

NOTES ON THE EGGS OF THE SOLITARY SANDPIPER.

The solitary sandpiper (*Heledromus solitarius*) is a fairly common Albertan bird not seen much in summer, but abundant during the fall migration. They appear from their retired haunts during the first week in August, when they are found in ones or twos at almost every wet place of any size; that is, in the western parts of the prairie. The variety found is "Cinnamon." The only record I have of the eastern variety is, curious to relate, the ones from which eggs were obtained, at the same time it held the record of being the furthest western point where I have seen the birds, it being some seven or eight miles into the timber (Range 5). We departed to Fallen Timber Creek in quest of fish as also bush butterflies, chiefly *Erebia disa* and *Chionobas Macounii*, camping on Fallen Timber Creek. The next day my friend, Mr. Broughton, enquired where to find certain Graptæ, and decided to go down stream about a mile. Returning to camp for dinner he told me of having found a nest in a small spruce tree; the bird he believed to be a sandpiper. After dinner we both took the gun and returned to the nest. The bird sat very close, in fact did not fly until I put out my hand to catch her. She flew some twenty-five yards, but was shot. The nest contained three eggs and was undoubtedly an old one of a Bohemian waxwing, bent down on one side, in a spruce tree about 12 feet high; nest about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet off ground. Location, a horseshoe slough, watered by springs flowing out very slowly into the river. Nest tree, 10 feet from the mouth of river. North and south side spruce; northeast, poplar; east, willows. Two days later a set of Bohemian waxwing's eggs were taken in the same spruce.

The eggs, size $1\frac{1}{2} \times 1$ inch, are pale green ground color, sparingly spotted with lilac, but heavier with brown in shades, and are of the usual pointed type. The spots all over, though chiefly at the larger end. Data, 5, vi. 06. One-third fairly hard set. ♀ obtained Fallen Timber Creek, Alta.

NOTE.—The male obtained another mate and I think bred again at that slough, anyway stayed there all summer.

Didsbury, Alta.

P. GARRETT.