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## **Department of Birds - Eggs: Annual Report 1886 - 1887**

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AUG 11 1887  
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Report on the Department of Oölogy in the  
U.S. National Museum, 1887 60281

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

Charles S. Bendire, U.S.A. : Honorary Curator

UNDER DIRECTORSHIP OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

One copy  
25-8-87  
L.S.

K. Lower  
Bendire  
Annual report  
1887.

Curators reports  
file Oölogy '86-87

WASHINGTON

~~August 10 1887~~

~~Professor Spencer J. Baird  
Secretary Smithsonian Institution~~

~~18<sup>00</sup> copy~~

~~I have the honor to submit  
herewith the annual report for the fiscal  
year ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 1887.~~

My principal object during  
the year has been to fill as far as possible  
the existing gaps in the Oölogical collection  
and to increase the series of eggs, especially  
amongst the rarer species. In this  
I have been moderately successful.  
The largest and most important collection  
received during the past year is that  
made by Lieut. Harry C. Benson  
4<sup>th</sup> Cavalry, in the vicinity of Fort  
Huachuca Arizona, consisting



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of 22 Species and 630 Specimens, a valuable gift as all the specimens are nicely prepared and the majority of them very rare, and scarcely known in collections.

I mention a few of the rarer species.

<i>Corvus cryptoleucus</i>	5 sets	275 specimens	
<i>Aphelocoma pterii arizonae</i>	33 "	137 "	75 nests
<i>Columba fasciata</i>		3 "	
<i>Cyano cyaneus</i>		1 "	
<i>Salpinctes obsoletus</i>	9 sets	41 "	75 nests.

With the exception of the first mentioned species the eggs have been represented in the collection by but a single specimen and the last named species was till now unknown. In making this collection Lieut. Benson has often ridden forty miles a day and he deserves a great deal of credit for the amount of work he has accomplished in a few weeks collecting.



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From Dr. A. R. Fisher, Department  
of Agriculture a gift of 5 species, 18 the  
Cimexes all of them rare, comprising the  
following amongst them

*Spinus pinus* Set of 4 eggs & nest  
*Helminthophila piquis* Set of 5 eggs & nest  
*Empidonax flaviventris* Set of 4 eggs new  
to the collection

From Col. V. B. Goss Topeka, Kansas  
Gift of *Actinia mississippiensis* One set  
of two eggs.

From Capt. R. F. Goss Terraucle, Wisc.  
Gift of *Regulus satrapa* Set of 8 eggs and  
nest.

From H. H. Henshaw Washington, D. C.  
Gift of an egg of *Ammodramas feldingi*  
new to the collection



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From Wm. Brewster Cambridge Mass  
Gift. *Buceo hyemalis Carolinensis*  
One set of 4 eggs new to collection  
*Pipilo erythrophthalmus allenii* one  
set of two eggs out of  
*Helina swainsoni* one set of three  
eggs with nests.

From Lieut E. M. Bremer U.S. Navy  
Gift One set of *Buceo noctuacensis*  
*notabilis* of three eggs & nest, new  
to the collection.

*Tesperocichla naevia* One set of 4 eggs,  
and nest

*Granta canadensis minima* two sets  
of four eggs & nests

From Loren H. Green, Faird  
Shasta Co. Cal.

Gift *Melanerpes formicivorus* One set  
of three eggs.



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*Oreorhynchus pictus* two sets of 7 and  
12 eggs

Gift from J. Parker Norris Philadelphia  
Pa. One set of two eggs of *Gyrnium  
nebulosum alleni* new to the collection  
During the year 85 nests have also been  
received of which some of the rarer  
ones have been mentioned.

Character of your fine work for the  
fiscal year has been as follows  
The numbering, classifying and  
arrangement of 1208 new specimens.  
Taking the measurements and records  
of 725 specimens, besides mounting  
labelling and arranging 235 species  
of the nests for exhibition and relabelling  
and classifying part of the reserve  
series of eggs according to the nomenclature



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of the A. O. G. check list.

Last entry in June 1886	No 22805
" " " 1887	" 23160
Total number of entries	355
Specimens	1208

Number of Specimens in reserve series	32899
" " duplicate	11548
" " Exhibition	1491
Number of Species	697
Specimens	45938

Number of nests in reserve series	2000
" Exhibition	235
Total	2235

No papers were published during the year!



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Very respectfully  
Yours, obt. servant  
Chas. E. Bendire  
Sen. Curator Zoology.