

the duck the last time, I pulled trigger on him; for we are all eminently selfish, and when one of the lower animals, as we regard them, interferes with us in our pleasures or comforts, even if they are fulfilling the dictates of their natures, we brush them from existence, as if *we* were the only rightful possessors of this beautiful world. Fortunately for the hawk, unfortunately for the flapper, and much to my chagrin, the cap failed to explode, and the poor duck was borne off for food for the family of the hawk.

The Cooper's Hawk breeds in all the New-England States, and is partial to no particular locality. I have found the nest in sections not a mile from the seacoast; in the deepest woods of Northern Maine; and have had the eggs sent me from different localities in Rhode Island, Connecticut, and New Hampshire.

The nest of this species is more often found than that of any other. In my collecting trips, my experience has been that I have found certainly two nests of this to one of all others. Audubon says, "The nest is usually placed in the forks of the branch of an oak-tree, towards its extremity. In its general appearance, it resembles that of the common crow, for which I have several times mistaken it. It is composed externally of numerous crooked sticks, and has a slight lining of grasses and a few feathers." This does not agree with my observation; for, in great numbers of nests that I have examined, in which I have found no great variation in character, they were almost invariably in a fork of a tall tree near the top, — in three cases out of five in the different *pin*es. They were large, bulky affairs, constructed of twigs and sticks, some of them nearly half an inch in diameter: they were decidedly hollowed, and often lined with leaves and the loose bark of the cedar. The eggs of this species vary in number from two to four. I do not remember ever having found more than four, which number is usually laid. Their ground-color is a dirty bluish-white, with often thinly scattered spots of brown, or obscure

blotches and color of the lection exhibited to 2 inches. The average. The breeding even in the early as the in June. U in Massachu New England this; that o

A pair of summer of the season. and laid in respectively. but little lar

Falco fuscus e
Accipiter stria
Falco velox et
Sparrinus line
Nisus Matfani,

Adult. — Smal brownish-black, coverts white, th under parts fine of white; shafts with white, and with bands of a *tertiaries* with tw

Young. — Enl mixed with white cealed spots of w ovate spots of