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of a capary. I at last succeeded in shooting one of the singers and was other small insects, as might be insurprised to find what a tiny being it ferred from the shape of the bill and was, that gave forth such a volume of from the rictal bristles at the corners sound, for it was the Ruby Crowned of the mouth ; for the use of these last Kinglet."

with the Ruby Crowns, nor have I bird's fly-catching propensities, is indibeen able to push it much farther, for cated by the development of these in spite of all endeavors I cannot find them here, excepting about mid-may. They, no doubt, go farther north to breed, and it may be that in the fall • they return to the south by some other wav.

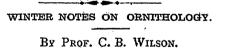
It is not yet known exactly where they breed and so far as I know, their nests and eggs have never been found. If therefore this should meet the eve of some northern student, who thirsts for immortality, let him remember that a talisman that will enable him to gratify his desire, will be found in the cradle of the Ruby-Crowned Kinglet.

It may be well to remark here, that rare nests and eggs do not pass as authentic, unless the bird be shot at the nest, and sent, for identification, to some undoubted authority.

It is rather difficult to identify this bird without shooting it; for being usually above you its most striking part, the crown-is not seen. Yet its peculiar nimbleness and its habits of playing and dashing about the topmost twigs, and of twisting and scrambling about in a Chicadee-like manner, will often cause it to be suspected, if indeed these ways do not entirely distinguish if from some of the true warblers.

Its food consists mainly of flies and is to assist in the capture of flies, and This was my first close acquaintance we generally find that the extent of a . hairs; while from the slender bill, we might safely infer this bird's habit of picking up insects from twigs and crevices.

> Early in the fall the Ruby-Crowns begin to return from the vague Lone Land, bringing with them their newly fledged young, which being as yet without the diadem of their kind, have more than once proved stumbling blocks to the student, whose only help in such cases is a careful comparison with the structural details of the old ones, unless he can refer to some more experienced friend for a solution of the difficulty.



PAPER IV.

ORDER IV.-COLUMBAE, the pigeons -This order is so well known in, and so well represented by our domestic doves and their allies that it needs only passing comment. In one sub-family, represented by a single isolated American species, but not referable to any established old world group, the hallux or hind toe is not perfectly insistent. This fact, together with other

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