

This time the eggs were found in a cedar waxwing's nest in a spruce tree out in a swamp or muskeg."

The following is a description of these nests of solitary sandpiper eggs.

SET I.—Taken in northern Alberta, June 16th, 1903. 4 eggs advanced in incubation, collector, Evan Thomson. This set was found in an old nest of the American robin, built 15 feet up in a tamarac tree, that was growing in the middle of a large muskeg, dotted with tamaracs, the bird was flushed off the nest but unfortunately not secured. The eggs are exceedingly handsome and very different from the eggs of any other American sandpiper. The ground color is pale greenish white, heavily blotched and spotted, chiefly at the larger ends with vandyke brown, chestnut brown and purplish grey, the average size of these 4 eggs is 1.36 x .98, and they are very large for the size of the bird.

Set II.—Northern Alberta, June 9th, 1904. 4 eggs found in the nest of a bronzed grackle, built in a low tree; these eggs were unfortunately lost owing to Mr. Thompson first blowing them and then leaving the shells in the nest until he returned with his gun to secure the parent bird, but on his return on the following day, no trace of the eggs were to be found, the bird evidently had carried them away.

Set III.—Northern Alberta, June 24th, 1904. 4 eggs found in the nest of a cedar waxwing, which was built in a small spruce tree growing in a swamp, the nest being about 5 feet from the water, and Mr. Thompson was fortunate in shooting the parent bird as she flew from the nest, and thus identification is very complete and established the fact once for all, that the solitary sandpiper does not lay its eggs in a nest on the ground like other sandpipers, but takes possession of the nest of other birds, built in trees, just the same as its old world representative the green sandpiper is known to do.

The ground color of this clutch is also pale greenish white and the eggs are spotted with purplish brown, vandyke brown and purplish grey, and average in size, 1.36 x .99, thus it will be seen they average larger than eggs of the spotted sandpiper which measure about 1.34 x .90. Both clutches with the skin of the parent solitary sandpiper together with the nests are now in my