

found in the marsh several years ago and it is probable that the American coot breeds there also

Of the shore birds, the spotted sandpiper is the only species which has been found breeding on the Farm. For the past three years a pair has built in the fruit plantations, which are nearly or quite three-quarters of a mile from a pond or stream. In the years 1901 and 1902 the nest was built in the strawberry plantation, it being placed in the row of plants and well hidden by them. In 1902 the nest was built in the middle of the orchard. The newly hatched young have been found running about in the fruit plantations. Nests have also been found on the high land in the arboretum.

None of the hawks or owls have been found breeding, though it is possible that in the Farm woods near St. Louis dam, the sharp-shinned hawk has had its nest as the nest of this bird has been found just across the canal in Dow's swamp.

The black-billed cuckoo has bred for several years in the forest belts, but in 1901 a nest with eggs was found in an apple tree in a thickly planted part of the orchard. The cuckoo does not build in the open but seeks a secluded place for its nest. It is one of the last birds to arrive and hence breeds late. Its peculiar note in early summer is often puzzling to those not familiar with the habits of the bird.

The only woodpecker which has been found breeding is the flicker. This bird is very common. A nest was found in a hollow basswood stump in the arboretum in 1902, but as the hole was only about six feet from the ground it was easily discovered by boys and robbed. This bird shows little tact in selecting a site for its nest and the large hole which it makes can be seen at a glance.

The nighthawk has been breeding on the Farm for the past fifteen or sixteen years, and several nests have been found. Many eggs must have been destroyed by the horse and cultivator, as the bird will lay its eggs where cultivation must be done. The eggs, which are two in number, are laid in the open in a shallow depression on the ground. The soil which becomes hottest seems to be preferred.