

thicker and grooved to bifid, left anterior more curved (in plane), not much bent upward, posterior long, nearly straight and a little oblique: laminæ; right anterior inner rather long, its cusp nearer the cardinal; outer short; posterior both short; left: both with the cusps rather abrupt, pointed; ligament short, resilium rather stout.

Measurements.—(Specimen from Ontario) Long. 2.5; alt. 2.1; diam. 1.5 mm. (100 : 84 : 60). (Specimen from Massachusetts) Long. 3; alt. 2.5; diam. 2.1 mm. (100 : 83 : 70).

P. vexum is somewhat like *P. inornatum* in size and shape, but more inflated; the shell and hinge are slighter, and the depressed beaks distinguish it.

Habitat.—Lake Gorman, Renfrew County, Ontario, collected by Justice Latchford, August 29, 1913. Types are in Justice Latchford's collection and in the Carnegie Museum, No. 7455. One specimen, somewhat larger, was collected in Hounds Ditch, Duxbury, Massachusetts, by Mr. William F. Clapp in 1913.

F. R. L.

THE SHARP-SHINNED HAWK.

By W. J. BROWN, WESTMOUNT, QUE.

Acquaintanceship with the Sharp-shinned Hawk (*Accipiter velox*) occurred twelve years ago, in April, in second growth woods. Here we discovered a specimen, under a cedar tree, devouring a small bird. A friend in parting the branches was rather surprised and startled. Sudden impulse, and visions of a Woodcock's nest, prompted further investigation, but the bird was equally alarmed and left the brush spasmodically. Previous to this, and for some time afterwards, I had entertained confused and mixed ideas as to the status and habits of this species. On May 24, 1908, I noticed a male flying in a jerky fashion through a small area of tamarack woods. At that time it did not occur to me to look for the nest, but the following year I investigated this locality with a friend and we found the nest, with five eggs, in a small tamarack. After watching the actions of the female about the nest I decided at once to learn more about these interesting birds. During the next two weeks I came in contact with two more nests, one in a black spruce and the other in a balsam, all three sets, of five eggs each, varying greatly in size and coloration.

At this period of my investigations I looked upon the Sharp-shinned Hawk as rare in the Province of Quebec. Subsequent research, however, has developed the fact that the bird is one of our most abundant raptorial birds and is much more common than was formerly supposed. Any zealous ornithologist could probably locate two dozen nests in a season, but it is by no means an easy task to cultivate the