

The Rockwood Review

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Editors,—Miss Goldie and Miss Margery Clarke.

Business Manager,—Chas. M. Clarke.

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offer a soft bed, but I managed to make out, although very wretched. In the course of time a boat arrived, and by a strange chance, with it came one of these balloon fakirs, who do the parachute act at fairs. He had been "doing" a summer resort, and had his apparatus on board. Mr. Scott soon had his wits at work, and before long, down came a message on the string: "I will send down a life preserver and parachute in a short time, the parachute will be tied on a slender string that will break easily when you jump. Fasten the life preserver on well, jump clear of the rocks, when you hear a gun fire, and a boat will be in waiting to pick you up." I was fond of adventures, but this seemed too terrible even for me. However, when the life preserver came, I did exactly as instructed. Finally, the trapeze on the parachute swung to me, and I saw that all was clear above. In a minute or two a gun went off, and I felt as if my last moment had come. Grasping the bar firmly, and shutting my eyes, I jumped far

out from the rock. Down, down, down I went, with frightful velocity; and I knew that the end had come; but suddenly the big parachute opened, and soon it seemed just as if the river was coming up to meet me. The water was reached gently and quietly, just as a boat dashed up.

The eggs were not even broken in the descent of a thousand feet, and you may rest satisfied that the most valued specimens in my collection are those of the *Cyr-falcon*, but I can assure you that I do not wish to repeat the adventure.

THE FLICKER.

This bird has twenty-six different names. It is a little bigger than a Blackbird, and has a black mark around its throat. He has a yellow breast with dark spots on it and red on the back of the head. When he flies you can see a white spot above his tail. He has a pretty long neck. The nest is built in a rotten tree, and is made out of the dusty stuff he finds in the old tree. The hole going into the nest is about as big as your fist doubled and a foot deep. Eggs are white. Sometimes if the nest is robbed of all but one egg, the hen bird goes on laying, until as many as twenty or more eggs have been laid. I knew one case when a boy robbed the nest regularly, until the old bird had laid twenty-one eggs.

The flicker feeds on grubs and ants. Here are a few of the names this bird goes by: Flicker, Yellow Hammer, High-hole, High-holder, Yellow-winged Woodpecker, Golden-winged Woodpecker.

C. M. C.

The note regarding the habits of the Flicker when the nest is robbed is quite correct, and one instance is reported where a Flicker actually laid seventy-three eggs before she gave up the contest with the robber.

C. K. C.