"In comparing the eggs of the American and the European Peregrine Falcons, Dr. Brewer observes: 'It [the American] closely resembles a variety of the eggs of the European species, but seems to present differences sufficiently well marked to be regarded as specific. . . . The ground-colors of both American and European are a reddish-yellow; and both are thickly covered with fine dottings of chocolate and ferruginous brown, diffused over the whole egg in nearly equal degree, and to such an extent as nearly to conceal the ground. The length of the American egg is slightly less; but it is of equal or greater capacity, and varies in its markings from all the European specimens that I have ever met with. These variations, though readily traceable by the eye, are not so easily described. The shades of coloring in both are closely alike: the variation consists more in the distribution of these markings. In the European specimens, the fine markings of chocolate are distributed with nearly exact uniformity. In the American, the secondary colorings are now more thickly and now more thinly diffused, — here leaving the ground-color nearly unchanged; there becoming confluent, and blending into waving lines, blotches, and bold dashes. The egg, in consequence, presents a more varied appearance. These markings are also in greater proportion around the larger end of the egg, and the blotches are of a deeper shade; so there is a variation in the shading between the smaller and larger extremities not noticeable in any European egg that I have met with.'

"The amount of variation presented by the eggs of the Duck Hawk, described above, shows that but little dependence can be placed on the eggs in deciding specific differences. The eggs mentioned by Dr. Brewer are not much different from those of the true European Peregrine. One or two of the specimens before me considerably resemble Dr. Brewer's, and likewise eggs of the European species, as figured and described by authors, while the others are very different, one being remarkably so.

"The eggs of the different species of this group of Falcons seem to resemble each other greatly, and to be subject to considerable variation in the same species. In the manner of laying the eggs, there is also a similarity, as might be expected among closely allied species; the same species sometimes laying them on the bare rocks, and again in a bulky nest of sticks and other coarse materials. The nest of this species visited on Talcott Mountain, Conn.,