

fir-trees, twelve feet from the ground; eggs three, dull yellowish-brown, with dark reddish-brown blotches."

A single egg before me, kindly loaned for descriptions and figure by George A. Boardman of Milltown, Me., is of the above color. It is admirably figured, fig. 1, plate I., in this volume. It is a trifle more pointed than the eggs of rapacious birds usually are, and measures 1.50 inch in length, and 1.14 inch at its greatest breadth.

**TINNUNCULUS SPARVERIUS.**— Vieillot.

**The Sparrow Hawk.**

*Falco sparverius*, Linnæus. Syst. Nat., I. 128 (1766).

*Falco dominicensis*, Gm. Syst. Nat., I. 285 (1788).

*Falco gracilis*, *cinnamominus*, and *isabellinus*. Sw. Cab. Cy., p. 281 (1838).

**DESCRIPTION.**

*Adult.* — Frontal band and space, including the eyes and throat, white; spot on the neck behind, two others on each side of the neck, and line running downwards from before the eye, black; spot on the top of the head, the neck behind, back, rump and tail, light rufous or cinnamon color; under parts generally a paler shade of the same rufous as the back, frequently nearly white, but sometimes as dark as the upper parts, and always with more or less numerous circular or oblong spots of black; quills brownish-black, with white bars on their inner webs; tail tinged with white, frequently tinged with rufous, and with a broad subterminal band of black, outer frequently white, tinged with ashy, and barred with black; bill light-blue; legs yellow; back generally with transverse stripes of black, but frequently with very few, or entirely without; rufous spot on the head, variable in size, and sometimes wanting.

*Younger Male.* — Upper parts as above; wing coverts and tail ferruginous red, with numerous transverse bands of brownish-black; under parts with numerous longitudinal stripes, and on the sides with transverse bands of brownish-black; external feathers of the tail palest; broad subterminal band on the tail, obscure or wanting.

*Young.* — All the rufous parts of the plumage with wider transverse bands of brownish-black; wing coverts, dark bluish-cinereous, with large circular spots of black; under parts with longitudinal stripes, and large circular spots of black; iris very dark hazel.

Total length, eleven to twelve inches; wing, seven to seven and a half; tail, five to five and a half inches.

This beautiful little hawk is a summer inhabitant of all the New-England States, and, in the more southern districts, a resident throughout the year. It is not a very common species in any but the most northern sections of these