

is black—a dull, greenish tinted black—and this is mottled with gray and brown. A marked diagnostic character of the species is the patches of white on the wings and on the tail which are displayed in flight. The legs are extremely short, and the bill is little more than a tiny knob. The gape is wide, the mouth reaching back beyond the eyes. In general appearance this species resembles the whip-poor-will, but the latter lacks the white wing patches and its coloration is much lighter, more grey than brownish black.

The night hawk does not build a nest nor seek any shelter for its eggs, laying them in the open and trusting to their inconspicuousness for protection. Nor is the bird at all particular as to the location of its nestless nest. On one occasion, when crossing the ridge of a hill that raised its wind-swept crest far above the surrounding land, I was stopped by a flutter at my feet. The grand view which the situation commanded had so absorbed my attention that I had failed to notice that directly in my pathway a devoted mother was sheltering her best loved. The parent had not stirred until my foot was almost upon her, not a full yard away. Even then she made no effort for her own safety, but strove to entice me away from her eggs by simulating a broken wing, and the ruse was so skilfully executed that for a moment I was baffled. There sure enough on the bare rock, lay the elliptical beauties for which the mother's heart in her bird-breast was beating painfully. It was not easy detecting the eggs, they were so much like the granite upon which they lay—like two weather worn pebbles. The ground color on inspection proved a slaty gray, or dull whitish, and the irregular markings which covered the surface were of varying tints of brown and lilac. I have seen these eggs also on the gravel roof of a city warehouse, in the centre of bustling activity.

Night hawks are abundant throughout the country during the summer months, but leave us in September for the tropical zone.

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### WOOD THRUSH.

If a bird's home is the country in which it was born, and where it builds its nest and rears its young,—and surely that is the place best entitled to be called the home of a bird,—these Eastern Pro-