

## TRINGITES RUFESCENS, BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER.

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(Read before the Ornithological Sec. of the Entomological Soc. of Ont.)

I write this at the request of a friend to report at greater length the capture of a female of this species and her nest, which I was fortunate enough to take near Dunnville, Haldimand Co., Ontario on June 10th 1879. The only particular point of interest being the latitude in which this nest was found, since, heretofore, this bird has generally been credited with breeding only in high latitudes. A short report was published in Mr. McIlwraith's work on the "Birds of Ontario" a number of years ago and were it not that the fact of its breeding in this locality is very remarkable the published report already given would be sufficient. However, as the identification of my specimen has been doubted by Prof. Macoun and it has been suggested by him in his Check List of the Birds of Canada that I evidently had mistaken the bird for the Spotted Sandpiper, *Actitis macularia*, I felt somewhat nettled that an old fellow like myself who has closely observed birds all his life should be credited with not knowing a Spotted Sandpiper, one of our most beautiful as well as one of the very commonest of our shore birds.

I find however, that I am not the only observer who has been doubted when he reported seeing or taking the nest of this rare little bird the Buff-breasted Sand-piper. Dr. Heerman claimed to have found its nest in Texas made of grasses placed in a hollow in the ground and containing four eggs but Prof. Baird said "but as this bird breeds in high northern regions up to the very border of the Arctic Ocean he may have been mistaken in his identification."

As far as I can make out it has always been a very uncommon species, only one or two birds having been seen at a time in any locality. It was entirely unknown to Wilson and Buonaparte and was first made known as a species by Vieillot from a specimen taken in Louisiana, but Audubon had not noticed it there and the first one he ever saw was a specimen in the hands of the Arctic explorer Capt. James Clark Ross who had received it from a sailor who had secured it on one of his inland excursions in the