

marking, but as I had received other specimens illustrative of oology, purporting to be those of certain species which afterwards proved not to be correct, I concluded, for the time, that such was also the case in this instance, and that my new-found set of eggs were those of the woodcock. So the matter remained until the close of the year when my esteemed ornithological friend, Mr. W. E. Saunders, of London, made me a welcome visit, and on looking over my oological collection I drew his attention to the first and only set of "woodcock's" eggs that I had ever collected. Mr. Saunders at once denied the identification; a dispute followed, and while I admitted that I might be mistaken, yet I was certain that the specimens in question if not those of the woodcock were those of Wilson's snipe. This identification Mr. Saunders also disputed, stating that he had in his collection specimens of the eggs of the European snipe, which he understood were similar to those of Wilson's and that there was a wide difference between the appearance of "his" specimens and those under review; so, in order to settle the question at issue Mr. Saunders kindly undertook to send one of the eggs to the authorities of the Smithsonian Institute at Washington and have the specimen properly identified. The following note from Mr. Saunders, under date of Feb. 28, 1906, tells the sequel. "I have received the egg back from the Washington people, and return it to you by this mail. They say that it is the egg of the European snipe, which, of course, means Wilson's when taken in Canada. I have eggs supposed to be those of the European snipe myself, which are nothing like those at all, but I have no doubt their identification is correct."

Of the nesting habits of *Gallinago delicta* but little of a reliable character is yet known. When Mr. McIlwraith published the second edition of his "Birds of Ontario," in 1894, he wrote of this bird as "a species known only as a spring and fall migrant in southern Ontario," and of its nesting habits he had only vague reports; and from a reference to what little was known about it, in eastern Canada, he springs almost at a bound to some intimations of its existence in almost unexplored regions of Alaska. In the more recent and extensive "Catalogue of Canadian Birds" there are indications that the life-habits and distribu-