

becoming larger on the smaller end towards the middle, and the red patches on the larger end increase towards the same point, where the colors meet and become mixed in irregular patches of various sizes, from mere dots to blotches. The smaller end has a few streaks and blotches of dark-purple overlying apparently the other colors, as in specimen No. 1.

"These specimens are very interesting, as indicating the great amount of variation to which the American Peregrine's eggs are subject; and especially so since they are all the product of one pair of birds, laid in one set, and identified as such beyond question. In coloration, a transition can be traced between the extreme in the order they are numbered, which is undoubtedly the order in which they were laid, as indicated by the thickness of the shell as well as by the depth of color.

TABLE OF COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS.

	Length.	Breadth.	Prop. of breadth to length.	Point of greatest transverse diameter from small end.
No. 1	2.18 in.	1.71 in.	0.785 in.	0.640 length of the egg.
No. 2	2.21 "	1.67 "	0.756 "	0.540 " " " "
No. 3	2.32 "	1.70 "	0.732 "	0.656 " " " "
No. 4	2.16 "	1.65 "	0.765 "	0.600 " " " "
Average	2.22 "	1.68 "	0.759 "	0.609 " " " "
Greater extreme . . .	2.32 "	1.71 "	0.785 "	0.656 " " " "
Lesser extreme . . .	2.16 "	1.65 "	0.732 "	0.540 " " " "
Amount of variation .	0.16 "	0.06 "	0.053 "	0.116 " " " "
Dr. Brewer's specimen .	2.00 "	1.56 "	0.780 "	" " " "

"From the above table, it will be seen that the range of variation in the four specimens in length is .16 of an inch, or nearly seven and a half per cent of the average length; in breadth, .06 of an inch, or about three and a half per cent of the average breadth: in the proportion of breadth to length, about fifteen per cent of the length, or nearly twenty per cent of the average proportion. The variation in the position of the point of greatest transverse diameter is about eleven and a half per cent of the whole length of the egg; the form of the eggs varying from an ellipsoid in No. 2 to an ovoid, which, in No. 3, has the smaller end considerably elongated. It will be observed that the egg measured by Dr. Brewer is considerably smaller than my smallest specimen, and that the proportion of breadth to length scarcely differs from the same proportion in No. 1.

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