transport objects in their claws.

Near Eastport, Maine, there is known to me a considerable deposit of the broken tests and half-decomposed soft parts of our common New England sea-urchin (*S. dræbachiensis*), far removed above the level of high water. This deposit is formed in the main of fragments of the solid tests of these echinoderms, which are said to have been carried there alive by Crows, which frequent the locality in great numbers. At a loss to account for the appearance of these fragments in this unusual locality, I made inquiries of several persons living in the neighborhood, all of whom declared that the sea-urchin remains were brought by the Crows from the shallow water not far off. One intelligent person, not a naturalist, said he had observed the Crows *transporting them in their claws*. Although I can add nothing to this testimony from personal observation, I am familiar with several other accumulations of these marine animals in localities above high tide, from which I have observed Crows to fly up when startled. I cannot tell whether the Crows at such times were feed-



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