

OOLOGY.

THE ACADIAN SHARP-TAILED SPARROW.

(Ammodramus caudacutus subvirgatus.)

The Museum of the Geological Survey has recently acquired a set of four eggs of this sparrow or finch, with the female, from Mr. R. W. Tufts, who collected them at Woltville, N. S., on the second of June last. The label accompanying these specimens states that the nest from which the eggs were taken was built "in long thick grass near a salt marsh," that it was "very bulky, raised three or four inches above the ground, and composed entirely of dead grass." The eggs, which average 21 mm. by 15, are very pale bluish green, profusely sprinkled all over with numerous, close set and very small dragged brownish markings, rather than spots.

The "Acadian" is a local variety of the Sharp-tailed Sparrow, described by Mr. Jonathan Dwight, junior, in the *Auk* for July, 1887, but its nest and eggs seem to have been previously unknown, or at least unrecorded.

In the Survey's collection of eggs the genus *Ammodramus* (literally *sand runner*), as now understood, and inclusive of the Grasshopper Sparrows (*Coturniculus*), is now represented by the following sets. Two of the Ipswich Sparrow (*A. princeps*) from Sable Island; one of the Savanna Sparrow (*A. sandwichensis savanna*) from Toronto Island; four of the Western Savanna Sparrow (*A. sandwichensis alaudinus*) from Assiniboia and Alberta; two of Leconte's Sparrow (*A. lecontei*) from Assiniboia; and one of the Acadian Sharp-tailed Sparrow, from Nova Scotia. But, in one of the sets of Leconte's Sparrow three of the four eggs are Cowbird's.

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A HYBRID OF SHEEP AND DEER.

Having heard of a hybrid born to a sheep owned by a farmer at New Limerick a town in Maine, U.S.A., I wrote for a description of it and received the following account:—

"It was dead when born and the nose was some decayed. Except that it had a tail, there was nothing like a sheep about