
"Last week Rev. Henry Hammond visited the pigeon roost near Kilbourn City, and spent several days there, and from him we gather some facts that may be of interest to sportemen about here. The roost commences about five miles from Kilbourn City, is eight or ten miles wide and extends as far north as Thanes Rapids in Portage County, about forty or forty-five miles. The General says the country is poor, sandy, and scrubby. The pigeons have literally taken possession of the woods, and their nests are to be seen on every tree. On one tree he counted forty-six nests, and thinks there must have been at least a hundred on some of the larger ones. The ground is covered with dead birds. The woods are full of Indians, hunters and trappers from all over the country—some are there just for the sport of the thing and some gathering them and sending to the large cities for sporting clubs, to the markets, etc. The pigeons have attracted considerable wild game and numerous wolves and foxes have been seen and killed. There are old trappers up there who make pigeons hunting a business and follow all of the roosts. The General camped one night in the woods in the midst of the pigeons, and says they flitted around and were not quiet until near morning. In the woods, the birds do not fly in flocks, as is generally supposed, but are
scattered, and fly in and out like mosquitoes, so that it is very hard, although there seems to be millions of pigeons around, to kill large numbers at one shot.

All the pigeons killed dropped with their crops filled with wheat, oats and pigeon grass. When the young are about two weeks old, the old ones fell their crops with food and desert them. The roost seems to be extending toward the north, and may be busy that the pigeons will soon take their departure for Michigan. It will pay the sportsmen to visit this great pigeon roost."

Republic

Mil. (l.) Sentinel June 8, 82, p. 7. Special: Kilbourn City, Wis. June 7. — The pigeon nesting, a few miles north of here, has made quite a business. Pigeons are caught in large quantities, and are worth from 50 to 75 cents per dozen. They are killed, packed in ice in barrels, to the New York and Boston markets and usually bring a good profit to the hunter and buyer. Large quantities are now being shipped alive by express, for the numerous pigeon shooting matches from Iowa to Texas and the East."

Wis. June 19, 82, p. 10. Special: Kilbourn City, Wis. June 18. — The pigeon business has taken a new turn. The squaws are now being gathered in by the Minne-bagog, there being several hundred of them to be at the nesting ground. Since the birds are making big money, they are realizing 12 or 13 per day, which they generally manage to dispose of within the next twenty-four hours in gambling. The squaws are very about a week old, and are quite tender, in fact so tender that the condition in which they reach the Eastern markets must be anything but delectable. They are packed in ice in barrels as tight as they can be forced in by treading and stamping.

Wis. June 26, 82, Special: Kilbourn City, June 25. — The pigeons have taken wing for parts unknown if they are slaughtered at every nesting so much as when here this season, their numbers will so rapidly decrease that they will shortly become
May 6, 1871. "Pigeons. — And it seems unaccountable where they all come from, as it is said that each female bird hatches out but two or three eggs.

"For the past three weeks they have been flying in countless flocks which no man could number. On Saturday, April 24, for about two hours before night fell, they flew in one continuous flock from south to north, darkening the air and astonishing the people by the sounds of their wings and could be seen for miles in extent. And they have still continued to come although not in as great numbers. Nearly a train arrives that does not bring hunters or trappers. Hotels are full, cooperers are busy making barrels, and men, women, and children are active in packing the birds or filling the barrels. They are shipped to all places on the railways and to Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, Cincinnati, Philadelphia, New York, and Boston, being picked and packed in ice for the more distant points. Our express trains is it possible to take the large amount offered, and arrangements are made to forward them on the midnight train going east. From ten to thirty thousand birds are forwarded daily, most of which have to be picked after the arrival of the trains at night, in many instances the work of picking and packing being continued all night. One man has paid over a thousand dollars to the express company in charges for forwarding, in about two weeks the pigeon season will be over. Then look out for quakes."

May 13. "Next week will be time for squab hunting. Get ready your poles to lasso them from the trees. They are better and fatter than the old birds."

May 19. "Eight hundred dozen live pigeons were shipped from here at one car load last week. Squabs have been quite abundant but are now beginning to fly, and the sport is about over."

"The Indians catch squabs and ask them. They pick the feathers off, put them in a pot and boil them and then hang them up to dry. When needed, they devour all except the heads, bone and toe-nails."

May 26. "The pigeons have left for Minnesota. The squab business is about over only about 400 dozen remaining on hand. Eight hundred dozen were shipped at one car load this week."

Kildonan Mirror Sat. April 19, 1873. "Pigeons. Monday was Pigeon day—pigeons to the right of us, pigeons to the left of us, pigeons before us and pigeons behind us; in fact we might say that the air in the afternoons was full of pigeons. Three hundred dozen are reported as the amount slaughtered that day; our lists are full of prices and hunters and almost every train brings more of them. We expect soon to be rivelling amongst pigeon steaks and pigeon pies, pigeon roasts and pigeon pies, and after that a few weeks will be squab time. Well, pigeons came but once a year, let us eat them while they're here."

Sat. April 26, '73. "A lot of pigeon hunters arrived here on Tuesday evening but ascertaining that the pigeons had left, had their baggage rechecked and went further west on the same train."

"The pigeons have flown, And left the poor hunters alone, With their stools and their net. They wince and fret. Send telegrams all over the state, But no pigeons are found."

Ain trees or on ground The weather's too cold For the birds now to mate And the markets are closed. Amd left to their unfortunate fate."

"
A Wisconsin Pigeon Roost. - Forest & Stream 19 (1882) 8.

Aug.

A correspondent of the St. Louis Times-Telegram, writing from Sauk County, Wis., says: You have undoubtedly heard pigeon 'root' as well as 'nest stories,' and imagined the former to be mere fabrications, if such is the case a visit to the 'root' near Kilbourn (this county) would have confirmed what you have heard respecting them. Long before the locality was reached, vast columns of pigeons could be seen passing to and from the root, in their flight they appeared to follow certain routes, the array of flocks being so close as to resemble an army of feathered warriors. When their camp was reached, it was six miles in length and from one to two miles in width, the noise caused by the flapping of wings, and shortening and lengthening of leg-hunters and trappers, also reminded me of the approach of an enemy. There was no let up in the utterance, and quickly, and it was a matter of surprise that the hawks succeeded in catching a single egg, judging from the manner in which they were driven from their nests as soon as they settled upon them. Hundreds of trappers, Indians as well as 'pale faces,' were engaged in netting the old hens. One of the subjects caught was a single day old hatched egg. These are sold for ten cents each, the price ranging from seventy-five cents to one dollar per dozen. The profit of the business is so great that the telegraph is brought into requisition to notify the professionals of the location of a root, and they are hurried thither by the 'horse horse' in time to drive the assemblage from one or more locations before it finally settles down to be slaughtered and captured, as if desiring to escape from the inevitable. In addition to netting and shooting, some follow the business of plundering the nests for 'squabs,' these are palatable and sell readily, being shipped to distant markets by the barrel. Some idea of the wholesale slaughter is also conveyed by the immense number of young hens which are tumbled out of their nests before they are of any account whatever. As the pigeon lays two eggs, and the nest consists of a few twigs placed loosely together, the destruction by shooting through the nests is also immense. National as well as State laws should be enacted and enforced to put a stop to the wholesale slaughter of game. At the present rate of systematic destruction the time is not far distant when the sportsman will have to seek an almost inaccessible wilderness to find the larger species of game. When I first visited Wisconsin I found
Thirty years ago, from eight to one hundred prince chickens were easily
degged in a day, quail, jacksnipe and ducks were also abundant.
Now I rarely ventured on a hunt for as a general thing it don’t pay,
as far as the game is concerned. A friend once remarked after he had
-- [remainder of no value],

Kilbourn is a town of about 1000 inhabitants, and has been
this season the centre of the pigeon trade. Wonderful stories are
related, which tap once credibility immemorially when heard. Flocks
of pigeons, mending their way to the mighty roosts, have
produced a temporary obscenity of the rein to light, and means of
transportation have been in sufficient to ship vast the immense
numbers slaughtered. The place has been the headquarters of
sportsmen and speculators in the pigeon market, and large
sums of money have been reported made and lost." - Davencot,

Kilbourn Mirror, July 16, 75. A pigeon trapper who stopped
at the City Hotel over Sunday had with him a fine-looking
red-breasted cock-pigeon, with wattles on its breast after the
manner of a turkey cock. It was taken near Baldwin [St. Croix,
Co.] and its owner said he had captured another on which
the wattle was still more conspicuous."

Kilbourn Mirror. Gazette, Nov. 15, 79. Webster's Prairie, Wm. Rounds,
left last Monday for Siloam, Springs, Ark., where he will stay
for some time, and then go to Indian Territory where he will
hunt pigeons." [Rounds returned in January due to illness of his child].

squads are now being gathered in by the Winnebagos, there being several hundred of that tribe at the nesting ground. Some of the 'braves' are making big money, a few realizing $12 or $13 per day, which they generally manage to dispose of within the next twenty-four hours in gambling.


"Several enthusiastic pigeon hunters from vicinity went down to Milford City to catch their fortune in no time. They stayed one week and came back having caught the whole of no bird. - - the pigeons were thick, but no chance to catch them." M. J. Colvin.
La Crosse Evening Leader

March 8, 1871. "Pigeons -- these gentle heralds of spring -- flew over this neck of the vineyard yesterday morning. Pigeon pie will soon be the dish in order." [Jan. - April 30, '71]

La Crosse Democrat Sept. 13, 1853. "Yesterday our friend Stafford went out about three hours, and brought in between five and six dozen fine pigeons."

"Wild pigeons have been flying over La Crosse in such numbers for the past few days as to darken the air. Their flight was mostly from northwest (?) to southwest. -- Milwaukee Daily Sentinel May 17, 1871.

"The La Crosse Democrat says one man in that city is preserving in ice and shipping east daily, from 2000 to 4000 pounds of dressed pigeons." -- Milwaukee Daily Sentinel June 17, 1871.

May 17, 1871. "The La Crosse Democrat says that during a few days past, wild pigeons have been flying over that city in such numbers as to frequently darken the sun like a cloud, their flight being mostly from the northwest to the southwest, which leads us to believe that their nesting operations have been tampered with to such a degree as to cause them to desert their eggs, young and all." -- Janesville Gazette May 17, 1871.

Independent Republican April 13, 1859. "Ducks, geese, and pigeons are plenty anywhere within ten miles of La Crosse." [1858-59]

La Crosse Democrat (W) [April 1863 - May 1854] Nothing. (See Above)

Tri-Weekly Democrat Aug. 1861 - Dec. '63

"Wild Duck and Pigeons Above in these parts just now."

April 10, '63. "A Fruitful Year. -- The old saying is that "Plenty of Pigeons in the Spring, Plenty of Fruits in the Fall. If this be true we shall have a fruitful year as never before, wild pigeons as plenty as now."

La Crosse
Le Ross Weekly Democrat Sept. 11, 1863. "We have seen within these days, large amounts of ducks, pigeons—brought into town." [1861-63]

Le Ross National Democrat April 20, 1868. "We notice a good many of our boys slandering guns in the morning, and bringing in bags of ducks and pigeons at night." [March 1864 - Dec. 1899]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat April 7, 1864. "We notice hunters coming in from the bluffs nearly every day with game bags well filled with squirrels and pigeons." [March 1864 - Dec. 1899]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat April 12, 1864. "Wild pigeons are flying in great quantities. Our sporting citizens are having fine sport bringing down large quantities of them. They are fat and tender, and make excellent eating." [March 1864 - Dec. 1899]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat April 3, 1865. "Our sportingmen are already at work among the ducks, pigeons, and other game now abundant." [Jan. 1864 - Dec. 1875]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat April 8, 1865. "Dozens of pigeons were flying around quite plenty, but a little too high for shot guns." [March 1864 - Dec. 1875]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat April 23, 1875. "Pigeons fly high." May 7, 1875. "It was Wednesday, May 5th, and the pigeons were said to be flying pretty low, down in the oak groves on the bank of the bluffs, below the paper. -- The pigeons flew in squads of a dozen or so in number, and as the wind blew pretty hard, it was considered very skillful to bring your best every time. --" [March 1864 - Dec. 1875]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat May 15, 1875. "There were "millions in it." That flock of pigeons yesterday. "From the hour of four o'clock yesterday, until dusk, the air above the city was literally filled with wild pigeons. The birds flew toward the east, and a great number of hunters lined themselves up the bluffs back of town, to get a shot at them. They met with good success, too, for the birds got within easy range as they made their flight up through the trees, and a large number were killed." [March 1864 - Dec. 1875]

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat May 17, 1875. "We understand there is a small pigeon roost up in the woods of the Redwood Valley, in this county, and a large one, in the timber near Houston. No shooting at the bluffs on Saturday [15th]. "The pigeons had attained their corunage and didn't fly that way again."

Le Ross Daily Liberal Democrat April 11, 1876. "Pigeons are flying." April - Dec. 1875] [Jan. - June 1876 - July 1876]
La Crosse Morning Republican May 2, 1877.

"Pigeons are said to be very thick near Merrill, on the Green Bay road."

Wild pigeons are reported numerous in the woods about Bangor, Douglas. We guess the old pigeon catches were right; that Wisconsin was to be the camping ground for pigeons this year."

La Crosse Morning Leader (W) [Aug. 69 - Apr. 30, 71]

Weekly " [Aug. 69 - Dec. 70]

[Aug. 6, 71] "The Pigeon Trade." The pigeons which are so abundant on the line of the railway between Sparta and Portage, are proving quite a nuisance, the people of the villages and small towns being most annoyed with them. Several thousand pigeons are shipped daily to Milwaukee and Chicago, while considerable quantities are shipped abroad for the use of sportsmen in trap shooting. 

[May 13, 71] "The Pigeon Trade." Mr. David Truitt, writes us from the depot Station, as follows: "A lively business has been done in the pigeon trade in this vicinity the past ten days. Mr. Wright, express agent, informs me that he has sent to New York and Boston during this time, 3,120 doz., or 374,499 pigeons. How is that for high? Express charges only 860, or 37,440.

[May 20, 71] "A man from Bernheim's Valley who was in the city yesterday, contracted to deliver 100,000 pigeons to a buyer here."

[June 17, 71] "Pigeons are still plenty in this locality and our sportsmen have all the fun they want in the shooting line."

La Crosse Weekly Chronicle March 25, 1880. "Wild pigeons are flying quite thick."

[Apr. 27, 82] "Countless millions of pigeons are flying in Monroe county and some hundreds of hunters visit Sparta Tunnel City and the Tomah daily. The main flight appears to be along this side of the ridge and it is good a place for shooting as can be found. If a man is good at distance, he can bag all he can carry in a few hours."

La Crosse. (W) Merce [March 52 - 88] [1884 - 87]


(W) Republican [July 63 - Aug. 64; Sept. 67 - July 68] "

(W) Republican Leader [1874 - 76] Nothing. [1877-77]

[Apr. 29, 82] "A party of 150 men went out on the early train for the pigeons hunting near Sparta."
La Crosse Democrat May 15, 1871. "Wild pigeons for the last few days have been flying over this city in such numbers as to frequently darken the sun like a cloud. Their flight has been mostly from the northeast to the southwest, which leads us to believe that their nesting operations have been fooled with to such an extent as to cause them to desert their eggs, young and all. Hunters ought to leave sense enough to go slow a little and give the old birds time to bring forth their young; or, they will desert this section of the country entirely, but we don't suppose the farmers would mourn much."

George C. Herold (Racine, Wis.) June 13, 1871. "Tracking Pigeons by Telegraph. Very few persons in this community are aware that during the recent season our telegraph offices here and beyond have received dozens of messages from sportsmen who are tracking the flying flocks of pigeons; that their efforts might be located definitely. That they could then catch them in traps. Men in New York by means of the telegraph have tracked flocks of these birds from one state to another, through woods, over fields, lakes, etc., to near Shasta, Wis., and Milwaukee City, Wis., where there are thousands and thousands. A man shipped from Milwaukee to Buffalo one thousand and two hundred pigeons, of which about eight thousand arrived in good condition on the shooting grounds of Utica. During their three days' trip in the smokeless from Milwaukee, the birds consumed thirty-four barrels of corn." - La Crosse Democrat June 1, 1871.
"Tracking Pigeons by Telegraph"
La Crosse Democrat June 1, 1871.

Very few persons in this community are aware that during the present season our telegraph offices here and beyond have received dozens of messages from sportsmen who were tracking the flying flocks of pigeons, that their roosts might be located definitely that they could catch them in nets. Men in New York by means of the telegraph have tracked flocks of these birds from one State to another, through woods, over fields, lakes, etc. to near Sparta, Wis., and Kilbourn City, Wis., where there are thousands and thousands. One man shipped from Milwaukee to Buffalo one thousand and two coops, containing altogether ten thousand and two hundred pigeons; of these about eight thousand arrived in good condition after shooting on the sportsing grounds at Utica. During their three days' trip on the propeller from Milwaukee, the birds consumed thirty-four bushels of corn.

In the woods the birds do not fly in flocks, as is generally supposed, but are scattered, and fly in little or more like musquatices, so that it is very hard, although there seems to be millions of pigeons around, to kill large numbers at one shot. When the young are about two weeks old the old ones fill their crops with food and desert them.
Madiun State S. May 19, '75. The La Crosse Democrat says: From the hour of four o'clock Friday (14th), until dusk the air above the city was literally filled with wild pigeons. The birds flew toward the east, and a great number of hunters lined themselves to the cliffs back of town, to get a shot at them. They met with good success, too, for the birds got within easy range as they made their flight up through the circlies, and a large number were killed.

La Crosse (W) Democrat Tues. April 5, '84. Pigeons. — Wild pigeons are flying around quite plenty but a little too high for shot guns. April 13, '84 Great quantities. (a) April 14.

(a) Democrat March 29, '84. Sleeping perfectly.
April 22, '84 Untold millions flying.
May 9, '84 Pigeons. — Are still sleeping in large numbers. (a) May 8, May back.

(a) May 25, '84 Pigeons. — Are flying around quite plentifully...
June 15, '84. Numbers trapped. See above.

(a) June 15, '84. Pigeon shoot. A short tomorrow on the prairie.
2000 birds at hand.

June 17. Birds used in market yesterday were "too young; many of them not able to fly at all."

Chatfield (Minn) Democrat. June 23, '84. Wm in this town claims to have eaten 20 quacks for duck in last 10 days.
Ganseaive Gazette, April 20, 1867. "There are millions of wild pigeons in that vicinity now, and the boys are killing them in large numbers. The market is fairly overstocked with this kind of game."

La Crosse Republican (Not in News Index)

La Crosse National Democrat, June 2, 1857. "Pigeons by the millions are flying about at evening over the river, and settling [roosting?] in the woods. As they fly low, boys try to shoot them with paddles and net-ties, but seldom make a hit."

La Crosse (W) News, Sunday, May 14, 1882. "Pigeons in great numbers were flying over the city in the vicinity of the bluffs last week."

La Crosse (W) Daily News, May 21, 1882. "Pigeons are becoming plentiful in this locality. Great numbers are being slaughtered daily at the bluffs and at the sloughs south of the city."

La Crosse (W) Press, March 24, 1880. "A flock of wild pigeons were [was] seen flying over the city this morning. This is the first flock seen in this vicinity for several years, and the stories of the large number killed in other times are looked upon with much suspicion by the young folks of the city."
"Tracking Pigeons by Telegraph"

La Crosse Evening Democrat, June 1, 1871

"Very few persons in this community are aware that during the present season our telegraph offices here and beyond have received dozens of messages from sportsmen who were tracking the flying flocks of pigeons, that their roosts might be located definitely that they could then catch them in nets. Men in New York by means of the telegraph have tracked flocks of those birds from one state to another, through woods, over fields, lakes, etc. to near Sparta, Wis., and Kilbourn City, Wis., where there are thousands and thousands.

"One man shipped from Milwaukee to Buffalo one thousand and two coops containing altogether ten thousand and two hundred pigeons; of these about eight thousand arrived in good condition on the shooting grounds at Utica. During their three days' trip on the propella from Milwaukee, the birds consumed thirty-four bushels of corn.

"In the woods the birds do not fly in flocks, as is generally supposed, but are scattered, and fly in and out more like musquitoes, so that it is very hard, although there seems to be large numbers at one shot. When the young are about two weeks old the old ones fill their crops with food and desert them".
Milwaukee (Wisc.) Sentinel. Oct. 21, 1863. Mentions that a hunting party left La Crosse Oct. 12 and hunted 15 miles north of the town. In the list of game killed are "5 pigeons."

La Crosse Democrat. June 15, 1864. Pigeons. — Some idea of the pigeons to be found in this section may be had from the fact that one man, twelve miles south of La Crosse, has with a net this season taken over thirty thousand, all of which have been sold in this city. He has two thousand on hand for the shooting match tomorrow. Another man in Sparta, twenty-eight miles from here, has caught and sold over eighteen hundred dollars worth this season. The price they bring, four dollars a hundred by the quantity, makes pigeon catching rather profitable. It is seen for the men but very bad for the pigeons! — From Milwaukee (Wisc.) Sentinel. June 17, 1864.

Milwaukee Sentinel. June 20, 1862. "A gentleman on the train last evening states that the wholesale slaughter of young pigeons at Kilbourn city is villainous. Thirty hundred dozen were buried in a heap on Saturday, the birds having spoiled on the dealers' hands; they having captured more than they could take care of." From La Crosse Republican and Free Press. June 19.

Milwaukee Sentinel. April, 1869. The forests are filled with wild pigeons. La Crosse Democrat. March 30.

Mil. Daily News. April 14, 1859. "Some ten thousand acres of pigeons have been flying about our city within a few days!" — La Crosse Democrat. April 12, 1859.

La Crosse (Wisc.) Democrat. May, March 29, 1869. Wild Pigeons. — Recent flocks of wild pigeons were seen flying overhead this morning."
Lake Geneva Herald, Sept. 11, 1875. "Pigeons are numerous in the woods heretofore..." "Pigeons are sought in this week in moderate numbers..." - Xenia junction. "Pigeon shooting is all the rage."

Ibid, Sept. 18, '75. "H. Bradley, Esq., and comrades, went out last Saturday and bagged about seven dozen pigeons, in about four hours, shooting mostly single birds on the fly."

Ibid, Sept. 19, '74. "Innumerable thousands of pigeons are now about in the woods. Two hunters shot ninety-five in one day."

Ibid, March 27, '75. "... wild pigeons were seen on Thursday, 25th inst. [...] (from Elkhorn). April 3. Elkhorn. A most magnificent flight of pigeons over this section, mainly from southeast to the northwest. Total, "Pigeons are plenty..."

Ibid, March 16, '78. "Pigeons and ducks were flying southwest yesterday morning [March 15] in pretty large flocks."

Sept. 14, '78. "Hunters coming in with pigeons."

Sept. 12, '79. "Accompaniment more abundant and pigeons are coming." Oct. 3. Fly from our oak clump to another.

Feb. 27, 1880. "Flights of pigeons were flying over in Wednesday, 25th inst."

Feb. 10, '82. Xenia Junction. "Wild pigeons are seen flying every day now." Feb. 17. Tyler's... occasionally a flock of pigeons." B. Brownfield. "Pigeons are numerous."
Grant Co. Herald. June 17, 1843.

Birds... "A Pigeon roost in Iowa Territory, not many miles from Dubuque, and the fact that birds increase in quantity in proportion to the increase of density of settlements, accounts for the unusual number this season."

Ind. July 15, 1843. [Letter from Alfred Brunson, dated Black River Falls, June 12, 1843, describing part of an overland journey from Prairie du Chien to Two Points.] "The first time that we closed from the ridge was at the head of Coon and Prairie Quin Ouns rivers. The next day we took the ridge at the cabin and kept it for thirty miles without a break. We then diverged to the right about two miles out of our way, on a ridge leading to Fort Winnebago, probably not more than thirty miles distant from us. Here we passed through an oak grove in which millions of pigeons were nesting. Of course some two or three dozen of them were transferred from the trees to our pots and frying pans. This was near head of Big Run and Willaby Run, both branches of Black River. It took the party 20 days from R. du Chien to Black River Falls."

Ind. July 21, 1843. [Brunson writing from Chippewa Falls, June 21, 1843."

If wrote from Black River Falls.] "The elk and deer tracks were very numerous; some of the company saw elk but we killed none."

Ind. Sat. May 25, 1844. "A son of Samuel Gilbert of Prairie du Chien, aged about twelve years, was accidentally shot on Tuesday last, while running in company with two boys of about his own age, discovering a flock of pigeons on the ground, they all ran with their guns cocked and pointed, in tend to shoot as the pigeons rose."

[1843-45]

Ind. March 14, 1846. "Pigeons, millions of these birds are flying northward."

Ind. Sat. March 28, "A heavy snowing on Monday night and continued until Wednesday morning, and fell to a depth of about 4 or 5 inches, being the heaviest snow we have had during the season. The pigeons suffered extremely."

"Pigeons are preying heavily; predicting their fears upon the flight of pigeons."

Ind. May 1, 1847. "The wines of the Telegraph are recently badly
broken in the vicinity of Buffalo by immense flocks of pigeons playing against them. Many of the birds were picked up along the line that had been killed by the force with which they struck the wires in their flight.

[1846-48, fragments of '49 and '50]

Said, March 17, 1868, "Wild ducks, geese and pigeons are getting quite plenty." [May 22, 1866 - '68]

Said, March 9, 1869, "Large flocks of geese going south.

Said, Oct. 1, 1872, "Pigeons are still being killed in good numbers by our sportsmen." [1869-'72]

Said, March 25, 1873, "Flocks of pigeons are numerous.

"Tues., May 4, 1873, "While a party were pigeon hunting near Cincinnati, a Mound on Thursday last a hunter was shot.

Said, May 22, 1873, "Wild pigeons are abundant.

Sept. 25, "Pigeon shooting appears to be the principal amusement of sporting men at present.

"April 8, 1875, "These "heralders of spring," wild pigeons, duck and geese, are returning from the sunny climes of the South. Numerous flocks pass over the town every morning.

"Oct. 7, 1875, "Wild pigeon hunting is engaged in just now by the sporting fraternity, and a fine breakfast these birds make." [1873-75] [1876-'78]

"Sept. 28, 1875, Casville. Sporting on the bottoms this Fall is not what it used to be. No pigeons, and few ducks." [1879-'82] [1883-'85]

April 8, 1880, "Pigeons, ducks, and geese are seen almost every day."

Grant Co. Herald, 1865, "We shot a pigeon near this village last week, from the crop of which was estimated 30 acorns." - Chas. Mil. Daily Democrat, March 21, 1855. (Good acorn year)
"Ducks and pigeons.

'British Hollow.' Pigeons have made their appearance and are closely hunted by our sportsmen in general." [1875-76]

Grant County Argus, Sept. 17, 1877, 'British Hollow.' -- some of our 'crack shots' stalked through the surrounding woods, and gave a few wild pigeons of the few that are, the benefit of their skill.

March 11, 1878, "Pigeons were flying last week." [1876 - April 8, 1878] all.

[1878-79 Nothing], all.

Bloomington Record, May 5, 1881, "Pigeons are flying north." [1880-83]

Bloomington Advocate, [1873-74] Nothing, all.

[1883-84 Nothing], [1885-87]

Lancaster
"Pigeons are making their appearance, and sportmen are having rare times."

June 28, 1871. "Pigeons are quite plentiful at present in the groves around our village."

Sept. 6, '71. "We acknowledge ourself under obligations to Mr. Albert Bowman for a fine string of pigeons."

April 10, '73. "Geese, ducks, and pigeons can now be seen flying northward, at all times."

April 9, '73. "Pigeons are reported as being plentiful, but fly so high that sportmen have difficulty in obtaining them."

[Oct. 1870 - April 16, 1873 (suspended)]

Lodi Valley News Sept. 9, 1874. "We are under obligations to Charley Riley for an afternoon's pleasant trip and hunting excursion, last Saturday. It was a good day for hunting, but not good for game, and we intend to repeat it at no distant day on our own account, when the pigeons become more plentiful."

[1874-'76] [1877-'79]

[1880-'82]
Wisconsin Farmers (M) 1869-74.
Western Farmer 1882-1890.
Wisconsin " " 1891-1909.
and Northwestern Cultivator 1855-59.

Daily Palladium June-Aug. 1852.
State (W) June-Sept. 1852 (bound with Wis. Express).

Daily Madison Patriot April '96-March '97.
Wisconsin Patriot (M) July '64-1863.
Daily " Nr. '54-64.
Wisconsin State Zeitung Dec.'78-1907.

Daily Star March-Nov.'77.
Weekly " Dec.'77-Aug.'78.
Manston Star, April 20, 1871.

"Tom. Hyde brought us all, editors and printers, a fine lot of pigeons the other day. They were fat and we prized them. They were in a fine bushel sack when Tom turned them out to us."

"Our Annual Visitors. - The Indians are in town and camping over the river. They always come with the pigeons and birds of spring from their unknown winter retreat. Their tents are pitched, and the fires under their kettles are burning."

Quoted Adams County Express on meeting in towns of Strings Prairie, etc.

May 11, 1871.

"Personal. - We were grateful to receive a call from Mr. John Turner of the Manston Star, who has been taking a successful pigeon shoot lately. - State Journal."

"Now it really there's something wrong about this. John did not say he was going shooting pigeons when he left home, and not being much of a hunter, we apprehend the Journal has misplaced Mr. John's reputation as a good hunter, with the world wide fame of Jack Turner of the State Register."

"Portage. - as a robber of pigeon roosts."

"A wild pigeon, perfectly white, was shot in the woods near La Crosse the other day."

"Six hundred and twelve barrels of wild pigeons have been shipped from five stations on the St. Paul railroad thus far this season."

May 13, 1871. "The Great Pigeon Roost. - Last week, etc."

Henry Hammond, etc.

May 25, 1871. "Sports tell us that this season has been as fine one for batching of the eggs of prairie chickens, partridges, quails, etc."
July 20, 1871. "We hear from the farmers -- that prairie
chickens and partridges have had a good season for catching
and the young are plenty.

Aug. 24, 1871. "Some time since when speaking of the
steam mill property in this village we incidentally spoke
of the vast forests of oak between this place and Monroe. "

April 4, 1872. "We have not seen a duck or a pigeon yet."

April 3, 1873. "Grant County Herald says past winter has
been very severe on small game. Hundreds of quails and
partridges have been found under the snow frozen or
dead from starvation."

April 24, 1873. "The Wood County Reporter states that in all
probability there will be another pigeon root at or near
Friendship, Adams County. The pigeons are already flocking
hence by millions."

[1871-'73]

May 28, 1875. "Said Sturm. "They have six squares miles of pigeons at
River Falls." [Near Prescott]

April 12, 1876. "Pigeons. For several days past, pigeons have been
quite numerous in this vicinity, and hunters have improved the
opportunity to fill their game bags."

[1874-'76]

town yesterday as thick as...will probably be..."

pigeons in picking up No. 4 and 8 shot around our bluff early
Mornings have killed to them."

April 12, 1882. "Pigeons are nesting a few miles from Sparta and stopwatch in that vicinity are having lots of sport. It is estimated that
three thousand doves nests were netted on Tuesday."

May 4, 1882. "Pigeon hunting is still the rage near Sparta, hundreds of
doves being shot daily. Sportsmen are gathering these from all parts of the country."

New London correspondent. May 3. "Nearly all of our citizens are now at Tunneh
City, shooting or netting the wild pigeons. There is still remaining sufficient
of the village fathers to run the business of the village. "
Manitowoc Herald [April 1854 - 56] [57 - 57]

Thurs. March 15, 1860, "summers flights of pigeons passed over Chicago last Saturday morning, en route for the North," [1860 - March 15].

Manitowoc Tribune, April 3, 1856. "... There is a token, however, of pleasant weather, for the pigeons are on the wing."

[April 10, 56.] "The air thickened with clouds of pigeons resembling swarms of bees, reminding reporters of all kinds of small arms ... are heard from 'every nook to every one.' ... Sportsmen are engaging themselves, and though the birds are not and why, their success of some of them is indicative to their skill."

Manitowoc Press, April 25, 1854 - 56.

[April 8, 59.] "Pigeons. - Sporting men who think that our pigeons are not odd, this spring have only to go into the country a few miles in any direction and get their pockets filled with game and their illusions dispelled at the same time. We notice the birds coming in almost every day, a sign that they are plenty somewhere near." [Same as last "in daily for June 3].

[July 20, 1859.] A Col. Edwards while visiting for pigeons near the lake shore, a few rods north of the Little Manitowoc shot a pigeon.

[Sept. 7, 59.] "For Lake Wages, mentioning that pigeons are caught there;"

[1857 - 59]

[Daily] June 10, 58. "On Monday last [June 7], millions of pigeons were seen breeding the land before far out on the lake and alighting in large numbers as soon as they reached the shore. Some of them rested for a short time on the pier at Two Rivers, indicating considerable fatigue, as men were working there at the time. Within they were following the star of immigration from the Michigan shore, or whether they were blown out to sea in a fog, is difficult to conjecture. Such a circumstance has no precedent in the memory of the oldest inhabitant."

[Daily] July 17, 58. "A Good Day's Work. - E. Marshall finds, informs the Racine News that a few days since he went out pigeon shotting and the result of his day's work was 300 banded and 150 pigeons, a pretty good day's shotting, we call that." - Milwaukee Wiscons."

We can tell a better story than that. The librarian of pigeons shot by the sporting editor of this paper, which fell within bounds, in one day, 163, without counting true strings picked up by wagging boys who found them...
to steal pigeons, whom they killed by hundreds, singly."

"June 27, '59. "Pigeons are becoming plentiful again.""

"July 15, '59. "Our sportsmen are in the height of enjoyment. Pigeons are not

game birds, but they afford rare sport sometimes and at this time they fill

the air in countless numbers." July 29. ".. flying over the town..."

"April 23, '60. "The air is filled with pigeons and the center is black with ducks.""

"June 19, '60. "There are plenty of pigeons in the woods, and the farmers are

complaining of their depredations. Several oat fields just seeded in

this vicinity are said to be covered with them. It is too warm to hunt them."

[1869 - June 29, '61] [July - Nov. 5, '61] [Tri-Weekly Nov. 61 - July '65].

[1864] [1865 to July 12, gap to March '67]

"May 6, '69. "No pigeons to speak of this year." [1867-'70]

"April 21, '72. "Pigeons are flying about in clouds, but many are

seem to be returning south, probably on account of the masses of

snow still remaining in the woods.""

"Aug. 29, '72. "Pigeons are said to be quite plentiful in the woods,

between here and Neshota." [1871-'72]

"April 1, '73. "The pigeons are flying..."

"April 6, '76. "Thousands of flocks of pigeons have flown over the city

during the week..."

"April 26, '76. "Here being no more pigeons to shoot at, our sportsmen

are turning their attention to duck hunting with considerable success.""

"April 19, '77. "Pigeons are flying and muskets are making their appearance."

"Sept. 13, '77. "Pigeons hunting is what our Minnies delight in just now."

"March 14, '78. "It is the wild pigeons our Minnies go for now-a-days.""

[1874 - April 19, '78] ['79-'81] ['82-'84]

Win., Sept. 31, 1863. "Manitowoc Herald says the woods are filled

with bears. They are attracted to the bead groves where they find

a plentiful supply of food."

Win., Sept. 12, '65. "The Manitowoc Tribune says pigeons are

very plentiful, and sportsmen are knocking down dozens of them,"
"Manitouc Pilot," July 29, 1889. "Sporting... Fish in the river, and pigeons flying over the town,..."

April 19, '67. "Sportsmen are enjoying themselves at the expense of the many ducks and pigeons which now abound."


Sept. 7, '69. "Our sportsmen are having a good run of game, especially pigeons, and amateur hunters come in loaded down with them.

March 31, '70. "Pigeons have commenced to fly, several flocks passing over the city within the past few days." [1867-'70] [1871-'73]

April 1, '75. "Pigeons and blackbirds have been seen in this vicinity for the past few days." [1874-'75][1876]

April 8, '75. "Pigeon nest-pies are dished up now days." [1874-'75][1876]

March 14, '78. "Pigeons are said to be quite numerous and hunters are on the quick rise."

March 9, '78. "Several flocks of wild pigeons passed over the village this week and from that fact, the farmers predict the approach of an early spring."

March 21, '78. "Meene, March 11, '78. "Great flocks of pigeons can be found in the woods,..."

May 1, '77. "Pigeons do not seem to be plentiful at present."

April 10, '79. "All the species of birds common to this latitude have returned."

Sext. '79. "Pigeons are very scarce this fall. So say the hunters and their game provender confirm their statement." [1877-'79]

April 18, '80. "Blackbirds are thick and pigeons are tempting the sportsmen."

"Two weeks... Pigeons and other birds of passage are numerous."

"The pigeons have left this part of the state."

Aug. 26, '81. "Pigeons are not inclined to put up an appearance."

April 7, '81. "Snow drifts are almost solid ice."

"April 14, '81. "Hunters are beginning to fit up gun. Preparatory to the slaughter of suspected pigeons."

Aug. 31, '82. "Ducks and pigeons have begun to fly." [1880-'85]

Shelburne, Thurs. April 29, 1886. "An immense flock of pigeons came down from the Peninsula on Thursday passing over Two Rivers to..."
Manitowoc Times May 2, '82. Pigeons have been seen and the sound of the gun is heard in the land." [Oct. 4, '81 - '84] [85 - '87]

Manitowoc Pilot Sept. 12, 1875. "There are more wild pigeons in this county this fall than in any preceding year since the oldest inhabitant was a baby. These and grey squirrels make hunting quite pleasant."

Manitowoc Tribune March 19, 1868. "Locals hunters find wild pigeons quite plentiful this year. . . . They are quite numerous." [1874-75]

Manitowoc News-Western [1874 - '75]
Sat. May 1, '75. "Pigeons are making their appearance. Quite a number have been bagged lately by our amateur sportsmen."

Aug. 21, '75. "Pigeons have been seen in considerable quantities around here during the last few days, and sportsmen are cultivating their acquaintance."

Sept. 4, '75. "Hunters go out from here every morning after pigeons and return with dead loads of these birds, more or less, depending upon their skill as marksmen."

"We hear of one hunter who killed 130 pigeons yesterday morning."

"We hear of one Peshigo. Pigeons are plenty in this vicinity and sportsmen are devoting what time they have to spare in hunting them."

Sat. April 15, '76. "Pigeons are numerous and hunting likewise."

"An immense flock of pigeons flew over here last Sunday afternoon, going south."

April 24, '76. "Many are called but few are chosen" is what the hunters say of the pigeons."

Sept. 8, 1877. "Plenty of pigeons reported up river."

March 16, '78. "Pigeons have made their appearance here."

Peshigo Item, Green Bay Reporter, Sept. 11, '75. "Pigeons are plenty."

[Sept. 1871 - '78]

Shed, Sat. Sept. 6, 1877. "A good deal of pigeon shooting has been indulged in late, these birds being quite numerous."

Shed, April 3, 1880. "Pigeons from six to eight o'clock Wednesday morning were flying in clouds to the northwest. They were rather too much elevated, however, for the average sportsman."

[1879 - Aug. 28, '80]

Shed, April 3, 1881. "Pigeons and other wild fowl are beginning to show themselves."

Shed, Aug. 27, '81. "Pigeons are flying in some quantities morning and evening near town."

"Pigeons are numerous in the woods along the old Peshigo road and the sportsmen are having a big time. Menasha come -
April 1, '82, Florence Corrent, "Pigeons will be flying about soon."

April 15, '82, Menasha. "Pigeons beginning to fly; scarce."

"Pigeons show themselves rather sparingly this spring thus far; and our sports are feeling blue in consequence."

[1881-82]

Aug. 30, '84. Went to camp, Jungo, Aug. 19th. Captured "brides" partridges, pigeons, porcupines and mice."

April 25, '85. "Ducks and pigeons are reported plenty."

[May late spring] [1883 - Aug. 9, '85]

Marinette Eagle. Apr. 17, '86. Menasha. "A number of wild pigeons were shot on the bay shore during the past week."

[Aug. 5 - Oct. 5] [1886 - 1887]

Marinette Independent [Aug. 21 - Nov. 4, '86 all]

North Star [1882 - Feb. 6, '85 all]. Nothing!

Marinette and Peshtigo Eagle. April 20, '82. "Pigeons are plenty in the timber north of the Menominee."

Aug. 15, '84. "Pigeon shooting up by the Boom Company's dam is getting to be quite lively now." Aug. 29. "Pigeon shooting is indulged in, morning and evening... with varied success."

Peshtigo. "Pigeon shooting is slightly on the wane, as the birds are getting scarce. For a few weeks we have had a subject."

Sept. 5. "Pigeons here nearly all taken their departure."

"Some of our prominent business men (?) are busy engaged, and have been the past week in destroying thousands of poor little helpless young pigeons yet without feathers, and encouraging others in the wholesale murder and all from a greedy desire to catch a few squabs to ship and sell for 80 cents per dozen. Money! fit up your farshame." I.C.W.

Ibid. Thurs. June 1, 1882. "Pigeon hunting near Kilburn is now all the rage. W.H.H. Cash shipped large quantities from there last week, as many as three hundred and a dozen being sent in one day to Boston."

Ibid. June 15, 1882. "Five of our young men took a trip to the pigeon root near Kilburn, Monday [June 12], morning, and returned Tuesday evening, bringing as trophies about two hundred birds."

Ibid. June 22, 1882. "W.H.H. Cash shipped from Kilburn, last week, Wednesday and Thursday [June 14 and 15], five thousand and a dozen pigeons, or sixty thousand birds."

"Wm. Cash and Chief Lyon, with their wives and children, spent a couple of days last week, at the pigeon roots near Kilburn City. They bagged all the pigeons they wanted at a very short time."

Ibid. April 24, 1884. "Pigeons are not as plenty in this vicinity as usual, only occasional small flocks being seen."

[1880-82] [1883-88] [1886-88] [1889-90]

[1857-59] [1860-63] [1864-66] [1867-1870]

Medford, April 29, 1875: "Pigeons are nesting in the little pines of West County."

Medford, Thurs. May 4, '76: "Pigeons have appeared in large flocks during the past week." [April '75 - '76]

Medford Star and News [Aug '78 - '80].
April 12, 1886, "Duck, Pigeons, Squirrels etc., are abundant."

April 22, 75. "Pigeons in flocks are hovering about this morning in search of speculative settlers who furnish them transportation to eastern markets."

March 10, 76. "Pigeons are beginning to put in an appearance. They have not decided where to roost but will look around and select the location which holds out the largest inducements."

March 23, 76. "Pigeons are sailing northward."

April 20. "Sportmen are after pigeons."
Menomonee Dunn County News, 1871, says thousands of pigeons are being killed at Nine Mile Slough, below Dunnville, where they have a roost." - Dunn Memory Hole May 1, 1871, [2].

Milwaukee Commercial Times June 2, 1877, "The sportmen at Menomonee [Wisc. N.Y. I.] bagged in one day 27 pigeons and caught 75 trout."

Menomonee News [May 19 - Dec. 22, '66] [Aug. 12, '71 - '73]

 Ibid., May 29, 1875, "Sheriff George and Horace Tainter brought home the fruit of the week, as the result of about one day's effort ... one hundred and twenty-seven pigeons and seventy odd trout." [Ref.]

Ibid. April 28, 1877. Emu Valley. April 26. "Myriads of pigeons are blowing here about ..." [Ref.]

Ibid. April 8, 1882. Elkhorn River. April 3. "Last Saturday [April 1] the air was full of pigeons nearly all day."

Ibid. April 11, 1886. "Flocks of pigeons and wild geese passed over this region on election day [9th]."

Ibid. May 2, 1886. Elkhorn River. April 29. "... Last Monday [April 27] ... a foot or more of snow." [Ref. '86, '87, '88, '89, '90, '91].

Menomonee Times [1877-'79] [80-'83]
Merillan, Wisconsin, Leader, May 12, 1877. "Wild pigeons are plenty. Hunters and sportsmen are enjoying themselves largely."

Feb. 17, 1882. "The weather for the past week has been almost an exact imitation of April; the frost is nearly out of the ground, the birds are starting, the bears and pigeons are out in the woods, and to all appearances spring has come."

May 5, 1882. "Numerous quails a number of our sportsmen are hunting pigeons down near Kendall, Monroe County."

Fri., May 26, 1882. "Aescue Merrill, H. P. Rossman, Dr. Moore, and C. H. Ketchum visited the pigeon roost between Touch and Sparta last Saturday [May 20], and returned home with a large number of birds."

[1877-1909] [1877-79] [1880-82] [1883-86]
Merrill Advocate, June 12, 1875. "A few stray pigeons have been seen around here for the past few days, causing considerable commotion among the heaviest sidents of our village..."


Antigo Steam, Aug 32-34, 35-37.

Antigo Republican, 1889-90.
Milwaukee Sentinel (W). [1838-40] [41-43] [44-46]
  " (d) [47-48] [49-52]
  " March 21, '49. "We had a thunder storm early yesterday morning, followed by a warm rain in the forenoon and sunshine and baking breezes in the afternoon. During the day large flocks of pigeons passed over our city in their migratory march." [51 - 52]

Hid. Mon. Aug. 1, '53. "Two citizens on day last week, in 4 hours, killed 22 woodcocks; not to mention pigeons and other small game." [1853 - 54 - 55 - 56 - 57 - 58 -]

Hid. April 16, '59. "Dressed pigeons - a nice lot of fresh dressed pigeons can be had by calling at Allcott Brothers, 22 Chestnut Street."

Hid. April 21, '59. "Allcott Brothers - are receiving nice dressed pigeons daily. Those wishing them in large or small quantities can be supplied by calling on them."


1864. Sevene drought year.

Hid. May 12, '66. Wisconsin Item. "Pigeon shooting is the principal employment of the sportmen in Wisconsin just now. The pigeons are destroying the newly sown wheat."

Hid. April 22, '67. "Pigeons - During the past week large flocks of wild pigeons have passed over the city, en route for their summer abodes in the woods. From present indications sportmen think there will be plenty of pigeons in the woods, although not as many as last year." [1867] [1868] [1869]
Milwaukee Sentinel April 2, 1869. 12 to 15" snow fell yesterday.

[1869] [1870] [1871] See next page.

Sept 11th, 71... Same - 5 dry Pigeons, 75¢.
14, " 10... " Sales 20... 50 c.
15, " 10... " 10... 50 c.

March 27th, 72... Flocks of pigeons have passed over this city at intervals since Monday morning [March 26].

March 29th, 72... Numerous flocks of pigeons were flying last evening in Waukesha county.

April 26th, 72... Sales 30 dry Pigeons at 80c per dozen.
22, " 30... 85¢... " 85¢
29, "... " Pigeons are in large supply, and sell at 80 @ 85¢ per dozen.

May 3rd, 72... Sales 30 dry Pigeons at 80c.
6, "... " Pigeons are plenty at 75c per dozen.
Aug 29th, "... " Sense equinoxial storm.

Eugene Cole of Clayton [Waukesha Co.] killed eighteen pigeons at once shot, on Saturday last [Aug 31].

Sept 17th, 72... Man kills himself near Milwaukee on 15th. 

Read the line: 'lay a string of nine wild pigeons.' [72]

Feb 28th, 173... Forgot order to May 7, 73.

April 8th, 73... We note sales of 80 dozen Pigeon at $1.00.
10, "... " Sales 812 dozen Pigeons $1.00.
11, "... " Pigeons are plenty and 80 dozen sold at 70c.
19, "... " Pigeons sell at 70c & 1.10 per dozen, the latter for dressed.

19th. Several car-loads of wild pigeons were received
line yesterday, and retailed at $1.25 and $1 per dozen.

April 24th, 73... Pigeons sell at 75c @ 1.00 per dozen, the latter
for dressed. April 29th, [Same statement] April 30th, 73 @ 1.100 per dozen,
the latter for dressed.
Milwaukee Sentinel

March 20, 1871. "Wild pigeons have made their appearance in market."

April 26, '71. "Pigeons. Accounts from various parts of the state indicate that sportsmen are finding an abundance of game. On Monday the St. Paul Railway brought over nine tons of pigeons to Watertown, from the stations at Tomah, Ixonia, Orange, Lomira and Mauston."

April 27, '71. "Game - 30 in good supply. Sales - 25 dozen pigeons, 85 c."

April 28, '71. 40 dozen pigeons at 75 c.

May 1, '71. "We note sales of 75 dozen pigeons at 50 c. each."

May 2. "The Pigeon Trade. Something of an idea of the 'pigeon trade' may be formed when we state that every train arriving here on the La Crosse road, brings from a hundred to two hundred barrels of the 'dead birds' to market. In addition, great numbers are being brought to the city alive for sportmen to use at their 'break shots.' The birds are captured in great numbers in the vicinity of Milwaukee, and, in fact, all along the Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad, between Milwaukee and Sparta."

May 8. Pigeons. 45-50 c. each.

n 10 2 60 c. each.

n 15 150 dozen pigeons at 55 c. each.

n 20 80 dozen pigeons at 40-50 c. each; 75 dozen dressed 65 c. each.

15 Same in light supply. Sales - 25 dozen dressed pigeons at 65 c. each.

[Jan. - Dec. 1871]

"The Milwaukee Wisconsin of the 8th inst. says: The woods in the vicinity of the city are said to be filled with pigeons, and hunters are making great preparations for sport." - Janesville Gazette April 9, 1872.
Milwaukee Northwestern May 24, 61, "Pigeons are plenty in Milwaukee, in the wing."

Milwaukee Advertiser [July 1836 - June 37] [1838 - '41 no?., nos. all]

Jefferson Union Feb 17, 1889, "The Milwaukee Sentinel reports several flocks of pigeons have been seen flying northward, indicating an early spring."

Milwaukee Commercial Herald (Tri Weekly) [1844 - July '43]

Semi-Weekly Gazette [Nov. 1845 - July '46]

Mil. Sentinel May 5, '73, "Pigeons sell at 30 c. per dozen, at which price 110 dozen are reported."

May 8, '73, "Pigeons are in good supply, and we note sales of 142 dozen at 25 c. and a few dozen dressed at 20 c."

May 21, '73, "Pigeons sell at 25 c. @ 100 per dozen; the latter for dressed."

June 9, "Rich fog at sundown yesterday.

14 "" deceased pigeons continue to sell at 100 c. per dozen.

Sept. 30, "Bunting"

May 4, '74, "36 dozen pigeons, 1.25. [First greenting]."

Oct. 10, '74, "Pigeons sell at 75 c. per dozen."

Dec. 2, "60 c. [1874]

March 31, '75, "Large flocks of wild pigeons passed over the city yesterday forenoon."

April 1, '75, "75 c. per dozen."

May 20, "5, 9, 7, 60, 75, 90 c.

May 23, '75, "Wild pigeons are in a large supply and we note sales at 75 @ 100 per dozen and dressed at 1.00."

May 24, '75, p. 2, "Pigeons picked up twelve acres of wheat for a Pierce County man."

"There is a lively demand for pigeons in the Milwaukee market now. Send them to address."

"Wide, wide, wide. Wild pigeons are in a large supply and we note sales at 65 @ 100 per dozen and dressed at 1.00."

"Milwaukee Sentinel."

"The Milwaukee Sentinel reports several flocks of pigeons have been seen flying northward, indicating an early spring."

Milwaukee Commercial Herald (Tri Weekly) [1844 - July '43]

Semi-Weekly Gazette [Nov. 1845 - July '46]
Milwaukee, May 24, 76. Two men shot 174 pigeons in four hours at Baldwinville the other day. The roast covers fifty square miles.

Milwaukee, May 31, 76. Wild pigeons are in large supply and we note sales of 65 @ 70c per dozen and dressed at 85c @ 90c.

Milwaukee, June 1, 76. Fifty cases of pigeons were shipped from this city to Chicago or yesterday. The birds were trapped near Monroe and Oxford, and are destined for the shooting match about to take place in the Garden City.

Milwaukee, Sept. 1, 76. Pigeons at 60 @ 75c.

[1876]

April 15, 76. Same increase and nominal. Sales 2 doz. Pigeons, 1.25.

21, "75c, Pigeons, 1.15c.

22, "Pigeons at 90c @ 1.10c. [Same up to April 28]

28, "Pigeons at 75 @ 85c.

29, "62½ @ 80c.

May 1, "Sales 120 doz. dressed Pigeons at 50c, and 35 @ 40c.

5, "180 doz. dressed Pigeons at 50 @ 70c.

9, "Dressed Pigeons, 60 @ 65c.

13, "Sales confined to a few lots of dressed Pigeons at 50 @ 75c per doz.

15, "Pigeons are offered freely at 75c @ 1.00 per doz.

19, "75c @ 85c.

23, "190 dozen sold at 65 @ 70c.

29, "a few lots of dressed Pigeons at 65c.

June 8, "Pigeons -- sell at 35 @ 50c. per doz.

Sept. 2, "at 75c.

16, "Pigeons and things do not fly so high but that Stewart & Co add them to their list of luxuries for the expectant people.

18, "Pigeons 75c.

23, "70c.

[ very general complaint of scarcity of ducks in eastern Wis. ]

Oct. 2, "Pigeons 60c.

9, "Dec. 22, 76. "5 doz. Pigeons live 75c."

[1876]


27. "A dense fog overspread Lake Michigan last night.


Oct. 2. "Pigeons, 75 cts. each.

6. "Peregrinas for Pigeon hunting and fishing continue to receive almost equal attention." [1877]

April 13, '78. "2 bbls. pigeons, 50 @ 90 cts. per bbl." [First quotation]

15. Sales: 400 lb. pigeons 75 @ 80 cts. per doz.


17. " - 335 " " 60 @ 65 cts.


20. "Sales of 8 bbls. pigeons at 60 cts. per bbl.

22. "88 doz. pigeons 60 cts."

[No quotations in interim]

May 20, '78. "2 bbls. pigeons, not dressed, 40 cts.

22. "60 doz. 40 cts. 60 doz. 50 cts. 60 bbls. do. 40 cts. 3 bbls.

40 cts."

June 7, '78. "5 bbls. undressed pigeons 50 cts." [1878] [79]


March 9, '81. A catalogue of the first appearance of birds in the year 1880 was noted and compiled by Jonas T.

White. --- Pigeons, May 6 ---

March 25, '81. Snow blockade.

28. "Sence winter. heaviest snowfall known.


30. " 1.00."


3. "Pigeons have commenced coming, but are still scarce at 70 cts. per doz.


6, 10, 31.

13, '81. "No pigeons have been offered"

15. "Wild pigeons 60 cts.

17.
Milwaukee, Dec. 10, '81, Sales 2 doz. pigeons 75c.

Milwaukee, Dec. 13, '81, Pigeons 75c. [Same for Dec. 14.]

16, 75 @ 80c.

19, 20, 21, 24, 28, 29, 31, Pigeons 75c. [1881]

Jan. 2, '82. Also 7.

6. Dealing in Game. Chicago, Jan. 5. The game dealers and city sportmen held a meeting this afternoon at the Sherman House, at which steps were taken to form a state organization for the purpose of preventing the selling of game in close seasons and for the general protection of legitimate dealers.

Jan. 23, '82. [Squirrels have been quoted regularly at 50-60c. deg.]

Feb. 8. Squirrels plentiful and lower, sales 1-3c. at 25c. [deg.]

Feb. 13, Saturday's News, Local. Large flocks of pigeons have been noticed flying northward, auguring an early spring. This is hardly any frost in the ground, and several farmers in Waukesha are already engaged in spring work.

Pigeons are again in full bloom.


Squirrels 25-35c.

March 1. Pigeons 70c @ 1.00. A few pigeons offering.

Market: all scarce.

March 10, '82. Fowl scarce. There have been a few pigeons.

Sales - 4 doz. pigeons 80c.

Sales have been confined to ducks and pigeons and not many of them. - Pigeons 75@ 80c per doz.

April 6, '82. Sales - 4 doz. pigeons at 1.25 per doz.

14. Pigeons are occasionally offered and sold at 1.00 @ 1.25 per doz.

17. State News. Here is a pigeon roost near Stevens Point, and sportmen are anticipating some fun capturing 'queeks' in a few weeks.

May 1, '82. Sales - 60 doz. pigeons at 1.00 per doz.


It looks like the market 'queek' now is fairly flooded with wild pigeons, and a Sentinel reporter yesterday to make inquiries concerning the points from which they are being shipped. J.C. Weller was visited of course.
Milwaukee:

...the news above all others must likely to know. The promptness in-
formed the reporter that the shipments are being made principally from
Tombah and Tumberland on the line of the old rail road division by the
Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railway, where millions of pigeons are
at present congregating and congregating and where they will forms a
nest for latching unless too much disturbed by sportmen. Mr. Miller
added that while the birds are not so plenty yet, that they can be
knocked off the trees with clubs, still shooting men daily secure
all they can conveniently carry with powder and shot. Several large
parties of Milwaukeeans, chiefly railroad men, have already visited
the "Wapiti hunting ground," and other parties are being constantly
organized for raids upon the swathed tribe. A movement is
said to be on foot to organize match parties composed of the
crack shots of the city, for a friendly trial of skill, the losses
to pay for the supper and ices.

Sales - 18 dag., pigeons at 80c @ 1.00 per dry.

May 4, '82. Sales - 15 dag., pigeons 80c, do 15 at 85c.

5. "Pigeons have been in sight, supply at 80c, but latest sales were at 80c @ 85c, per dry.

May 6, '82. Same. it is said to pigeons at 80c @ 85c per dry. scarce.

Sales - 25 dag., pigeons at 1.25 per dry.

12. Also pigeons at 1.00 @ 1.25 per dry, for the appearance

13. Sales 50 dag, pigeons at 1.00 per dry.

15. "Nothing but pigeons on the market, some from a distance
packed in ice are selling for 1.00 per dry.

Sales - 27 dag, at 1.00 per dry.

19. "Pigeons are a little fewer. During the past day
no sale they have been gaining a little plenty. Latest sales
were made at 1.00 per dry.

20. "Pigeons not very plenty.

22. scarce, Sales 15 dag., 1.12 1/2 @ 1.25,

23. per dry 1.00, agreed do 1.00, scarce, Sales - 10 dag,
at 1.00 per dry.

24. State Notes, "The pigeon meeting at Tombah was interrupted
and but few birds are left. The pigeon catchers are now
en route to Augusta, where another body of birds are about
to nest."

Sales 15 dag., pigeons at 1.00 @ 1.25 per dry; agreed do 80c @ 1.00.

Burgees Cellulose Company
Pigeons and squab plentiful.

June 1, 1882. "Sales - 70 doz; pigeons at 90c @ 70c per doz."

June 2, 1882. "Squabs are becoming plentiful at 80c @ 90c per doz."

June 3, 1882. "Squabs - 25 doz; pigeons at 1.20 per doz; 60 doz; squab at 50c. per doz; 49 doz; squab at 40c. per doz."

June 5, 1882. "Squabs scarce and firm. Sales - 20 doz; pigeons at 1.00 per doz."

June 8, 1882. "Pigeons have been lightly marketed at 1.10 @ 1.25 per doz. Squabs have been in light supply at 75c @ 80c. pentog."

June 10, 1882. "Squabs scarce; pigeons dull."

June 14, 1882. "Squabs 85@ 1.80 per doz; pigeons 50 @ 75; dull; not many here; but not wanted. Sales - 160. pigeons at 85c per doz."

June 16, 1882. "Pigeons have been bringing 60c @ 1.00 per doz; but lately people appear to be tiring of them and they go very slowly at 75 @ 80c. Squabs bring about the same with even more slowness."

June 19, 1882. "Squabs 75 @ 90c; dull and scarcely wanted."

June 22, 1882. "Same - thousands of fine squabs coming 25c. per doz."


"The destruction system recently adopted in Wisconsin to secure young pigeons for the market has stirred up the indignation of the Chicago game dealers. It is claimed that an individual who has taken possession of the nesting has hired a lot of Indians to make raids upon them, shaking them out of the trees and killing most of the young hawks that are unfit for use. It is said that great numbers have been shipped into the market that are too young to be eaten, and that many were left upon the ground as they fell from the trees, their destroyers being satisfied that they could not realize the price of transportation from their sales. The young hawks are not supposed to be fit for eat until they begin to fly, at which time they leave their nests and may be caught. In order to get more of them, and with less difficulty, the Indians have been and are still employed to..."
shake the trees, in this way not only the young are killed, but the eggs are broken. The birds that are caught are shipped into wagons and shipped in bulk to the metropolis, only fit to improve the soil and deface the purchaser. The game association will take steps to prevent a repetition of the evil next year, and may take some action in time to save some birds this season."

**June 23, 82.** "Game—Thousands of young pigeons scarcely able to fly are being brought in alive in large flat crates which confine them closely. Some are sold in the market for food, others are sent further to be flung from traps to be shot. The whole thing looks cruel and out of order of legitimate trade, and ought to be suppressed."

**June 24, 82.** "Squabs 40c per doz. Dull." "26, " " per doz. 35 @ 40c; dull; no pigeons here." "27, " " Game—None in the market." "Nov. 30, " " Pigeons; few doz. 90c @ 1.00" Dec. 8, " " 15," " " 27," " 

[1882]

No quotations on pigeons 1883-84.
Mil. Evening Wiscons[1870] [May to Oct. 7'81]

Feb. 15, 82. "A couple of robins visited the court house park this morning, the first call of the season."

"Supervisor Egan reports pigeons, blackbirds, robins, and meadow larks 'singing about the village of Franklin."

April 30, 82. "Mentioned a clay pigeon shoot tomorrow."

May 23, 82. "About 75 crates of live wild quail and several hundred barrels of dead salted wild pigeons pass through the city by way of the American Express Co., daily."

June 1, 82. "The American Express Company yesterday delivered twenty-five crates of young wild pigeons to Milwaukee game dealers. The birds were in fine condition and were caught in nets near Kilbourn City."

June 5, 82. "Grand Inter-State Shooting Tournament."

"A grand prize shoot, open to all the world, will be held July 3rd, 4th, 5th and 6th at the Cold Spring Driving Park, managed by W.P. Thomas and W.H. Cash. These gentlemen are used to the business and their past reputation warrants the assertion that it will be one of the greatest shoots ever held in the northwest. Prizes to the amount of over $6,000 will be offered and over 8,000 strong, live, wild pigeons are now on hand."

"Eight thousand birds will arrive in Milwaukee tomorrow from New York, and will be taken to the grounds, and prepared for the shoot, so as to have them in the best condition. Nothing but choice, live, wild pigeons will be used, selected with great care especially for the occasion." [May 7'81 - June 24'82]

July 1, 82. "This forenoon a Wisconsin reporter was shown through a pigeon loft, kept by H.D. Gardner, at No. 1, 924 Wells Stree. The loft contiene about 3,000 wild birds, and the trained confusion made by them flying about is terrific. Two boys are kept busy feeding them and they are sold to supply birds for matches. They are obtained by visiting the breeding places of the birds, where they are shaken out of their nests by jarring the trees."
Milwaukee, July 5, 82. Account of pigeon shooting match.

W12, July 7, 82. Pigeon Tournament. — "The total receipts of the pigeon shoot were $1,700, and the expenses $1,100. Of the 6,000 birds shipped to the city for the shoot, but 3,000 were used. In an interview with W. H. H. Cash, manager of the affair, this morning, he related how the Chicago commission house had tried to beat him by reporting that birds killed were diseased, etc., for the purpose of getting them cheaper than the bill of pigeons called for each time. After the pigeon market had opened pretty strong, Chicago dealers tried to break the lowest prices, when Cash went in and bought every pigeon on the market, shipped them to Boston, and refused thereafter to deal with them. The Chicago men then went to Sparta and Kenosha City, and bought a large number from the men there at 70 cents a dozen. As soon as the birds reached market Cash took them all at their price $1.25 a dozen, and shipped them to Boston where he got $2.00 and succeeded in again creating a corner on the Chicago men, which he still holds."

Milwaukee, Wisconsin. "The market is overstocked with wild pigeons and the birds can be had in any quantity almost for the asking." — From Medici's State J. May 1, 1867. [1].
Milwaukee Daily Wisconin June 14, 1848. "We are told that there are plenty of wild pigeons within a mile or two of the city, especially around the north point of the bluff."

Ald.: Sept. 5, 1848. "Wild pigeons and prairie chickens are getting thicker and thicker, and more of them", and our citizens are off for the hunting grounds by the scores. [April - Dec. 1848]

Milwaukee Weekly Wisconsin Feb. 9, 1848. "The winter has been marked by a general mildness, and the absence of snow."

Ald.: March 8, 1848. On March 4 "intensely cold with 6" of snow. All of March cold, the coldest month of the winter.


Ald.: May 6, 1850. Prairie fires have been very destructive. [Feb. 25, 1850]

Dec. 18, 1850. "6" of snow above a foot deep. [1850]

Feb. 5, 1851. Snow and rain. [Jan.-April 1851]

Mil. Wisconin April 2, 1851. 3.49 miles prairie burned.

Kenosha Telegraph

Ald.: June 11, 1851. Game in Northern Wisconsin. - The woods in the vicinity of Two Rivers are full of wild pigeons, and the trees are covered with their nests. It is no uncommon thing for a sportsman to kill from nine to twelve dozen in a single day."

Ald.: July 2, 1851. Milwaukee Sportsman's Club was organized on June 28, and already there was brisk shooting of pigeons. Last of week 64 pigeons known to have been killed.

Ald.: July 9, 1851. "Pigeons are abundant in the vicinity of Waterin."

Nov. 14, 1851. "Two large white owls shot. - Port Washington Blade."

[1851] [1852] [1853]

Ald.: Sept. 30, 1854. "There is an abundance of game in the State at present season. Several gentlemen from the city went out last week, and succeeded in securing a good supply of prairie chickens, quails, ducks and pigeons. We are informed that a rule upon the M. of M. R.R. to Palmera (McLintock's and North Prairies) will bring them into good hunting grounds. -- "


[1854]

* Went thru this volume in Milwaukee.
Milwaukee Daily Wisconsin July 11, 1855. Pigeons, thousands of pigeons are being shot at the present time in the vicinity of the city. They are fat and most excellent eating. They sell for from 3 to 4 shillings per dozen. Hundreds of sparrows are not every day from the city.

[No paper]

Aug. 25, 1856. "We learn from a friend that Pigeons, Squirrels, Prairie hens and all other kinds of game abound in the woods."

Waukesha Daily Wisconsin Sept. 17, 1856. "The woods in the vicinity of this city are at present full of wild pigeons. They are also very numerous in the stubble fields, all over the state, and we have heard of some considerable damage to new corn and wheat fields from the ravages of this bird. The hogs... eat large quantities.

[May 15, 1856. The fields and groves are full of squirrels and pigeons. A friend of ours says he went into the woods and annihilated some 20 squirrels and 40 pigeons.


June 2, 1858. "Pigeons. There are great times for sportiveness. The outskirts of the city are alive with pigeons, and still they come by millions. All sportiveness itself as they never saw the like before..."

[Sept. 1-Dec. 31, 1859]

March 30, 1860. Heavy gale all along Michigan shore attaining into interior of Wisconsin.

[May 18, 1860. Fresh Pigeons. Fresh pigeons can be had at Pierce's family tea store in Milwaukee.

April 9, 1861. "Pigeons have commenced flying north quite numerously.

April 13, 1861. "Pigeons are flying in large numbers. About half-past five o'clock this morning, four large flocks flew over the city, going in a north easterly direction, and two flocks going due South."
Milwaukee. May 15, 1861. Pigeons are flying in great abundance about here, nowadays. Beyond the North Point a mile or two, there is said to be any quantity of them, mornings and afternoons.

Ibid: May 23, 61. "Fine pigeons - the first of the season - have been received at Pierce's family tea store . . . ." [1861]

Ibid: June 4, 1862. "We notice that pigeons are coming into town now in great abundance."

[1862]

Ibid: April 22, 1863. "The game season must be near in the full tide of plenty judging from the evidences seen at the stand of Raymond and Millard, in Milwaukee street . . . . They have killed pigeons, snipe, meadow larks, . . . . in abundance."

[1863]

Ibid: May 19, 1864. "A fine lot of dressed pigeons was received by express from the country this morning, at Pierce's family tea store . . . . They are a choice luxury at this season of the year."

Ibid: June 17, 1864. "Pigeons shot at North Point on 18th."

Aug. 27, "Pigeons - The flight of pigeons from the north for a few days has been enormous. Last night thousands upon thousands joined over the city on a line with the lake shore due south. This is said to indicate approaching cold weather." [1864]

Ibid: March 22, 1865. "Wild pigeons have been flying for some days, but as yet do not stop long in a place, but as soon as the spring coming is completed there will be good sport with this excellent game." [Jan.-June: Semiweekly; July-Oct. 1865]

Ibid: April 17, 1866. "In a few days the whole country will be alive with wild pigeons."

Ibid: May 22, 1866. "Our Friday night last [1866], Capt. McLeod, in the steamer "Dundalk," took over to Milwaukee a party of Milwaukee gentlemen on a pigeon hunt. The fame of Michigan pigeons and the large numbers of them which have favored the coast with a visit this year, have made a hunt where the desire of all sportsmen. The party of about 25, in a few hours on Saturday, killed over one thousand pigeons. Four boys who went over there from this city at the same time . . . . also brought back an average of one hundred birds each . . . . the persons might easily have shot all the pigeons they wanted to."
Milwaukee Daily News, June 1, 1866. "Squads, or large number of squads or young pigeons have been brought over from Michigan, to be raised for the table. Pigeons abound in Michigan, where the squads can be picked up by the wagon load." [1866]

April 16, 1867. "Long Smith. This morning the air was full of pigeons working their way southward as rapidly as possible. The season is yet too cold for them."

April 22, 1867. "3" of snow. "Whether the storms is occasioned by the pigeons flying south during the week -- we are unable to decide."

April 27, 1867. Another snowstorm last night.

29. "Our State exchanges speak of wild pigeons as being very numerous this spring."

April 30, 1867. "Pigeons. The market is overstocked with wild pigeons, and the delinquent birds can be had in any quantity almost for the asking."

May 2, 1867. "Quite a number of hunters go out this afternoon to the farm of ex-mayor Tallmadge for days. Among the pigeons, there are millions of them here."

May 4, 1867. "Pigeons vs. Michigan." Contrary to an article in a morning paper, the pigeons shooting at Grand Haven this spring is poor. Advice against going."

May 7, 1867. "An old resident tells us that in 1833 snow fell in N.Y. State on the 10th of May, and on the 14th, there was snow inched on the ground."

Milwaukee Daily News, Sept. 3, 1871. "Pigeons are reported flying over the city in great numbers."
Daily News June 14, 1856. "The Wood Birds, Remond" says that the
water near them are full of pigeons, and that "sportmen return from their expeditions loaded with three game birds.
Pigeons are not game birds, and those who shoot them are not (two ten) sportmen."

[Shd. Sept. 11, 1856. "Wild Pigeons. - Large flocks of wild pigeons
were seen passing over the city yesterday afternoon. Everyone who
could command leisure and possess a gun seemed to be on
the qui vive for an ashtray. We do not consider the pigeon
the most palatable of birds, but they do seem well When nothing
better can be had." [May 6, Dec. 1856] [1857] [1858] [Jan.-July 31, 59]

[Shd. April 1 - Sept. 1, 1864] [Sept.-Dec. 1844] - April 30, 65 [May-Dec. 65] [1866]

[Shd. May 2, 1867, 5. "Reports from the country bring intelligence
that pigeons, ducks, and other game are remarkably plenty
just now.

[Shd. May 20, 1867. "Pigeons, - The large quantities of pigeons for sale
at the markets, and stores yesterday make the subject remarkable."]

of the 36th Wis. infantry, writes to a friend in this city that
during one week in May he killed a daily average of
one hundred dozens of pigeons; and that the profits on the
monthly pigeon hunting will fall but little short of one thousand
dollars. The greatest number killed in one [day] was one
hundred and sixty-one and one-half dozens. He shipped to
New York, in one day, five hundred and twenty-five dozens,
filling twenty-one barrels. [300 pigeons to 6th.] [1867] [1868]

[Shd. March 31, 1869, 4. "Pigeons in immense flocks have made
their appearance in the western part of the state."

[Shd. April 30. "Ducks and pigeons are cheap, and can be had at
almost any grocery store or kitchen shop in the city." [1869] [1870 [1871]

[Shd. March 27, 1872. "Pigeons are beginning to get on their regular
flight."

[Shd. April 12, 1873, Wis. stem. "Pigeons fly and roost high but are
unusually plentiful."
Milwaukee Daily News: April 20, 1873. "Wild pigeons are content to offer themselves for sale at one dollar per dozen," [1873]

Ibid., March 27, 1874. "Wild ducks and pigeons are reported in Antagamic County." [1874]

Ibid., March 31, 1876, "Now wild pigeons fly northward." [1876]

April 7, "Letter from a man from Beaver Dam who thinks part winter more severe than that of 1872-3." [1875]

April 12, 1876, "Pigeons are said to be flying thick in the North Point." [1876-8]

Milwaukee Courier [March 27, 1841 - Dec. 31, 1847]

Ibid., Jan. 25, 1843. Snow disappeared Jan. 20 before April. We learn snow has disappeared in interior also.

Ibid., March 30, 1843. See 2 thick on the river, snow 12 to 20" deep.

"June 26, 1844." From the London Morning Chronicle.

Spring Lake Mukwonago, April 14, [about 30 miles west of Milwaukee]. Letter of letter from an emigrant. "Wild Pigeons were very plentiful last fall, and our table was supplied with them on several occasions. They are fast returning from the south, whether they migrate on the approach of winter. A good steel will fell a bird in a very short time, these ravenous creatures certainly get a full share of the great abundance which nature has provided here for everything that lives. As they are always in fine condition, Wildfowl and ducks, prairie hens, and sand-pipe cranes, are frequently met with by those who occupy their time in sporting. Even are sometimes seen. I have seen but one," [1845 - June 2, 1847] All.

Milwaukee Daily Advertiser [Aug. 1874 - March 1875] All

"Chronicle [June-Dec. 1880]


"Democrat [Aug. '43 - Dec. '44]"
Milwaukee Journal, March 26, 1883. "The robins and meadow-larks are here and yet winter linger."  
[Nov. 1883 - April 26, 84] [1885]  
March 18, 1886. "Robins and bluebirds have arrived." [1886-87]  
[1888] [89] [90]  

Milwaukee Commercial Times [1875; very good state items for most of this year].  
[Jan.-June 76]  
Milwaukee Cream City Courier [Sept. '74 - July '76] N. Y. [Weekly]  
Nov. 3, '74. "Wild pigeons are on the wing."  
April 10, '75. "Meadow-larks, robins, blue jays, swallows, wild pigeons -- are abroad again."  
[Sept. '79 - July '80]  
Milwaukee Republican and Herald [1881 - May 20, '82. Merged with Sentinel]  
Milwaukee
Mineral Point Tribune Sept. 19, 1872. "Pigeons are abundant in this woods, and daily are being slaughtered by the thousands." [1871-2]

National Democrat March 15, 1871. "Everything indicates an early spring. Geese, ducks and pigeons are flying north."

Abid. March 20, 73. "Pigeons are quite numerous in the groves." [1871-73]

Plattsville Witness April 1, 1875. "A young man was killed at Mineral Point March 30 while hunting pigeons.

Mineral Point Davis County Democrat April 17, 1885. "The hunters are having fine sport shooting wild fowl along the Misissippi and Wisconsin Rivers. Ducks are quite plenty and pigeons also seem to be abundant."

Abid. Oct. 8, 86. "There will be a pigeon shooting in this city on Tuesday and Wednesday next. There will be plenty of birds for two full days of sport. Purse will be made up with grounds to suit the sportmen in attendance."

Abid. Aug. 23, 89. "Harry Webb of Plattsville, recently captured the first prize of $10 at a pigeon shoot at Benton, killing twenty-three out of twenty-five birds."

Abid. Nov. 21, 1890. "Edward Shatz has secured 180 birds and will give a grand pigeon shoot at Mineral Point on Thanksgiving Day - Thursday next."

Mineral Point Tribune Sept. 20, 1884. "We have never seen as many pigeons in this region as have been flying about during the past week. Large numbers have been killed, and we find them to be fine eating."

Abid. March 30, 1864. "Thousands of pigeons are making their appearance in the grove adjacent to town. Fine sport awaits the boys."

Abid. April 26, 1865. "Pigeons in large numbers have been paying their usual spring visit to this region for a few days past, and in some localities, we are told they have visited nearly every wheat field in such numbers as to render it necessary to sow the fields again."

Abid. April 27, 1867. "Pigeons have been flying plentifully the past week, and many of our city sportmen have bagged a goodly number..."
Mineral Point Tribune, in its issue adjacent to our city, May 1, 67. Pigeons continued abundant in this region doing much damage to farmers, by picking up nearly ripe wheat. Large numbers have been killed and brought to the city.

Ibid. April 28, 69. Pigeons. Millions of these birds have been flying over this city the past few weeks, and some of our sportsmen have occasionally bagged a few. We understand they are nesting in the timber northeast of Calamine, and there food if the sport can obtain a supply by visiting that region.

Ibid. May 12, 69. Some lucky sportsmen last week succeeded in netting wild pigeons enough to fill a wagon box, which were brought to this city on Saturday and in a short time disposed of at fifty cents per dozen.


Ibid. April 9, 76. "Pigeon Shooting seems not to be so lively this spring as usual, and as a consequence we hope accidents from careless handled guns will be fewer.

Mineral Point Dome County Democrat, Oct. 7, 81. George Blum went hunting pigeons near Audley's farm, on Saturday, and succeeded in killing a large gray wolf.

"The close season, regulating of the season was done on Thursday last by Henry Pyack and Sam Harris of this city. In four hours they secured one hundred and eleven birds.

Ibid. March 3, 82. "Pigeons are plenty in the woods hereabouts.

"10. Thousands of wild ducks passed over this city on Sunday, almost equalling in number the flight of pigeons last fall.

Mineral Point Tribune, March 6, 78. "Wild pigeons and ducks have made their appearance.

Ibid. April 30, 79. "Pigeons migrated thru Morrison. Sportsmen are wondering why wild pigeons are so scattering this spring. Their flight this season seems to have been west of the Mississippi which will undoubtedly account for their scarcity here.


Ibid. Feb. 26, 80. "Wild pigeons, ducks and geese have been passing over this city towards the north this week.

Thursday.
Mineral Point Tribune Sept. 29, '81. "More pigeons have been bagged in this locality the past few days than in any corresponding period for several years. The rapid firing of guns in the mornings reminds one of the Fourth at day-break."

Aid. Oct. 6, '81. A large number of wild pigeons in this section this fall will equal that of any season in the history of the oldest inhabitant, so they say.

Nearly every local exchange that comes to our table has something to say about the luck of hunters, but thus far the Mineral Point men are entitled to the medals. Last Thursday [5th?] Henry Graham and Sammy Harris killed and secured 2 hundred and eleven in three hours hunt and the following day Sam'l Farrow and Lucie Goldsworthy brought in 97, which they captured in a very short time. To each party we are indebted for a liberal number of birds and can but say they were "licking good."

Aid. March 9, '82. "Pigeon pie has been common of late in this city but we've had none."

Aid. March 27, '84. "Wild pigeons--are making their appearance."

"May 28, '85. "At the great Pigeon nest up north, there are said to be about forty acres of pigeons nesting. One man killed 900 in one day. Such slaughter is strictly against the law, and should be stopped."

Aid. March 25, '86. "Shooters have been somewhat successful in bringing down wild pigeons."

Aid. March 17, '87. "Several flocks of wild pigeons, ducks and geese headed northward were seen by our citizens on Saturday [March 12]."

Aid. Sept. 29, '87. "Our gunners are having great sport shooting rabbits, pheasants, pigeons and ducks."
Moorestown, May 7, 1862.

p. 3. "A flock of pigeons, said to be much more numerous than those which visited us last year, have taken up quarters in Richland and in Honey Creek timber. - Sportsmen are enjoying themselves largely in killing them. Every day when the weather will admit, numbers are at the roost shooting them. Besides these, there are several men here who make a business of catching them with nets, who have followed them here from Circleville, Ohio, and who are catching them at the rate of more than one thousand per day. Some of these they pack in ice and forward by express to the New York market, others are packed, undressed, and sent to Chicago."

June 4 '62 "On yesterday morning there was forwarded by express from this place twenty-five barrels of pigeons containing about thirty-five dozen each. These were the result of one day's work with nets."

May 1, 1861 "The pigeons are nesting this season about 4 miles south of this village in the woods near Shobart's Mill. It is an unusual occurrence. They do great damage to neighboring wheat fields. The nesting place is a rare place of resort for lazy sportsmen who like shooting more than hunting their game."

May 29, 1861 "It is 'Squab Time' in the Pigeon Roost. Now is the time for getting the young ones. They are
said to be very fat and are about beginning to fly. No gun is necessary to take them, but the boys rake on the trees and the squabs fly out. A race then ensues, and the pigeon is run down. Wagon loads of them are brought to town daily.

James M'carty made 3' 8" x 4' 6"
showing woodland etc. nearly ready for issue.
Drawn by J. T. Dodge & engraved by H. S. Desch at Milwaukee.

May 2, 1857. "We have noticed of late large flocks of wild pigeons in this vicinity. They are seen in the largest numbers early in the morning,"

April 20, 1857. "The woods hereabouts are filled with pigeons and sportmen are bagging large numbers of them."

May 13, 1857. "There are thousands of pigeons in the woods, and innumerable numbers are continually flying over and around. Sportmen are having rare sport among them, the morning and evening being considered the best periods for shooting."

April 18, 1857. "Pigeons are exceedingly plenty. In a short drive we made, four miles in the country, the other day, we saw very many pigeons— we did not count them, but really there they were too innumerable to mention."

Sept. 9, 1867. "There are large quantities of pigeons about the woods."

In the morning and evenings large flocks may be observed passing over our village.

April 24, 1867. "Last week many large flocks of pigeons visited this section from the far off sunny climes. They were beating a hasty retreat Monday [April 22], having made a serious mistake in the season, supposing that winter had gone."
May 12, 1869. Wild Pigeons. — For the past two weeks there has been a pretty lively trade in these birds in Monroe. Several firms in New York and Chicago have men here engaged in catching and packing the birds, and from twelve to fifteen barrels have been shipped daily from this place. Most of the pigeons are caught in nets, but large numbers of them are killed by our village sportsmen. — It is reported that the pigeons are hunting in the Richland timber, only a few miles southeast of Monroe. If this be so there's a good time coming when the "squads" shall be large enough to fill the forests in the vicinity of Monroe as a favorite resort of the pigeons, and millions of them are slaughtered here every year.

[1869-71]. [Nota singolar referenca for 1871]

Monroe, Jone Co. "The pigeon hunters are out in large numbers, and anticipating a rich harvest." — Milwaukee Weekly Sentinel April 4, 1871. [This appeared also in Daily Sentinel for March 28.]

Janesville Gazette March 26, 1873. "The Monroe Sentinel says there are indications of a pigeon hunt in that vicinity."

 Ibid. May 12, 1873. "Pigeon hunters have left Green county and are moving in the direction of Southwestern Minnesota; where the birds are nesting."

"Wild pigeons have been very plentiful in Green county this spring. A few trappers have taken from 500 to 1000 dozern each." — Milwaukee Republic April 14, 1873.

Milwaukee (c) Sentinel May 9, 1873, p. 2. "A good many pigeons have been shipped from Monroe during the past four weeks, besides shipments to other nearer points. That & Co. have shipped to New York 14 bands of plucked birds each containing 30 dozern. A good market has been furnished for the bird catchers right at home."

Monroe Sentinel March 28, 1888, "The arrival of numerous flocks of these delicious birds in our vicinity reminds us of the approach of warm weather."

"..."
Monroe, MI. April 13, 1875: "Millions of pigeons were
prospecting around here during a portion of the past week apparently
looking for suitable places for nest building or roosting. They
were intrigued by hundreds of doznea into the groves of the forest,
and large numbers were killed by sportmen with guns, and
within a day or two they have entirely disappeared.

Monroe Green County Reformer Oct. 11, 1874: "Numerous flocks of wild
pigeons, now migratory, have been circling around here lately."

And April 13, 1875: "Wild pigeons are becoming the prey of the trappers
in great numbers in this vicinity."

And March 9, 1876: "The wild pigeons were on the wing, let the timid
meek spreader beware their stroke."

March 16, 1876: "Now is the time when the gentle trapper spreadeth
his nets, the pigeon flutters his wings, and the swift winged
unsuspecting traveler of the air descends to his doom."

And Sept. 28, 1876: "John Peck has a number of dozen [of] pigeons
and as soon as enough can be secured, a shooting match will
be held in Monroe. That's business, let's have a pigeon pic."

And March 20, 1879: "Pigeons trappers are getting ready for business."

April 3, 1879: "Sandy Williams has shipped a few dozen
pigeons to Chicago, the first installment."

Sept. 25, 1879: "Pigeons have arrived."

Oct. 16, 1879: "Raven-pigeons. Sandy Williams
bought in a wagon load of pigeons Friday."

P. M. White has been pretty successful in trapping pigeons
this week."

March 18, 1880: "It is predicted that pigeons will be numerous
this spring." [1874-1880. all]

unusually plentiful around here at present." [1879-82]

Monroe Sentinel May 23, 1855: "Pigeons are very plentiful in this
vicinity just now." - Mil. Daily Democrat May 25, 1855.
Monroe Sentinel, March 19, 1873. "Pigeons. A large flock of pigeons descends on this place last Saturday. [redacted]. There are indications that these birds will roost in large numbers in the timber belts hereabouts."

 Ibid. May 7, 1873. "A good many pigeons have been shipped from Monroe during the past few weeks. |Treat and Co.| have shipped to New York 14 barrels of plucked birds, each barrel containing thirty dozen [5,040 birds]. A good market has been furnished for the birds caught right at home, one or two wagon loads were brought fine from Freeport, there being no demand for them in this city. General barrels and cages of pigeons have been shipped to Elizabethtown, from this vicinity by those engaged in catching."

The season is about over now.

Ibid., May 21, 1873. "The pigeons have not all gone west; one of the bird catchers took in forty dozen last Friday."

Ibid., April 7, 1875. "Hundreds of dollars have been paid during the past week for pigeons brought in by trappers; Billott and Johnson being the principal dealers. A few trappers have brought in from 500 to 800 dozen each, at 100 to 150, you see it amounts to something."

Ibid., April 18, 1877. "Pigeons have begun to fly northward, and the boys down are hunting for nesting places for their mates who will be along soon."

[Through 1887]

Milwaukee Daily |Wisconsin, June 17, 1882| Birds Seeded in Wisconsin. -- The Buffalo Commercial of the 13th, says: "The Monroe Co. Sportsmen's Club have succeeded in securing fifteen hundred pigeons from Monroe, Wisconsin, for the trap shooting, which is to take place during the annual meeting of the Sportsmen of the State in Rochester next week. The first installment of over five hundred birds is already known to be on the way to that city and the rest were to be forwarded Tuesday."
Sat. April 12, 1873. "Death to the Pigeons." - The two leaders of the Montello hunting brigade were on duty on Wednesday of this week. Frank Goodell killed 39 pigeons at one shot, and killed 75 in all. S. D. Perkins killed 36 at one shot, and killed 62 in all. They were not a little over two hours. A tolerable good day for pigeons, we should say. 75 62 137

April 19, '73. "Fish and Pigeons." - The only pleasure of the spring season which has been brought more particularly to our observation is the plentiful supply of fish and pigeons in this region. The habitable globe. -

June 3, '71. "On the first day of June - had strawberries - and a dozen pigeons we bought in the market."

Montello Sun. "The pigeons have commenced to nest in the prune, most of the big marsh where they were roosting lately. The hunters follow these up, but the authorities have interfered and put a stop to the wholesale slaughter while they are nesting. As soon as the young pigeons get large enough to fly a little, will be the time to leave sport catching them." - Stevens Point Democrat. May 6, 1882.

Montello Express. April 3, 1873. "Several pigeons have been passing northward during the week."

Chapt. April 10, '75. Westfield. "The pigeons have not yet decided where to establish themselves, but it is thought quite probable they will nest along the Wisconsin River, above Kilburn. If they do, some of them will get hurt."

Chapt. May 8 '75. "Two inches of snow the first of May."

"29. State Stem. Pigeons are devasting the corn fields in some parts of the State."

Chapt. Oct. 12, '75. "Pigeons are quite plenty in the woods."

[1874-75]

Chapt. Sat. March 11, '76. "Pigeons are migrating northward."

April 1, '76. "Sportmen preparing to give pigeons a warm reception."

"29. '76. Mention receiv'd of Miss Paul's first book, just issued."

"Hand book for Young Sportmen."
Westfield Express, April 21, 1877. "Westfield, April 17. A few pigeons have put in an appearance, just sufficient to awaken the scribe of the boys."

8th, May 5, 1877. "Pigeons and ducks are scarce this season, more so than usual."

8th, March 9, 1878. "Pigeons, robins and other birds of spring, have made their appearance."

8th, March 17, 1878. "The frequent report of sporting pieces denoted that the pigeons, sparrows, and robins, are abroad. Bird and sportsmen are said to be numerous."

8th, March 16, 1879. "Pigeons will soon be on the wing."

April 19, 1879. " Hunters look in vain for pigeons."

April 3, 1880. "Pigeons, ducks and wild geese are quite plenty."

23, 81. "A few pigeons were seen flying on Thursday [April 21] morning."

April 30, 81. "No pigeons this year."

Sept. 24, 81. Westfield. "Sportsmen seem to be busy, by the reports of guns, which are heard frequently about these large flocks of pigeons flying over, and many ducks are seen." [Will Wildfire [Fred Pond].]

Oct. 1, 81. Westfield. "Ever sportsmen are leaving farm, shooting pigeons, ducks, etc. Pigeons are more plenty this fall than they have been for many years. They roost about three miles east of here, and are killed by the bushel in the night." [Will Wildfire. [1876-81]]

8th, Sat., Feb. 18, 1882. "Beautiful spring weather. Pigeons are said to be quite plenty in the woods. Mr. Wiswell shot at a flock of them last Saturday [Feb. 11]."


March 25, 82. Westfield. "Pigeons are said to be very thick in the woods now. They must have raised their calculation this time."

8th, April 1, 82. "Germania. That was not a bad shot for a young sportsman. Ten pigeons at one shot."

April 8, 82. Westfield. "The Miller boys, who live northwest of here, killed five hundred and fifty pigeons one night this week. The pigeons roost in this vicinity."

June 17, 82. Westfield. Fred Pond arrived on train from New York. [Will Wildfire.]"
Montello Express Sat June 10, 1882. "Pigeon hunters are capturing many hundreds of the birds in the woods about here. It seems to us such wholesale slaughter ought to be stopped, and that too immediately. There is a law protecting these birds, and any person trapping or having in their possession any pigeons are liable to arrest and fine of $5 to $50. Let our sentiments take hold of the matter and put a stop to such wholesale slaughter of birds."


 Ibid. March 4, '82. "The pigeons stayed through the snow storms and cold weather of last week, and are quite numerous in the woods."

 Ibid. April 5, '82. "Pigeons have been more plenty this week than for a number of years. The woods were full of them."

 Ibid. May 13, '82. "Pigeons have been numerous hereabouts of late."

 Ibid. June 3, '82. "Pigeons shooting has been quite good, in the vicinity of the lake, during the last week."

 Ibid. June 10, '82. "Pigeon hunters are on the town list."

 "Freddy Wall shot thirty-nine pigeons Saturday [June 3] afternoon."

 Ibid. June 17, '82. "Notes from Racine. A large number of pigeons are being caught around here and shipped from this place. About twenty hunters are engaged in the business and are making $50 per day."

 Ibid. July 1, '82. "State Item. The pigeons lately nesting near Ribson have taken wing for other parts."

[1882-83 Died.]

[1882-83 Died.]

[1882-83 Died.]

[1882-83 Died.]

[1882-83 Died.]
Montello. Milford Sentinel April 15, '74. Montello, April 13. Pigeons are migrating northward.

Ibid. March 30, 82. "Wednesday morning, bluebirds, robins, blackbirds, and pigeons were on hand."

Ibid. April 6, 82. "Twin Bluffs. New Lisbon. Pigeon catchers are thin and urgent; candidates for office were yesterday.


"Pigeons suffered Saturday morning in all directions."

"Pigeon shooting on the Bluffs has been a pleasant pastime recently."

Ibid. April 20, 82. "Twin Bluffs, New Lisbon. Nest Makerburner and sons caught one hundred and eighty-six dozen pigeons last Friday."

Ibid. May 4, 82. "Twin Bluffs, New Lisbon. Every child, boy and man in town, old enough to leave home alone and capable of handling a net, has gone to Lafayette to catch pigeons."


Ibid. May 25, 82. "Twin Bluffs, New Lisbon. It is reported here that Cash, Newell & Co. have sold over one thousand dozen of squabs at the pigeon nesting, the past week, at an average of fifteen cents per dozen."

Ibid. June 1, 82. "Twin Bluffs, New Lisbon. Neighbor Cash, the pigeon market corner man, while at a near Greenfield, got short of straw and carted in some in the room for live birds; he begged all the barns and stables in the vicinity full, so he bought a chicken for a cage. "The "he"

"Pigeon squad catchers" are now at Hillburn trying their luck."

Ibid. July 13, 82. "New Lisbon, Cash, and Newell latterly returned
from Milwaukee, their pigeon shoot was a success."

[Necedah Republican April 30, 1886. "Several pigeon hunters from abroad appeared on the street Friday morning armed with baskets, nets, etc., but we are of the opinion that the bird has flown."

[April 23, 1886. "The Faribault Republican says wild pigeons are more numerous this spring than they have been for ten years. The woods are full of them."

[July '87 - '92]
Winnebago Co.  Neenah

Arkhop Journal  Sept. 18, 1869: "Pigeons are plenty in the woods in the vicinity of Neenah." - Neenah Times.

Neenah Island City Times [May - Dec. 1866: Nothing]

Winnebago County Press [1870 - '71]

and Menasha Conservator [May 14, 56 - Dec. 29, 59: All Nothing].

Nagette April 18, 1874: "Pigeons have made their appearance, large flocks flying north.

And, April 15, 75: "Large flocks of wild pigeons have been flying northward this week, being almost the first harbingers of spring."

And, April 8, 76: "Flocks of pigeons flying northward, etc. cite the interest of the amateur hunter."

And, April 22, 76: "Pigeons, ducks, and spring hawks are now plenty."

Sept. 23, 76: "Duck, pigeon, quail, and partridge shooting is now a common amusement."

April 21, 77: "Pigeons are in the wing - !"

[1874 - Sept. 4, 80] [1881 - June 17, 82] All.

Sheboygan Times April 15, 1871. State locals: "A flock of pigeons passed over Neillsville covering the sky as far as the eye could reach east and west, and making a rushing noise like a heavy wind in a forest."

Neillsville Clark County Republican [Aug. 15, 1872 - Apr. 17, 1876].

Ibid. April 18, 1874. "Pigeons have made their appearance."

Neillsville Clark County Republican and Press Apr. 15, 1876 -

Ibid. April 15 "76. "Spokesmen are looking at the end of their fiddles in anticipation of the campaign against pigeons, etc."

Ibid. May 5, '77. "Wild pigeons are said to be numerous south of this place, and every day some settlers North of the village, go out in search of them."

Ibid. April 2, '80. "Early risers now have the pleasure of seeing large flocks of wild pigeons, searching for their early meal - a sily worm, probably." [1876 - 81]

[Sept. 12, 1871 - Dec. 27, 1873]

"July 25, 1872. "Millions of grasshoppers have made their appearance in this section..."

"April 17, 1873. "Pigeons have been flying in this vicinity, lately."

Republican and Press Times. May 4, 1882. Humbird. "The first of last week Mr. Simon Andrews left for Sparta to join his brothers at that place in trapping pigeons that are nesting near that place. The Andrews are old hands at the business... They were followed this morning by Sam. Wise, Mat. Cole, S. T. Smith, and Mike Andrews..."

[1882 - 4]

Ibid. April 21, '87. "Wild pigeons have been flying quite plentifully of late in this vicinity." [1885 - 7] [88 - 90].

Neillsville Times, April 18, 1882. Greenwood, April 14. "Several large flocks of pigeons were seen yesterday and today going..."
Neillsville Times

"with a rapid rate... Capt. Tolford will remember how we slew them seven years ago."

May 2, 1882. "Pigeons are nesting a few miles from Springfield; it is estimated that five hundred dozen birds were killed on Tuesday [April 25]." [1882-85] [86-87] all.

Neillsville Courier April 6, 1880. "Large flocks of pigeons may be seen flying northward at an early hour nearly every morning."

[Jan. '80 - Feb. 1, '81; all]

Neillsville Clark County Press Aug. 15, 1874. "Pigeon shooting has rendered life attractive to our sportsmen during the past week. We are indebted to Capt. Tolford... for a nice string of them."

[June '73 - April 8, '76; all]

Neillsville Times Republican [March '80 - '87; all]
Flower, March 16, 1871. "Wild Pigeons. — During the early part of this week immense flocks of wild pigeons were wending their way north, and they still continue to come. A weather-wise friend informs us that this is a sure sign that summer is coming right along." 

Ibid., May 11, 1871. "In our last issue we omitted to acknowledge the receipt of a nice mess of pigeons from Mr. Massie, of the farm of Pomarineville and Massie of this place." 

Ibid., May 18, 1871. "Pigeons. — We learn from farmers that in some places the pigeons have been doing much damage to the spring wheat and other crops just put into the ground. They alight in a newly sown wheat field and never quit it until they have picked out every kernel of the grain. It is just as bad in other localities, and many farmers think they will have to sow their fields over again. The damage may not be as great as represented, but there is no doubt that many wheat fields have suffered from the ravages of these birds." 

Ibid., June 22, 1871. "We are told that the young pigeons have done a great deal of damage to the blueberry crop."
April 24, '74. Pigeons. Our hopes are high that spring is coming, and we expect that the pigeon hunting will be this year, as it has been for many years past. We have heard reports from neighboring counties that the pigeons are abundant, and that the hunters are很有 promise. We have also received information from the hunters in other parts of the state that the pigeons are plentiful. We expect that the hunting will be good this year, and we hope that the hunters will have a successful season.

May 1, '74. Pigeons. The hunters have been active this week, and the reports are encouraging. We have heard that the pigeons are plentiful in the counties to the west, and that the hunters have had good success. We are looking forward to a good season, and we hope that the hunters will have a successful hunt.

May 8, '74. Pigeons. The pigeons are still abundant in the counties to the west, and the hunters continue to have good success. We are hopeful that the season will be a good one, and we hope that the hunters will have a successful hunt.

April 22, '75. Pigeons. A number of hunters have been active in the counties to the west, and the reports are encouraging. We have heard that the pigeons are plentiful, and that the hunters have had good success. We are looking forward to a good season, and we hope that the hunters will have a successful hunt.

June 1, '75. Pigeons. We have received reports from the counties to the west that the pigeons are plentiful, and that the hunters have had good success. We are hopeful that the season will be a good one, and we hope that the hunters will have a successful hunt.

June 24, '75. Pigeons. The reports from the counties to the west are encouraging, and we expect that the hunting will be good this year. We are looking forward to a successful season, and we hope that the hunters will have a good hunt.

April 13, '76. The pigeons and robins are among us.

April 20, '76. Pigeons. - Thus far the pigeon hunting season has been a failure in this neighborhood this spring. But fear of injury has been caused by the hunters, and only now and then do we see a melancolical bird flying from one home to another. Two birds that we had managed to shot after a long and weary hunt. We are sorry the pigeons declined to visit us this season.
April 5, 1877. No Robins were observed.

19. --- Some of their members prefer the sport of pigeon shooting, at which sport their efforts are crowned with equal success.

April 26, 1877. Pigeons. We have noticed in the past few days millions of pigeons, and already trappers are here from all parts of the country, who, with our local catchers are reaping a rich harvest.

The pigeons are reported gathering for a nesting on the Wisconsin and Rock rivers bottoms, in Adams county, it is thought that under the present law they will be allowed to remain, in which case many thousands of dollars will be paid into this and adjoining counties for these valuable food birds. Some six years ago these birds were permitted to nest at this same place, and the business that was done and the money that was made would astonish the heathen.

We notice that New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa, and Minnesota, have passed laws similar to our own, the object of which is to prevent so called sportmen from wantonly shooting them in their nests and scattering them all over the country among the farmers, where they are an intolerable nuisance. These birds have set in here nearly every spring, but only once or twice have they been permitted to stay. Stay out of the nesting! Take them in the wing, like true sportmen, and let the people make the money we all so much need.

May 5, 1877. The Pigeon Trappers, we believe, in this immediate vicinity, have not been very successful, but at other points in the world and west they have caught large quantities. The storms we had for some days was a serious set back to the business, but the trappers hope for better luck hereafter.

May 10, 1877. Pigeon Trapping in this neighborhood has not been very successful thus far this present season. Trappers are numerous throughout the country, but they fail to lure the pigeons into their nests.

June 21, 1877. The multitude of Pigeon Trappers that have been in this neighborhood for some weeks past are gradually thinning out and going to seek more favorable fields of operation. The Pigeon crop has been...
March 13, 1879. "Pigeon trappers are beginning to hitch business and are making predictions as to prospects of the season. The birds have not yet just in any appearance to any great extent, and the hunters are, therefore, uneasy as to the success of the business."[March 29]

April 1, 1880. "An immense flock of pigeons passed over this vicinity Monday morning."[March 29]

April 20, 1882. "Mr. Nelson Macomber of the town of Bristol, is one of the most successful pigeon catchers in this section of the country. He made his appearance on our streets a few days ago, with 186 dozen of pigeons in his wagon box, the result of a three days' practice at catching them with nets. The field of operations were established in the eastern limits of Clearfield and adjoining Berenham, and it would appear that pigeons were plenty in these neighbourhoods. At $2.00 per dozen the haul of three days will prove to be a profitable one to Mr. Macomber."[Not in 1881]

April 27, 1882. "Pigeons are roosting in the vicinity of Sparta, Monroe county, in large numbers at a place called Wilksville, and the pigeon catchers are making tracts for the place with a view of directing their efforts at their capture by nets. A statute law prohibits the wounding and shooting of pigeons within a certain limit of their roosting place, there should be no foul or unlawful means resorted to in the premises at all events."

May 4, 1882. "Quite a number of our cattlemen have visited the pigeon roost east of Sparta, during the past two weeks, and report having a successful time at shooting pigeons in that neighborhood. According to more recent accounts the birds have learned to 'fly high', and are not as easily shot as they were a week ago, and that even the men are not as successful as for a few days after the pigeons had commenced their roosting."

June 22, 1882. "It is stated by parties who have visited the pigeon roost in the vicinity of Lafayete, Monroe county, that a large number of persons are engaged at catching them by means of nets and deer bides, many of whom are reaping a rich harvest of duets by the operation, as in all similar enterprises while there are some who find it profitable employment, there are others who are losing money and their efforts a failure."

May 25, 1882. "It is reported that pigeons are roosting in the vicinity of White Creek, Adams Co., and the flight now located there occupy a strip of woods ten miles square." [Nothing for petition to stop Pigeon]

June 8, 1882. Messers. W. H. H. Cash, J. R. WIllick and Fred J. W. Behner are still operating in the pigeon trade at Kielb Pom City. The boys are having lively times at buying, packing and shipping to the cities."[March 1887 all]

[1856-57]

"New [Aug. 11, '76 - July 19, '76 All]

[1876-77]

[76-'80] [91-95] [1884-87]

New London Press (founded by Charles E. Carr) [July '43 - Sept. '45]

New Lisbon Augs. June 6, '84. "Several pigeon catchers are stopping at our village. They are registered at Farmer's Hotel."

[25th] and Wednesday. They are worth "2.25" per dozen."
Madison State J. Sept. 11, '74. "The New Richmond Republican says that numerous large flocks of pigeons were flying about there, on Wednesday last week [Sept. 2], and from whence they came and whither they went is a question."

Said: Sept. 19, '74, Sharon Enquirer: "Pigeons are plenty and so are prairie crows."

Wabasha Co.

Nov. 4, '74, Alexandria Lake Herald: "Yes, Darke has tried his new gun this week and made the best score we have heard this season. He bagged 50 pigeons, 1 chicken, 2 woodcocks, and a rabbit and never missed a shot. The largest number of pigeons killed at a shot was three."


\[Sept. 20, '79 - Dec. 30, '80\]"

Republican [Feb.-June 1872; Jan.-May '74; Feb.-July '75; Sept. '75]

Said: April 14, '75: "Game is not very abundant this spring. But few ducks, geese, and pigeons have returned yet."

Said: April 21, '75: "We saw more wild pigeons going north on Wednesday than even we saw before. They must be returning."

Said: May 8, '75: "Pigeons have entirely abandoned this country, and sportmen are discouraged."

Said: June 9, '75: "A few pigeons are nesting in the groves on Alex. B. Col's farm."

Said: April 2, '79: "Fast Saturday [March 27] we saw a flock of wild pigeons."

Said: July 30, '79: "A few pigeons leave come to the front and amuse themselves by flying too quick for shot."

Said: April 28, '80: "Not enough pigeons have been seen about here this spring to make one good stew."

Said: Sept. 15, '80: "A few single shots at pigeons can be had by taking a trip through the woods below town."

Said: April 20, '81: "Pigeons in small numbers have returned."

May 11, '81: "Pigeons are thickening up excessively about here."
New Richmond Republican May 18, '81. "The flying pigeons which were numerous about here last week, must have kept right on flying, for they are not about here now."

April 5, '82. "Pigeons are flying about pretty freely of late."

April 19. "The pigeons have taken wings and flown for parts unknown."

Aug. 30, '82. "A few pigeons are returning to this vicinity."

Sept. 12, '83. "Our shooting folks are keeping in practice on squirls, ducks, and stray pigeons, all of which are better than no game."

April 16, '84. "Harvey Davis brought in the first muse of pigeons yesterday."

April 23, '84. "A few pigeons are breaking around the suburbs. They are not about the country in such numbers as to make hunting either pleasant or profitable."

April 1, 1885. "Pigeons have returned in flocks."

April 14, 1886. "You can now go out and shoot enough pigeons for a pie."

Republican Sept. 28, 1887. "A few wild pigeons have been shot about here."

April 18, '88. "A flock of four wild pigeons passed our town yesterday, the first of the season."

April 17, '89. "One of the strange things about this spring is the conspicuous absence of wild pigeons. We have neither seen or heard of one so far."

April 30, '89. "A few flocks of wild pigeons have been seen about here this spring, but not in sufficient numbers to put any fun in hunting them."

April 22, '89. "Pheasants, geese, and pigeons don't seem to have any time for this country, for they generally go by without stopping."

[1891-93] [94-96]
"Wisconsin Free Press": 1876-1877
"Wisconsin Free Press": 1878-1879
"Wisconsin Free Press": 1880-1882
"Wisconsin Free Press": 1883-1884
"Milwaukee Sentinel": 1877
"Milwaukee Examiner": 1877
Ducks and pigeons have made their appearance. According to the seven-years' theory, this is the season for large numbers of them. They are no thicker than usual at this season.

Ducks and pigeons are appearing in considerable numbers in the woods, and our sportsmen are most anxious for them, having succeeded in bagging quite a number already. Pigeons hunting is good.

Numerous flocks of pigeons were flying over our city on Wednesday. The sportsmen are seeing many of them.

Myriads of pigeons flying this week.

See also:

[1878-80]

[1881-84] [1885-89]
Oconto Pioneer, March 10, 1860. "Early Game. - Pigeons were killed near Winters in the bay shore last week. Billy went out one day and returned with a large string of them."

Ibid., Aug. 29, 1861. "Pigeons. We don't know what folks in other parts of the State have to swear by in the way of game, but there is considerable swearing here that there are not pigeons enough to shoot the pigeon's that swarm about our woods."

Ibid., Sept. 12, '61. Pigeons. - The editor of the Advocate would like to know what pigeons are, and queries about our spelling of the article so common in our woods. The pigeons, as we learned to spell it when we were young, is a game of the fly-by-oyster order, dedicated by the gods of Greece to the sons of Mars and Venus. They live on wheat and huckleberries, and they die on pine trees. Are you satisfied?"

Green Bay Advocate, June 3, 1859. "A Pigeon Root. - A friend writes us, from Oconto, that there is a pigeon root on Peshtigo river, about 14 miles from the mouth, which is said to be 1 1/2 miles wide and 7 miles long. The pigeons have just commenced setting. He also says that there is another pigeon root in the north branch of the Oconto River, which is reported to be larger than the one on the Peshtigo."

Green Bay Advocate, June 10, '59. "Another Pigeon Root. We mentioned last week that there were two pigeon roots in Oconto County; the same friend writes us that there is another root in the Oconto River, about two miles from the Baker settlement, which covers two sections of land."
Amro Journal, Enro, Sept. 3, 1874. "Pigeons are said to be quite plenty."

Said: March 16, '76; Eureha Caresp. "Robins made their appearance here the 18th inst. Pigeons the same day were very plenty. The roost cannot be far away."

Said: April 13, '76. "Pigeons are in the wing."

"March 21, '78, "Pigeon shooting has commenced on a small scale."

Aug. '74 - '78 [79-80] [81-83] [84-86]

Ennina, Journal, Fri, May 10, 1867. "Immense flocks of wild pigeons have been flying over during the past week. They evidently must have a roost west or north-west of here."

Said: April 1, '68. "We see by our exchangers that ducks, geese and pigeons have made their appearance nearly everywhere but here."

May 10, '67 - May 6, '68.

Winnebago. Sat., April 17, '74. "Pigeons, ducks, -- are beginning to make their appearance in numbers --."

Okolona Daily Times Sept. 29, 1875: "A storm at Okolona.

"A few wild pigeons have made their appearance."

Okolona Press April 23, 1864: "With duck, pigeons, ... plenty hunting. Hunting and fishing is first rate now."

"Pigeons have made their appearance in large flocks."

"Aug. 19, 1865: "Chickens, pheasants ... and pigeons abound without number.

"April 28, 1866: "Wild pigeons have made their appearance. Warm weather has come to stay a while."

"April 17, 1867, (Sat.) "Large flocks of pigeons, ducks, and geese have been passing northward during the past week."

"April 23, 1867: "Our sportsmen are just now having fine times hunting ducks, pigeons, etc. Game of this kind is plenty."

[Rev. 1866-68]

"Sept. 17, 1869: "Charles Staple killed twenty pigeons at one shot recently while out gunning."

"Sept. 24, 1869: "Pigeons. The game is getting scarce owing to the efforts of the sportsmen of this vicinity."

"April 8, 1870: "Wild pigeons are flocking north."

"March 31, 1871: "Pigeons will soon arrive. Wheat [ate] pigeon pie last week, down at Madiun."

"April 21, 1871: "Pigeons are arriving in large flocks."

"May 2, 1871: "Millions of pigeons have winged their way over town this week. They are more [abundant] than usual this year."

"June 9, 1871: "Pigeon shooting is in order. They are plenty in the woods."

"April 19, 1872: "A few wild pigeons have made their appearance. They pioneer the way for thousands." [69-72].

"April 24, 1873: "Thousands of pigeons were seen Monday [19th] morning flying over the village. They will be an
"Birds as grasshoppers this year." St. Croix Falls. "Large flocks of pigeons and wild geese have been flying past here for several days."

Press April 15, 1876. "One of our oldest inhabitants counted 8,150,000 pigeons last Sunday [9th], and had it not been for the rain storm, he thinks that he could have smelled the number to an even 9,000,000." [96-'06]


Ascola Sen. [97-'08]
[May 18, 1860 - with gaps - '74]

April 27, 1865. "For the past few days pigeons have swarmed the air in perfect myriads every morning and evening in this vicinity."

[May 18, '65 - '66]

[Gas '67 - Oct. '70] [For Oct. '70 - May 23, '72 See next sheet]

[ "'72 - May '75]

Ashland Democrat May 4, 1865. "Pigeon shooting - Sportsmen are availing themselves of the opportunity that so much game affords them. For many days past the clouds have been blackened with myriads of wild pigeons. How many have been captured, if at all, we have not learned, but have ascertained that the woods are swarming with hunters."

Ibid. May 4, '67. "Pigeons, these graminivorous plumed birds, have commenced their normal onslaught on the cereals." [May '65 - '67. All]

Ashland Union [Oct. 64 - Jan. '65. Nothing]

Times Sat. March 11, '76. Winneconne. "Pigeons and blue birds put in an appearance last Saturday [March 4]."

Ibid. April 15, '76. "In large numbers of wild pigeons were shot in this vicinity on Monday [April 10] last."

Winneconne: "... and the air is filled with pigeons."

Ibid. March 16, 1878. "The wild pigeons have appeared."

8 pigeons killed at Amro.

April 16, 1873. "One clasp reported that he saw a flock of wild pigeons flying over the city on Thursday [April 10] last."

Ibid. April 23, '73. "Wild Pigeons are making their appearance in large flocks."

April 30, '73. "Flocks of wild geese, ducks, and pigeons appear daily."
Ashkosh Times Aug. 20, '73. "Wild pigeons are reported as being quite numerous in the woods around the city."


Ashkosh Independent [Dec. 1874 - April 1875. Nothing]

Ashkosh Northwestern Aug. 8, '72. "Pigeon shooting seems to be all the rage now-a-day. Every day parties may be seen going out on a hunt, and, at an average, considerable game is secured."

[May '72 - April 22, '75] [1875 - 76] [1877 - '84] N. XI.


Ashkosh Courier April 13th, 1855. "Myriads of pigeons were flying over the city this morning in a northwesterly direction, but so high as to be out of the reach of an ordinary shooting iron." - From Well.

Daily Wisconsin April 17, 1855.

Milwaukee Commercial Times Sept. 15, '75. "Pigeons are thick in Winnebago county."

Ashkosh Courier July 16, '1893. "Pigeons - Any quantity of wild pigeons have been shot about here during the past week... but pigeons are not game..." - Describes the shooting of "half-fledged pigeons."

Ashkosh Journal July 27, '72. "Immense flocks of pigeons have been flying westward during the week, but too high to shoot."

Ashkosh Times Aug. 27, '73. "Winneconne, Aug. 23. '73. "Pigeons are flying in every direction..."
Ashkoch Northwestern, 1870

Jan. 12, 1871. "The present winter thus far has been the mildest in many years."

Jan. 20, '71. "No snow in the lumber regions."

March 16, "Pleasant weather."

30, "Spring."

May 25, "Pigeons. Our hunters are enjoying considerable sport in slaying pigeons, and these birds are plentiful in market. They are reported in immense flocks in the country and occasionally immense flocks are seen flying over the city."

June 11, '71. "Pigeon shooting is now a popular amusement."


The Ashkoch Northwestern says: A large gray eagle flew over Ashkoch the other day chased by an immense flock of pigeons, which continued the chase until almost out of sight. The pigeons flew at the eagle continually by squad, and seemed to be a great annoyance to him.

— In Lake Weekly Chronicle, Apr. 24, '79. [This appeared in Janesville.]

— In Green Bay Advocate, Apr. 26, '65. "Same. Myriads of pigeons were flying over the city, this phenomenon in a south-westerly direction, but as high as to be out of reach of an ordinary shooting iron."

Ashkoch Courier Apr. 13, '55.

Ashkoch News, Aug. 27, '68. "Pigeons, Wild pigeons are being killed in great numbers. One individual a day or two since brought in forty clairn by his own gun.

Ashkoch City Times, Oct. 8, '67. "Wild ducks and pigeons are becoming quite plenty in this part of the country."

Ash. Bxtl. 17, '68. "Wild pigeons and ducks have made their appearance in this part of the country."

[Oct. '67-68]

Ash. Sept. 4, '79. "Wild pigeons are said to be quite numerous in the woods."

Ashkosh City Times, Wed. May 3, 1871. "Pigeons. We understand wild pigeons are quite plenty in the woods, around these parts."


Ashkosh Journal, Sept. 18, 1869. "The editor mentions putting up a few days hunting at Eureka. "Last week". On the game killed pigeons are mentioned."

Ashkosh Journal, Aug. 20, 1870. "Mention of the "pigeon shoot last week."

March 18, 1871. "Wild geese, pigeons, ducks, etc., have made their appearance."

April 13, 1872. "Pigeons have begun to fly. [Backward spring]"

Aug. 10, 1872. "We went out last Monday, but did not see a pigeon during the whole afternoon."

Ashkosh Courier [3 Nov. 1863; May 1874 - '56] [57-59].

April 20, 1860. "Myriads of pigeons have been flying over here the past day or two. They are down for resting places northward. In a few weeks they will be back with countless broods of young, and then the shot hunters will be in town."

Ashkosh Deutsche Zeitung [Sept. 1857 - '59]

Mil. Telegraph [1874 - '75]

Standard [March '78 - Aug. '81, All] Nothing.


[1869 - '72, All]
Pepin Independent [April 16, '58 - Oct. '58]

Palmira Enterprise Under Pate Atkinson.
Courtship.

Ardeshir, Vol. 1 (1831) 325. "The male assumes aamonous
aeremies, and follows the female wherever on the ground
or on the brancher, with spread tail and drooping wings,
which it rubs against the part over which it is moving.
The body is elevated, the throat swells, the eyes sparkle. He
continues his note, and now and then rises on the wing,
and flies a few yards to approach the fugitive and
timorous female. Like the domestic Pigms and other species,
they carerce each other by billing, in which act, the bill of the
one is introduced transversely into that of the other, and both
parties alternately disgorge the contents of their crops by
repeated efforts. These preliminary affairs are soon settled,
and the pigeons commence their nests in general peace and
harmony.

Craig, W. Recollections of the p.s. in captivity. Bird-life 15 (1913) 98.
"The courting behaviour of this species, as is evident from
what has been said about voice and gestures, was very different
from the courting behaviour of other Pigeons and Doves. Instead
of percutting before the female, or bowing to her, or
running and jumping after her on the ground, the
passenger pigeons sidled up to her on the perch and pressed
her very close; and if she moved a little away from
him he sidled up to her again and tried to put his neck
over her two.

"The male was very jealous of his mate. And when they
had a nest he was a most belligerent fellow, attacking
any other bird that came into the vicinity. The scenes which
occurred were often most amusing. Once saw a male
passenger pigeons go around the edges of the pen
and attack every pigeon that was sitting alone, mostly
Band-tailed Pigeons and Cushats; but he did not attack
the doves or sparrows that were all sitting on one perch.
He was not really a good fighter: he made a loud
attack, but if the attacked one shunned flight, Enicopsus
generally retreated.

Craig, W. The voices of pigeons regarded as means of
social control. Am. J. Social. 14 (1908)

p. 90. Passenger pigeons, for example, when reared by
ring-doves, refuse to mate with their own species
but mate with the species of the foster-parent. Therefore there
is no "inherited tendency" to mate with birds of a particular
kind.

p. 91. "If two inexperienced birds are allowed to mate,
they are very slow in coming to the point of mating;
and, though, they go through all the processes of mating,
nest-building, and breeding, yet their efforts lack
something of the precision and promptness which
signally characterize the work of experienced birds." If
an experienced bird takes the lead, the young bird
is brought to complete exercise of its functions much
more quickly. [This may explain individual
nestings and small colonies, and the fact that
these usually take place in late May or early June]
Crossing Walker.

Anon. "Quail on Bob White." Sheboygan Falls News April 6, 1892.

That some quail arrived from across the lake was well known, and that they arrived early in the season as well was also known to every boy who owned an old shotgun. "I could borrow a shot gun."

Jones, J. Y. "The Birds of Cedar Point... Willard Bell. 2/1(1909) 189.

"...and west flights... met... were in a northerly and southerly direction, which would indicate that the birds crossed the lake."


At Pentwater [Oceana Co.], Michigan, people lined the cliffs and beat them down with sticks and whips as they arrived, spent with the passage of the lake [Michigan], and they wielded their weapons until the ground was leaped with countless thousands slain."


Rowe, H. B. "An description of the pigeons nesting of 1898..."

Chicago Field 10 (Jan. 11, 1879) 345. "Many of the little travelers came from the westward, crossing the stormy waters of the lake [Michigan] with the speed of a dart."

Marsh, W. D. P. "Pigeon (1901) 107. From Henry Th. Phillips: "I have known large quantities being drowned in Lake Huron, crossing from Canada on the way north, and have had lake captains tell me of passing for three hours through dead birds, which had been caught in a fog."

E.C. Burke, Marinette Wis. 4th Jan. 2, 1960. In the fall of about 1880 he saw a southward flight of pigeons over Peshtigo Harbor. The birds flew from here across the waters of Green Bay towards Little Sturgeon Bay.
June, 1777. "While we passed Lake Champlain, it happened to be the season when wild pigeons migrate in flocks over the lakes to Canada, and their flight must be from far as several of them were much wearied, with difficulty gaining the trees to rest on, and dropping even in the water. On these occasions the soldiers, as the vessels sailed along the islands, struck them down, and picked them up as they fell."

Green, C. A. (Rochester, N.Y.). Wild pigeons. F. 162. 81 (July 19, 1913) 95

"In early days in early spring wild pigeons in large flocks, flying northwestward would strike the shore of Lake Ontario, and there would change their flight and sheer off to the east along the lake shore."

Leonard, Henry C. Pigeon Cove and vicinity. (1873) p. 166.

"But there is a tradition which nullifies this supposition aside; namely, that in the long ago time, when the Cove had no name, immense flocks of pigeons coming over the sea from New Hampshire and Maine, toward the Cape [Cape Ann, Mass.], were enveloped and overwhelmed by a storm, and becoming agitated fell in the waves; so that after the storm had ceased, large numbers of the dead birds were washed by the waves into the Cove, and thrown upon the rocks and beach. Hence the little indentation became Pigeon Cove; and then the height ascending from it Pigeon Hill."
Crossing lakes, etc.

Lewis, Frederic T. Colton Mathews manuscript references to p.p. Ack 62 (1945) 307. Nov. 19, 1712. "When ye time of yeir departure was in hand, about Michaelmas [Sept. 29], they have in horrible storms missed their way; 8 thousands of Milleys have perished in the sea, where o' ships have afterward sailed thro' them lying on ye surface of ye water, for some leagues together;"


"About twenty-five years ago, I went trout fishing at various places along the south shore of Lake Superior and one trip back to Duluth to Ashland. I think the name I took with me from Duluth to Ashland is one of the Skipper's name. The steamer was the China and the Skipper's name Mackay. ... Among other things, we got our subject of the next story ...

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Mann, Charles F. Reise Wandererzub. Jhregerb. (1881) p. 46. "At times the pigeons go into the region north of the lakes, and then the wild bird is plentiful. Thus two years ago there was a great colony north of Lake Erie, and pigeons came daily in great masses to the neighborhood of Cleveland, having flown over the lake, to return again after feeding;"

... Among other things, we got our subject of the next story ..."
Crossing lakes.

Sellar, Robert. "The history of the County of Huntington [Quebec] ... (1888) p. 171. "A peculiarity of the pigeon is, that while crossing water, it skims its surface, and rises as it reaches land."

Brown, W. "The present status of the wild pigeons ... Arch 6 (1889) 287. "Peterkey meeting 1896, S.S. Stevens: "the birds arrived in two separate bodies ... the other following the east coast of Wisconsin and crossing at Manitowoc Island. He saw the latter body come in from the lake at about three o'clock in the afternoon. It was a compact mass of pigeons, at least five miles long by one mile wide."

p. 289. "At one occasion an immense flock of young birds became bewildered in a fog while crossing Lake Erie and descending struck the water and perished by thousands. The shore for miles was covered a foot or more deep with them. The old birds rose above the fog, and none were killed." [Old and young did not associate.]

Wells, W. B. "The passenger pigeon (1907) p. 116. E. Asburn: "Big bodies of pigeons were drowned off Sleeping Bear Point [south of Manitowoc Island] because of fog and wind. While trying to cross Lake Michigan, I have seen them."


Milwaukee, W. B. Fall of 1871. "The pigeons flew very low while flocks swimming over the lakes ... at last as they arrived from their long flight across Lake Michigan. Pigeons may have merely turned in from North Point."

Birch, R. "The history of the County of Huntingdon [Quebec] ... (1888) p. 171. "A peculiarity of the pigeon is, that while crossing water, it skims its surface, and rises as it reaches land."

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"On Monday, June 10, 1838. Our Monday letter [June 10], millions of pigeons were seen gliding the land breeze far out on the lake, and alighting in large numbers, as soon as they reached the shore. Some of them rested for a short time on the pier at Two Rivers, indicating considerable fatigue, as men were working there at the time. Whether they were following the stars of migration from the Michigan shore, or whether they were blown out to sea in a fog, is difficult to conjecture. Such a circumstance has no precedent in the memory of the oldest inhabitant."

Kellogg, Ambrose W. Recollections of life in early Wisconsin. Wis. Mag., Nov. 7 (1922-24) 495. "Of my own hunting experience, the first I recall is I going with some schoolmates to the bluff near the lighthouse and taking turns at shooting with one of their guns into the immense flocks of wild pigeons, which every spring came flying across the lake as they rose from the lower level to mount over the high cliff."

Crossing Lakes

A flock from Canada, thousands of them, finishes crossing every season and soon told. They are often seen on the lake shore fastened together by their feet, looking like rope of mines. The lake, in the direction in which they came, must be at least sixty miles across.

Moore, R. A. "The Landing of Keewaunee: passing of the passenger pigeons." Hoard's Magazine 73 (1928): 106, 195. "In the early spring the fog would often come from Lake Michigan, sweeping inland several miles. Pigeons became lost in the fog and flew over the lake, after flying around for hours, they became exhausted and in attempting to alight, went down into the water. Millions of pigeons were drowned and later washed up on the shores of Lake Michigan." [Cf. Susan Cooper].

Milwaukee Free Press July 29, 1905, p.6. Remarks of an old hunter. "Forty-five years ago they flew across the lake from Michigan in great flocks. In the fall, the young, exhausted by their long flights, dropped exhausted in the underbrush that fringed the lake shore, and they were easily captured by throwing stones over them in clubs."

This is 110 miles from Milwaukee to Grand Haven and some distance to projection of Oceana Co. into Lake Michigan. Birds probably took off from this projection and flew southwest.

Schorlback, H.R. Narrative journal of travels ... (1821) p.381:


"Wild pigeons" used to come in so thick from the Michigan shore that they were killed with sticks.


McConnell, Harry B. Notes from eastern Ohio. Aug. 27 (1910) 217. "In a conversation with Dr. Reel, of Seio College, the author of Reel Local History, he told me of talking with a guide in northern Michigan who claims once to have counted thousands of wild pigeons lying dead upon the shore of the lake [Michigan?] A great storm had swept over the lake a few days before, and the guide related to the Doctor, who was spending his vacations in that region at the time, that the shore of the lake was literally covered with the bodies of the dead birds for a great distance."

Nuttall, vol. 1 (1832) 634-5. "The Honorable F.H. Perkins remarks, that about the year 1798, while he was passing through New Jersey, near Newark, the flock continued to pass for at least two hours without cessation; and he learnt from the neighboring inhabitants, that, in descending upon a large pond to drink, those in the rear alighting on the backs of the first that arrived (in the usual order of their movements on land to feed), plunged them beneath the surface, so that tens of thousands were thus drowned."
Crossing Lakes.

Martineau, Harriet. Society in America. 2nd ed. London. Vol. 2 (1837) p.9. "Foggy day off Cape Sable, July 3, 1836. A flock of pretty pigeons flew round and over the ship, of which nine were shot."

Wilson, E. S. "Personal recollections of the Pigeon. Arch. 51 (1934) 160. "Surely many perished in this manner, for one day in early summer we got up in the morning to find Strand in Amahl Ray covered with dead pigeons, and the shore strewn with their bodies where the undulating bark washed the night had brought them in from the big lake. The night had been quiet, there had been no storm and no fog. Strong spring summer storms never overcame them and the season of early storms had passed. Thus it had sometimes happened that small members of the birds had been left in Lake Foggy had flown around until their strength was spent, and had fallen and died. But there seemed to have been no possible cause for the death of so many."

Schen, Charles. A. Memoirs of the passenger pigeons. F.S. 74 (April 16, 1910) 614. "On the shore of Lake Ontario wagon loads of pigeons were shot in a few hours in the early morning. The pigeons in their flight northward came to the lake which they dared not pass over. On reaching the lake they turned eastward along the shore in such numbers that one discharge of the guns might bring down a dozen."
Crossing Lakes

Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer Jan. 24, 1851; Waterloo (Wis.) Chronicle Feb. 12, 1851, p. 3. Riggs, Immense numbers arrived from the south and on reaching the lake "they would suddenly perform a somersault and turn back in the direction they came."

Véilhac, Nouveau dictionnaire d'histoire naturelle, Vol. 26 (1818) p. 370. States that it crosses Lake Antonio where it is 8 to 10 miles wide.

Wilson, Etta S. Arch 51 (1934) 158. (Under flight)


Stone, Witherer. [Passenger Riggs] Abst. Proc. R.V.G.C. 2 (1848) 17. J. D. Dillon told Stone in 1895 that about 12 years previously large numbers were drowned and washed up on the northern shore of Lake Huron.

Mitchell (1935) 128. Quotes W. Pope as describing down with poles the tried birds after crossing Lake Erie.

p. 80. Entered Antonio between Lakes Erie and Huron, Niagara, Peninsula, and its eastern end of Lake Antonio.

p. [63] 172. John Townson, paper read before the Pecos Club of Toronto. In April 1876 he saw an immense flock arrive at Toronto over Lake Antonio from the southeast.

p. 78. Flight from south to York.

p. 69. Crossed from Township of Aislefield, Huron County, in 1876.
to Michigan.

p. 71. Flew northward over Manitoulin Islands in June.

Mirande, The Birds of Long Island (1844) 185. Accounts from ship-masters of large flocks of pigeons found dead at sea.
Deerace

Baldwin, C.C., Diary 1829-1835. Am. Antig Soc. 8 (1937)

p. 46. Templeton, Mass. Jan. 4, 1830. Asa Hoarner last fall
killed 830 dozen pigeons.

p. 76. Sept. 10, 1830. Asa Hoarner caught about 1,000
dozens during the present summer. "Mr. Bryant and
John Hancock have caught as many more."

p. 168-9. March, 1832. Asa Hoarner last year caught over
800 dozens in Templeton and this was not one-half the number
taken in the town. Mr. Joseph Robbins and Mr. Parks, in
Winchendon, caught 1,300 dozens; and as Mr. Harris of that
town about 700 dozen. "They have taken nearly the same
number for several years past."

Fisher, Mrs. Mary. Maryland birds that interest the sportsman. Ornith.
11 (1894) 139. "Single kids frequently fly with flocks of Doves."

doves plagued him [Brooks], for they were restless and
frightened the pigeons."

p. 56. "The Wild Pigeon... though by no means yet exterminated
from the state, has greatly decreased here in numbers during
the present generation, and has not been seen within the present
century in nearly so great abundance as in earlier times."
Decrease (apparent).

Charlevoix, Vol. 1, p. 245. Montreal. "... a sort of wood-pigeons, which used to come easier in the months of May and June, as was said, in such numbers as to darken the air, but the case is different at present. Nevertheless, a very great number still come to rest themselves upon the trees, even in the neighborhood of the towns.

Lambert, John. Travels through Canada ... 1806, 1807, & 1808, London. Vol. 1 (1814) pp. 73 & 78. Quebec. "... but the immense flocks that formerly passed over the country are now considerably diminished; or, as the land becomes cleared, they retire further back."

Theureau, Tomnall, Vol. 4, p. 44, May 9, 1852. "Saw pigeons in the woods with their inquisitive nicks and long tails; but few representatives of the great flocks that once broke down our forests."

Bellnap, Jeremy, The history of New Hampshire, Boston Vol. 1 (1932) 171-2. "Since the clearing of the woods, the number of pigeons is diminished."

Atwater, Celeb. A history of the state of Ohio, natural and civil. 2nd ed. Cin. [1838] p. 93. "Formerly the pigeons tarried here all summer, building their nests and rearing their young; but the country is too well settled for them now; so, like the trapper for beaver, and the hunter, they are off into the distant forests, where their food is abundant, and where there is none to disturb them in their lawful pursuits."

Cooper, Susan Fenimore, Tomnall J a naturalist ... Vol. 1 (1856) 12. March 27, 1848. "Some few years ago they selected a wood on a hill, about twenty miles from us for their spring encampment ... There have not been so many here since that season. But the number we saw then were nothing to the things that visited the valley annually in its earliest history, actually darkening the air as they swept along."
Deerwars, Frederick T. Cotton Mather's manuscript references to the Passenger Pigeon. Arch. 62 (1945) 307. Cotton Mather, Nov. 19, 1712: "Their Numbers are of late years much diminished."

Pennant, Thomas. Animal geography. 2 (1785) 326. Ashton Blackburne, 1770: "Some years past they have not been in such plenty as they used to be. This spring I saw them fly one morning, as I thought in great abundance; but every body was amazed how few there were; and wondered at the reason."

Smith, Samuel. The history of the colony ... New Jersey. (1765) (1890) 11. "They have not been observed in late years so plenty as formerly."


... Any for vast number that came a few years before his arrival "now did I ever see part ten in a flock together that I remember."

Andley, Thomas. Letter to the Countess of Lincoln. Boston, March 12, 1691. Mass. Hist. Soc. Coll. 3 (1802) p. 45. Re: Large Birds, March 8, 1631, "The thing was the more strange, because I scarce remember to have seen ten doves since I came into the country."

Gosseleye. Two voyages to New England. 1674.

Boston reprint (1865) p. 79. "But in late they are much diminished, the English taking them into Nets."
Description: "The iris of the adult male passenger pigeon is scarlet, that of the female orange, while the iris of a juvenile bird taken by me on September 4, 1877, is described in my notes as "hazel and gray outside."

Bent (1932) p. 395: Townsend. The iris of the adult male passenger pigeon is scarlet, that of the female orange, while the iris of a juvenile bird taken by me on September 4, 1877, is described in my notes as "hazel and gray outside."

Rearms, Rutherfurd. Extracts from the field notes of George B. Bennett: Ank 40 (1923) 628. B. Length 16 1/2. Tail 8. Eyes orange red; bill black; legs pink.
Deane, Ruthven. The passenger pigeon - only one pair left. Aug. 26 (1909) 429. Letter from A.E. Wieding, Milwaukee, Aug. 9, 1909, states that remaining 4 males died and that he "attributed the cause to tuberculosis."

also mentions letter from S.A. Storer, July 29, 1909, that one of the two old males died "simply of old age, there being no apparent signs of disease."

Deane, Ruthven. The passenger pigeon - only one pair left. Aug. 26 (1911) 262. The remaining male died at Cin. July 10, 1910, aged 25 years, apparently of old age.


Thompson, W.W. The passenger pigeon [c.1921]. p. 7-11. Thinks the pigeon was exterminated by some disease like cancer. Fig discussion without proof.

Martin, Edward T. What became of all the pigeons? Cuming 64 (July 1917) 481. "Pigeons in captivity were very susceptible to disease. An instance came to the writer's knowledge where over 20,000 of them were penned in rooms nineteen feet square - a thousand to each room. They had cleaned the wind off their feathers, were eating well and appeared as strong, healthy a lot of birds as one could wish to buy. One morning they were fed as usual at sunrise, and the birds in every pen ate their half bushel of corn, then looked for more. An hour later nearly all the pigeons in number one room were dead or dying of cancer. Before a man could return from downtown with sulphur and alum - a trip far too late - the
birds in the next pen were dying rapidly, and some were dropping from the perch in room number three. Promido action checked the disease, but no remedies were within reach. Nearly every one of the 20,000 pigeons would have died inside 24 hours."

Thompson, W. W. cont. p. 8. Referring to article by Helmut Bays, Hunter, Trapper, Trader. Trapper (1914) re McNamee, an old trapper, who in passing through as nesting in 1881 between Emerson and Pahquosnow River, Mich. found the ground littered for several miles with dead pigeons and many sick. W. H. Merritt, Wolverton, thinks they may have died from eating poisoned salt. doubts that 1881 is correct, probably 1880.

p. 9. Frank Kendall, who as a boy in 1880 or 82, obtained less than a dozen "squelches from a nest in Potter Co. They had a whitish growth in the corners of their mouths and all died but one." p. 9. W. Lyman in 1885 hunted pigeons in McLean Co. They were thin and with "lumps in their mouths, and lumps partially filled with a yellowish-white growth, some so near full that it must have been difficult for them to swallow food."

p. 10. W. Lyman, on June 26, 1894, went to a nesting near Condurcor and found thousands of birds, thick, dying and dead from some strange contagion. W. Lyman on May 26, 1910, visited a nesting in McLean Co. and found the previously healthy birds suffering from a strange disease.

p. 11. Thompson thinks that during the 80's most of the pigeons died of disease in the wilds of Canada without attracting attention.
Riceae

Arnd, C.H. Breeding the wild pigeons. F.S. 56 (June 15, 1901) 464. Arndt letter from Prof. C.O. Whitman, Univ. Chicago, May 20, 1901. They are apparently proof against diseases that carry off many of the other wild species.

Marvin, Edward T. What became of all the pigeons? Cluting 64 (1914) 481. "Pigeons in captivity were very susceptible to disease. An instance came to the writer's knowledge where over 20,000 of them were penned in rooms sixteen feet square - a thousand to each room. They had cleaned the mud off their feathers, were eating well, and appeared as strong healthy a lot of birds as one could wish to see. One morning, they were fed as usual at sunrise, and the birds in every pen ate their full meal of corn, then looked for more. An hour later, nearly all the pigeons in number one room were dead or dying of cancer. Before a man could return from downtown to write about it, the birds in the other rooms were dying rapidly, and some were dropping from the perches in room number three.

Prompt action checked the disease there. Had no remedies been within reach, nearly every one of the 20,000 pigeons would have died inside 20 or 30 hours.

Could such an epidemic have broken out among the birds in a nesting? But if so, again, what became of the dead? There seems no sure answer to this question. What became of the pigeons, and at best any reply would be guess-work.

We Linsdale, T. The birds of Ontario (1894) 182. Large number of pigeons at Hamilton the spring of 1854. The summer was unusually warm, and as the heat increased, the birds seemed weak and languid, with
Kirkcaldy, scarcely enough energy left to rise above the houses, "[young birds?]

Fulton, The Book of Pigeons (1874) mentions cankers on pp. 28-9, 180.
THE OUTDOORS

By Lytton Taylor

PLAGUE STRIKES NATIONAL MOURNING DOVE POPULATION

A contagious disease with a long-sounding name is causing heavy mortality among the nation’s mourning dove population. The disease, called trichomoniasis, is centered in southeastern states where mourning doves spend their winters.

The disease flourishes in areas where there is a lack of large flocks of mourning doves. It is believed that the disease is transmitted by contact with the droppings of infected birds. Infected doves shed large numbers of the disease-causing organism, which is transmitted to healthy doves by contact with the droppings of infected birds.

In the past, mourning doves were considered pests because they sometimes roost in large numbers in residential areas, causing damage to crops and gardens. However, the decline in their population due to trichomoniasis has led to a decrease in their nuisance value.

The disease is a serious threat to the mourning dove population, and steps must be taken to control it. This can be done by reducing the number of infected birds through culling or by using antiparasitic drugs to treat affected birds.

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has been working with state and federal agencies to control the disease. They have implemented a culling program in areas where the disease is prevalent, and they are also developing plans to use antiparasitic drugs to treat infected birds.

The goal is to reduce the population of infected doves and prevent the spread of the disease to healthy doves. If successful, this could help to stabilize the mourning dove population and reduce the impact of the disease on the birds.

Looking ahead, researchers are studying the disease to better understand its transmission and develop more effective control strategies. Continued monitoring of the disease is necessary to ensure its containment and prevent a resurgence of the problem.

LEGAL DUCK KILL IN 1949 ESTIMATED

The liberalized migratory waterfowl hunting regulations in effect during the 1949-50 hunting season resulted in the killing of 3 million wild ducks by 1.5 million according to Director Albert M. Day of the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

Based on an analysis of data gathered from 87,127 bag checks and 25,600 post-season hunter contacts, the wild duck kill index figure for the United States during the past hunting season was 1.5 million. The index for the 1948-49 season was 1.7 million.

Although the number of hunters declined about 10 per cent from 1,767,400 in 1949, Mr. Day declared that in addition to the increase in the number of days in the length of the season, hunters had greater hunting opportunities because large flocks were concentrated in the steady diminishing areas still suitable for migratory waterfowl. Also, millions of ducks and geese remained in the United States last fall instead of wintering in Mexico or other southern points, which is their normal procedure.

Distributions of hunters and kill by flyways as follows:

States in the Pacific flyway had 21 per cent of the hunters and 23 per cent of the kill. In 1948 this flyway had 19 per cent of the hunters and 21 per cent of the kill.

The Central flyway states had 24 per cent of the hunters and 18 per cent of the kill, a reduction of 3 per cent in hunters but an increase of 4 per cent in kill when compared with the previous season.

The Mississippi flyway states had 42 per cent of the hunters and 46 per cent of the kill, representing a 4 per cent increase in hunters and a 5 per cent increase in kill over 1948.

The Atlantic flyway states had 12 per cent of the hunters and 12 per cent of the kill. In 1948 they had 13 per cent of the hunters and 10 per cent of the kill.

BILL WOULD CONSOLIDATE RIVER BASIN ACTIVITIES

Under the terms of a bill (H.R. 8063) introduced by Representative Cecil F. White of California, the civil functions of the Army Corps of Engineers would be transferred to the Department of the Interior. The bill also provides for the appointment of five members from non-partisan organizations to the board of directors of the river basin authorities.

The board would have the power to investigate, analyze, and report recommendations for all such projects conducted in whole or in part from government funds. Not only projects of the Army Engineers, but also public works projects of the Bureau of Reclamation, the Fish and Wildlife Service, Soil Conservation Service, Post Office Department, and similar agencies would be covered. No local project could be undertaken without approval of the board.

There seems small likelihood that Congress can consider such a sweeping piece of legislation within the short time left before adjournment. The fact that a bill of this kind has been introduced, however, indicates that at least some of our lawmakers are seriously disturbed by the present wasteful method of distributing Federal public works and are trying to do something about it.
Drinking

Little Rock. Spirit of the Times 11 (Nov. 20, 1841) 450.

"yesterday." says the Little Rock Gazette 9 the 27th ult.

[Ex.] Two hunters killed 900 pigeons on the Fourche near below town in 15 shots. Bar densely covered with pigeons and due to fog above and below the two the hunters could not be seen.

Abbott, Roy G. "The passing of the passenger pigeons. Nat. History 53 (1944) 86-89. "They drunk in the peculiar fashion of all pigeons, but when bowers were too steep for them to get down to the water they were said to alight on the water with wings raised, drink, and rise again."


"One of the most beautiful sights I ever had was wild pigeons was seen while fishing along Stonyage Creek ... near Rochester, N.Y., above the ripples of the creek where the stones were plainly visible, the water rushing down between stones and rocks. Suddenly a marvelously large flock of pigeons cowered over the spot and alighted in the stream upon these stones and rocks. Their object was to allay their thirst in the pure waters of the stream."


(Charleston, W. V.) "The pigeons were great drinkers, going to water as regularly as to bed. ... the small pools in the woods were favorite drinking places."


Roost near Marietta, Ohio, in fall of 1840. "Between daylight and sunrise they uniformly visited the shore of the Ohio river, for drink or for small gravel stones to assist in digesting."

* This is from Forbesh 2, p. 81.
Drinking.

Thomas, W. P. "Wild pigeons, N.Y. Sun June 19, 1881. Nesting in Indian Territory. "The birds stop for gravel or water on their way home from feeding." Water of the Canadian R. alkaline and did not draw well.

Turner, C. History of the pioneer settlement of Phelps...

Purchase (1851) p. 373. Amos Springs, Livingston Co., N.Y.

Seneen name meant "bad smelling water." "It was first noticed as a resort by the wild pigeons.

Trinkleter, W. A. The p. pigeons. Rod and Gun in Canada.

12 (Dec. 1922) 755-6. "Although they were not waterfowl, if there were no other way to get to the water they would light on the water with their wings half spread and after drinking they would clear the water at one flap of the wings."

Darwin. Varieties of animals and plants. N.Y., 1876, 190

Pigeons alighting on the Nile to drink.

See also T. J. Lincoln.
Eggs

Part 1 (1892) 132-8. The average measurements of twenty specimens in the U.S. Nat. Mus. collection is 37.5 x 26.5 mm. The largest egg measures 39.5 x 28.5, the smallest 33.5 x 26.

Barrows, W. B. Mich. bird life 1913, 238-51. "The eggs, scarcely separable from those of the domesticated dove, are white, unspotted, elliptical, and measure 1.47 by 1.02 inches."

Brundage, F. H. Birds of Missouri 1881-83, 106. Egg, 39 x 27 1/4 mm.


"It is not a little singular that the pigeon finds it more difficult to obtain eggs of the wild pigeon than those of almost any other American bird... This is probably due to the fact that the nesting period occurs quite early in spring and is usually in out-of-the-way parts of Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa or Minnesota, and before the facts can be known to the naturalist... this work is done and the pigeons are away."

Eggs.


Craig. And 28(1911) 422-3. Lays one egg.

Brenstine, And 6, 1889: 287. Information from S. S. Stevens.

"Two eggs are usually laid, but many nests contain only one."

Bridwell, 1, p. 187. Quoting Capt. A. F. Gree. "I have often found two eggs in a nest, but one is by far the most common." p. 188. A single egg laid in Cincinnati Zoo. Sanders (1919).

French, p. 197. C. W. Dickinson. "Both male and female help to build the nest which is a very crude affair and, as a rule, there is only one egg in each nest; perhaps one nest in fifty or one hundred will have two eggs in it."

French, p. 48. Common knowledge that two eggs were laid. Often how would drop one egg before nest was ready; when first nest was destroyed one hastily built; 2nd nest would have only one egg.

"Under the trees, during the first days after nest building started, there were thousands of eggs laying plenty to these casualties." p. 49. 1876. Herman T. Man's park, in Ulysses township, Potter county; was large, with a creek running among the trees in the enclosure; the birds thrived; but they bred very little in confinement; and never laid more than one egg to each nest. Many times a nest was constructed by a pair of the birds, only to be abandoned and no eggs laid in it, or when an egg was laid, it was not incubated." (started with fifty couples).

Didley, 1870, p. 203. "The female lays but one egg during the same nesting."

found a nest in the Adirondack Mountains, County
line with egg which I was at first, "the usual number."
French p. 241. John H. Chatham. "They laid two eggs, to the pair,
though many, very many nests had but one egg in, and as
many more had none at all."
"laid but one egg in aiv zoo.
Bent, (1932) p. 386. [Author's Note: The passenger pigeons laid
either one or two eggs in a nest, probably more often only
one. Most of the authentic eggs that I have seen are decidely
eelliptical, ovate in shape, but this may not be the
invariable rule. The shell is smooth and slightly glossy.
The color is pure white. The measurements of 32 eggs,
apparently authentic average 38.2 by 27 millimetres; the
egg shown in the four extremes measure 45.2 by 29.7,
33.6 by 26, and 36.2 by 24.9 millimetres."
p. 53. "Egg, elliptical, sometimes oval, white; 1.70 + 1.50
to 1.12 + 1.56."
are usually one, never more than two in number,
pure white and broadly elliptical in shape; average
size 1.59 x 1.03."
(1899)
Reed, North Am. Birds, eggs, p. 148. "Two white eggs
... larger and narrower, comparatively, than those of
other species. Size J eggs, 1.50 x 1.02. Date - Southeast
shore of Lake Manitoba, June 1, 1871. Nest J twigs in
an aspen tree. Collector, Jos. Flanagan." Cut J egg
show same shape at both ends.
F. O. Morris, A Natural History of the Nests and Eggs of
Cut J egg. Larger at one end.
Eggs (Number).

Oberholser, Wild Life J Grinnell (1928) 319-21, Normally laid one egg. Both parents assisted in incubation; and if there were at least two broods reared during the season.


"it was seldom that more than one young pigeon was raised in a single nest, but occasionally two were found."

Coale, Henry K. "On the nesting of Ectopistes migratorius." Ann. 39 (1922) 254-5. Letter from Charles Deepa, Waukegan, Ill. "In my time I have found and examined twelve to fifteen Wild Pigeon's nests. Most of which the old bird was sitting. but never found in any of them more than one egg, and it always seemed strange to me that so many nests could be found with but more than one, if they ever lay more."

"You know the nests in this locality were few and only one pair I finds to each nest. It may be possible that in big pigeon pairs I finds to each nest. Where they nests, more than one bird laid in the same nest, where they were crowded, as was the case in northern Michigan. All the nests were crowded, as was the case in northern Michigan. All the nests were crowded, as was the case in northern Michigan. All the nests were crowded, as was the case in northern Michigan. All the nests were crowded, as was the case in northern Michigan.

Chilton, Newt. M. J. Nat. Phys. 2 (1823) 210-8. Wilson asserts it has one [egg or] <sp>nest. This would be an anomaly since all members of genus Columba have two eggs. Benjamin Wright wrote him on Aug. 14, 1822: "I am confident of seeing, when a boy, two eggs in the same nest . . . I have consulted Mr. Schenck, a man of observation, and several of his specimens. He is also positive that two eggs and two young are often found in one nest. He says that the nest is built with little twigs, lined with a little grass."

"I frequent turn, but that he is confident of observing, when only one egg could be found in the nest, that the other could.
Eggs (Number) be discovered to have fallen out of it.

Mr. Paul Clark J. Alberty bred them in confinement. They laid sometimes one, but often two eggs for the same sitting. Clinton was so impressed by their productivity of the wild pigeons in confinement that: "If Mr. Clark's experiment shall be more extensively realized, as are to secure the residence of the American pigeons in an open pigeon house, then it will be an important addition to our domestic poultry."

This gentleman informs me that he has frequently seen in the woods, two eggs and two young in the nest of the wild pigeons.

Anner, C. H. Breeding the wild pigeons. F. 45 56(June 15, 1901) 464. Letter from Prof. C. H. Whitman, May 20, 1901. "They lay only a single egg at a time."

Berndt, Breuer, and Ridgway. Vol. 3(1974) 368-74. The eggs are more more than two in number; usually both nests in one nest.


Winst, H. D. The land-birds and game-birds of New England. (1877) 378. "In April or May, according to latitude, one or two eggs are laid. They are elliptical and pure white, and measure about 1.00 x 1.10 if an inch.

Wheaton, J. M. Birds of Ohio. (1882) 440-2. "The nest of sticks is placed in a small tree. Two in no. 4.5 x 1.05."

Barnum, E. W. Michigan bird life. (1912) p. 241. "Laid one egg. Where two more found, two females probably used the same nest."
Eggs (Number)


"In early April, 1885, two nests were found, each containing a single egg. Both were several miles from the city of Minneapolis, Minn., in heavy timber."

Bishop, Louis E. Pigeons by the million. N. Y. Times May 9, 1886.

"She lays one egg generally, but sometimes two."

Brewster, W. Birds of the Cambridge region. (1906) p. 178. "On May 22 & last year [1875] a nest containing a single egg was found in Weston by the late Mr. E. B. Towne."

Roney, H. B. A description of the pigeon nesting of 1878...

Chicago Field 10 (Jan. 11, 1879) 374. "The female, as a rule, lays but one egg; Audubon says two, but this number is very rare. Nests three and often five times a year."


"Only one egg laid."

Bunn, C. W. Eclectus migratorius... October 2 (June, 1876) 29.

Re 1876 nesting at Shelby, Mich. "... all three [eggs] which I examined contained but one egg.... A botanic naturalist informs me that during the summer of 1874 he found a nest containing one young bird, evidently not more than two days old, and also one egg."

Bunn, C. W. Notes on the p. pigeon... October 12 (1895) 73. He owned the Shelby, Mich. nesting of 1876 and the Petoskey 1878. "The number of eggs laid vary from one to two, the usual number being one."

You may visit a nesting and examine thousands of nests, and not ten in every thousand will contain two eggs, at least I have found it so."

Egg (Number)

Hiths, Morris: Nesting of the wild pigeon. F. 35, 43 (Aug. 4, 1874) 93: "There is no doubt that two eggs are sometimes found in one nest, and occasionally that eggs are both fresh or equally advanced in incubation. But three instances, I feel sure, are evidence alone that two females have deposited in the same nest, a condition which not rarely obtains, with those species which nest in colonies.

"Out of the many nests I have carefully examined, and watched for days, I have never found two eggs in one nest. Only once did I find an egg occupying a nest with a half-grown young one. A friend ... examined over one hundred nests in Cheboygan County, Michigan, [1878] and never found more than one egg in a nest." Has watched captive birds. Never laid but one egg.

Goodwin, Charles P.: The Birds of Webster, New Hampshire, and adjoining towns. F. 45, 8 (March 29, 1877) 113. Of many nests examined all contained one egg with a single exception. Emerson, W. Otto: Passenger pigeons nesting in Minnesota. The Warbler 2nd ser., Vol. 1 (1905) 74-6. In June 1890 found a nest, 16 miles from Minneapolis, with one egg, incubated about 6 days.

Grumbel, F. L.: Birds of St. Louis ... Trans. Wis. Acad. 10 (1895) 106. One egg.

Deane, Ruthen: Some notes on p. p. ... in confinement. Chick 18 (1896) 2 35. 'With the Whitaker flock I never knew I more than one egg being deposited.'


Never found more than one egg in a nest at any time.
Eggs (Number)

Bryant, C. A. The passenger pigeon. F. 45, 80 (April 17, 1913)
p. 514. Speaks of its ability to squat on egg.
p. 515: "I surely have seen some pigeon's and nests. I have seen two eggs in a nest, but I never saw two young birds or squabs in one nest. I have seen one squat and one had an egg in a nest when the squabs were small, but as they grew soon got rid of the egg."

Eaton, E. W. Birds of New York. 1 (1910) 383. Studies of Hart Merriam writing in 1881 regarding wild pigeons in Adirondack region (I cannot find this statement): "Early in June 1878 Dr. C. E. Bagg and I found several of their nests in the vicinity of the Moose River and about Fourth Lake & Fulton chain in Herkimer county. In one was a young bird almost ready to fly, while the others contained eggs—and only one each.


Knepper, Henry. The wild pigeons. Am. Sportsman 4 (1874) 387
"They never lay but one egg when nesting in large bodies, and very seldom two at any time."

When nest is scarce they will drop eggs in the field where they feed rather than nest.

Knepper, Henry. Statements about the wild pigeons. F. 45, 12 (1879) 146. "The pigeon usually lays only one egg at each hatching, but if food is very abundant two eggs are sometimes laid."

Lincoln, Riddle. The nesting of wild pigeons. Am. Sportsman 4 (June 33, 1874) 195. At a nesting in northern Mississippi in 1832, not a single nest contained more than one egg.
Eggs. Numbers

Allen, J. A. Catalogue of the Birds found at Springfield, Mass. Proc. United. Sta. 1864. 4 (1866) 75; "lays but one egg at a time."


May 17, 1878, several nests found in a clump of reeds along Moose River, Herkimer Co. One examined in 1878 had one egg. Mann, Charles T. Die Wanderfische. Gebrel. (1881) 457. Single breeding pairs in wild pigeons frequently have two eggs; however in the large nests 20 to 30 eggs are laid. Of these 5 or 6 eggs, two or more young are produced, one after the other.


Taylor, B. C. On the geology and natural history of the . . . Alleghany mountains . . . N.Y. Nat. Hist. 9 (1886) 73. Men assured by squatters that they rarely found more than one young bird in each nest.

Whitman, Pigeons, Vol. 3 (1919) 93. The following pigeons lay but 1 egg: Dodo, Caloceres, Ectopistes, Didusculus, Anser, yellow-tailed pigeon, sand-tail pigeon, and some species of Campophaga and Columba. In Henf (Environ, 11, 1903, 139-59) recorded Philopera longissima (rose-colored fruit pigeon) and Myristicinaria aphelochroa (nutmeg pigeon) as pigeons that lay but one egg.
Eggs, Number


[Handwritten notes and corrections]

pp. 256-7. "All accounts agree in stating, that each nest contains only one young."

Brewster, W. The present state of the wild pigeon ... Aug 6 (1889) 290. "He [E.S. Sturges] assured me that he had frequently found two eggs or two young in the same nest, but that fully half the nests which he examined contained only one.

Carr, C.F. Passenger pigeons ... nesting in Wisconsin. Wis. Naturalist 1 (1890) 9-10. In early June, 1885, found scattered pairs nesting along the Wolf River, Waupaca Co. Wis. All the nests contained a single squab.

Nehring, Henry. Birds of Wisconsin. Mil. Sentinel April 21, 1898. "Tom F. Herrmann, Sheboygan Co. ... each nest containing but a single egg."

Bachman, Dr. John. Jn. Arnold, Vol. 1 (1939) 558. "The eggs, invariably two, and white. There is frequently but one young bird in the nest, probably from the loose manner in which it has been constructed, so that either a young bird may an egg drop out."

Fargo, William J. Walter John Norsie. Wilson Bull. 46 (1934) 164. "On the large breeding grounds only one egg was laid but in small colonies two were always laid."

"This & [Norsie] can substantiate from my own observations..."
Eggs. Number

...and also from the testimony of an old man who used to trap and keep the wild pigeons to sell to a Chicago gun club for trap-shooting. He states positively that the birds always laid two eggs and when he obtained squabes from nests in northern Illinois there were always two in a nest.


"I have heard frequent controversies relative to the number of eggs deposited by the Wild Pigeon. I can assure those who are of opinion that it lays but one egg, that the number is as stated above, though generally but one young bird is found in the nest. This is accounted for by the irregularity in the hatching; one usually precedes the other by a few days, and the remaining egg or young, as soon as it appears, is thrown from the nest by the first young." -umm, Charles W. Notes on the wild pigeon. Western Architect 1, no. 4 (1878) 14. In April visit'd the nesting at Eau-shaped Lake, Emmet Co. The number of eggs laid varies from one to two; one being the usual number; you may examine thousands of nests and not ten in every two hundred will contain two eggs; at least I have found it so in my observations.

Harris, Harry. Birds of Kansas City Region, p. 268. Mourning Dove. "A nest is occasionally found containing three or four eggs, when two females use the same nest."
Eggs, Numbers.

Bendire.  Vol. 1 (1892) 142. Mourning Dove. When 3 or 4 eggs are found they are presumably laid by different birds. Mr. F. Stephenson found a nest containing three eggs on April 13, 1871. On two of these eggs incubation had commenced, the third was fresh.

Petech, R. D. Notes on the Birds of Minnesota (1892) 171

"On all my examinations of them [nests] I seldom found more than one egg in a nest."

Hodges, C. F. Passenger pigeon investigations. F. 45, 74


"Mr. Willard, of Ashburnham, Mass., strongly supports Prof. Whitman, maintaining that he has observed thousands of nests and has never seen more than one egg in a nest, unless two female birds were laying in it, and in drawing many thousands of the birds for the market, tubes found not a single developed egg."

Nuttall, Thomas. A Manual of the United States and of Canada. Vol. 1 (1832) p. 633. "The eggs are white, as usually and only two in number. One of them abortive, according to Wilson [where is this statement?], and producing usually not a single bird."

Roberts, T. S. Spring notes from Minnesota. F. 45, 14 (July 2, 1880) 428. "I have found many nests, but never one containing more than a single egg or single young bird."
Eggs, Numbers


Newton, F. N. The passenger pigeon's nesting. F. 48, 74 (June 11, 1910) 934. Claims to have seen thousands of nests with two eggs.

Nice, Margaret Morse. A study of the nesting of mourning doves. Ark. 39 (1922) 468. "The question arises as to whether mourning doves lay three and four eggs in a clutch. I think we are on safe ground in assuming that when four eggs are found in one nest they are the product of two females.

Selander, P. L. Note on the breeding... Proc. Zool. Soc. London for 1865, p. 239. "In confinement Ectopistes and several other species lay but one egg."
Eggs (Dates)


Reed, p. 148, see above. I, Manitoba June 1, 1891.

Connes, E. Field notes ... Dakota and Montana ... 1873 and 1874.

Ruthe River Valley, N. Dakota, June 13, flock of nest containing a single egg.

(1878)


In the collection of John Hall Sage are two eggs taken by W. W. C. in Portland. "One was found May 29, 1873, the male pigeons being on the nest and afterwards shot and mounted; the other June 6, 1875."


p. 263. As a rule one egg is laid, sometimes two, 3 nests ann.

p. 264. Band-tailed White-winged dove. Breeds in colonies of as many as 2000 birds. 2 eggs the rule, 1 to 3 rare. Av. 2 broods yearly.

Ardshing, F. L. "Birds of British Columbia ... Trans. W. I. Acad. 10 (1895) 106."

"On June 11, 1882, I shot a female which contained one egg ready to be laid. June 21, I shot an egg from a nest ... contained a young one almost ready to hatch."

Schreer, I. E. P. in N. W. Pa. Cardinal. 5 (1939) 31. "The first eggs, as far as Mr. Oriole could determine by his diary, he could recall, were laid about the first of April; ... His earliest record of squab ready almost ready to fly is dated April 27. One of his receipts for squab sold is dated May 2, 1882."
Eggs (dates).


Maceoun, Catalog Cond. Birds (1909) 236-7. A few more with eggs were found along the Watelham River, March 23, 1881.

Maceoun, Catalog ... (1900) p. 217. A set of eggs taken at Moose Factory, James Bay, June 1886, by Mrs. Miles Spencer. This is questionable as it is omitted from 2nd ed. (1909).


Kunkle, A. Dist. g. birds known to nest within the boundaries of Wisconsin ... Wi. Nat. 1 (1901) 147. "My cabinet contains eggs of this species taken in Jefferson county, Wisconsin, with the extreme dates of April 27 and September 10."[?]

Eggs (date).

Cocle, Henry K. [E. migratorius], Cark 42 (1925) 197.


Roberts, T. S. Birds of Minnesota, 1 (1882) 583.

Such single nests could be found in the vicinity of Minneapolis at any time from late April to September.

A few instances from the writer's journal:

Aug. 20, 1874. Egg nearly ready to hatch. Female on nest in morning, male in afternoon.

Sept. 6, 1874. Nest in a rain arbor, egg fresh. (This nest and egg are now in the University Museum, Pigeon Division.)

May 10, 1876. ... egg fresh ...  

May 29, 1876. ... egg fresh ...

June 2, 1877. Two nests ... one just being built, the other with egg.

May 9, 1879. Nest; egg.

May 21, 1880. Nest; egg nearly hatched.

11, 1881. Nest ... egg fresh ...


Nest with one well incubated egg, Oak Park, Minneapolis.

June 21, 1895.

Astrom, in litt. Only egg in Mil. Public Museum was collected by B. F. Harn at St. Paul June 3, 1873, in small tree 18' up.
Enemies

French, p. 31. Wild beasts of prey devoured the young and fought over them, through the night, making an endless uproar, and owls and hawks attacked the old birds upon the roots above the nests.

French, p. 32. William French. Nesting. "...the Indians... protected them by setting the wolves that howled around the nesting place..."

Welsh, William. "Passenger pigeons." Can. Field and Nat., 39 (1925) 165-6. "Hawks could often be seen in the flocks and owls must have had good hunting, picking them off at night. The Blue Hawk [Caper's?] was then plentiful and easily distinguishable in the flock. I have seen this bird catch a pigeon in direct flight..."

It is estimated that pigeons flew 60 miles an hour and the "Blue Hawk" 80 to 180 when taking a dive. [This must refer to Rock Hawk?]

"Other animals, such as foxes, coyotes, minks, weasels and martens also aided in destroying the birds."

N. Wild pigeons in Virginia. Spirit of the Times 20 (March 30, 1850) 61. Albie, Tousoun, Co. March 21. Hundreds being trapped. "Hawks are sometimes troublesome customers - some years since one of them made a dash at a small pigeon, the net was sprung on him, but not in time to save the pigeons. The keeper was so enraged at the loss of his favorite pigeon that he picked all the feathers but three on the wings from the hawk, and barring up his eyes and another part not to be mentioned, he turned him loose. They do say, he went up like a blue streak." [Fable]

French, p. 243. John H. Chatham tells similar tale. In this case the hawk was picked except for the wing and tail feathers.

B. W. F. Extermination of passenger pigeons. P. 456, 82 (Feb. 21, 1914) 246. "I remember there were a lot of red-tailed hawks that would swoop down at the pigeons as they sat..."
Enemies

on an old dry tree. They appeared to be keen and alert, and when the hawks got almost to them, away they would all go, with the hawks after them. I do not remember ever leaving seen a hawk catch one. After he had driven them off he would usually fly back and light in the same dry tree. Then I would give him a charge of number six shot and my tree was ready for more pigeons; when my friend drove them off his dry tree on the other side of the pasture.

Mrs. H. H. Hamlin writes that her father has seen a Cooper's Hawk take its young from the nest near Bethlehem.

"From the study of conditions during early historic time it appears that this woodland-nesting species [Cooper's Hawk] should have been a numerous nesting bird; because of the great concentration of Passenger Pigeons and other land birds, it should have been numerous in migrations and winter."

Hillbreth, S. P. Flight and Pigeons. Sill. Am. 5, 326; 24 (1833) 135. Re nest winter 1832-33, 25 miles S.W of Marietta, "the encampings ground, being several miles from any settlement, wolves and foxes visiting the spot to feast on the disabled and wounded pigeons are very numerous here."

"Among the wild enemies of the Pigeon, indeed the most dangerous of them was the Indian..."
Enemies

McKnight, W. J. History of Northwestern Penn. (1905) p. 146.

"The Cooper's and the bloody goshawk, the great horned owl, barred owl, like other night wanderers, and as the wild bear, panther, wolf, wild-cat, lynx, fox, the mink, and agile weasel, all haunted these nests [nesting] and perched upon these pigeons. The weasel would climb the tree for the pigeons' eggs and the young, or to capture the old birds when at rest. The fox, lynx, mink, etc. defended or catching the pigeons that fell from the nests."


Brininstool, William. The present status of the wild pigeon. Arch 6 (1889) 289. S. S. Stevens: Hawks and curlews often abroad near the resting. Curlews can be heard hunting there all night long. The Cooper's Hawk often catches the stock pigeons. During the Petoskey season Mr. Stevens lost twelve stock birds in this way.

Janesville (Wis.) Gazette April 16, 1879. "A large grey eagle flew over the city yesterday chased by an immense flock of pigeons, which continued the chase until almost 9 o'clock. The pigeons flew at the eagle continually by squawks and seemed to be a great annoyance to him."

Anon. Life in the West, London (1842) pp. 286-7. Milwaukee, fell g 1841. "I observed some magnificent hawks hovering over some of the flocks, just as they approached the shore, and struck down landing fowls or ducks as if in mere wantonness; indeed
Enemies

Once nearly captured with hawks and pigeons, a
flock startled down into the lake; the hawks got wet,
and was only able to fly a short distance from
the dead pigeons, when he alighted upon a rock,
with drooping wings.

with a swiftness even superior to that of the Wild Pigeon...

p. 188. "It also follows the Wild Pigeons in their migration,
and always causes fear and confusion in their ranks."

Vol. 4 (1838) 526. Sharp-shinned Hawk. The hawk...from
the smallest of our numbers to the Passenger Pigeons..."

pass him when on these predatory excursions, he immediately,
gives chase, some evades him, and forcing his way into
the very center of the flock, scatters them in confusion, when
you may see him emerging with a bird in its talons, and
diving towards the depth to the force to feed upon this victim.

When the Passenger Pigeons are abundant in the vicinity
of the country, the Hawkshaw follows their close masses, and
attacks upon them. A single hawk sufficient to attend
the greatest flocks among their numbers, at the moment he
sneephs towards a flock, the whole immediately cliue into the
clearing woods, where, notwithstanding their great speed the
Marauder succeeds in catching the fatterst. While travelling
along the Ohio, I observed several Hawkshaw of this species
in the train of millions of these Pigeons."

Vol. 1 (1831) 86. Dutch Hawk. "It is generally seen following the
flocks of Pigeons, and with Blackbirds, causing great terror in
their ranks..."
Enemies


"In the days when passenger pigeons were abundant in Pennsylvania, goshawks bred there regularly and commonly."

[Probably from Warren]


Hatch, P.T., Notes on the birds of Minnesota. (1892) 181.

I once saw one of these hawks (brown-shinned) dash into a flock of wild pigeons, and strike a very large old bird, fifty percent heavier than itself. It was done when the assailant was moving with its highest velocity, and with such deadly certainty that the stroke instantly killed the pigeon, for the head and wings all dropped, and it was speedily dropped the hawk, pigeon and all, by a well directed shot. Incroyable things it seemed to me, nor, the keen, curving talons had pierced to its vitals, p. 184. Marsh Hawk. "They are a terror to the early flocks of wild pigeons when they come, making sure supplies of them, under any circumstances conceivable."


"Deer animals seen following the flight of pigeons in their migrations; very rarely seen at other times."
Enemies

Warren, B. H. Birds of Pennsylvania. Harrisburg (1890) p. 124. "Fifteen or twenty years ago these hawks, it is said, were very frequently seen during all seasons in the counties of Cameron, Warren, Elk, Potter, Wyoming, Forest and McKean, where it is stated bred regularly. Mr. M. M. Tarrobbes, Emporium, Cameron county, says he always met with Moshawkers about the nesting places of wild pigeons. But when the pigeons left his locality these hawks also departed, and are now seen there only as rare winter visitors."

Janesville Gazette, April 16, 1879. "A large grey eagle flew over the city yesterday chased by an immense flock of pigeons, which continued the chase until almost out of sight. The pigeons flew at the eagle continually by squadrons, and seemed to be a great annoyance to him."

Extinction

Bent (1932) p. 380. Last records of specimens of which
there is no doubt is 1898, p. 382. Reasons given for
extinction.

Bent died in Chi. Zoological Park on September 1, 1914.

Abbott, Roy L. The passing of the passenger pigeon. Nat.
Wkly. 63 (1944) 86-87. "And it goes," said the zoologist
Eggers, meant that "another of our inexhaustible resources had
come to an end."

Renvold, Benedict. The hunter and the trapper (1897) p. 137.
"And if the world will endure a century longer," so will
wager that the amateur ornithology will find no pigeons
except in select museums of natural history.

Bartholomew, R. Reintroducing passenger pigeons in Arkansas.
Ark. 24 (1917) 87. Near Hickory Plains, eight miles east
of Beebe, White Co. Arkansas, there was formerly a large
pigeon. Mr. and Mrs. Robert Booth state that about 1879
some hunters accidentally set fire to it. "Pigeons would begin to
come to the road about two o'clock in the afternoon, and keep
it up until dark. They joined into that fire in hundreds,
helping it up all week while the nest was burning. The
ground was alive with naked pigeons that had the feathers
singed off them, but which eventually died and ever since,
that fire there have been no more wild pigeons in Arkansas."

Raid, Theodore. Sympathy: the broken mirror. AM. Scientist
37 (1949) 257. "For the sake of the historical record, what
would we not give for a glimpse into the consciousness of
a representative passenger pigeon just before its entire
family was wiped off the face of the earth by our forebears ancestors.

Frankman, Welton B. Birds of Backeye Lake, Ohio (1940) p. 178-54. "The extinction of the passenger pigeon seems to have been caused almost entirely by excessive trapping and hunting. The bird apparently was a forest dweller, which nested and inhabited mature forests[?] and it is conceivable that the species would have decreased in number with forest removal, however it seems very probable that it could have survived in at least small numbers throughout late historic time had it not been excessively hunted. The wholesale slaughter of the species on its nesting ground and the total lack of protection by the state were sufficient to extinguish the bird while a considerable amount of suitable habitat still remained.

Barrows, W. B. Michigan bird life (1912) p. 248. "Most naturalists agree that man's warfare upon the bird on its nesting grounds has been the prime cause of its extinction. . . . Others think it due to development of some deadly parasite. Each hands disappeared by drowning. Cleaning the forests unquestionably had an effect through reducing the food supply."

"In the opinion of the writer the most probable cause of the disappearance of the passenger lies in the fact that through the clearing of the forests and the increasing persecution by man, the birds were driven from one place to another and gradually compelled to nest farther and farther to the north, and under conditions successively less and less favorable, so that eventually the larger part of the great flocks consisted of old birds, which through strick of weather and persecution, abandoned their nesting place and failed to rear any considerable number of young. Under such conditions they would naturally become weaker, at least less resistant, each year, and in the attempt to find nesting places in the far north they may have been over whelmed by snow and ice during one of the unusually severe summers which occurred between 1882 and 1890."
Extinction.

Brumpt, William. Birds of Cambridge Region... (1906) p.178. "I find it difficult to believe that the Wild Pigeon has become wholly extinct..."

Brewster, W. Birds of Lake Umbagog... Maine, Part 2 (1925) p.306. "...and nesting colonies extending over many square miles of forest were occasionally established far up the Magalloway River or about the upper lakes of the Rangeley chain." (cf. Barrows re nesting too far north). 45°N.

Bryant, C. A. The passenger pigeon. P. 75. 80 (April 19, 1913) 515.

That [1882] was the last I ever saw or heard of the wild pigeons, though I saw a newspaper account of many being sent numbers through. I saw a newspaper account of a nesting colony washed ashore on the Russian coast.


"Using Werners' averaging these fairly reliable data we find that the death for the decade 1866-76 amounted to more than 10,000,000 pigeons per year. This number represents slaughter only. The birds nested in the camps, those taken by farmers and Indians, and the rest numbers killed accidentally in over-crowded roosteries, probably exceeded 2,000,000 more, excepting a negligible quantity of squabs, some 12,000,000 more breeding birds, and their death inflicted that of the nestlings. This annual and terrific loss suffered by the race, made irreparable by the break in the sequence of generations due to the hunter's destruction of the young, simply led to the inevitable end."

[Stone, Witmer]. [The last passenger pigeon]. Arch 31 (1914) 567.

"The pigeons, like the buffalo, was a species whose existence seems to have depended upon association in large numbers, and once separated and scattered into small flocks and pairs, its doom was sealed."
Extinction


Melcher, S.P. Columba migratoria. Sill. Am. J. Sci. 40 (1891) 348. "Although this beautiful bird has been subject to the depredations of man for more than fifty years in Ohio, in addition to the multitudes that annually fell a prey to their feathered enemies, they still exist in vast numbers.

What then must have been the amount of their winged hosts, as they yearly migrated from the lower regions of the earth, to the evergreen districts of the north, as instinct and habit directed, before civilization had made any inroads on the vast forests which had for ages supplied them with food?"

Wetmore, Alexander. Some birds of prairie, forest and tundra. Nat. Geog. Mag. 70 (Oct., 1936) 995. "The last wild bird for which there is certain record was one killed in April, 1904, though there is account of one identified positively in 1907."

Saunders, Aetas A.: a district list of the birds of Montana.

Birchley (1921), p. 117. "The fact that this species was once abundant [?] in Montana ... seems to me strong evidence that its extinction was not due to man's unaided agency. At the time [1873-7] it disappeared in Montana the state was very thinly settled, and the human population there could not have been the cause of any appreciable lessening of its numbers."
Extinction

Breckenridge, W. J. A century of Minnesota wild life.
Minn. Hist. 30 (1949) 224. "The reason for the complete disappearance of the species after it was reduced beyond certain limits remains a mystery. It may be that the passenger pigeon was one of the species of birds that remain in breeding condition for only short periods. To ensure successful nesting, it is to the advantage of these species to nest in colonies where the maximum opportunity is afforded for the mating of breeding males with females also in breeding condition. When the population of a colony dwindles below a certain minimum number, too few successful nesting occurs to perpetuate it and it gradually dies out. This may explain the passenger pigeon's failure to survive after being reduced below a critical minimum for the species."

Pace, Henry D. The last of the wild pigeon in Rich's County. Rich Co. Hist. Soc. Coll. 4 (1911) 372. Mr. Witmer Stone writes me: "In Sullivan county, an extremely reliable man who has caught thousands of pigeons came down to the 80's saw a single pigeon when we were out in the forest together. He was absolutely sure he'd follow it up and finally shot it, but it was a dove. He was astonished and said he did not think such a thing was possible."

Pace: "We are therefore forced to the belief that an exceedingly important factor in their eventual extinction was the destruction of the forests. Wild pigeons fed on mast. This conclusion is reached after stating that the 1860 nesting originally contained 268,000,000 pigeons, which number was naturally increased to 400,000,000 or 500,000,000 during their stay in the woods. There were perhaps 1000 persons in the woods for the fifty days
that the result was maintained. Estimating that each person killed 1,000 pigeons a day is a high figure; they could have killed only about one-tenth of the birds, so there were a vast number more left the next time came to it."

Wayne, A. T., Birds of South Carolina. Charleston (1910) p. 66. "This species is now almost extinct, having been caught in enormous numbers in nets, and drowned in multitudes in the Gulf of Mexico during migrations."

Thomas, W. F., Williams of wild pigeons. N. Y. Argus June 14, 1881. He writes 310 miles west of Atoka, Oklahoma, in spring 1887. "The result of the inaccessible nature of the locality of this year's roost is that the increase is larger than ever known before. The number of squabs killed and pigeons netted is insignificant in comparison with the number drafted out. There are millions of them."

Pigeons molt four times a year.


Amer. The raid on the pigeons. Green Bay Daily Date June 20, 1882. A syndicated article protesting against the destruction of pigeons at the Wisconsin meetings.

Madison (Wis.) State J. "Pigeon Killing", May 26, 1882. Rev. Balk last evening received petition from New Denmark to call out militia to protect the pigeons near the Foyette, Monroe Co.
Audubon. Vol. I (1831) 325. "And I have satisfied myself, by long observation, that nothing but the gradual diminution of our forests can accomplish their decrease, as they not unfrequently quadruple their numbers yearly, and always at least double it."

Baird, Theodore. Sympathy: the broken mirror. Am. Scientist 37 (1949) 257. "For the sake of the historical record, what would we not give for a glimpse into the consciousness of a representative passenger pigeon just before its entire family was wiped off the face of the earth by our ferocious ancestors?"

Holliss, Med. [Passenger pigeon]. Recreation (N.Y.) Vol. II (Aug. 1899) p. 134. Delavan, Wis. "The species is in no present danger of total extinction. In fact, there are several forms of North American birds that will perhaps be extinct before the wild pigeon is."

Editor. [Fate of wild pigeons]. F. 45, 36 (June 21, 1888) 429. "Widespread opinion prevails that it has disappeared from the continent. It is probable that this is untrue and that it will still be found in scattered flocks in the far West. The fact remains that the wild pigeon has not held its own and was stemmed the current of settlement and civilization which has swept it from the great areas where its hosts once darkened the heavens."

Editor. [Wild pigeons]. F. 45, 36 (June 11, 1891) 489. "American wild pigeons have taken their place among menagerie specimens of rare creatures. Several were received at the Central Park aviaries [N.Y.] this other day."
Extinct.

Editor. The passenger pigeons. F. 45. 54 (May 12, 1900) 361. Editorial in protest. Each State in the Union should pass a law protecting the passenger pigeon.


Letters from people as far away as Russia who think that they have seen passenger pigeons recently. See Sheldon.

Editor. The protecting of wild pigeons. F. 45. 7 (Sept. 21, 1876) 184. Editorial asking for protection.

Editor. Protecting wild pigeons. F. 45. 7 (Oct. 26, 1876) 84.

Protection needed. 19,000 pigeons on hand for recent state of N.Y. tournaments.

Hayes, R. S. History of the town of Rockingham, Vermont (1917) p. 90. "and naturalists tell us they have migrated to Chile and Peru, South America. Gibbs, Morris. The efforts of civilization on our kids.

Science 20 (1892) 183. "The brave made in our wild pigeon with the net net is well known, and the sentiment is mixed that we need still have plenty of pigeons had the nets not been used, contrary to law, near the breeding grounds.

Mershim, W. B. The wild pigeons. F. 45. 80 (June 14, 1888) 414. Pigeons have been annihilated by mortars. "they are gone never to return."

Mershim, W. B. Note on the passenger pigeons. And 48 (1931) 116.

Indies from letter from Philip B. Woodworth, Chicago, who thinks that the great fire in which in 1871 was the beginning of the end. Mershim points out that the fire occurred in autumn when the pigeons were scattered.
Extinction

Neville, R. B., and Nelson, A. R., 1945. The breeding among per-
Pigmen shared a similar fate. Their extinction may
have been due to in-breeding of small numbers of survivors."


Am. Nat. 51 (1917) 190. "Final extinction of species on the vage
by extinction, such as the Heath Hen and the Passenger Pigmen,
I believe might well have been accomplished because of a
lack of synchronization in the mating cycles of the few
males and females left toward the end of their existence..."

Beattie, Donald Culross, 1948. The beech and the pigmen. Atlantic
Monthly 4(182) Aug. 1948) p. 60. "For after the Beech forests
were swept away by the man with axe and plow, the
fate of the passenger pigmen was sealed. Trees by mass
slaughter than by the disappearance of Beech mast, more the
shining flocks driven to extinction."

[Rowe, N.] Editor. The destruction of the wild pigmen. Am.
Field 17 (June 20, 1892) 4-38. Re. Sparta meeting Aug. 1882,
extermination in sight. Suggests that all shooting and
slaughtering is prohibited during March, April, and May.

Todd, W. E. P. Birds J. meeting Penn. (1946) 273. "The
Passenger Pigmen became extinct because it was a species the
well-being and very existence of which depended upon the
communal habit, and because it was unable to adapt
itself to new conditions of living."

Waters, B. Fate J. the wild pigmen. F. 4 S. 66 (May 26, 1906).
827. Colony when alarmed: "When a whole meeting was
invaded and alarmed, and thousands of eggs and squeaks
Extinction

were thriving from the nests, the perpetuation of the pigeon
was impaired accordingly.

Wood, Rev. T. Kennedy. Strange story I hear wild
pigeon passed. Williamsport (Pa.) Sun March 8,
1834. A Michigan trapper bailed this bed with
a much of bran and cornmeal containing a
“spice.” The adults ate it greedily, fed their young,
and the latter died.

Ann. Wild pigeons and traps hunting. Turf Field
and Farm 26 (June 21, 1878) 391.

Decrease of pigeons due to cutting down of the beech
forests.


“Only two droves are known to exist in the United
States today, one in Pennsylvania and one in Indian
territory.”

“Temperate X. [Wild pigeons]. 186. 26 (April 1, 1886) 182.

pigeons have been seen on their way north.”

Audubon, J. The Birds of America. Cambridge (1849)
p. 95. "Mark of adaptability.

Reeve, C. William. "The Reid" (1906) 476. It has been
abundantly stated that extinction of P. P. was due the mistake
of laying while eggs.

DeMontigny, B. A. T. La colonisation... Montreal (1896)
p. 56. Some think they disappeared because they were
confined.
Mitchell, I. N. "Passenger pigeons investigation. Wis. Arbor aid Day Annual" (1913) p. 87. To find rewards.

Pierce, Claud B. (1936) 395 "had these pigeons nested singly or in the far north, the probability is that they could not have been exterminated."

Pears, Paul. A propos de la disparition ... Rev. franç. d'Orn. 2 (1912) 313. Suggests that p.p. was carried off by some disease possibly imported with exotic pigeons.

See Stone, under Laws.
Fear

Cleveland (Ohio) Plain Dealer, March 12, 1860. "Sky rockets among pigeons."

Feeding.

On wild pigeon days, F.Y.S. 44 (Feb. 10, 1893) 126.

"Enfecling, which pigeons do in flocks guilty dense and numerous, they form long lines along the ground, almost like soldiers in line; feet and wings are in constant motion turning the dried leaves, and they seem to roll over one another as they advance in line gathering the mast. Frequently immense masses of them, as if actuated by a simultaneous impulse move a short distance to a more favored spot, the fluster of this countless number of wings making a noise like rolling thunder. After gathering themselves with mast, some times they will settle upon the adjacent timbers or forming lines on the branches as close as they can sit; thus perched they will emit a call or cry to passing flocks, which generally has the effect of calling them down to join their quantities."

"The most of the feckless like, the process of digestion is quite rapid ... Birds shot in the morning as they leave the roost are not ready for their feeding grounds leave empty corps; those killed for their feeding grounds leave empty corps; those killed for their feeding grounds leave empty corps; those killed later in the day, and especially upon their return in the evening, are literally gorged, and as the pigeons fly over you, the sound of their droppings is like a shower of rain upon the surrounding foliage.


Pigeons bred there on Loyalsock and Mehoopany Creeks in Sullivan and Wyoming Co., Pa. "All personally remember is, that there Pigeons which stayed with us [in summer], remained more or less constantly in the old marshes, frequenting them for food. Here they picked under the old leaves, searching for worms or mites, scratching and digging with great energy. Throughout these operations I do not recall them using their feet once, but always perched and..."
Backwoods; in wild pigeon days, P. 4 S. 49 (Feb. 16, 1875) 126.

Randolph Co., W. Va. "... the fall of 1879, we had a pretty fair

[1879] musk crop... Numerous pigeons put in an appearance,

but not nearly one-fourth the quantity of the season spoken of [1875]... For some cause they seemed restless, continually

on the move, from no apparent reason. In some spots most

was plentiful enough to satisfy the demands of even a pigeon, yet

you could scarcely ever catch a flock feeding. I secured

very few that season."


Walther 1 (1885) 70-1. "I have seen the Passenger Pigeons, going

through the woods like a blue wave, rolling along, filling the

woods with the sounds of their wings and voices. There in

the rear would be constantly flying over those ahead, so

that as they went through the woods picking up the

Acorns, they looked like a blue wave, you could hear

them for half a mile. Their note was at this time a very

soft, child-like call like the voices of little girls,

so very soft and sweet was their piping. They would

remain here a few days and were seldom seen later

than April."

Nestled in Newerick Valley, he thinks for the last time

in 1869, the birds once more then, in June.

They spread over the country there near Rocklyn [Del.

ware Co.] eating sprouted beechnuts, the beechnuts by

that time, of course, had all sprouted and they spread

through the woods everywhere picking up these sprouted

beechnuts."

Bethune, C. J. 8. Recollections of the passenger pigeon. Ottawa

Nature, 16 (1902) 40-4, attempting to catch pigeons in grain field

in autumn. "the sentinel..."
Feeding.

Wheaton, J. M. Birds of Ohio (1882) pp. 490-8, "in the fall of 1859 I witnessed a similar migration near Granville, Richland county... On this occasion I had an opportunity of observing a large flock while feeding. The flock, after a little circling by the foremost ranks, alighted upon the ground, forming a front of over a quarter of a mile, with a depth of nearly a hundred yards. In a few moments those in the rear finding the ground nearly stripped of mast, arose above the tree tops and alighted in front of the advance column. This movement soon became continuous and uniform, birds from the rear flying to the front so rapidly that the whole presented the appearance of a rolling cylinder having a diameter of about fifty yards, its interior filled with flying leaves and grass, the whole was deafening and the sight confusing to the mind."

Bradbury, John. Travels in the interior of America... (1819) 52-3.

On the Missouri above Lawrence, Kansas, April 18, 1810. Describe rolling method of feeding, "and a side view of them exhibiting the appearance of the segment of a large circle, moving through the woods."

Martini, E. T. Among the pigeons. Chicago Field 10 (Jan. 25, 1879) 385-6. "It is a well proved fact that the old bird coming in will stop and feed any young heard crying for food, that in this way they look out for one another's young, and the orphans or half orphans are cared for... As proof of this pigeons feeding squabs indiscriminately, I may mention that out of the men in my employ this year, at the Shubie meeting in 1876, in one afternoon shot and killed six hen pigeons that came to [feed] and find the one squab in the same nest."


Describes coming upon a large flock of pigeons feeding on a live oak, continuously rising to the top and descending to the bottom of the tree.
Feeding states that they covered the acorn by two or three strokes of the wing. The progress descended to the ground to eat the acorn or it was devoured by others.

Henty, Thomas H. Daily Histories ... 2 (1877) 295: "When they alight for the purposes of feeding, they cluster closely together, and do not diffuse themselves over a considerable expanse of country. They are not ordinarily shy, and can be approached with the least difficulty, so intent are they upon feeding."

p. 296 (Feeding food). "We have often been surprised, while observing a flock of these birds at an immense height, when, apparently manifested no disposition to halt from their steady course, judging from their actions, to notice a small black bird, and a subsequent settlement. The immense height of their flight, combined with their powerful wings, certainly enables them to survey large spaces of country, hundreds of acres in extent."

p. 298: "When a suitable feeding place is discovered, the birds move in circles over the spot, then descend to a lower level, and make a movement as if to alight. When all is quiet, they take to flight, but speedily return and pass through the same manoeuvres, as if undecided, or apprehensive of hidden dangers."
Bryant, C. A. "The passenger pigeon." F. 45, 80 (April 19, 1913) 494.

(Southern Michigan). "When feeding on the mark, the pigeons generally went in smaller flocks than where they fed on the stubble fields or the newly sown wheat. One of their methods of feeding on acorns and beech nuts was peculiar. After frost had fallen a time or two, the nuts and acorns became loosened from their shucks, but did not fall at once. Then the pigeons would light on the outer ends of the limbs of the oak or beech, and seizing a beechnut or acorn in their bill, winnow backward with their wings and pull the nut from its fastening and swallow it whole. Strange as it may appear, I have seen some white oak acorns, as large as the first joint of my little finger, taken from the crop of a passenger pigeon. These acorns had been swallowed entire, and would be digested in a few hours. I remember seeing eleven beech nuts taken from one pigeon's crop; the passenger pigeons often fed on the red rasp berries... and were also fond of elderberries.


Grant Co., Wis. in 60's. "The largest flocks were always in the spring. In the fall, after the acorns got ripe on the large white oak trees—what we boys called 'sweet acorns'—the pigeons were on hand, especially about daylight, and for half an hour would settle down to breakfast, fluttering from limb to limb and keeping up a constant 'peeping.' Pigeons arrived at sunrise to feed as regularly as the clock during the season of two or three weeks."

De Dolive, S. M. "Pigeons now—and then." F. 45, S. 73 (Aug. 7, 1909) 213. "Trapping at 1868 nesting at Covell, southeast of Albany, N.Y. "They never eat anything within ten or twelve miles of their nests. This is all reserved for their young, so we must get that far..."
Feeding

away with our nets. The flight went down some valley, all following one course, and then they worked back through the timber. Ten miles from the nesting the cocks used to reach us between 3 and 4 o'clock A.M. and the hens would come at 11 A.M. after the males had returned and taken their places on the nests.

Langdon, P.W. "On the occurrence of large numbers..."
J. Cinn. Sci. Nat. Hist., 12, nos. 243 (Oct. 1889) 57. "The feeding was very systematic. The birds presented a quite regular front of fifty to sixty yards in extent, and their ranks were from ten to twenty feet in depth. As this column progressed, it did so by the rear rank flying forward and alighting slightly in advance of the front row. This maneuver was continually repeated, so that they presented a constantly moving mark, apparently rolling forward like a cloud."

Scherer, I.E. P. in N.W. Pa., Cardinal 5 (1939) 32. "The birds ranged as far as forty miles from the city to feed. Most of these on the hills above Smokey Hill. However did not go so far, but moved down the valleys of Martin Creek, Potato Creek, and the Allegheny River.

Mr. Anderson told me that they would feed over a place many times and still not get everything. He had observed that each nut might support quite thickly from an area of forest floor even [p.33] though the turn-up leaves gave evidence that the pigeons had beds there. He said that some people might say that the birds wore wire enough to leave the nuts around the nesting places, but that these people had nothing to prove their assertion. The young certainly, when they had left the nests, soon sought new territory."
Feeding.

Quirke, James E. History of Sullivan Co. [N.Y.] (1873) 503. "It was amusing to see them in the bush woods, when they were in search of food, in a few minutes, tearing and squeaking so as to nearly deafen the listener, or, they turned over every leaf on acres of ground..."


"The pigeons would make three trips a day in fair weather for food... the largest flight, of course, was toward the best feeding grounds, and gathering places. They flew from the nest feeding grounds and water places, they flew from the nest, and were fed by the beeves..."

"I'm a bird, and I'm not afraid of anything..."

"First, at daylight, till 8 or 9 o'clock, the male birds flew out and back; then the female birds were out till 8 o'clock, when the male birds again flew till night. After these flights out would continue without a break, in the string of birds across a favored point, for an hour or two, and all one who wished to shoot could do, or at least in some small clearing and shoot until it became monstrous..."

Strickland, S. Twenty-seven years in Canada West (1853) 307. "When I first resided in the township of Ravera [1826], the pigeons used to be very plentiful at that time, their chief feeding place being in the township of Renfrew, in a direct line west from my residence, some forty or fifty miles. And yet, soon after daylight, they would be passing eastward over my clearing, so vast is their swiftness and strength on wing. "If it is a curious fact that, although thousands passed daily for many days in succession, yet not one of them returned by the same route they went."

"From Smith's map of Canada West (1847) the distance from his home to the nesting could not have been over 35 miles."
Taylor, R.C. "On the geology of Allegheny Mountain..."
Mag. Nat. Hist. 8 (1850) 535. "The hunters say, with what accuracy I know not, that these flocks would travel sometimes a hundred miles for a breakfast."

Schaff, M.D. "Elma and Kiskernille."
(1905) p. 106. Pigeons left the woods in Bloody Run Swamp, and flew to their various feeding grounds "distant from one to over two hundred miles."

Marsh, W.B. "The p. pigeons."
(1909) p. 206. Pigeons:
"Many times in my life I have known C. me.-me.-me., while nesting, to be obliged to search for food in from four to six miles of my nest, and have seen the snow at such times upturned and intermixed with fresh leaves for miles and miles."

Moore, R.A. "Hoard's Dairyman."
73 (1928) 106. feeder of sentinel during feeding.
Feeding

Jewett, Richard J. (Renda, Ohio). Memories of the passenger pigeon. Bird-lore 20 (1918) 351. About 1886-7. "It was late autumn, after the leaves had fallen from the trees. Here were about 120 birds in the flock. They lighted on the top of a large oak tree; and, finding that the acorn to be dropped in rapid succession from branch to branch, had gone till all had reached the ground, I never have seen more intense activity at feeding grounds than those birds displayed. They worked in a wing-shaped group, moving nervously forward in one direction around the tree, gleaning the entire nut-covered space as they went. Those falling to the rear of the flock, where the nuts were picked up, kept flapping across to the front as to get the advantage of the unpicked nuts. A few that wandered apart in search of scattered nuts kept scurrying about and tilting as they picked them up and then hurried back to the flock as if they feared that the flock would soon be through feeding and go off on the wing."
"Backwards," In wild pigeons days, F. Y. 5, 44 (Feb. 15, 1895) 126.

The wild pigeon is generally poor in flesh, and the cooking as to meat - the old ones pretty tough ... Upon striking the ground, many of them would burst open, the crop being gorged with the bush nuts. When dressed they looked as yellow as gold - very juicy and tender.


The wild squab, when fat and fresh, are very delicate eating. The coop roost bird is also good, the flesh being neither dry; but a poor wild pigeon is very indifferent eating, even if well and properly cooked. They are found best in the months of September and October.

p. 175. States that the flesh of the mourning dove is better than that of the wild pigeon, "much superior."

Bryant, A.A. The passenger pigeon. F. 45, 80 (April 19, 1713) 414.

(Born in...). The passenger pigeon often fed on the red raspberries which grew in abundance on the land where the pine had been cut off, and they were also fond of elderberries. The writer has shot pigeons whose crops and flesh around the crop was stained from eating berries.

Pease, Putnam. Extracts from the field notes of George B. Sennott.

Arch. 40 (1923) 628. W. 192, April 14, 1875. Female was excessively fat it was abandoned.

Kalm, Peter. Travels into N. Am. 2 (1772) 140. Lake Champlain.

June 29, 1749. "The Frenchmen shot a great number of them ... in which we found a great quantity of their "Their flesh is the most palatable of any birds flesh I ever tasted."

Lacharme, George Henry. History of the Missions ... (1794) Part 1, p. 92.

"Their flesh has a good taste, and is eaten by the Indians either fresh, smoked, or dried."
Flesh

[Scarrow, George W.] Mesopect, (1978) p.186. “It sometimes happens that pigeons are very plentiful, and the camp is simplified into over-shooting and over-cooking, until every one is thoroughly sick of pigeons... Pigeons are hardly game, and they are not a first-class bird; but a good deal may be got out of them by the following method: Recommend boiling until tender, cutting the meat off the breast, rolling in flour and frying.

Kalm, Peter. Wanderings of an artist... (1817) 438.

Rabbit Print, Lake Winnipeg, July 27, 1848. Our Indians killed several shrunk, which they prize very much as delicate eating, preferring them to the pigeons.

Kalm, Peter. A description... Apr, 28 (1911) 66.

“Their flesh is a delight to the epicure, and especially is the meat of the young pigeons esteemed in delicacy to that of any other bird.”

Bockrani, W.M. Pioneers Among the Indians... (1907) 440.

Their meat is not regarded as of much value. It is very dark and has a strong pigeon odor about it, that injures its value for food.

Byrd, W. Narrative of the dividing line... (1929) 216.

“On these long flights they are very lean, and their flesh is far from being white or tender; they are good enough upon a March, when hunger is the sauce, and makes it go down better than Truffles and Morels won’t do.”
The Passenger Pigeon... moves with extreme rapidity, propelling itself by quickly repeated flaps of the wings, which it brings more or less near to the body, according to the degree of velocity which is required. Like the Domestic Pigeon, it often flies, during the love season, in a circling manner, supporting itself with both wings angularly elevated, in which position it keeps them until it is about to alight. Now and then, during these circular flights, the tips of the primary quills of each wing are made to strike against each other, producing a smart rap, which may be heard at a distance of thirty or forty yards. Before alighting, the Wild Pigeon breaks the force of its flight by repeated flappings, as if apprehensive of receiving injury from coming too suddenly into contact with the branch on the spot it ground on which it intends to settle.

W. E. A. de la Rue, The Handbook of British Birds. Vol. 4 (1948) p. 181. There is doubt that the clapping of pigeons is due to striking of wings together over back. Apparently due to "paddle down-stroke and somewhat analogous to crack of whip."

McKee, John C. Adventures in Canada... Phil. [1882?] p. 212-6. p. 213. "Phillipee says this is fiction: "I have heard of one man who was not shooting the pigeons, and had got close to one flock, when their leaders took so fancy to fly directly over him, almost close to the ground, to his no small terror. Hundreds brushed past him so close as to make him alarmed for his eyes; and the stream still kept pouring on after he had discharged his barrels, right and left, into it, until nothing remained but to throw himself on his face till the whole had flown over him."
Flight (Manner B)
Flights

French, p. 33: William Frenc, "... ingenuity for making great flocks in flight in narrow columns..."
p. 42: "The birds flew with such martial exactness, according to C.H. Shearer, J Reading... that when they became too compact or congested, numbers of them dropped in great spirals and resumed the flight at a lower strata."

French, p. 55: C.W. Richmond: Re meetings in Allegheny River, valley, Pittsburgh Co., in 1860 & 1870. "An early morning the valley, a mile wide, between the hills was filled, strata above, strata, right courses deep at times, for about an arm, with the multitude of birds flowing westward, at the rate of about a mile a minute, going after food."

French, p. 81: "In starting upon a journey few perches in tall trees, passenger pigeons, at first, dipped slightly toward the earth and to boggan down the decline with increasing velocity, in the general direction they wished to go, and skidded along the valley, between the hills. Then they began to rise above the hills and when high in the air, they trimmed their course by curving toward the east, actually they sought accelerating the pace until a speed nearly a hundred miles an hour was attained, and maintained to the end of their trip, when they circled in a wide decling plane and gently alighted upon the ground, with a roaring of wings like a fearful tempest, or sought the branches of trees beyond, in a peaceful upward sweep that absorbed much of the momentum they had attained."

p. 148: 4/5 birds will fly in a wind direction, 50 to 70 miles to feed. Males leave at daybreak in a continuous flock. Stragglers up to 9, 10 A.M. Males then begin to return & females leave. Returns about 11-11/2. Males leave again returning about 4/30.

p. 149: In 1870 nesting flight was monthly, p. 208, From 6 to 8 P.M. 10 to 48 flocks at time could be seen.
Flight

French p. 219. Charles H. Eldon. "When the birds started out in the morning at daybreak to forage for food, they would circle the road until the flock looked like one solid body, then take their course to feed, going many miles."

French p. 229. C.K. Seber. "In May, 1873, when riding on the railway from Kane to a point about twenty miles west of Kane, I saw a constant flight of wild pigeons. There were millions, and all seemed to be adults. The continuous flock or stream of birds was fully twenty miles wide. This was in the morning. Phil. N. American. Beat (1932) p. 395. Formica. "Unlike the morning dove, the passenger pigeon does not make a twittering sound with its wings when it rises in flight."

"Backwoods." In wild pigeon days. F.T.S. 49 (Feb. 14, 1895) 126. "It is deeply interesting to watch wild pigeons in their flight. They have a habit of suddenly swerving from a direct course, as if each individual bird at the same instant were moved by the self-same impulse. Surprising, indeed, is the rushing noise of their wings when performing one of these curious evolutions. Frequently when stationary on their line of flight, have I succeeded in catching them as they bunch up into a dense mass with an impetuous rush."

Bachman, Rev. John. "On the migration of the birds." N.A. Ann. S. Science 30 (1836) 83. Accurate experiments show that the speed of the wild pigeon is 40 miles an hour. "...pigeons have been taken in the northern and eastern states, with undigested rice in their crops, which must have been picked up in the rice fields of Carolina or Georgia the day before..." Frequently seen at early dawn, in the high atmosphere. They fly higher by night than by day."
Flight.


Thoreau, Journal, Vol. 11, p. 158, Sept. 13, 1858. Pigeons in flight:
"They make a dark slate-gray impression."
Vol. 12, p. 24, 1854. [Forest fire] "three pigeons dashed into the midst of the smoke."
Vol. 17, p. 334, April 20, 1855. "They lift their wings at the same moment as they sit."
Vol. 11, p. 328, Sept. 15, 1859. "Pigeons start by on every side—a dry slate color; like weather-stained wood...fit color for this aerial traveller, a more subdued and earthy tints than the gray...a teneur or slate blue..."

Bethune, C.J.S. Recollections of the passenger pigeons; Ottawa Nat. 16 (1902) 34-4. Toronto, 1858. "I do not suppose that the pigeons crossed the lake always at the same place, as the whole country for hundreds of miles was covered with them in these early days." Mr. T.C. Scott said: "In the mountains near Milton, there was a large pine forest, and old hunters said that during the regular spring flights, the pigeons rested on the mountains after having crossed the lake, alighting on the trees so thickly that the limbs would break their weight. This occurred every year as though it were a settled habit with the pigeons to rest in this place.

* Milton West is in central Halton Co.

Blackiston, T. Our birds collected and observed... Fig. 5 (1863) 121. "They may be distinguished at a long distance from the miles of wild geese by their flight; being in no particular order, but as
the principle of 'every one for himself, and the devil take the hindmost.'


"They arrive in flocks from three hundred yards to three miles broad, flying in nearly a straight line, and about twenty deep; and flock succeeds flock so fast that a person having only a single-barrelled gun cannot load his gun after he has fired before another flock passes over his head. They generally fly about nine feet above the tops of the trees or buildings, and many boys go upon the house-tops with sticks and stones to have a fling at them in passing over. Shooting this sport continued for about a month, from eight o'clock in the morning to twelve at noon; there was no slackening of the stream of birds; from twelve until four they ceased; then they began coming again as numerous as ever till dark. In the night millions were always found roosting in the woods, especially in the black groves, ... wanting a track in Ohio about fifteen miles square where they rest.

No definite dates I any kind.


"But when such myriads of land birds or the wild pigeons are on the wing, often wheeling and performing evolutions almost as complicated as pyrotechnic movements, and creating whirlwinds as they move, they present an image of the most fearful power. Our home, Missouri, at such times, has been so covered by them that he would stand still and tremble in his harness, whilst we ourselves were glad when their flight was directed from us."
Flight

Collins, Norman L. Disappearance of the wild pigeons. F. & S. 79 (1912) 235. Experience in Pa. "Pigeons fly in irregular flocks... Dozens upon dozens of flocks, big and little, and all coming straight up from the South would pass overhead in a day. I never saw a wild pigeon fly alone. I was also extremely uncommon to see them alight except when a snowstorm suddenly overtakes them, or when they were being lured to the nets by bird catchers."

"Pigeons as a rule flew fairly high... They made no cry and they flew steadily and with amazing swiftness."

De Ashie, S. M. [Clayton, Pott Co., Mo.] Pigeons now and then.


Dury, Charles. The passenger pigeon. J. Am. Soc. Nat. Hist. 21 (1910) 52. "Their fall migrations were a wonderful and impressive sight. These great flights most frequently took place in October, although I have observed them to begin in late September, and continue at intervals into November. The usual time for the flight over Cincinnati and vicinity was in the after-

noon and evening, and generally when the sky was cloudy. The birds flew in long columns or strings side by side... The birds did not come over in large flocks as they did in their Continental flight, and probably returned by a different route."

Flight


Jeffreys, W. Bruce, Shooting on upland ... (1890) 224.

Many of the flocks (spring migration) consisted entirely of males, others of females. (Iowa, Iowa). Spring migration. p. 225. "The pure air was contaminated with the ever-present [powder] smoke, and the odors coming from the flying birds." (Spring migration). p. 223 (Spring migration). "In going to their roosting places, they annually flew up the Valley of the Mississippi, following the river in its windings. In this vicinity [Iowa, Iowa], they flew about a mile west of the city, sweeping up and down over the hills and valleys, resembling the long tail of a kite, that could be changed into serpentine form by the fittest wind. East of us, drifting rapidly and gracefully over the tops of the willows, oaks, and elms in the bottom-land, they darkened the shores of the western boundary of the state of Illinois. The hill bluffs of Fulton, sloping gently from the south, terminate abruptly at the north, and sink into miles and miles of bottom-lands, islands and remnant fields, where they reached these bluffs, instead of dropping down and flying over the islands, they crossed the Mississippi River, meandered over the bluffs in Iowa, swelling the numbers that had passed over us, and disappeared in their tireless flight."
Flight

Tristram, Eudlaw. The pairing & the p. pigeon. Am. Scholar 15 (1946) 213. "During migration these birds flew with great swiftness ... in a front about a mile wide. There were countless flocks of 200 - 300 miles long, which took all day to pass a given point."

MacTaggart, John. Three years in Canada ... Vol.1 (1829) 233. "Some flocks, unlike those we have seen, seemed to fill the air to the extent. They move with great rapidity, not in strings as waterfowl do, but in irregular clouds; those before are often pluming behind, while they warp and veer around one another."

Hall, B. R. The new purchase... [1855] p. 448. "With a friend, I stood in an open space in the woods,... from ten o'clock A.M. to three o'clock, P.M. - five hours - during which, with scarcely thirty seconds' intermission, a stream of pigeons, about two hundred yards wide, and averaging two layers, flowed above us, and with the rapidity of thought!"

(Near Bloomington, Ind., fall, 1828 or 1829)


"Take a space one mile wide by two long, and cover it with birds in flight. Flying twenty minutes, covering the space so thick that you could only see the sky in the little flecks between their wings; multiply this by two, for there were two, and may be even three times flying at the same time."


To my description of the shape, etc. Of flocks migrating through Rubique Co. Iowa.
"The migrating flocks were huge. Sometimes a moving flock would be split by a hill in its path, sometimes two flocks would merge. The flocks were of no definite shape; they might be oval; they might be stringed out in one or more long arms. The kestrel 's irregular mass might be nearly any conceivable shape. In some flocks the birds flew substantially in a single plane, and in others the flocks were many birds deep. Some flocks were so dense that they obscured the sky above them; others were very loose."


"Flews in "windrows" that extended from horizon to horizon, always at right angles with the direction in which they were flying. ... When the weather was calm, the pigeons maintained a very nearly level and uniform elevation throughout their lines, but in windy weather the lines would twist and writhe like huge serpents in the sky.

At such times one could best see their remarkable color, peintillating in the sunshine.


Scharff, M. Etta and Kirkersville. (1903) 106-7. "When migrating long distances they flew very high. When it was attained at Rock Island Arsenal in 1870, they crossed going northwest in broken droves, and were up almost to the level of sand hill cranes, which, as is well known, live longer than any other bird in migrating."
Flight

Wilson, Etta S. Personal recollections of the p. pigeon. Arch 51 (1934) 158-9. "Occasionally the upper tiers were seen flying southward. They had evidently reached the tip of the Thousand Islands and finding the breadth of Lake Michigan before them returned to find a narrower crossing."


Schreer (1934) J. B. Audubon re. flights on moonlight nights.

Sexton, Ernest Thompson. in litt Dec. 28, 1940. Re. flight at Toronto in 1876. "The wild pigeons flew northwest...in a wavy line about 20 deep...in a plane with the earth...extending east and west...I could see no end though I watched from a 3rd story window...they faded into smoke at each end."
Flight (from nestings).

Cont. The great pigeons roost, N.Y. World, July 4, 1874, p. 2.

Nesting near Franklin, Benzie Co., Mich., in 1874. "There are three regular flights in day—two "tom flights" and one "hen flight." At early dawn the males set out flying to the east and north to seek a breakfast of seeds and berries twenty or thirty miles away, and by six or half-past six, twenty or fifty miles away, and by six or half-past six, the sky is black with the departing birds. They tower up in great armies to a considerable height; each sheet of birds—sheet is the word that best describes them—merging into each other, a moment like the needle of a compass when disturbed, a moment that would make one believe indubitably and unanimously that there was a single bird, no bird, just that one; that every bird was animated by the same impulse at the same instant. An hour later not a bird is to be seen, but towards eight o'clock the sheet of the toms..."
flights.
Kalam, Peter. A. description... April 28(1911) 64.
"True Wild Pigeons fly in the same manner as other
pigeons; and as soon as they have alighted in a tree or
other place, they have a habit of making a clapping
sound with their wings which, according to some is
a signal for all the others to alight. At times and
when they have had sufficient food.
Weld, Isaac. Travels through the States of North America...
(1799) 269-70. Copy account of flight between Niagara
and Toronto. Flight 90 miles in length.
Whitfield, R. P. Former abundance of the wild pigeon
in Central and Eastern New York. April 7(1890) 284-5.
"Many of the smaller flocks would fly so low that
it induced the workmen from a neighboring machine-
shop to try to kill them by striking among them with
long poles; this failed, however, for some time, as the
flocks simply parted and allowed the pole to pass
through without hitting any of the birds. After a time
my father suggested that they strike in the direction of
the flight, when the birds being unable to see
the pole, many of them were killed; destroyed in this
manner. I well remember my brother and myself
standing in the garden, watching them as they passed
over our heads, and throwing our caps at them, which
would pass through the parting ranks without hitting
a bird; the gap being closed again almost instantly,
and not seeming to check their rapid passage in the least."
Flights

Towards, Charles H. Old times with the Crows. Condor 29

"Looking southward along the western slope of the Alleghenies
where the view was unobstructed, we could see the flocks coming
in many long irregular 'streams' not compact flocks
the most of which passed during the forenoon. The streams or
bands, mostly advancing end on, were broad and dense
in some parts, narrow and almost broken in others,
while the far ends, in some of them were too distant to
be made out clearly."

Babington, R. S. "I remember the f.pigeon. Mo. Cond. Bull. 19, no. 9
(Sept., 1949) 28. Flew in long lines several mile wide.

"In the fall of the year they would generally appear
first coming around Wind Point, following the curve
of the shore until they reached the mouth of the river.
Then, they would turn inland and follow the general
course until they disappeared in the west.

Great flights to end from roost, in 1885, in Summit Co.
"Their flight so darkened the sky that chickens
started for their roost."

Newburgh, Ashton E. P. pigeons not in company first.
"They came from the southwest by swaths; they were
not in a company first with spaces between companies
as a regiment marches; this line was a very long
one and look at very long time to pass over my father's house; I suspect the first line was rather pointed but became wider and very regular in the number of birds passing in a given time.

... The alignment was entirely different from that pictured by Frank Bons and agrees with the description by Merkour.

Heriot, George. Travels through the Canadas. London (1807) p. 517. "Their flight is so rapid, that, when two columns, moving in opposite directions at the same height in the atmosphere, encounter each other, many of them fall to the ground, stunned by the rude shock communicated by this sudden collision."
Flights

King, W. Roe. The sportsman and naturalist in Canada.

A man (1866) 121-5. describes a flight of pigeons taking place in May (year not stated) at Fort Meigs,

Isangua, near Niagara. The duration of this flight being about fourteen hours, viz. from four A.M. to 6 P.M.,

the column allowing a probable velocity of sixty miles an hour, as assumed by Wilson, could not have been less than three miles in length with an average breadth of one mile. For several days following they continued flying in diminished numbers. Small

flocks remained behind in the woods for several weeks.

McClintock, Walter E. As passenger pigeons. Cardinals.

Vol. 3, no. 1 (Jan., 1931) 19. Letter stating that three

large flights at Pittsburgh on Oct. 14, 1887, comm-

encing early in the morning. Flies high but half a

dozen alighted in a tree. The rain stopped them until

this evening. They were then flying until it was almost

too dark to see to shoot.

Avery, Wild pigeon flights. F. & S. 59 (Dec. 6, 1902) 446-7.


Wood description of flights in western Louisiana in 1873.

Noise at roost connected with process of digestion.


time on a chilly windy A.M. but bright day, strong W. W. gale.

wind, I stood in my dooryard watching an endless string of

small flocks of pigeons flying close to the ground,

but mark ye, it was not a steady flight for the strong gale.
flight
of head wind must have gathered them lots. For the
whole flock, as one, would dive close to the ground
and gradually rise again. I noticed one peculiar condition that
the succeeding flocks would all dive about at the same spot
as the preceding ones. ... I could see no reason and wondered
how they could tell when to make the dip. Ground was
open prairie and about level, at times flocks much larger
and farther apart. But in any case I could never detect
any leaders, any more than if they had been blackbirds.

Reed, Herbert H. Patterns alighting. Manoeuvre of
Flights (intervals between).

Janes, C.W. "The Stranger in America," London (1807) p.68. Edenton, N. Carolina. Had not seen large flights but was informed that it occurs "about once in seven and sometimes in ten years."


Kalme, Peter. "Travels into N. Am. 1 (1772) 374. On March 3, 1799, mentions great flight at Roscoen, N.J. "I was assured that they were more plentiful than they had been for several years past. "Stayed for a fortnight. Heavy crop of acorns in 1788."

Weld, Isaac. "Travels through the States of North America ... London (1799) 270. "It is not often that once in seven or eight years, perhaps, that such large flocks of these birds are seen in the country [Canada]. The years in which they appear are denominated 'pigeon years.'"

Amen. "The beginning, progress and conclusion of Bacon's rebellion in Virginia ... Religious Tracts Vol. 1 (1856) 317. "Indeed, it sometimes happens that a continuance of a sufficient supply of food in one district will keep these birds about from another for years. I know, at least, to a certainty, that in Kentucky they remained for several years constantly, and were nowhere else to be found."

Anderson, Vol. 1 (1881) 318. "Indeed, it sometimes happens that a continuance of a sufficient supply of food in one district will keep these birds about from another for years. I knew, at least, to a certainty, that in Kentucky they remained for several years constantly, and were nowhere else to be found. They all suddenly disappeared one season when the mast was exhausted, and did not return from long period. Similar facts have been observed in other states."
Fledglings (Continued Below)


"come in multitudes every summer,"

De Gennaro, Paul. *Relations of 1637. Jesuit Relations* 11 (1898) 81. "On one season turducanes (tur-ducans) are sometimes found in such abundance that the end of their army cannot be seen when they are flying in a body; at other times in the same season they appear only in small flocks. It is the same with many other birds ... they vary according to the year."


Edward H. Bowers states that they come to Benzie Co., Mich., every alternate year.

[Sowell, Henry B.] *A Canadian Handbook and Tourist's guide.* Montreal (1867), p. 134. "Good shooting near Toronto only once in "four or five years." It is probable that the abundance of ducks which the previous year attracts them, ...
Flocks (Shakes),

Bethune, C.J.S. Recollections of the Passenger Pigeon. Ottawa Natn. Yr. 1902), 40-4. Toronto, last week in March 1853, "at that time flock after flock of pigeons crossed from the south to Toronto. All the flocks were fairly long, from east to west, and some of them reached farther each way than we could see, but all were of short dimension from north to south... resembling like 100 yards or less.

"... and as they passed by, one flock following another..." It's quoted from "The Canadian Pigeon," No. 4, April 1911, p. 36. "When traveling leisurely over the country pigeons flew in open order, but when frightened and going at full speed they flew in close ranks."

Baker, F.J. The Passenger Pigeon in Missouri... (1911) pp. 259. "Pigeons returning to a roost: Not in straight lines they flew; I remember thinking it looked like some mighty river winding its way through the air." 


Bond, Frank. The Later Flights of the Pigeon. (1921), 523-7. "The birds flew in long lines or ranks, endless as far as we could see, extending from one horizon to the other, or at least far enough for the ends of the lines to be seen, but they were up in the haze and mist of distance. These lines were by no means uniform in density throughout. The birds were
Flohrs (Shaggs)

unevenly distributed. At times there would be larger and denser
flocks, often connected by continuous thinner lines, or even
separated here and there by an open space, or a space containing
no few birds as to appear open at a distance. These tremendous
lines of pigeons were followed by flocks like them, at distances
apart, as I recall them, varying from a few hundred yards
to a mile or more."

"... I would repeat that in my experience they were always
spread out laterally as shown in my painting, advancing as a
wide front.

Above refers to flights in Johnson Co., Iowa between 1872-76.

Mersall, William B. The flight of passenger pigeons. Am.
39 (1922) Re Ond's article above. "I do not mean"

"how pigeons may have flown in Iowa, where there were no
trees, I do not know, but they had no such flight as this
picture depicts here in Michigan. There string out and
did not fly in company front. In their migrating flight
where large quantities of them were passing, they would
frequently fly in two or three layers taking different
air strata, so that sometimes there would be as many as
three deep, one above the other, separated by thirty or
forty feet of air space. There was pretty nearly a steady
stream, one flock overlapping the other. Each flock
bunched in a sort of head and then gradually got
thinner, and string out into a few birds where it
would be overlapped from either above or below or along
side by another or coming bunched-headed flock. When
flying to their feeding grounds the flocks were smaller
than when they were on migration."
Brown, Edward. Wadsworth [Ohio] memoir. Wadsworth (1935) p. 5-20. In autumn great numbers rested in the swamps east of Wadsworth and flew over westward in the morning to feed in the brush woods, returning in the evening. "They would come in vast flocks from the west; in the evening. For a long time before they appeared in sight, we could hear the roar of their wings, like a distant cataract. Then they would come, spreading like a cloud over the whole horizon, for several minutes. In the morning they would fly westward, breaking up into smaller flocks as they proceeded; so their morning flight was not, like the evening, in clouds, but in chains.

Nugile, E. Wild pigeon stories. F. 45. 60 (Jan. 17, 1923) p. 51. W.G. Wells, Wauknott, Ill., states that the pigeons flew in a long string "a column about as wide as the room," stretching from horizon to horizon. When shot into the line would bow upwards, and eventually level out.

Niagara (Ontario) Mail: Niagara Hist. Soc. Pub. 32 (1920) p. 56. In May, 1847, there was a flight of pigeons which would diminish now to a line and then widen out almost to covering the sky..."
Folklore


Manitouoe Rapids, May 21, 1848. There is a tradition current here that the region where the pigeons appear will that same year be fully occupied by human beings, which if it should really occur here, would be great luck for us; for then, naturally, our property would rise greatly in value.

A. M. McRae, April 9, 1870. The best judges in the whole country... say that the myriads of wild pigeons, and millions of wild ducks, which have visited this section of the country the past two weeks, indicate that we shall have an abundant harvest. Wild game never visits a section to any great extent, which is not likely to furnish ample supplies. This is reliable.


Great flight in 1676, yet the planters "under the more portentous appearances" since a like flight was seen in 1640 when the Indians committed the last massacre.

Barber, John Warner. History and Antiquities of New England (1846) p. 474. Myriads of pigeons appeared in spring of 1643. "It is an old observation in America, that pigeons are uncommonly numerous in the spring and sickly years."


Re large flight of pigeons March 8, 1631, "But what it portends, I know not."
Folklore

Darroque, A. The passenger pigeons in folklore.

"An old woman, part Shalobian, used to save the
gizzard when the pigeons were prepared for market
and would string them on a thread and hang them
up to dry. The gizzards became shiny and transparent
and were used by this old woman, who was a
sort of medicine-man, in the treatment of gallstones.
The reasoning was as follows: the turkeys would
sometimes take up small stones... instead of
but that did not matter as the gizzard was strong
enough to dissolve the stones. Therefore when the
gizzard came in contact with the gall stones it
would dissolve them too and cure the patient.

My informant did not make it quite clear
how the remedy was taken, but it is certain that
it was taken internally as the gizzard had to come
in contact with the stone.

"And now we come to the mystery of the
disappearance of the Passenger Pigeons. Questioned
into this very informant assured me that this was
the way of it: The defensions were so strong
in a parish in the Northwest that the cure decided
to invoke the aid of God. He therefore laid a curse
(conjuration) on the pigeons and from then on their
number decreased until now they are no more.

Longfellow, Evangeline, Book V."
Folklore


Large numbers of pigeons arrived in St. Paul in the spring of 1854, the year of the cholera. "No bird was killed, and fortunately for the birds, a rumor got abroad that eating too many pigeons caused the cholera, and thus they were allowed to pass on their way unchecked."

St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer, May 24, 1855.

Immense flocks passing over city. "Some say their presence between the immediate advent of rain."

Rochester (Minn.) Republican, April 24, 1869.

"While on the subject, we recollect hearing a rather intelligent and observing farmer say the other day that the prevalence of these birds in the spring always indicates a good wheat season."

Rochester (Minn.) Post, June 12, 1869.

"Yesterday, pigeons flew in all directions. This fact is picked up by old settlers, and they say look out for an open winter." Dec. 31. Snow has disappeared.

Trumbull, E. (1846) 228.

"Pigeons. - Some are prophesying sickness; predicting their fear upon the flight of pigeons."

Rolph, Thomas. A brief account of United States ... (1836) 121.

Old women of Hamilton, Ontario, claimed that the great flight of pigeons in spring of 1836 was a good omen of a large emigration to Canada.
Folklore

Barton, Fragments...

Watson, Annuals of Phil. ... 1857, 2: 210.

Baldwin, C.C. (1901)
(Thomson) Food.

Bent (1932) p. 388. "... acorns, beechnuts, and chestnuts - and also the fruit or nuts of any of the forest trees, as well as wild berries and fruits, such as cherries, raspberries, blueberries, currants, and peanuts (also called pigman berries), and strawberries, agave, seeds of weeds, and grasses. I have the records of the stomach contents of three passenger pigeons & shot at Magnolia, Mass., two in September 1877, and one in July, 1878. All contained small pebbles and the seeds and roots of wild rose,"


Generally flew north in March, "covering the ground by thousands, skimming in raven as it were, shining up the lawns in search of the fallen mast, chiefly acorns, dogwood berries, and sassafras berries."

[Small, Henry Beaumont]. "A Canadian handbook and tourist's guide." Montreal (1867). p. 134. Good hunting near Toronto only once in five or six years. It is probable that the abundance of acorns makes the previous years attract them.

Cooper, James Graham. The fauna of Montana Territory. Am. Naturalist 3 (1869) 80. "In the mountains they feed in August, chiefly on the Service-berry (Amelanchier alnifolia), which along the Hell Gate [Eastern Washington], attains a size and flavor unequaled by any I have seen elsewhere."


? Moreton. N.Y. "They used to nest in our woods in the spring and come back again every other fall to feed on the beechnuts. They came every two years because they knew that the beech trees
were barren every other year, and they never made a mistake in the year either. "It happened that 1837 was the chestnut year, and nobody remembered when the nuts had been so plenty for many years."

French, p. 199. C. W. Dickinson. "Pigeons never nested in Pennsylvania, only in the spring of the year, following a season when there was a good crop of chestnuts. Under no other conditions could such a body of birds possibly live for a period long enough to raise their young which takes about thirty-one days."

Atkinson, George E. A review history ... Manitoba, Feb. 4, 1876. Manitoba Trans., No. 68 (1905).

"...great numbers bred in the northeastern portion of the province through the district north of the Lake of the Woods and Rainy Lake, where the cranberry and blueberry are abundant, and these fruits constituted their chief food supply as they remained on the lusher and retained much of their food properties until well on into the summer following, their growth. They also feed largely on anemone, wherever they abound."

"I had an opportunity, several years ago, in the state of New York, of examining the contents of the crows of several pigeons, taken from the same flock, which were pronounced by the country people to be nice. It proved, however, to be a different grain, the wild rice of the western lakes, (Zizania aquatica)."
M. Craig, Arch 28 (1911) 426. "Professor Whitman kept his in the same pen with other species, supplied with the pigeon staples of mixed seed, grit, oyster shells, salt, and plenty of green food such as lettuce. After he had had his flock many years, he discovered that they would quickly devour earthworms, and when abundantly supplied with this delicacy the birds improved as much in health and vigor that Professor Whitman thought if only he had known of this diet early enough he might have saved his flock from dying away."

Pendray (1872) 138. Their food consists of beechnuts, acorns, wild cherries, and berries of various kinds, as well as different kinds of grain. They are said to be very fond of, and feed extensively on, angle worms, and numbers of which frequently come to the surface after heavy rains, also on harmless caterpillars.

French, p. 18. Nester only where food from the bank was in abundance - as surplus of beechnuts... p. 19. The bare level streets of our times were on intervals lands of the Ohio river: its tributaries; and upon the slopes of the Alleghanian Mountains.

p. 51. Beechnuts from trees with wings. Pigeons declined with their food supply. "They could not reproduce themselves on other food [than beechnuts]."

French, p. 58. C.W. Dickinson. "Pigeons nested in Pennsylvania, only in the spring, after a good crop of beechnuts the preceding autumn."

p. 59. "The beechnut crop of 1885 was very large."

French, p. 90. Edwin Haskell. Poleet County Journal, Oct. 24, 1903. "until within ten or fifteen years past, nearly every spring, after a plentiful crop of beechnuts the pigeons fell there was quite likely a pigeon in one or another of the northern
In the northern counties of Pennsylvania, Potter Co. had been
in great quantity. Hinch, "In April, 1868, I think it was pigeons,
motel in being hank lumber, Potter County, Pa.; but a
fall of snow five or six inches in depth caused them
[176] to desert their nests. Luckily for them, however, a foot
had occurred, in many localities, before the chestnuts
were fully ripe, and the nuts had not fallen out of the trees.

In some parts of the wood were many beech trees, from
which a large proportion of the nuts had not fallen. For
two to three days after the snow storm, along in the forest
pigeons would come in immense flocks to feed on these nuts.

By a peculiar flapping of their wings, they would hold
themselves suspended in the air in an upright position,
at the ends of the twigs of the trees, and pick the nuts
from the burrs. The noise made by the flapping
of wings was almost deafening, and could be distinctly
heard for a half mile or more.

From p. 226. C. V. Shove. In July and August ate huckleberries,

plumage starred. p. 230. "The stomachs and crops... 
black wheat, blackbird, wheat, acorn, seeds of maple,
ends of the maple, also huckleberries, some berries,
cassapping, and green berries." - Phil. N. American.
June, 1885, I shot fourteen J. starlings, all males, each
of them having its crop crammed full of green caterpillars,
mostly J. acer specie J. geometer." - C. W. Nash.


And 34 (1914) 2074. Mummified remains of a
bird taken in New York state many years ago had
in its crop 25 very preserved seeds of sugar maple
the wings having been clipped off close to the fruit.
Neebner had ten star pigeons which he kept in a coop
each of his cabins on Eaglesbrook Creek near Montoursville.

... The young was due to thirty years of age when, on
New Year's Eve, 1908, a cat got into his pen and killed
all but two."

p. 197. Martha lived to be 29 years old.

p. 212. Charles H. Elder. "I have a letter from Mr. S. A. Stephan,
general manager of the Cincinnati Zoological Garden
which he wrote me at the time of the death of the last passenger
pigeon, which they had in captivity, in which he says: The
last remaining, female, died at 2 o'clock p.m. on Saturday,
August 29, 1914, it being the last of a flock of seventeen that
was captured in the year 1876."

p. 213.

Mag. that Martha died on "September 1, 1914, aged 20 years,
and says that correct date is August 29, 1914.

Bent, (1952)." C. W. Townsend. "The last of this group, a female
in the Cincinnati Zoo, died in old age in September, 1914."

Sheffield, R. W. Anatomical and other notes... Ark
32 (1915) 30. Mr. S. A. Stephan wrote on Sept. 7, 1914,
that "our female passenger pigeon died September 1st [1914]
at 1 p.m. of old age, being about 29 years old."

Sheffield, R. W. Death of the last of the wild pigeons. Be. Am.
Suppl. 78 (Oct. 17, 1914) 253. "This occurred at 10 o'clock in
the morning on September 1st, 1914...", aged 29 years,
apparently died of old age. Specimen arrived at the U.S. Nat.
Museum on Sept. 4, 1914."
Hornaday, W. T. On vanishing wild life. (1913).

Photograph of last f. pigeon in Cin. Zoo. that was 20 years old in 1912. This is frontispiece.


Deane, Ruthven. The passenger pigeon - only one pair left.

Arch. 26 (1909) 425. Under date of August 9, 1909, Mrs. A. E. Wiedering, who has charge of the Milwaukee birds writes that the remaining four males, which I saw in 1907, died between November, 1908, and February, 1909, and that she attributed the cause to tuberculosis. The specimens were not preserved, they being in very poor plumage and apparently going through an terminal molt.

On July 29, 1909, Mrs. S. A. Stephen, General Manager of the Cincinnati Zoological Company wrote me that one of the two old males in the Gardens died in April, 1909, leaving one male, about twenty-four years old, and the Penello, which came from Prof. Charles O. Whitman's flock in 1902, and now about thirteen years old, and unquestionably infertile. Mrs. Stephen thought that the bird died simply of age, there being no signs of disease. The specimen was melting and in too poor a condition to be saved.

Deane, Ruthven. The passenger pigeon - only one pair left.

Arch. 28 (1911) 262. Of the pair mentioned in Arch. 26 (1909) 425, the male died July 10, 1910, at the age of 25 years, at Cincinnati, apparently of old age, the remaining female, from the flock of the late Prof. C. O. Whitman, is now about 14 years old, and in good health and plumage.
Reane, Ruther. The passenger pigeons at the Cinc. Zo. Gardens still living. Arch 30 (1913) 433. Letter from S. A. Storer plan May 17, 1913: "I have your letter of May 16th, and beg to say that our one remaining passenger pigeon is still alive and in good condition as when I wrote you on Oct. 3rd, 1912.


"In the spring of 1877 three pairs of passenger pigeons were procured for the Cincinnati Zoo at a cost of $2.50 per pair. For several years beginning in 1878, these birds continued to breed, until the usual result of close inbreeding became manifest. They died one by one, until in 1910, only a single pair was left, and in that year the male bird passed away, leaving the female as the last living representative of the species. This bird is now 28 years old, and is apparently in perfect health. At its death it will be given to the Smithsonian Institution.


Age

[Stone, William]. [The last passenger pigeon]. Ann. 31 (1914) 566-7. p. 566. "Ectopistes migratorius, once one of the most notable species in the North American avifauna became extinct on September 1 by the death of the last specimen, a female, which had lived for twenty-nine years in the aviary of the Cincinnati Zoological Garden. Impossible, Reid by the Zoo in 1902."


Stratton-Porter, Mene. The last passenger pigeon. Good Housekeeping 79 (Aug. 1924) 140. Undated letter from S.A. Stephan. "The male died when it was twenty-nine years old, and the female died afterwards, and was twenty-eight years old."

[Stephan is completely oblivious of consistency].
Agriculture, Effect on

R. S., R.D. Our boyhood days. Iowa Annals, 1, no. 4 (July, 1895)

78-9. Wabasha Co., Minn. spring of 1863. "One evening it being quite still my father sowed some three acres of wheat; rising early the next morning he sowed about two acres more and came in to breakfast. I saw a sight that I will never forget; a cloud of those pigeons had settled upon the wheat and like the rolling of a big wave at sea they were passing over the field. As soon as the hindmost ones had picked up the wheat clean they would fly to the front and down to business again, in a way that kept up a constant roll like a wave coming shoreward. I started for them as hard as I could run and scared them off, but in an incredibly short time they were there and had completely stripped over three acres (about four and one-half bushels of seed) and not a grain of wheat could we find."


Brandon, Fond du Lac Co., Wis. "Swarms of them would swoop down on a freshly planted field and pull the seeds right out of the ground. The most effective method of combating them was to soak wheat in a diluted saline solution and spread it around the edges of the fields. After the birds ate three or four kernels, they would become dizzy. They would congregate in flocks of about 50 birds. It was then an easy matter to shoo them into grain sacks and later take them home, where the women would cook and prepare them for winter use."
Agriculture

Kellogg, Aundrey. *Recollections of life in early Wisconsin, Wis. Meg. Hist. 7 (1923-24) 475.* Came to Milwaukee, Jan. 1, 1837, 7 years ago. "So plentiful were they and so destructive to spring - sown grain, that the farmers devised many ways for keeping them off the fields, including scarecrows, shooting, capturing in nets..." "


Daniel C. Van Brunt in 1869 built the first underground seeder in response to request from farmers for a means of preventing passenger pigeons from eating the grain as fast as sown. Letter states that company does not have documentary evidence, but the account has been handed down from generation to generation and believed to be true or fact.


"The pigeon was not destructive to agriculture. Their principal food was acorns. The only time they worked grain was at seeding time. This was before the advent of the seeder, or grain drill, when grain was sown by hand. Then I used a long whip with a cracker at the end and walked up and down the field cracking my whip as the birds would keep off until the grain was covered by a drag. They never bothered standing or rook on the grain that had been sown by the seeder." They have been different elsewhere.
Waukegan. As soon as the corn comes up the pigeons begin their depredations. Suggests leaving corn on ears on the ground for the pigeons to work on.

Aurora. [Pigeons] Wis. Farmer 2 (1852) 73.

A complain of pigeons pulling corn. There have been tried smoking in salt-petre, far water, &c. then rolling in slacked lime or ashes; also to smoke the corn thoroughly. Good success has been obtained by soaking corn in water containing a few drops of erose.

Winthrop, John. The History of New-England from 1630 to 1649. Boston Vol. 2 (1848) 113. Summer of 1649. "the pigeons came in such plights...that last down, and eat up a very great quantity of all sorts of England grain."


Sabalaa A. Brown "was assigned a post upon the ridge of a farm, which lay right between the corn field and the outh, that he might with two small sticks rattle upon the roof and scare off the pigeons. So he spent the days, after the corn came up till it was too large for the pigeons to disturb. He was obliged to be up early in the morning, and to carry his dinner with him, as the pigeons were so numerous they would destroy a whole field in a very short time."
Agriculture

Cousen, E. New manuscript journals of Alexander Henry... N.Y. 2 (June 6 p. 605) June 16, 1810. "I shot a few pigeons in our barley field, as they flushed it up by the roots and desarfed it."

Samuels, E. A. Mammalogy and ornithology. New England Report cam. of Agr. for 1863. Washington (1864) p. 285. "The Columbidae (pigeons) are injurious in some districts, continually so by their ravages in the grain fields. Some species are gregarious and their immense flocks sweep through the rich fields of wheat with a destructiveness hardly credible; they have no redeeming traits, economically speaking, as they destroy but very few insects, and the least use to which they can be put is to furnish food to some of their former victims."

Langton, John. Early days in Upper Canada. (1926) 134-5. Letter from Rhyth, Huron Co., Ont. June 16 and 28, 1835. "... shooting pigeons, which have come upon us this year in immense flocks and devoured great quantities of my peas and oats. As they do nothowever spread generally over the field, but commenced at one end and work their way regularly to the other, they do not cause as much mischiefs as they otherwise would."

Rieker, Sebastian. Slaughters of pigeons described in papers of pioneer. Mil. (Wis.) Journal June 28, 1842. "Not destructive to agriculture."

"Not destructive to agriculture."
Agriculture.

Rice, R.D. Bluebirds and passenger pigeons. Ithiologis t 3 (1896) 87. "As late as in the district in Minnesota, I observed the same thing; in fact, have seen children in cornfields, in pans (and everything else that would make a racket), in seeking time, and were kept busy running to and fro to keep the Pigeons from devouring every grain of wheat, until the farmer could cover it up with his harrow."

Schroeder, A.W. Unpublished manuscripts by letters. Matter ... Auk 55 (1938) 473. "Gentlemen have complained unto me, that they have bit in such Numbers on their Trees as to break down ye Brim's there, & spoil their Orchard." St. Paul (Minn.) Pioneer 1860. "Poisoning pigeons a diabolical practice." A protest against farmers poisoning pigeons. They have been known to fly miles and live several hours after taking the poisons so that it would be dangerous to people eating them.

Mil. (d) Wisconsin June 9, 1860

Linduska, J.R. Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington. Letter Sept. 20, 1858. "Feeds with sage grouse, valley quail, ringneck pheasant, and other gallinaceous species has shown that comparatively large amounts are required to produce poisoning symptoms and death. Pigeons, on the other hand, are inclined to be quite susceptible and are killed by relatively small amounts of this toxicant [strychnine]." Mantorville (Roch Co., Minn.) Express June 11, 1869. Pigeons have done more damage to the corn than the first.
Agriculture

Bingam, Joseph. The story of Ruthege. Lake. (1912) p. 73. After draining, the Ruthege Plains was exceedingly fertile due to the great number of pigeons that had roosted in it for hundreds of years.

Baldwin (Wis.) Bulletin May 26, 1876, “Our farmers can expect them as next to the grasshoppers in the destruction of the wheat crop.”

Cronin. Reintroduced by his hope planting crops.

Journal Nebraska 1862-63. Windstorm they attacked the grain fields (1863).

Victor (Nebraska) Eagle May 15, 1867. [Pigeons]. Judge Gwinn killed a pigeon with two tablespoonsfuls of wheat in its crop. Farmers in eastern part of state have had to plant three times.

McGee, W. J. Science (1918) 959. Eastern Plains. Most farmers aimed to produce wheat, owing until after migration.


“After gusting winds, or food exhausted, the wonder, after this, that any farmer should ever dare to migrate to America.”

Redburn Free Press June 1, 1861. Better recommending grain treated with strychnine to kill pigeons.


Sluysken. On the osteology of the pigeons. J. Morph. 17 (1901)

Sluysken. Osteology of the passenger pigeon. Auck. 31 (1913) 357.


Dodson, Skeleton Condor 52 (1950) 39; Piletha, Abid. 44 (1942) 74.
Beach, etc.

[Bishop, Louis E.] Pigeons by the million. N.Y. Times May 9, 1886.

"The beech tree is uncertain in its yield of nuts and never bears two years in succession. When the tree bears well, thousands and thousands of frosty nuts fall to the ground after the firsts of Autumn."

De Motier, S.M. Pigeons then and now. F. 8. 73 (Aug. 7, 1898) 212.

"I was born in Bradford, Pa. and fifty years ago there was a crop of beech nuts once in about every seven years in McKean, Elk and Potter Counties, Pa. and Cattaraugus County, N.Y. and then the pigeons nested there."


E., C.D. Reminiscences of old times ... Now and Then. Nuncy, Pa.) Vol. 3 (1890) 106. "They subsisted chiefly on the beech nut, which is an irregular crop, though it never entirely fails, yet it may be sparse in one section, whilst, in like manner, ten or fifteen miles away in another, there may be a good crop."

Bryant, C.A. The passenger pigeon. F. 8. 80 (April 19, 1913) 494.

"When acorns and beech nuts were plenty, the birds fed to a great extent on the mast. Generally the year when acorns were plenty, there was a scarcity of beech nuts, and vice versa, though the writers has known 3 years when both beech nuts and acorns were plenty."

Southwick Milch.

McCauley, F. A. An Ohio pigeon roost.涂刷, Field and Farm 30 (Jan. 9, 1880) 21: West Salem, Wayne Co., Ohio. "Almost once in three years the beech trees were heaving laden with nuts. Beech was the chief tree in the region."

J. B. Orioli: "The beechnut crop, if it is a full crop, does not occur two years in succession, and some reason the frost kills the blooms in spring, so it is often two or three years between full crops, and the birds sometimes found plenty of food in other states and did not nest here.

p. 28, "In some springs, when there were lots of beech nuts, and the pigeons were expected to nest, they disappointed the settlers by going farther, probably because there was plenty of food elsewhere too."

Thompson, W. W. The p. pigeons [1921] p. 16. "at that time [1836] there was plenty of hardwood and was for years afterward, for the number of birds then existing as the real cutting of beech timber did not commence until many years later."


"I have witnessed these migrations in the Tennessee country, often in Pennsylvania, and also in various parts of Virginia, with amazement, but all that I had then seen of them were mere struggling parties, when compared with the congregated millions which I have since beheld in our western forests, in the states of Ohio, Kentucky, and the Indiana Territory, those fertile and extensive regions abroad with those migrations appear to be undertaken rather in quest of food, them merely to avoid the heat of the climate... with the nutritive beech nut, which constitutes the chief food of the Wild Pigeons. In seasons when these nuts are abundant, corresponding multitudes of Pigeons may be confidently expected."
Sutton, John Davison, History of Preston County and central West Virginia. Sutton, W. Va. (1919) 253. "The white oak and beech were the favorite roots of all animals and fowls as late as forty years ago... After the timber would bend beneath its load. After the domestic and wild animals and birds would feast and fatten during the autumn and winter months the grounds would yet be covered."

"X. The wild pigeons. Hunter, Trapper, Trapper. 28 (May, 1914) 49. Virginia. "If acorns were plentiful we knew that we were to have another pigeon year and by October they would begin to arrive by the countless thousands."

"Beckley, Halse. The history of Vermont... (1846) p. 317. "The hick is perhaps more abundant in Vermont than any other tree."

"Beckley, Halse. The history of Vermont... (1846) p. 317. "The hick is perhaps more abundant in Vermont than any other tree."
Captives

French, p. 187. Martha died 2 P.M. Aug. 27, 1914, aged 29 years. She was killed in captivity in Cir. 202.

p. 49. Re breeding poorly in confinement.


Owen T.M. Forest & Stream 13 (Aug. 7, 1879) 533. Woodstock, N.Y., July 8, 1879. "My wild pigeons that I brought from Pennsylvania last year have been an interesting study to me. They nested the last half of February and laid their first eggs in the last half of March. In 29 days from the day they hatched the first bird, they had laid and hatched again, and so on until they have now laid the fourth time, and the strange part of it is, they change nests at every nesting. Whether this is the case in a natural estate, I am not able to say, but it is so in my coop."

Clinton, R. W. H. N.Y. Med. Phys. Jour. 2 (1823) 20-5. He [Paul Clark, Albany] has tried, for many years, to breed pigeons from those caught in the nest, and has never succeeded. At last it occurred to him to vary the experiment. He took a female squab from a nest in the woods and brought it up in a cage. He put with her a male which had been taken with a net, but having been caged for three years, it was quite tame. They were placed in a wide and high coop, about which they could fly, and a small pine tree was planted in it, upon which they built a nest and bred, and their offspring, kept in a similar way, have also produced. Last year, two pairs began to breed in May, and continued until September. The pair produced seven and the other eight times. Thirteen of the young survived. They laid sometimes one, but often two eggs for the same setting...

One twenty-three days from the laying of the eggs, the young ones...
Captive pigeons could fly; and in eight days from their being hatched, they are completely feathered, and fly from the nest.


As Mr. Whitaker, of Milwaukee, obtained a pair from the Indians about twenty years ago. He kept them and raised a flock of fifteen. I had about half his flock and increased this number, although not rapidly. During 1899 and 1900 I failed to get a single egg hatched. The birds began mating early in February and laid many eggs before June, but all failed to give young, although many developed to or nearly to, the point of hatching.

This year I separated males and females until April, then got three pairs to work. One young was hatched and did well. When two weeks old it fell down from its nest and was injured and died. I have three pairs sitting now; each pair in a separate pen. They are now quite well tamed, and are faithful in incubation.

"... I have tried in many ways to obtain one or more new birds, so as to strengthen the reproductive power, which seems to weaken as time goes on. I have bred.

"... If I could get one new bird, I would soon have a flock of fifty." I say only one egg.


"I feel that Prof. Whitman's small flock now reduced in 1906 to five birds are the last representatives of a species around whose disappearance mystery and fable will always gather."
Deane, R. Breeding of the wild pigeon in confinement. Nutt. Bull. 6 (1881) 60. Clipping from Hartford (Conn.) Courant.
Aug. 5, 1880, credited to New Haven Palladium: "Sherman Potter, the veteran pigeon shooter of Fair Haven, has a pair of wild pigeons which he has trained in the capacity of stock pigeons and flocks. This year, to the surprise of Potter... they hatched one young one, which has grown to full size, and recently hatched another, which is now two-thirds grown. This is an unusual occurrence for wild pigeons to raise their young in captivity. "Experts to raise the birds, which in Fair Haven bring $6 a piece for stock pigeons and flocks."
Deane, Ruthven. The p. pigeons... in confinement. Aug. 23 (1908) 181-3. Year by year status of Whistler's flock and the remnants of the Milwaukee and Cincinnati flocks. See Book.
Martha came from Wisconsin!
When the Zoological Garden opened, in 1895, they had a fine bunch of wild pigeons - about 22 birds. Gradually these have died one by one, until now but two venerable patriarchs remain. At first a few were reared in the garden, but as the birds became older, they could not produce nests and laid a few eggs. None were hatched, as the eggs were no longer fertile.
Captives.

A full description of habits of domesticated pigeons in North Carolina.
(Animals which can be tamed). "In the same manner I have seen wild pigeons, which were made as tame as to fly out and return again."

Mr. D. Whitaker of Milwaukee has a flock of 50 wild pigeons, the offspring of one pair which was given to him by an old Indian just eight years ago [1887]. Desires to obtain some additional birds to avoid inbreeding.

Thompson, Frank J. Incubations under difficulties.

F. & S. 12 (May 8, 1879) 263.
Birds, Garden, Cinn., Ohio.

"About the first of March, noticing that the passenger pigeons were mating, I procured some small sticksged them into small, slight platforms and placed them on some large limbs in the aviary, which was not, being simply covered with wire netting. Then took a small quantity of twigs, broke them into short lengths and scattered them on the floor. The pigeons immediately commenced building, and on the third day three nests were completed, a single egg laid in each, and incubation commenced at once. On the 16th, snow fell to the depth of six inches, and for several days after the birds were partially hidden by the snow which had lodged around their nests. On the night of the 17th a self-registering thermometer hanging in the aviary marked 14 deg. F., and on the 25th, 3 found
Captive

(F. J. Thompson, F.Y. S. 12 (May 9, 1879) 265, cont.) one of the nests described, but in each of the others was a fine, well-developed squab. An 28th the deserted nest was again occupied by its original tenants, who are now engaged in making a second, and I hope more favorable, attempt at reproduction.


"During the spring of 1877, the Society purchased three pairs of trapped birds, which were placed in one of the outer aviaries. Early in March, 1878, I noticed that they were mating; within twenty-four hours two of the platforms were selected; the male carrying the materials whilst the female built herself in placing it. On March 16 there was quite a heavy fall of snow, and in the next morning I was unable to see the birds on their nests... Within a couple of days it had all disappeared and for the next four or five nights a self-registering thermometer... marked from 14° to 19°. In spite of these drawbacks, half of the eggs were hatched and the young were reared. They have since continued breeding regularly and now I have twenty birds; having lost one old male and several eggs from falling through their illy-entrained nests." [Retailts do not check].

Stratton - Portia, Here! The last passenger pigeons. Roadknoehching 79 (Aug. 1924) 140. Undated letter from S.A. Stephan who says: "In 1878 we caught a pair of pair of passenger pigeons. In 1918 only two were left, a male and female, "hatched out here". Female died last, aged 28 years."
Kalm, Piotr. A description of... Aug. 28 (1749) 65-6.

"The French in Canada, who annually catch a number of young pigeons alive which they thereafter rear at their homes, have taken much pains to tame these birds, although with but little success. It is very easy when they are kept in suitable quarters to make them so tame as to feed from one's hands; but as soon as they are let out into the open hardly a few days pass before they fly away to the woods, never more to return. It was, however, emphatically asserted, that some had succeeded in taming them to the same extent as the domesticated pigeons."

Merrill, W. B. "The pigeon." (1897) pp. 207-8. Letter to Merrill by C. O. Whitman, May 30, 1894: "I have kept the wild pigeons, they are from a single pair obtained by Mr. Whistler of Milwaukee about 20 years ago. Mr. W. bred from this pair until he had a dozen or more. I obtained a few pairs from him, and they bred fairly well for a few years, but lately have failed to accomplish anything. This season a single egg was obtained. It developed for about a week and then hatched. The stock is evidently weakened by inbreeding as long.

"I under date of June 6, 1905, Prof. Whitman ... wrote to me that his stock had been reduced from ten to four since the last wrote. He says that one pair were then beginning the maneuvers preceding mating, but he doubted very much if they would accomplish anything."

Hofkinsen, Emilinus. Records of birds bred in captivity. Garden (1926) p. 104. "Was first bred at the Zoo in 1832, and at the same time by Lord Derby (see p. 2, S. 1833, p. 10); they were later bred at the Zoo and more frequently in America, but are now extinct."
Captives


p. 93. "The Passenger pigeon was easily kept in captivity...

Wade, W. Breeding the wild pigeon. F. 45. 56 (June 13, 1901) 485. attrib. Prof. C. D. Whitman's poor success (ibid. p. 464) to in-breeding: "secure a cock pigeon from some other source than the one his stock came from."

Whitman, C. D. Breeding the wild pigeon. F. 45. 56 (June 13, 1901) 484. See C. H. Ames.


Bebb, J. Breeding wild pigeons. F. 45. 27 (Jan. 13, 1887) 485. 'Toledo, Ohio. Ben Fort, living near J. Toledo, across the Michigan line, the summer of 1887, raised several young from the stock pigeons which he has in confinement.'
Classification

p. 261. Family Columbidae. Pigeon is taken from Latin pinio, meaning a shortening bird.

Formerly, many ornithologists grouped the pigeons in the order Gallinacea, but later a distinction was made and the order Gallinacea, with the distinctiveness of the order Gallinae, was placed in a separate order from the fruit-like pigeon, was classified in a separate order from the fruit-like pigeon, as primarily because of distinctive characteristic birds. Pigeons are characterized by a curved-like substance in the crop to hold the semen. This is known as pigeon milk and is fed by regurgitation. Also, the young of the gallinaceae birds are fully developed at birth and capable of following the parent soon after hatching, but the young pigeons are completely dependent on the parents at birth and are brooded for about two weeks to a month, and even after leaving the nest rely on the adults for food and cannot fly for p. 264.

Under band-tailed pigeons. "Unlike a chicken, the pigeon does not have a true crop, but an enlargement of the esophagus." This bird also has no gall bladder.

p. 261. "Though the names are virtually interchangeable, the tendency is to refer to the larger species as 'pigeons' and the smaller as 'doves.' 475 species distributed throughout the world.

Shufelt, Robert W. Notes on the classification of the pigeons. Am. Natural. 25 (1891) 158.

Whitman, Pigeons 3 (1919) 112. Phylogeny according to Wallace Craig. Turtle-dove type —> Euphrax (passenger, snails, worm, angry and flirts wings like Turtle; Columbia does not).


Nest-call of P. p. "The sound is totally unlike that heard
from Ring Dove and Mourning Dove, but bears a general resemblance to the nest-cells of the Japanese Turtle (Pteropus orientalis Wall.) and the European Turtle (Pteropus lettis), which Professor Whitman believed to be the nearest living representatives of the ancestral type of the whole group.

Bourne, Charles T. Corps d'oeil ... Paris (1855)

p. 28: "The fourth is Eclectus Rose, but limited to Col. migratoria i., which is, expressed briefly, a pigeon, while Col. carolinensis i., which we have hitherto considered combined with it, is a Turtle Dove."

Brehm, E.

Brisson, M. G.

Buffon,
French.) 254. C.W. Dickinson, "Of course, there are rare exceptions as to color. During our time we saw six or twelve spotted birds. Some of them are about white. During the latter part of the fifties we saw a snow-white Passenger Pigeon, six or twelve times."

Chilton (Wis.) Times Sept. 25, 1875. Dr. E. A. Court, in Friday [Sept. 19] of last week, succeeded in killing a white wild Pigeon, a very rare occurrence.

Kilbourn (Wis.) Mirror July 10, 1875. A Pigeon Trepper, who stopped at the City Hotel over Sunday, 6d with him a fine clothing Red-breasted Cock Pigeon, with wattles in its breast after the manner of a turkey cock. It was taken near Baldwin [St. Croix Co.] and its owner said he had caught another on which the wattles was still more conspicuous.

Chicago, Ill. "I am informed that one man captured [secured] sixty thousand birds in Missouri, and forty thousand died before the man could dispose of them."

B, M.R. Treatment of seed pigeons. Ibid. 21 (April 26, 1884) 395-6.
Chicago. "When netted, these birds are crammed in corns four feet long, three feet wide, and four inches high, and kept over several days without water. They go to water twice a day when free. . . . My informer is a man who has been handling live pigeons here for years, . . . He has informed me that wish that another man secured last year in Missouri 20,000 birds, and all but 8,000 died before he could sell them. Another man had 13,000, and lost 6,000.

We estimate the catch and sale of live birds as reported by dealers, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Birds</th>
<th>Read Birds</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bond and Ellsworth</td>
<td>65,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. T. Martini</td>
<td>50,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thos. Stagg</td>
<td>30,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P. A. Scarr</td>
<td>25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N. Phillips, Detroit</td>
<td>20,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other parties</td>
<td>20,000</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total live birds</strong></td>
<td><strong>210,000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total read birds</strong></td>
<td><strong>149,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

490 barrels from Traverse City by express.
300 " Petoskey " " coat " 90,000
150 " " Cheboygan, by boat " 45,000
[1098 - 300 pigeons 1088].

Live birds, 210,000 at 15c. each $31,570.00
Read " 329,000 " " 6 " 19,620.00
**Total** 537,000 *$51,190.00"
Commencé.

The nesting of Benzie Co. broken up by snow storms and only a few lasted. Nesting in Emmet could be reached only by almost impossible roads. Hence catch was not over half of what it otherwise would have been.

In addition to these nestings in Michigan there were two large nestings at or near Sheffields and Kane, Pa. We are informed that the catch at these nestings was even larger than those of Michigan. ... Without doubt the catch at all these nestings sold in market for at least $100,000.

Editor. Interesting to help others. Chicago Field 9 (1878) 136.

From the Petoskey, Michigan nesting twenty barrels of birds are coming into Chicago per day. Each barrel has 25 dozen. Sold at 75 cents a dozen. The receipts in Boston and New York are still larger. One Boston firm alone received 2700 dozen.

Rooney, H.B. The importance of more effective legislation ... Chicago Field 9 (Feb. 16, 1878) 10. Data on squab raising at Michigan nesting in 1876.

Rooney, H.B. A description of the pigeon nesting 1878 ... Chicago Field 10 (Jan. 11, 1879) 245. “The prices of dead birds range from thirty-five cents to forty cents per dozen at the nestings. In Chicago markets fifty to sixty cents. Squabs twelve cents per dozen in the worst, in metropolitan markets sixty cents to seventy cents. ... Live birds are worth at trapper's net forty cents to sixty cents per dozen; in cities #1 to #2 ... an income of $10 to $20 per day for the poor and hard-working pigeon trapper. One 'pigeoner' at the Petoskey nesting was reported to be worth $60,000, all made in that business. He must have slain at least three million pigeons to gain this amount of money.” ... The year 1876 witnessed a magnitude in the “traffic which is exceed anything hitherto known in the country.”
Roney, H.B. A description of the pigeons raised J. 1878... Chicago Field 10 (Jan. 11, 1879) 346. "The regular shipments by rail before the party our commence operations were sixty barrels per day. On the 16th of April, just after our arrival, they fell to thirty-five barrels, and on the 17th down to twenty barrels per day, while on the 22nd the shipments were only eight barrels of pigeons. On the Sunday previous there were shipped by steamer to Chicago 123 barrels of dead birds and 108 crates of live birds. On the next Sabbath following our arrival the shipments were only forty-three barrels and fifty-two crates."

The first shipment of live from Petoskey was upon March 22, and the last upon August 12, making over twenty weeks... For many weeks the railroad shipments averaged fifty barrels of dead birds per day - thirty to forty dozen old birds and about fifty dozen squabs being packed in a barrel. Allowing 500 birds to a barrel, and averaging the entire shipments for the season at twenty-five barrels per day, we find the rail shipments to have been 12,570 dead birds daily, or 1,510,000 for the summer. Of live birds there were shipped 1,116 crates, one dozen per crate, or 50,352 birds. These were the rail shipments only, and not including the cargoes by steamers from Petoskey, Cheboygan, Cross Village, and other lake ports which were one many more. Added to this were the daily express shipments in bags and boxes, the mason clocks hauled away by the ship's gunbrigade, the thousands of dead and wounded men not secured, and the miserable squabs dead in the nest by the thousands. This estimate a grand total of 1,000,000,000 pigeons sacrificed to Mammals during the winter of 1878."

Martin, E. T. Among the pigeons, Chicago Field 10 (Jan. 25, 1879) 385, in reply to Roney re Michigan meetings.
M. A. M. N. 1. F. Phillips, Pittsburg. 6.7.97

The passenger list (186) of the

Midwest railroad, containing 6,800 names of passengers from the

Midwest to Michigan, was

and returned. In addition to these,

there were about 800 men and

2,500 women. In the months

of July and August, when the

weather was hot and the

travelers were on the

road, we usually paid from $1 to

$2 per day for board and

lodging. 

In Michigan, 8.10.11, we

rented four rooms for 80 cents

per week. ...

"stamped shipment of 5,886 lbs. See under Michigan file."

in 1869. "However, in about forty days from the time they began
nesting to the time they left their northern flight, there were
shipped from Hartford and vicinity three carloads a day...
Each car containing 150 barrels with 35 dozen in a barrel,
making the daily shipment 24,750 dozen. " [Total 11,880,000]

[3 × 150 = 450 barrels × 35 = 15,750 dozen] These figures have
been cited repeatedly, apparently without checking.

Martin, Edward T. [Wild pigeons]. Outing 66 (1915) 729. He
takes the figure of 11,880,000 pigeons killed and proceeds to show
that this number could not have been handled. Barreled and
iced, there would have been 118,880 barrels, or 990 to a car,
weighing nearly 75 tons! ... 300 crates or 150 barrels was all
that could be loaded into a car ... " Apparently when iced,
there were only 100 pigeons in a barrel. We stated that if
iced and crated there would be 163,000 crates, this would be approx.
731

fids or 6 dozen to the crate.

Scherrer, C. E. The p. in N.W. Penn. Card 415 (1939) 48. Except
in the cold weather of early March, the pigeons to be shipped were
packed around a cake of ice in a barrel. They were roughly
packed - the tails and ends of the wings taken off, but they were
not drawn. The number per barrel in shipments ranged
from five dozen up to thirty or thirty-five dozen. Specks
were packed in the same way, after their heads and ears
had been removed.

Price ranged from $1.10 to as high as $2.65 a dozen.
From Thorne, a pigeon coast, Chicago Field 4 (June 3, 1876) 149.

Shelby, Mich., meeting of 1876. Light cattled but prices low.

"... the best price paid for any length of lines at Shelby was thirty cents per dozen dead, and fifty cents per dozen live, delivered at the depot. The bulk of the shipments went to New York, where they sold for less than 60 the season through, or from April 20 to May 20."

Riley, H. B. Pigeons and squabs. Chicago Field 9 (Feb. 16, 1878) 10. Informed that 40 to 50 tons of squabs were shipped from the Newaygo county meeting of 1876. Field that at the Allegan county (Shelby) meeting there were shipped "ten barrels of squabs for every one barrel of the Newaygo county meeting."

At another meeting in Grand Traverse county, in the same year, there were 900 persons employed in trapping live birds, and slaughtering and shipping squabs to market.

From these three meetings... in 1876 there were shipped to outside markets 1,000 tons, or 8,400,000 pounds of young squabs, while not less than 200,000 dozen, or 2,400,000 live birds were entrapped and shipped to all parts of the United States and England.


Editor, Chicago's trade in wild game. Am. Sportsman 3 (Dec. 27, 1873) 204. Estimated season's trade:

- Pigeons, 5,000 dozen, $10,000.
Commerce

Martin, E. T., 79 Clark St., Chicago. Advertisement in Chicago Field 9 (April 13, 1878) 133. "Wild Pigeons.—We have for this Season's nesting, April 1st and by the 15th can fill all orders for birds."

p. 148. Henry Holmes, 837 S. Water St., Chicago, advertises as dealer in Wild Pigeons.

Martin, Edward T., Confessions of a market shooter. (Dec. 1913) 376-8. "This demand for clubs increased the destruction of pigeons at the Michigan nestings of 1876 and 1878, for both years when the catch was huge. Birds shipped dead could not pay cost of the barrels and ice used in shipping and had there not been a good demand for live, sellers must have quit and gone home." Quoted some times used for trap shooting when pigeons were difficult to obtain.

Total of game killed from Aug. 15, 1868 to Nov. 1, 1909 includes: Pigeons (trap shooting) 27,378, wild shot and killed 3,110.

Editor, Field and Stream [Chicago] 3 (July 17, 1875) 346: "Mention an inquiry for 1500 pigeons. Chicago dealers say they are scarce, and hard to get."

Editor, 2nd ed. 3 (Aug. 17, 1875) 398. "Scarce. Write E. T. Martin, expects 2500 next week."

ad. on p. 415: "LIVE PIGEONS constantly on hand and for sale, in any quantity. Plunge Traps for sale."

E. T. Martin, 475 W. Huron St."
Holmes & Sears, 121 South Water St., Chicago.

Martin, E. J. [Advertisement], Chicago Field 11 (June 28, 1879) 318. "Wild pigeons for sale, a limited number; price $2.50 per dozen or car lots. No adjustments made to strangers without cash accompanies the order. Two and a half per cent. discount in price on all orders accompanied by the money." 71 Clark St., Chicago.

Editor: [Wild pigeons] Chicago Field 14 (Oct. 23, 1880) 170. "Wild pigeons are used to be had at any price in the Chicago market, and owing to the great demand for hunt shooting, tame pigeons are very difficult to obtain. The demand is now about five thousand ahead of the supply."

Boston Traveller

Censor June 8, 1842. "The Boston Traveller noticed the arrival in the Railroad cars of three thousand live pigeons in that city. They were brought from Michigan."

Milwaukee (Wis.) News, May 14, 1859 [17]. [Wild pigeons], "In Essex County, Mass., the value of the wild pigeons, annually captured, is $20,000. In some towns 3000 dozen are taken every year. They bring about a dollar a dozen in the Boston market."
Milwaukee (D) News June 3, 1868. "Live pigeons. - The propeller Messenger yesterday arrived from Manistique (Mich.) and on part of her cargo consisted of 49 boxes of live pigeons reaching the number of 5,000. They were purchased for $2 per dozen and are to be shipped to Buffalo to be used in shooting matches. They were of course captured in nets."

[Knapp, Henry] About pigeon catching. Am. Sportsman Vol. I, no. 9 (June 1872) 4, "We are indebted to Mr. Henry Knapp, the gentleman who supplied the pigeons for the late tournament of the New York Sportsman's Association, for interesting facts concerning the securing of these birds. The last lot gathered by him are those above mentioned. He first found that there were a large nesting of the birds in Van Buren County, Michigan, ... and secured from parties there 8,400 of them. But it was necessary to build a large shed to enclose them a few days before they could be put into crates for transportation. At first, being unaccustomed to captivity, the close coops would so treats them that they would all die in a very short time. But the two days confinement in a shed brings them to understand that they are captives and accustoms them to close quarters. Still, immense numbers die in the coops... while bringing them on to New York state by rail, at every station the attendants were obliged to open the cars and remove the coops to give their flocks cool air."

New York (N.Y.) Post April 25, 1851. Pigeons. Since the beginning of the season about 75 tons of pigeons have been received in N.Y. over the Erie Railroad, principally
Commenc.

from the counties of Shenando and Allegany. This is an entirely new business created by the building of the road, since previously it was impossible to get them to N.Y. in good condition.

Milwaukee (d) Wisconsin Nbr. 28, 1855. New York as a game market. "Wild pigeons are very abundant in some seasons. There have arrived here in one day 2000 dozen, and they sell from 50 cents to 2.50 per dozen. The average number sold here each year is estimated to be 25,000 dozen, though the quantity varies widely in different years. One dealer in Fulton Market has received sixty barrels, or 1,000 dozen, in a single day, which had been caught in this state and Pennsylvania, and were forwarded over the Erie Railroad."


Re pigeons nesting in Forest Co. Pa. "This winter a new railroad has been completed from Sheffield nearly to the old nesting places, which will greatly help trade and travel in that direction, in case the nesting goes on again."

Commence

Wott, Edward Havel: "Between the ocean and the lakes: The story of Erie."

The railroad did not reach the northwestern counties of New York until 1851. Prior to that time there could be no direct shipment of pigeons to N.Y. City.

Pittsburgh (N.Y.) Californian Aug. 2, 1851. 1 column.

"The Pigeon Trade". See under N.Y.

Cincinnati, Herald, and Watchman re large number shipped in March, 1861.

Mc Knight, Alvin. August, Wis. (Oct. Jan. 13, 1936). "I have known as many as 15 hundred barrels of birds, with from 35 dozen to the barrel, being shipped to New York City every day during that period [making period of three weeks]. ... In packing for shipment, the ends of the wings were chopped off, but very few were ever plucked or drawn." — "My uncle Charles Martin, used to make around $500 a season breeding pigeons at from one to two dollars per dozen and I presume that is a fair average of what the other breeders did. When captive reared pigeons were still fed. Plucked, they brought fancy prices up to $3.50 per dozen."
"Cheek Card". Plain questions for sportsmen. E. Y. S. 3 (Dec. 19, 1874) 294. "Is it sportsmanlike to encourage the trapping of wild pigeons during the time they are nesting?"
Conservation by Indians.

French p. 33. Indians did not build nestings until agnets were ready. p. 38. "cured pigeon dance."
Green Bay Gazette Sept. 3, 1881. "Pigeons are flying in some quantities morning and evening near town." - Peshtigo Eagle

Milwaukee Commercial Times Sept. 7, 1875. "A hunter near Peshtigo killed 130 pigeons in three hours."

Peshtigo. Marinette (a) Eagle Sept. 30, 1899. "Wild Pigeons are returning. Peshtigo, Sept. 30. Wild pigeons which were so numerous in Marinette County fifteen or twenty years ago, are returning to their former haunts among the pines. Many of them have been seen by hunters who have gone up the river. Small flocks of them are quite numerous and it is thought a large number of them nested in the county the past summer. Years ago they were numerous and were shot by the thousands by hunters. They left the state and very few were seen for several years till recently." [Copied by Peshtigo Times Oct. 7, '99].

Peshtigo. Marinette, Peshtigo Eagle June 6, 1885. "Peshtigo' Pigeon Hunting, that used to be so lively here in former years, has had hardly a perceptible existence in this locality during the past spring."
Platteville Independent American, March 27, 1846. "Did any body ever before see such a quantity of pigeons as are daily passing over the city. The flocks extend for miles - one day going north the next south. Where they come from or where they go to, seems to be beyond the keen of our reporters." - Quincy Wing.

"Since the snow storm of Monday and Tuesday the pigeons are flying north - 'Napoleon with all his hosts could not outflank them.' There is no warm place for the sale of their feet, in these diggings." - [1845-47] [1854-56]

Platteville Democrat, [1885-'87] Nothing.

Platteville American, Sept. 15, 1854. "Pigeons. - We never knew these birds so plentiful in this vicinity as they are this season. Hundreds and possibly thousands have been bagged by sportsmen during the past week, and the slaughter still continues. The advent of pigeons gave prairie fowls a respite." - Waukesha Plain Dealer, Sept. 27, '54 [2].
Planer Times

April 22, 1871. "Pigeons are quite numerous in this vicinity this spring, and great numbers are being killed."

"Farmers in this vicinity complain that the pigeons, which are numerous this spring, are taking a large amount of their new corn wheat."

April 29, 71. "Farmers complain that the pigeons are taking their newly corn wheat."

May 6, 71. "Everybody is shooting pigeons."

Notice of death of P. H. Wilcox who accidently killed himself hunting pigeons.

May 13, 71. "Several loads of young pigeon passed through our village this week. They were captured below Grand Rapids, where the pigeons have nested and hatched."

May 27, 71. "Pigeons have all disappeared from this vicinity."

[1866-'68] [1869-'72] [1875-'76]

[1877-'79]

"The air is full of pigeons. We learn they are nesting 14 miles below Grand Rapids."

Planer Herald Sept. 11, 1876 "Pigeons are plenty."
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<th>County</th>
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<tr>
<td>Winnebago</td>
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</table>
Sat. March 11, 1871. "On Monday last a large number of flocks of pigeons and wild geese were observable, flying over the city."

May 6, '71. "The Pigeon Trade: [See Banahro Referee."

The following note from the station agent at Kilbourn City, gives additional information concerning the shipments from that port.

Kilbourn, May 4, 1871.

Brannan & Turner, - Repts.: The amount of pigeons sent from this station since April 1 has been, by Am. H. Exp. Co., 265 barrels, averaging 25 dozen to each barrel; carried away by hunters and sent as freight, from 30 to 40 barrels at least.

Yours truly, C. A. Noyes.

Sat. March 30, '72. "I.G. twirled a flock of pigeons flying over the city last Thursday.”

[Jan. 1870 - Dec. '72]

Touch Journal, March 15, 1879. "It is said that pigeons are flying in small flocks in the vicinity of Portage City, Where are the gay and festive pigeon meetings?"

Portage Register, Sat. April 3, 1875. "Pigeons and wild geese have made their appearance, the former in great numbers."

[1873-75]

31st. April 21, '77. "All of the boys are looking upwards in the early dawn and witness with undisguised agitation the countless flocks of pigeons in their northward flight. Some of them take their father's shotguns and hunt for the crane out by the stone-quarry hill, and others go up to the edge of the stream and hunt for them out by the slough. And other people besides boys are acting very much the same way."

31st. May 5, '77. "And now all the Niners are to be seen winding their way to the central depot each morning for a trip up the Central road, as far as Bancroft, and other points therewith, where the pigeons are most numerous. The shooting is very fine thereaway."

31st. March 9, '78. "Reeds: "Pigeons, wild geese, ducks, and a few robins have visited our town for several days - RDF. Randolph Center. "The geese
[Portage Register] ducks, pigeons, and spring birds gave us notice a week ago, that spring had come, and it seemt 'The oldest inhabitant' out of their nits to see them in February, but so it is:—U.S. [1876-78]

Feb. 11, 82, "The aspins have returned, and the pigeons are flying."

Feb. 18, "Fort Wayne late. This February 18th, the Fort River is clear of ice, first considerably out of the ground, and pigeons flying about."

Feb. 29, 84, "Wild geese, ducks and pigeons have commenced their northward flight, and are already reported quite numerous."

[1882-84]

[1861-1869]
Portage Democrat [April 19, '77 to Dec. '79]

Fri. March 16, '78. State News. "Ducks and pigeons have made their appearance at Metomen."
[1880-81]

Chid. May 12, 1882. Goodell, Speicher, Little and Johnson, made a trip to the pigeon grounds of Monroe county, the latter part of last week, and returned Monday with a good supply of game. [1882-3]


Portage City Record [April 29, 1857 - Sep. 28, 1859]

Western Advance [Feb. 1874 - Dec. 1875]

March 31, 1875. "Pigeons are reported to have made their appearance in this northern latitude."


Portage Western Advance Wed. March 15, 1876. "Our Friday (March 10) we saw ducks, pigeons, blackbirds, and blue birds." - Kingston, March 10.

"Ducks and pigeons are flying."

Chid. May 3, 1877 [No Apr. 26 No.]. "Several boys have got shot in this city during the past few weeks - - - to shoot pigeons with.

[Though March 26, 1879 Expired!]

Randolph Enterprise March 26, 1877. (Friday). "Millions of wild pigeons passed through Ill. Last week northward bound. They were so numerous in places that the sun was obscured."
[1873-'75] [1876]

Randolph lively Times Aug. 31, 1877. Pigeons are plenty.

Sept. 7. "The pigeons came last week."
[1877]
Portage.

Milwaukee Sentinel April 5, '75, "Pigeons and wild geese are dodging the contents of shotguns at Portage."
Port Washington Weekly Star [Nov. 179 - '84]

Port Washington Blade, Sept. 2, 1853. "Pigeons have commenced their southward flight, and large numbers have passed over our town the last week." - Rice Mill, Wis., Sept. 8, 1852.

Port Washington Blade, Oct. 15, 1853. "Pigeons - Our citizens have been enjoying nice sport for the last few days shooting these birds, which have been flying over our town in large numbers." - Rice Mill, Wis., July 20, 1853.
Fri. March 17, 1871. "Last Monday a flock of wild geese passed over this city, on their way North, the first of the season."

March 21, 1873. "Ducks, pigeons, black birds, and often geese have made their appearance. "The cheering notes of the树林 are now daily heard."

[Vol. 7, 1871-1873 all months]

Feb. 4, 1875. "Ducks, pigeons and geese are seen daily."

"Pigeons and water-fowls have made their appearance."

Feb. 4, 1876. "Pigeons and water-fowls have made their appearance."

Feb. 7, 1877. "Pigeons and water-fowls have made their appearance."

Feb. 15, 1879. "Mention that on Sunday the 10th a young man at Muscoda was dangerously wounded while shooting pigeons."

Feb. 17, 1879. "Pigeons have put in an appearance."

[1874-76] [1877-79]

Feb. 17, 1880. "Pigeons have put in an appearance."

[1880-82] [1883] [1884-86] [1887-88]

[No winter record for 1881]

Prairie du Chien Crawford County Courant [May 1852 - May 1853]

Prairie du Chien Courier (Oct. 6, 1874. "Partridge, squinels and pigeons are more abundant than ever."

Feb. 6, 1875. "Wild flock and pigeons shooting is now the popular sport on the Mississipi at this point."

[Vol. 20, 1873-1875]

Feb. 12, 1878. "Wild pigeons have been flying for the past week, and quails are on the track."

[1876-78]

Feb. 6, 1880. "Wild pigeons, ducks and geese are seen here in large flocks."

[1879-81] [Nothing for winter of 1881]

Feb. 14 and 21, 1882. "Real Ducks and pigeons have put in an appearance."

"The winter of 1881-2 is a most memorable season especially is this time of Iowa, Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. Up to this date Feb. 20, 1882, there has been little or no snow and only a
April 3, '83, "Squirrels and pigeons promise plenty of postime this spring." Sept. 18, '83, "Wild pigeons, geese and ducks are already noted flying southward." [1882-83].

April 11, '85, "Ducks are quite plenty, and pigeons also seem to be abundant." April 27, '86, "Pigeons are said to abound in immense quantities in the vicinity of Richland Centre, and are putting on an appearance here." [1885-87].

April 17, '88, "Wild pigeons have been flying on the Bluffs here, and the boys have been popping into the flocks." April 24, '88, "Pigeon shooting was the attraction for the boys on the Bluffs the last week. A Pigeon 'root' is reported in the Big Woods on Yellow River, 15 miles distant from this city." April 1, '90, "Wild ducks and flocks of pigeons are seen flying about here." April 22, '90, "Real ducks and Mallards, geese and pigeons are seen flying in large flocks in this vicinity. The boys are shooting these birds in spite of the law." [1888-90] [1891-93].

Sept. 10, '95, "As 'Pigeon Shooters' were enjoyed by a number of the citizens in the council chamber Wednesday night." [Sept. 4].

Aug. 8, '95, "Hunters are having a happy time here shooting teal ducks, woodchucks, pigeons, and squirrels. There is plenty of sport in the woods and among the islands this fall." [1894-96] [1897-98].


Patriot [1846-57]


Richards Transcript [1889-95].

ReSoto Leader [Feb. 1876 - April 1876]

Chronic [June 1886 - Aug. 1889].
Prairie du Sac News, Sat. Sept. 30, ’77, "Pigeons flew this week:"

* * *

Prairie du Sac News, Sat. April 26, ’79, "Who knows where the pigeons keep themselves this spring?"

* * *

Prairie du Sac News, Sat. Feb. 18, ’82, "Great flocks of pigeons have come . . ."

* * *

Prairie du Sac News, Sat. April 4, ’84, "... and no pigeons are reported. The wholesale destruction of pigeons by pet hunters, at the roasting places, is the main cause of the scarcity."

* * *

Prairie du Sac News, Sat. April 3, ’88, Sauk City News, "... pigeons and birds of all kinds have put in their appearance."

* * *

Prairie du Sac News, Sat. ’87-’89, all.
Present Clarion May 15, 1875. "Pigeons are unusually plenty this spring, and in some parts of the county they have almost entirely ruined the wheat crop. What they could not pick up they have dug up. We understand they have been particularly troublesome to Mr. Doe, of our place, while harrowing a piece of ten acres the pigeons swarmed about the field, and being determined to pick up every kernel of wheat, Mr. Doe left his team and pursued the pests, when his team became frightened, ran away with the harrow, doing more work in the space of ten minutes than can be done in half a day under ordinary circumstances. The ten acres will probably be ruined."

[April '74 - June '75] All.

Prescott Journal. [May 8, '61 - April 18, '63]
said: June 6, 1863, "Pigeons are very plenty and the gunners are having plenty of sport." [May 9, '63 - April 30, '64]
said: May 29, '61, "Spot-runs! clean up your shooting-iron, and be ready for the numerous pigeons that now inhabit the island."

said: June 12, '61, "Pigeons are plenty. There is a "nest" about two miles below Prescott; the squab will soon be old enough for eating..." [May 8, '61 - April 18, '63] - April 15, '64

said: Sept. 2, '63, "There is a large crop of wild grapes this season."

[April '64 - April 27, '67]

Thurs. April 9, '66, "Large flocks of pigeons passed over this place on their way northward this (Thursday) morning [84]. They are the first of the season." [June 29, '67 - 70] - July 5, '71, all.

River Falls Journal. May 26, 1881. "Prescott. Pigeon shooting seems to take the hunters' attention now."

said: June 1, '82. "Prescott. The hunters are all engrossed in pigeon shooting." said: June 15, '82. "Prescott. Pigeon shooting is still in its prime, there are more hunters than pigeons."
Prescott Journal
May 10, 1871. "Immense flocks of pigeons to be seen at almost any hour nowadays, are suggestive of platoonic game bags and mammoth pot pies."

May 24, '71. "River Falls Local: William Foster of River Falls died of epilepsy while pigeon hunting."

May 31, '71. "Pigeons are marketed here at forty cents per dozen."

"It is said that two quarts of wheat soaked in sulphur and scattered over a wheat field of ten acres will keep the pigeons away from the grain."

"A party of Prescott ladies and gentlemen went gunning the other day and one of the ladies killed fifteen pigeons for her share."

"Mr. Miller of Clinton had seven acres of corn, just planted, scratched up by the pigeons this other morning before breakfast."

June 21, '71. "The pigeon rent on the island below the city is directed except by a few of the latest schooners."

[Note No. 7, July 5, '71]

Moderate State 3, May 30, '71. "The Prescott Clarion reports that the pigeons have been very destructive of the new corn which is in that region. In some parts of the county they have almost entirely ruined the crop."

Prescott Democrat May 2, 1860. "Pigeons have made their appearance and may be seen flying almost every morning at this time."

May 30, '60. "Pigeons - Countless thousands of these birds now inhabiting the island opposite this city. -- Judging from the firing of guns, we should think that every firearm in the place was in active use."

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Present Transcript [Jan. 1860 - Sept. 14, '61]

"Plaindealer [June 29, '61 - '79]
Feb. 17, '82, "a flock of wild geese passed up north east Tuesday [4th]."

March 24, '82, "Robins have come" ['60 - '82] ['83 - '88]


"Transcript [Sept. '55 - Feb. 21, '57] [Jan. 27, '58 - July 26, '59]

"Aug. 22, 1857. "Pigeon shooting. - For several mornings a large number of our sharp shooters have enjoyed fine sport shooting pigeons, as they were flying over in large flocks..." [Feb. 28, '57 - Feb. 26, '88]

"Aug. 27, '57. "Pigeons and prairie chickens are now quite abundant in this vicinity, and large numbers are daily taken by our sportsmen." [Aug. 59] [Aug. 24, 1869]

Present, North Western Democrat June 28, 1869.[3]. Present, fishing and hunting young pigeons furnishies an amusement to many of our citizens, of late."

Instrument with frame and cover. 8041, small tree used. 1839.
Princeton Republican June 9, '72, State Item: "A piggy roost near Gardners Station, Shawano County, is said to be three miles in extent."

[1872-74]

[1875-76]

[1876-77]

[1877-78]

[1878-79]

[1879-80]

[1880-81]

[1881-82]

[1882-83]

[1883-84]

[1884-85]

[1885-86]

[1886-87]

[1887-88]

[1888-89]

[1889-90]
Democrat February 23, 1882. Montello. "Tom. O'Connor brought in a half dozen pigeons this first of the week which he captured at this place. It is something unusual for February."

Princeton February 23, 1882. "This spring reminds me of the spring of 1860. One person has seen flocks of ducks, another pigeons." March 2, 1882. Montello. "Pigeons are on the wing.

May 28, 1882. "Some of the hunters of this place have been pigeon shooting near Plainfield recently."
Racine Advocate Sat. Oct. 15, 1870. Last Monday, Master Frank H.
accidentally shot himself while hunting pigeons in Herrick's grove.

Racine Daily Times Sept. 11, 1885. "A few reported that a
block of pigeons were seen near the 'Springs', this morning,
and in an hour after three more about 500 men headed
that way with shot guns." [1884-'85] [86-'87] [88]
May 4, 1870. "Beech and maple wood for sale cheap."

Racine Journal [1864 - 1872] Nothing!

Racine Advocate [1851-84] [96 to '59] Long!

Cited: March 14, 1866. Raymond. "During the past few days... pigeons... and blackbirds have made the neighborhood vocal with their songs." [59-62]

Cited: March 29, 1865. "West of here the pigeons are flying in large flocks in a north-west direction, but do not appear to stay long in a place.

Cited: April 11, 1866. "A few pigeons have already made their appearance." [1863-66] [67-08 69]. [See preceding page for 1870-72]. [70-75].

"Sept. 9, '76. "Pigeons are coming, be in the lookout boys."

"Oct. 7. "Sportmen are making it lively for the pigeons in this vicinity. They get no rest even on Sunday, for the cruel gunner goes forth at early dawn and bade whole flocks of them." [76-77] [78-79] [80-83]


Racine Argus [March - Oct. 1838]

April 15, 1875. "Pigeons are said to be plentiful in the woods; but hunters are scarce, they are not relishing the idea of traveling three or four miles through two feet of mud, for a few pigeons."

Cited: Sept. 30, '75. "Pigeons are being slaughtered in large numbers now, by hunters." [1875-78]

Sept. 17, '74. Raymond. "Sportmen are daily shooting pigeons, crows, squirrels, etc."

Yorkville. "Pigeons and partridges are very plenty in the woods."
Racine Journal April 7, '75. Pigeons and ducks are about again in great numbers." [1873-75]

"March 20, '78. "Wild geese, pigeons and other migratory birds are daily winging their way northward." [76-78]

"March 27, '79. "Immense numbers of grasshoppers in the country."

"Oct. 8, 1879. "Pigeon hunting is now the rage with our black slaters. The best season we have heard of is that of Mayor Kueffen, who brought in 6,4 of the birds, the result of an afternoon's shooting." [80-80]

"March 31, '80. "Flurries of pigeons were flying over the city on Sunday [28th] morning."

"Aug. 4, '81. "Hunters report that game is scarce this year, much less, especially chickens and pigeons." [1879-81]

"Feb. 15, '82. "Indel farmers who were in the city Saturday [11th] say there are numerous robins in the fields, pigeons in the woods and that quail are flying north."

"May 24, '82. "Letters received in this city from the northern part of the state, say the woods are full of pigeons."

"May 31, '82. "A letter received by Mr. Neil Reuf, of this county from his brother who resides near Milwaukee, states he captured 650 pigeons in one day up there." [82-84]

"Aug. 17, '87. "Millions upon millions of grasshoppers..."

Racine (d) Journal [Nov. 56 - Nov. 57; all]
Beanie Dam City: March 14, '78. Mrs. S.A. Dewinell of Reedsburg says:
"It was reported to me that Bluebirds, robins, and pigeons came
in yesterday, March 1st." - Reedsburg Free Press, (not in Ab.).

profusion, have been the order of the day for the
last two weeks. ... Almost everybody has been out
every day this week, shooting pigeons, with good success."

Said, June 1, 1861. Letter from Franklin recommending
grain treated with strychnine to kill "Ducks, Blackbirds,
Pigeons, Bluebirds, etc. " [June 60 - Sept 41] [Ab].

Said, April 19, '72, "Thanks, gentlemen, 'Nimmers, for a
fine present of ducks and pigeons."

April 18, '73, "Pigeons are flying right lively these
days. ... We are told that there are signs that they will
nest in this vicinity, but we do not suppose the
plague small grain farmers would welcome their
advent in such countless swarms as visited the
region a 'Nimmers City two years ago."

April 25, '73, "Pigeons don't fly as much as they did."

[March '72 - '74]

June 8, '75, "Pigeons. - Morris Seeley has ... as nice a
bumper full of pigeons, as any hungry editor need want.

... He will send the birds to Chicago, along with as many
more as he may be so fortunate as to catch in his fish-net,
where he will get, maybe, dollar or alf a dozen."

May 24, '77, Morris Seeley has a pigeon nest bailed up
Reedsburg.

the river somewhere, and visits it at an early hour of the morning, to do which he gets up at about two o'clock A.M.,

[75-77] [Sep. 7] July 19, 1883-86 [87-89] [90-72].

Reedsburg, Baraboo Republic Dec. 5, '83. "There seems to be but few pigeons this year..."

Wisconsin Farmer 7 (1855) 147. A correspondent from Reedsburg writes to the Bank Co. Standard: "Millions of pigeons are hovering all over the valley."

Reedsburg Free Press May 18, 1899, p.5 - "Postmaster M. H. Brenizer of Lime Ridge was in Reedsburg last Thursday [May 11] and was questioned about the flock of pigeons recently seen there. He said the report was not in the least exaggerated [sic]; that the flock was a large one and looked quite like old times. He came to Lime Ridge

[Lee Leche (Barrow's) Chronicle Oct. 2, 1879. Pigeons are quite
plenty in this neighborhood."

in the 70's, when pigeons were numerous, and related several instances where large numbers had been killed with brush peyng over elevated places. On one occasion he had great difficulty in keeping a team at plowing, as thick did the birds fly around the horses' heads. [Not mentioned in weekly column from Lime Ridge].
Richland Center Richland County Republican
March 19, 1868. Mentions the "northward flight of pigeons." [1867-68]
May 11, 1871. [Exchange]. Last week each team into Milwaukee
in the is a horse road carried about 200 barrels of dead pigeons." [1869-72]

[1873 - March 30, 1876]
Ref: Sept. 24, '74. "Squirrels and pigeons are reported to be very plenty
in the woods this fall."
Ref: [April 8, 76]. "Wild pigeons, robins, blue birds and other
Spring birds have made their appearance in great numbers within
the past week."

Ref: April 26, '77. "Pigeons are on the wing now, but our sportmen
do not seem to capture many of them."
Ref: March 7, '78. "Wild pigeons -- drakes have made their appearance."
Ref: March 13, '79. "Pigeons are on the wing."

Ref: April 7, '76 - '79
Ref: April 8, '80. "Our sportmen are watching the pigeon signs very
closely. As yet but few of these birds have appeared in this section."
Ref: May 5, '81. "There are no wild pigeons this year."

Ref: June 6, '81. "Pigeons, ducks and squirrels are found to be plenty
by our gunners."

Ref: April 16, '82. "Wild pigeons have been flying over this section
every day for the past week. Blue birds, robins and other Spring birds
have also been seen. This is something unprecedented in this country
since its settlement by white men. The oldest inhabitant cannot
remember ever before having seen these birds in Wisconsin in February.

"He pigeons, blue birds, robins and wild geese that were here last week,
got caught and have been compelled to fly to a warmer climate."
Ref: March 9, '82. "Thousands of geese have been seen in this section
on the first day of March." [1882-83]
Ref: April 22, '86. "The Darlington Republican says wild pigeons are
more numerous this spring than they have been for ten years.
The woods are full of them. But few pigeons have appeared in
this county."

[1884-86] [1887-88] [1889-71]
Richland Center Independent Aug.-Dec. 1872
   True Republican Dec. '66 - Aug. '67
   Observer [Nov. '55 - Apr. '59; '60-'63]
   [1877 - Aug. 29, '78]
   [1887-89]
   Rustic: Sept. 22, '83. "The acorn crop was a failure. This year."
   [Oct. '80-'83] [1884-86] [1887-'89]


Wil. Dl Sentinel, Oct. 14, '82. Z. State News. "During the burning of the defect in Richland Center, hundreds of pigeons and ducks were circling in the air above the flames. Even large mallard ducks were caught in the streets while the fire was raging."

Richland County Observer: "There are millions of wild pigeons in the woods and the boys find rare sport in shooting them." - From Madison State J. April 27, 1867.

Richland Center Observer May 12, 1857. "Wild pigeons are quite numerous in this region at this time and they are doing all the destruction to the wheat and oat fields, that their nature gives them power to do."

Richland Center Republican Observer Thurs. Oct. 12, '82. Re burning of defect on Sunday night, Oct. 8, mentions small birds and mallards found in the streets, but nothing about pigeons. - The Rustic Sat. Oct. 14, in describing the fire says nothing about birds.
Ripon Commonwealth. March 31, 1865. "Pigeons have commenced their flight, and millions may be seen flying over our heads, the rush of their wings through the air making a noise like a waterfall."

[Herald. Jan. 11, 1864 - March 8, 1864]

Spurr. [Aug. 55 - Sept. 56]

Star. [March 31, 1857 - May 12, 1857]

Home. [Jan. 9 - June, 1857]

Times. [Aug. 59 - Dec. 30, 1859] [1860 - April 6, 1863]

Prairie City Record. [May 14, 1863 - Dec. 17, 1863]

Free Press. Thurs. April 15, '75. "Pigeon shooting has been indulged in recently, to some little extent by our young men."

[1881 - '83] [1884 - July 25, '85]
Montello Express May 22, 1875, "They have six square miles of pigeon at River Falls."

River Falls (Pierce Co.) Journal April 27, 1859, "Ducks, geese, and pigeons are abundant." (From Milwaukee) Sentinel May 3, 1859.

Milwaukee Commercial Times May 5, 1875, "Ducks and pigeons on the wing in St. Croix Co."

Ellsworth Herald April 25, 1877, "River Falls, April 21, 1877.

Pigeons are thick and are helping the wheat to come up fast."

River Falls Advocate Times Sept. 22, 1874, "Trenton Sept. 19. One day this week we noticed several large flocks of pigeons going south and we were pleased when we saw that they were taking the short cut to the south."

Ellsworth May 11, 1875, "Ellsworth: Pigeons - pigeons."

Kinnickinnic, Pigeons are quite troublesome to some of the farmers.

May 18, 1875, "Geo. Martin and Mr. A. Taylor passed through this place last Saturday [5th], full of feathers, having visited 'the pigeon roost' in the Winnebago woods, the night before and captured one hundred and seventy of them."

"After, wheat is up and looks well, the pigeons have done some damage to it."

Ellsworth May 25, 1875, "Martel, Every body is coming to look at the pigeons. Last week a party from Indiana were here with traps, but pigeons couldn't see it."

Ellsworth June 1, 1875, "The pigeons have left us in peace now, and now we are looking for grasshoppers next."

June 8, 1875, "Dear friend and townsmen, Rev. W. H. Robey, passed through this village the other day with twelve hundred line pigeons which had been captured by a couple of sportsmen from Pepin county." [July '74 - Jan '76, All]

River Falls Journal May 4, 1875, "Goldenville, Pigeon hunters are not plenty as blackbirds, but not as plenty as pigeons. The air is full of them. The trees creak with them."
since July Journal May 14, '29. "They, Everything once except pigeons and peddlers." "Kimchimnic. The pigeons have taken the grain so badly in some parts of our town, that the farmers have been obliged to sow their fields over again." 1875, May 21. "Pigeons are the great excitement here about. They are located about five miles from here, and in greater force than the farmers desire."

"Pigeon hunting is all the rage." (Riva Hills). Two people killed over 200 pigeons on one day. "Mary Ann had twelve acres of wheat planted, but the pigeons ate it all clean. She was obliged to sow it the second time." 1875, May 28. "Big River. Pigeons scarce." "Pleasant Valley. Pigeons here."


"New Centerville. Pigeons are not as numerous as they were." (1875)

April 19, '77. "Pigeons are reported quite numerous in the woods in the vicinity of Wilcox, St. Croix county."

April 26, '77. "Innumerable flocks of pigeons are feeding over this place every day. They are feeding in the vicinity of Wilcox, some 30 miles from here."

May 17, '77. "Pigeons are nesting in the neighborhood of St. Croix, in greater numbers than the oldest inhabitant ever dreamed of."

April 4, 1878. "Pigeons are reported to be numerous in Pierce County." 1876-78. Oct. 10, '78. "Squirrels and pigeons are very plentiful around here and are doing a great deal of harm."

May 15, '77. "Kimchimnic. Pigeons here make their appearance at last."

May 22, '77. "Diamond Bluff. The pigeons are quite numerous on the island."

April 21, '81. "Maiden Rock. Pigeons are here."

May 12, '81. "Pigeons are flying in large numbers near La Crosse."
River Falls Journal May 26, 1881. "Pigeons are very numerous.


May 11, '82. "Clifton. Pigeons are prevalent.

1, '84. "Ducks and pigeons are beginning to furnish amusement for our sportsmen.

May 29, '84. "Plum City. Quite a number of pigeons are nesting in the woods hereabouts." [1882-84].

River Falls Press April 26, 1882. "Oak Grove. Blocks of pigeons are occasionally seen flying over here."

River Falls Journal [1885-87] [1888-90] [1891-93]

River Falls Press May 13, 1875. "Pigeons are nesting all through the Big Woods from Mantel to several miles north of Fillmore. Hunters from all parts of the country are making game among them.

"A one-by-six mile square of solid pigeons is a good many, and promises badly for the crops this spring and after wheat is ripe. But that is what we have got in this county for the season."

 Ibid. May 27, 1875. "Hive are over fifty professional pigeon trappers, stopping at Baldwin catching pigeons for the Chicago market."

 Ibid. June 1, '75. "Squabs are hawked about our streets at 100 next half dozen. They are fat and palatable." "Pigeon trappers near the road are making good wages. One party of two-fifteen 71 dozen boiled in one day last week."

Ibid. June 10, '75. "The pigeons which nested in Mantel and through the woods in that region are leaving for parts unknown. Taking their young with them, they have been harassed so much that they will not nest there for a second brood."

River Falls Press

veal been trapped in this immediate vicinity. Eighty four and
slaughter to the city markets, the trappers are doing a paying business
yet.

Oct. 31, 1875. Hammond Independent. Pigeon hunters are hard at
work in the neighborhood of Baldwin, trapping pigeons, which
proved to be plentiful.

July, April 13, 1875. "A large flock of wild pigeons passed over
this village on Monday [April 15], bound North.

July, April 19, 1875. "Pigeons in large numbers have just in an
appearance, just in time to help the farmers get their wheat up."

May 3, 1877. "Pigeons by the ten thousand are nesting near East
Claire, and feeding near River Falls."

April 11, 1878. "Wild pigeons by the thousand are reported in
Iowa. Not a pigeon has been seen in this section this far
this spring."

Sept. 19, 1878. "The groves about town are full of young pigeons."

Sept. 3, 1878. "Amo. Squirrels and pigeons are taking large
falls out of the farmer's wheat fields." [July 74-78]

Sept. 8, 1879. "Pigeons have just in an appearance in Barron county."

Sept. 2, 1880. "Plum City, Hunters are harvesting pigeons."

May 6, 1881. "An occasional flock of pigeons may be
observed in the early morning coming from the north-
west, as yet there have been none in this vicinity.

[1879-81]
Wausau Central Wisconsin Sept. 4, 1884. "A boy named Elmer Hinds, was seriously wounded whilst shooting pigeons near his home, at Loganport, Sauk County..."

David Loganville?

Sauk City Pioneer [1865-68] [1869-72]

April 2, '75. "... grosse Schwuren wilden Tauben sind erscheinen..." [1873-'75] [76-'83]

Spring Green Dollar Times Sept. 30, '79. "Wild pigeons are very plenty in the bluffe."

March 10, 1890. "Pigeons and geese are flying. Pigeons, in the bluffe, seem to be unusually plenty."

[1878 - May 4, '80] all.
Shawano Journal
Green Bay Advocate June 6, 1872. The Journal notes an immense pigeon roost in the woods 2 1/2 miles east of Gardner's station, on the Military road. The roost is 3 miles in extent, and the pigeons going and coming make a terrible roar.

Shawano County Journal Reviews April 1, 1869. "Several flocks of wild pigeons were seen flying over the village last Monday."

April 8, 1869. "Countless numbers of pigeons are to be seen in the woods on both sides of the Green Bay road. Sportsmen are actively engaged for the present."

April 23, 1871. "Pigeons are still numerous along the Green Bay road."

April 6, 1871. "Pigeons, martins, robins -- are reported present in this section."

April 20, 1871. "Martins "an occasional flock of pigeons."

May 7. "Notice of death of Jas. Krimmer who accidentally killed himself while shooting pigeons last Monday."

Sept. 14, 1871. "The principal excitement among our sportsmen the past week has been pigeon shooting. One party killed nine at one shot the other day."

May 23, 1872. "Pigeons were flying to the eastward the other day in large numbers."

May 30, 1872. "Pigeon Roost. J.J. (Tobe) Murray informs us that he discovered, while on an exploring expedition about a week ago, a large and extensive pigeon roost, two and a half miles east of Gardner's Station on the Military road. The roost is some three miles in extent, and the roar occasioned by the going out and coming in of thousands upon thousands of pigeons, is terrible."

June 6, 1872. Excerpt: Editor of Marquette Mining Journal

"Martins being pigeons shooting. Vacations."
Shawano Journal March 22, 1873. "Pigeons begin to fly."

Shawano Journal May 24, '73. "Thus far, this spring, the pigeons have failed to make their appearance in numbers sufficient to warrant our boys half a hunt."

Shawano Journal April 3, '75. "The past week was remarkable for frost weather. Pigeons, wild geese, and snow, flying at the same time."
Pigeons in large numbers have been seen over the city the past week. It is reported that they have a nest somewhere on Red River.

Chid. Sept. 18, '76. "Pigeons are plentiful, and the boys are having lots of fun hunting them. Dan Kelso killed one 1/20th night. This morning, almost every day some one comes in with a buck load of them."

Chid. Sept. 22, '76. "Partridges and pigeons have not been so plentiful for a long time, as they are this fall." [1870-72]

Sat. March 4, '78. "A few flocks of wild pigeons passed over the city yesterday morning." [1876-78]

Chid. Sept. 9, '81. "Pigeons are beginning to be quite plentiful." [1879-81]

16, '81. "Large flocks of pigeons are said to be flying almost everywhere around Shawano, and good strings are brought in almost daily by hunters." [1879-81]

Chid. May 22, '85. "A crowd of men went north this week to the great pigeon roost, which is in the vicinity of H.H. Martin's old farm. There are said to be about forty acres of pigeons resting. One man killed 400 in one day. Such slaughter is strictly against the law and should be stopped."

Chid. May 29, '85. "Freelingers remarks regarding party that visited the pigeon roost: "...It is understood that the Sheriff of Roman glue do, with a force of forty men started for the roost. But as one party got wind of it, they returned home Saturday night.""

Chid. June 5, '85. "About a dozen pigeon hunters from all parts of the United States, came to Shawano, in the last week, to catch pigeons, but had very few success, as they were all gone before they arrived." [1882 - July 26, '88] [1889-91]

* Mentions F.W. Humphrey and Dr. Williams.
Shawano Advocate [1882-84]

"...May 28, 1886, "Numerous parties have visited the pigeon nest and tried to drive away or catch them. By the hundreds and thousands they have been killed."

Shawano Advocate Aug. 5, '86, "Miss Harrow, a resident of Woshuma, met her death in a very peculiar and unusual manner a few days since. She saw a hawk perched upon a pigeon, and decided with it to a field near the house in which she was. A little boy started out where the birds were, with his bow and arrow. She followed him a short distance, when she stumbled and fell striking her neck upon a small stub with such force that the stub entered her neck and cut one of the arteries. She bled to death in a very few minutes, even before she could return to the house."

11/28/38. Have tried repeatedly to locate Gardner's Station on "military road." In 1872 a military road ran from Green Bay west and went to Lake Superior thru Shawano. Another ran south from Shawano to Ashkeshi so that the meeting must have been on this latter road.

The Dept. Interior, General Land Office Map, 1878, shows a Gardner to be on Green Bay, southwest of Little Sturgeon, Town of Gardner, Door Co. Gardner was a post office subsequently discontinued. It was not on any military road and was a long jump from Shawano."
Sheboygan Mercury [Jan.-Aug. 11, 1849, Nothing]
Sheboygan Herald [July '69 - Dec. 1871]
Sheboygan Times [1871, 1873 - '74]

April 18, 1874, "Sheboygan Falls. Wild pigeons are flying thick and fast, but few have stopped as yet in the village."

April 25, 1874, H. G. H. Reed, Superintendent of the Milwaukee, Lake Shore and Western R. R., having a little business in town last week, took occasion to indulge in a few hours pigeon hunt near the outskirts of the village." - Two Rivers Chronicle.

Sheboygan Herald [Oct. 73 - 76] [1877-79]

April 30, 1874, "Sheboygan Falls. Several flocks of wild pigeons have been seen within the past few days, winging their way south. Perhaps they found the weather unfavorable up north."

Sheboygan Falls. "Large flocks of pigeons have been circling about here for several days past."

Sept. 17, 1875, Elkhart, "Pigeon shooting is now one of the institutions here. At about nine o'clock each day many flocks go on flying south. They are prized by the ne'er-do-well inhabitant about the lakes as an article of food. One of the natives was heard to sing in voice more loud than melodious."

Sheboygan Journal [1857-59] [1860-63]

Sept. 24, 1874, "Pigeon hunting is good in this vicinity, an enterprising sportsman can hunt for them all day. Our friend of the
Shoeboygan

National Democrat—wont cut the other day and came very mean selling some. [1864-'65]

Everyman City Times [1864-'66].

Lake Journal—"gophers, pigeons, quacks, cows, deer, and partridges are as plenty in the woods as blackberries, and vice-versa." [1853-'56, all]

Sheboygan Mercury [Feb., Aug. '49, all]

Sheboygan Times [1871-'74. See above].

Sheboygan Times. Sept. 11, '73. Sheboygan Falls. "Pigeons are very plentiful in the woods bordering upon wheat fields."

Sheboygan Times. April 15, '76. Sheboygan Falls. "Large flocks of pigeons have been flying over during the past few days."

Sheboygan Times. April 22, '76. Sheboygan Falls. "Pigeons are getting in an appearance. The first flush for this season were noticed last Wednesday [17th]." [Rotally should read April 12, instead of 14 since there was no Thursday before that week.]

Sheboygan Times [1875-'77, 1878-'86]

Sheboygan Times. March 18, '82. Scott, March 18. "Seese, ducks, pigeons, robins, have all been seen." [1881-'83, 1884-'86, 1886-'87]


Eau Claire Times. Aug. 11, '55. "Mr. Levi Long of this city, killed thirty-one pigeons at a single shot yesterday, in a wheat field near the Black Road. The shot was from a single barrel piece, and is believed that the same man more killed which he did not secure. Such shots do not occur every day." [March 24, '54 - '56]

Sheboygan Falls News: Wed. Sept. 24, 1879. "Wild pigeons are quite plentiful about here at present, and are feeding off the newly come winter wheat fields. -- Powder and shot were in good demand last Saturday [20th]."

Sheboygan Falls News: Oct. 1, 1879. "One day last week, Doc. Hawkins and two other parties went out into the country for a pigeon shoot, shot and brought in seventy-five plump birds, mostly young ones, and a fine string of squirrels. -- Dr. Pitcher and Mr. T. Hawkins went out next day and shot sixty-one pigeons." [1879-80].

Sheboygan Falls News: Sept. 14, 1881. "The sport of pigeon shooting has commenced; John Hershauf and his son shot and brought in thirty-one last Sunday [Sept. 11], within a mile of the village."

Sheboygan Falls News: May 7, 1884. "Pigeons are said to be quite numerous along the river banks near Ahnappe." [1881-88].

Shullsburg, March 25, 1864.

Shullsburg, Southwestern District, April 1, 1864. "Pigeons: They say the flying of birds indicates the return of spring—but that is, if the birds themselves aren't fooled. Pigeons have been going by in great numbers for some days, but they seem to be in doubt whether they will proceed further north or not, and some of them have actually turned around, which proves conclusively that they don't know anything about the weather here before they came up."

Shullsburg, Pick and Rand, April 1, 1864. "Wild pigeons, wildducks, --are not noticeably numerous now."
Sparta Eagle, May 12, 1871.

"Pigeons." - Never in the history of the Delta Valley were such myriads of pigeons seen cutting the air in all directions, and making the whole valley resound with the noise of their constant flutering. From early morn to dewy eve, the air is filled with flocks of the swift-flying birds, so numerous that no man can number them. There are but few people in this locality, who have not regarded themselves as pigeons- pie for pigeons have been everywhere. In and after load of bought to-day, and every empty furnace, shop and shed, that can be patched up has made "pigeon-lift" is brought into requisition as a stovehouse, preparatory to their being shipped to various sporting clubs in the Eastern and Middle States.

The nesting-place of these birds commences some eight or nine miles northwest of here, extending over a vast area of country. The young pigeons will be out in about a week and a half.

Sparta Eagle, April 21, 1871.

Sportmen's Harvest. - Scores of our sportmen are leaving here, bringing down pigeons, a few miles east of town, where a pigeon roost is in full blast. Several professional "pigeon catchers" from other States are on the ground, with all of the appliances for entrapping the unsuspecting birds. Several barrels have already been shipped to eastern markets.

 Ibid. April 28, 1871. "Pigeons Sold. One day last week, a county official, who prides himself on being a dead shot, invited us to accompany him to the pigeon roost, some seven miles distant. A drive of seven or eight miles brought us in the midst of millions of the feathered beauties -- (rest is sensations and has no information with it). Rare sport will be enjoyed in their capture. As soon as the young
come off the nests, the old birds abandon them to their fate, and in solid phalanxes seek some other section of country.

Last year the pigeons rendezvoused in Michigan and Pennsylvania, and those who are familiar with their habits and follow them constantly, assert that the indications are that from here they will go to the Red River country, and their destroyers are preparing to follow them thither.


Monroe County Democrat - May, 1863 - '64

And May 30, '64. "From fifty to one hundred barrels of dressed pigeons are shipped from this place to New York. They are packed in ice, twenty four dozen in a barrel, and are sold to be worth two dollars a dozen in New York.

Sparta Monroe County Democrat [1878-80 Nothing]

Sparta Monroe County Democrat, May 14, 1881. "Pigeons are plenty in the neighborhood of Eau Claire.

April, March 4, 1882. "Wild pigeons are beginning to fly, which is an indication of an early spring."

April 1, '82. "It is reported that there is plenty of pigeons in Vernon county. Our sportsmen are preparing for the sport and already talk of pigeon pie."

April 8, '82: "Pigeons are on the wing."

28, '82. "J. H. Baldwin only ordered half a ton of shot and powder to match recently pigeons."

"The Sparta editor of the Chronicle, in discourse the other day, on behalf of our business and shooting men, we wish to add a word to what has already been said in this column upon the subject of pigeon shooting. There are always some parties who are not satisfied with legitimate sport, but must carry their slaughter of game to a wanton and indescribable extreme; and in the matter of the present excitement on the subject of pigeonning, a few of this class are, if not brought up short, likely to destroy both sport and profit, of which these promises
to an abundance. Here is plenty of elegant sport within two to five miles of town, and yet we are told, that some parties were yesterday committing a most wanton slaughter of the birds at their resting place some nine miles from town. Arrangements being made to deal with these reckless marauders, and the first was caught will get the full length of the law. This is right as there is a good show for at least two weeks of solid sport, and our sportsmen are determined that it shall not be destroyed by heedlessly driving the birds away.”

Also, Sat., April 28, '82. Tunnel City. The wild pigeons are nesting a few miles west of Tunnel City, and one acquainted with their habits will conceive of their immensity. Plans are being made for a few persons may molest them in their nesting so that they will be broken up. Powder is very scarce at this writing. Indians arriving to take on the pigeons hunting. Several buyers and shippers of pigeons have established themselves in business here.

Also, May 6, '82. Wilton. T. L. Martin, in company with Alex Wolfe and Al. Astrop, Norwalk, took a drive over to the pigeon roosts near Sparta on Sunday [April 29]. They report an immense collection of the feather tribe.

“Here pigeons nesting seems to be all the rage now. Some of the boys have went out several times but with indifferent success.”

Also, Sat., May 13, '82. Wilton. A couple of pigeon catchers from Pennsylvania had the good fortune to take sixty-five doz. of pigeons on Saturday and Sunday last. [May 6 and 7]. Norwalk. There has been a few pheasant trappers in Norwalk, but they didn’t get many birds.” Thorn. “One day this week 95 doz. pigeons was shipped from this place by one party of trappers.

May 20, '82. “Preparations are being made to catch the young pigeons before they can fly. It takes skill to do this.”

Tunnel City. The wholesale slaughter of the pigeons nesting is abominable, disgraceful and contrary to law and public good, and will result in their eating up, if not stopped by decisive measures. One isolated effort to punish an offender, where so many are engaged in it, is not now sufficient. All good citizens will sustain the law to the utmost extent of enforcement.
Hundred squabs prematurely taken in their nesting have been offered for sale in this market within the last twenty-four hours. - H.H. Torr.

"Trusting and squabbing are the popular recreations of the pleasure loving Tomahawkers."

May 27, 82: "A number of Winnebago Indians were parading our streets Wednesday. They have been taking in the squabs. "There are plenty of pigeon catchers in town yet annoying annoyance increasing the colonels bits of the departed birds." The pigeon harvest has just ended; the poor birds what's left of them have gone to new fields. "We don't know much about pigeons; but from the quantities which have been shipped from Sparta, we think that half of them were left to migrate."

Wilton, Tuesday [May 21] thence 4 or 5 of our citizens took a drive to the pigeon roost and while on the road killed three hundred birds."

June 3, 82: Tunnel City. "There is now near 1000 dozons of young pigeons in Tunnel City, which are being fattened until full grown for market."

June 10, 82, Ems. "Some of the boys went up to the pigeon roost and got lots of fun and timeline dozen birds."

June 17, 82. The local of the Chronicle gives the following pigeon sates; "For considerate speculation was indulged in during the slaughter of pigeons in this vicinity as to the actual number killed and captured; no reliable estimate could be made until the shipping was complete, and even now only an approximation of the total number destroyed can be made. Hence the American Express company we are able to present here the following figures showing the immense business done by them during the pigeon season:

<table>
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<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
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<td>No. of cases shipped</td>
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<td>Case number in each</td>
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<td>No. of barrels shipped</td>
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<td>Amount charged</td>
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</table>

From Chicago, June 19, 82.

Tunnel City. "The Methodist Chapel is now being used as a pigeon house."

June 24, 82. "O. F. Angle who has been at Kelbourn pigeonning, returned Wednesday and reports a big time in that vicinity." O. F. Angle returned on Monday night from Kelbourn and reports that there, at least, has had fair luck in raising pigeons, the nesting is broken and the fun practically over.

[These items appeared in different columns.]

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From La Crosse, June 8, 82.

"Tunnel City. The Methodist Chapel is now being used as a pigeon house.

Several hundred dozens fine pigeons are shipped today."

[Ob. Angle, who has been at Kelbourn pigeonning, returned Wednesday and reports a big time in that vicinity. O. F. Angle returned on Monday night from Kelbourn and reports that there, at least, has had fair luck in raising pigeons, the nesting is broken and the fun practically over.]
Sparta Monroe County Democrat
July 26, 1893. Announcement of an internadl shooting tournament in Milwaukee July 3 to 6. "There are at the park 5000 pigeons for targets. Tunnel City, Mr. Thomas Magee has purchased all the remaining pigeons - over five hundred dozen and is shipping them to market."

One hundred and sixty thousand pigeons have been shipped from Sparta, within a few weeks, the express charges on this kind of freight amounting to $1,700. [Then 1884]

Frolic Valley News May 27, 1882. State News. "In a dense pine forest, ten miles northeast of Sparta, Monroe County, wild pigeons are said to have established a roost, half a mile wide and ten miles long, every tree containing twenty or more nests."

Sparta Democrat [1890-92] [1893-96]

West Bend Post Aug 16, 1864. "Some Pigeons. - The Sparta Eagle says that there has been shipped from that village, since the 12th of May last, upwards of ninety or one thousand pigeons. Upwards of eight thousand of these were alive. ..."

Middletown Eagle June 4, 1864. "The Sparta Herald says a great many wagon loads of young pigeons have been caught throughout, and the birds are alive with old and young pigeons. [Sparta Herald 1864 not in New. York, Tribune].

Milwaukee Journal Aug. 16, 1864. "From May 12th last to this date there has been shipped to the Eastern market from the American Express Office in this village 96,036 pigeons. Of this number 88,000 belong to 8,300 live pigeons, were shipped, and 387 barrels containing 77,706 pigeons, weighing 60,500 lbs, were dressed for the market." - Sparta Eagle
Sparta Eagle May 5, 1871. "Pigeons. - Mr. Porter, of Janesville, is shipping from the depot here five thousand dozen live pigeons, for the use of various sporting clubs."

La Crosse Republican - Leader (2) Feb. 27, 1882. Sparta.

"Wild pigeons are seen every day..."

April 3, 82. Sparta, Dolo, "The woods are full of pigeons."
"7."
"The pigeons have almost all left..."
"8."
"The pigeons are here now more."
"It was thought that they had left." April 8, Sparta.

"Will Baldwin, the professional pigeon catcher, caught two dozen pigeons yesterday." April 20, Sparta. Professional catchers are in town with equipment. April 21. Every morning the bluffs and high points on the La Crosse River have some farmers who keep up an incessant fowl..."

April 22, Sparta. "Yesterday the pigeons flew in clouds."

Over thirty men were around Wallow Bluff and some shot over one hundred." April 24. J. H. Baldwin has ordered 11 half a ton of shot and a large quantity of powder." There is no doubt but what the pigeons intend nesting in this locality. They have already commenced building their nests and unless hunters go at their nesting place and check it up they will stay."

Call on Mr. J. B. Lyon to see 4.565 p. 176, Remedial Medicine, 1878.

April 28. "It is claimed that there is twice as many pigeons at Cataract as here. If it is true it is a paradox." "Every one are buying pigeon nets but this isn't catch pigeons. It requires skill and experience." April 26. "Only 10 barrels of pigeons were processed last night on the evening train." "S.F. Angel caught 64 dozen pigeons yesterday, they netted him fifty cents per dozen." "Over 300 dozen pigeons were caught near seven miles north of here yesterday. Two men catching together, caught 160 dozen." April 28. "High winds yesterday made it difficult to catch pigeons."
Saunair.

Spa.

The Chicago Republican- Leader. May 9, (Tuesday). 1882.

Sparta, Ill. - "Over a half million pigeons were shipped from here last week." - "Frank Richardson has been making stereoptical views of the pigeon roost." - "Young pigeons have commenced hatching at the roost, nine miles from here," May 11. The editor of Field and other apostles from Chicago left on evening train, May 13. Five Sparta hunters yesterday shot "by actual count" 645 pigeons.

May 15. "It is well worth going many miles to see the pigeon nesting grounds. It covers a space of two to three miles wide and eight or ten miles long, and each [tree] contains from ten to twenty five nests, the young birds are just beginning to fall out and in less than a week the ground will be covered with them."

May 20. "The pigeon flight was tight yesterday."

"It is a daily occurrence to see teams passing through the streets with a man each load 3 pigeon crates filled with pigeons."

Parties have been making a wholesale slaughter of young pigeons at the roost 9 late. "If the present pigeon law does not protect the young pigeon before it is strong enough to leave the nest, what does it amount to?"

May 25. "Cargill received 63 dozen pigeons yesterday and hundreds are daily arriving. A new flight has recently been seen in the neighborhood of Ogden and the hearts of the devoted Apaches are reviving. One party has already made over 1000 and hopes to continue in doing well."

May 26. "Ten thousand pigeons were purchased by a gentleman from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, yesterday, who shipped them for a grand shooting match to be held there in a short time. There is a considerable diminution of the members coming in, as the 'squawks' are captured and nests broken into."
June 17. Santa. "J. N. Babbit, who has been for the last two
weeks slaughtering pigeons in the neighborhood of
Kilborn, reports business as the reverse I grant... Most
of the hunters have left..."
Sparta Herald, May 18, 1869

"Pigeon’s Nest. — We learn that flocks of pigeons are already on their old nesting ground south, towards Viroqua, and sportsmen are catching multitudes with nets. When the

Sparta Herald, April 20, 1869

"Pigeon Popping. — Sportsmen are in the woods, ranging away at the pigeons, and generally not getting any; but then it’s such fun, you know."

April 11, 1871.

"Game. — Some pigeons have appeared in the woods, and sportsmen are after them with foul intent, and shot-guns."

April 18, 1871. "Pigeons. — Large numbers of pigeons are daily flying over, and in many localities with easy reach of town, they congregate in immense numbers. Everybody who can raise anything in the nature of a shotgun, is in the woods, cracking away at them, and large numbers are caught in nets. Altogether, it seems likely that we can "live on pigeon pies" for awhile, whether we are able to "read one title clear," or not."

"There is said to be a pigeon roost on Silver Creek, from which large numbers are taken."

April 25, 1871. "The Pigeons. — These birds are a prominent topic of conversation, as well as forming a staple article of diet among many of our good people here. In Sparta and vicinity, they are nesting in immense numbers in the woods, extending from the Kickapoo far up into Jackson County, and covering a territory
March 4, 1873. This morning 30° below zero.
April 9. "2½ inches of snow on the ground.
16°. "Pigeons are flying over in large numbers, though we have not heard of any great executions by our resident shotgun among them."
April 22. "Pigeons still fly - notwithstanding the shot guns. Trappers manage to supply the sporting clubs, and that is about all."

Tues., April 29, '73. "The Sparta Shooting Club went at it again on Saturday last. Pigeons were cheap in the market immediately after their performance, and pigeons for Sunday dinner were just the thing", A. J. Dickinson came at a loss, we believe this time!"

1874 - Nothing.
April 6, 1875. "Flights of pigeons are appearing."
41. "The pigeons are said to be roosting before Plainfield, in Somnus county."
Pigeons. Sporadically, are having some fun with the pigeons, which are flying in considerable numbers in this vicinity. Several parties engaged in trapping them are making their headquarters here, and the meeting will fair success, though not immense. There are said to be indications that the pigeons will nest somewhere in this region.

May 1, 1877. Pigeon business. The business of netting pigeons has been pursued in this vicinity, in a small way, for some time back, by quite a number of the boys, and also one or two parties from elsewhere. As yet the birds are not extremely numerous, and just now the profit in catching is not extraordinary, but hopes exist that the feathered prey will nest extensively somewhere in this region, and afford chances for the success of the failure to be rewarded in something like the style they were in '69, when every other man's back-yard was filled with feathers, and the woods around here were better filled with black bills braving for yielding wealth, would that the boys' hopes in this direction might be realized. Then they could

- Read their Bible clear.
- To manure in the skies.
- And give no rest to beer.
- Nor force to pigeon pies.

May 8, 1877. The pigeons are growing thicker, and considerable numbers are netted and shipped, weekly, and a good many more get in the way when shotguns are fired off, and thus get hurt. Their nesting in this vicinity is anxiously looked for.

June 12, 1877. Cleve. Martin, of Bridge Creek, Eau Claire County, has caught and shipped to Chicago 353 dozen of pigeons this season, which he sold for the sum of $676.73.

March 12, 1878. "Pigeons are flying and interested amateur catchers are watching them with speculation in their eyes.'
Sparta Herald April 11, 1882. "Cataract News. The present excitement is of an ornithological nature, especially among our sportsmen. Messrs. Brackett and June are very desirous of pursuing a fortune without physical labor, and are, therefore, indulging in the strong hopes of being successful in catching pigeons."

 Ibid. April 18, '82. "Plenty of pigeons are quite common in this region, and there are some who live among a considerable class of local tripsters. The birds will conclude to rest around here, somewhere, there is vast wealth in a big pigeon roost."

 "I see to scale. The pigeons are quite plenty in the woods. There was a good flight this morning, and there are a good many asleep to hold them here. If they get a nip at the spring wheat it may drive them here to rest."

 Ibid. April 25, '82. "Somebody will realize huge returns in lead from surface diggings around Hollow Bluff, if this pigeon war keeps up much longer."

 "Three to five inches of snow occurred southeast of us last Saturday [April 22]."

 "The Pigeons. There is no doubt but the pigeons are resting in large numbers in the woods northwest of Sparta, though it is not too late yet for them to be frightened away by an indiscriminate slaughter as commenced among them. A herd of woods several miles north and extending in a northwesterly direction is swarming with a countless myriad of the birds, which are preparing to settle down and raise families. It may not be generally understood that they are protected in this operation by a stringent statutory enactment, Pa. 1878, sect. 4565 of the Revised Statutes, reads as follows:

 "Any person who shall kill or wound any wild pigeon or other game at its nesting or breeding place, shall be punished by a fine not exceeding $100 nor less than $5 for each offense. An association of citizens, sportsmen and others in this vicinity is determined to see to the enforcement of this law, and it will be foolish and highly unsafe for any one to violate it. Plenty of shooting can be had in a legitimate way, without invading the nesting, and parties are warned to keep strictly away from it, if they desire to keep the birds here, and avoid the legal penalties above mentioned."

 Ibid. [above let.]. "Cataract, John Martin and R.A. Davis have invested in a pigeon net. If you want a good mess of birds of all kinds, call on the above gentlemen."
Sparta Herald May 2, 1882. "Tunnel City is quite a pigeon point, too; the nesting reaching to within a few miles from there."

May 4, 1882. "Pigeons were seen in great numbers in Tomah, attacking the outskirts of the nesting which stretches over to Squaw creek, in the town of Lafayette."

"The pigeon industry is at high water mark, and yielding immense returns. The figures, if they could be obtained, would doubtless show surprising results."

"Norman. Judging from the papers, weddings, and pigeons must be all the rage in Sparta this spring. Norman! where art thou?"

May 16, 1882. "The pigeons have lots of company at their root, up north. It is the best patronized resort in this latitude.

May 16, 1882. "Pigeons, shipments of live pigeons, continue to grow in number and volume, and new men are coming into the field every week. The number of bids is beyond computation. It is difficult at present to get accurate figures of the numbers caught with nets, but the shipments of the past week by freight from Sparta, have reached not far from 75 doz. per day, of live birds, and an unknown quantity of dead ones. Live birds sell at about $1.00 per dozen, and the number of men engaged in the business of netting them probably reaches over a hundred.

W. P. Thomas, of Peoria, Ill., is the heaviest buyer, and there are a dozen or more others, besides numbers at Greenfield and Tomah. Some idea of the extent of the business can be gathered by a visit to the St. Paul depot, where many thousands of live birds are stored, awaiting shipment. The bills of them are sold to shooting clubs throughout the west."

May 23, 1882. "The Pigeon Frenzy. The shot-gun campaign against the pigeons, which is about wound up, may have been attended with some immense expenditure of ammunition, the sales of the dealer in this city, since the advent of the pigeons, Mr. J. H. Baldwin, have aggregated in the neighborhood of 75 boxes of powder, and upwards of 360 cartridges of shot. These are big figures, and they do not include either cases, rounds, or shells, which were sold in proportionate amounts. At the time of the nesting were eleven years ago [1871], the same dealer handled some three tons of powder and sixteen tons of shot. A shot-mine could be worked profitable almost anywhere in the woods."

"The whole country emptied itself into the woods last Sunday [May 21], to take a last look at the departing pigeons, and to get [512,000], 103,000 cases, + $250,000 to each at present time: 9,000,000]
Sparta Herald

May 30, 1882.

Mr. Fleck, a well-known sportingman of Cedar Rapids, and President of a shooting association, was in town last week, superintending the shipment of ten thousand pigeons, procured through Thomas, the Resier buyer.

Also May 30, 1882.

Some anxious citizens in New Lisbon, sent a petition to Hon. Rush, last Wednesday [May 17], requesting him to call out the militia to protect the pigeon nests near Lafayette, in Monroe County. The petition represented that there were nearly a thousand Indians on the ground, hired by white citizens to kill and destroy the birds, and hundreds of white citizens were in the same business. At that date last week, the pigeons had pretty much all disappeared from the woods, so that the New Lisbon party were a little late in their appeal, but it is a fact, that the indiscriminate and wholesale attack on the nests, hastened the departure of the birds by a couple of weeks, and was an outrage which ought to have been summarily dealt with.

"All the pigeons have gone to Killbourn with their outfits in pursuit of the birds, which are said to be nesting in that vicinity."

"Wells safely. Wells, May 24, 1882. The pigeon business is getting dull in our vicinity. Some if the boys managed to feather their nests while the business lasted."

Also June 3, 1882.

"As care Angle, and one or two others from Sparta, remain at the pigeon nesting at Killbourn, and report fair prospects for success at bailing the birds. They have begun bailing, and the Killbourn authorities are making resolute efforts to protect the nesting."

[1883 Nothing] [June 1884-86]

Also April 25, 1887. Oakdale, April 25. "Old winter is very death to leave us.

Since Friday night we have had arctic weather. Saturday morning the ground was covered with snow."

[April 1889. Nothing about pigeons trying to nest in 1887.]

Portage Democrat, April 28, 1882. "Countless millions of pigeons are said to be flying in Monroe county and it is said any man who knows enough to fire a gun can bag all he can carry in a short time."

[1890-96]

"All winter a few flocks have been staying in the big woods of Forest County, twenty miles south of us, where the feed is abundant, with little snow. Within three days numerous flocks have been flying over, going south towards those woods. Nine years ago and two years ago they nested in that section ..." - R.M.B. Barrie, Wis. Feb. 17. Robins, meadow larks, and pigeons made their appearance here in considerable numbers, February 7 and 8.


"Wild pigeons have passed here for several days past, flying from southwest to northeast." - T. B. D. Charleston, Ill. Feb. 20.

"A great many pigeons came February 3, and were flying in all directions. I understand it is very unusual for pigeons to come here in the Winter. The snow is very scarce here."

ibid. 17 (March 11, 1882) 178. "Fennville, Mich. March 3. This morning I saw several large flocks of pigeons winging their way northward."

ibid. 17 (March 25, 1882) 211. W. H. S. Cascade, Dober.

March 13. "Pigeons have all left."}


March 24. "Twice have the pigeons tried to form a roost on Maggie Island, and twice have the market and pot hunters driven them from the land."}


March 31. I desire to answer, through the American Field, several hundred letters received within the past few days in regard to ... wild pigeons ... This spring the hens remained in the South, owing to severity of weather in the North, and did not come north until nearly Fall. This spring they made..."
Tuesday

8th April, 1882.

Chicago.

Birds and Elk are still reported in many places, but large numbers are reported near New Paltz, and on April 17, an extraordinary flock of pigeons, estimated at 50,000 birds, was reported near the city of New York, and another flock of similar size was also reported near the city of New Haven.

The pigeons are nesting about the city, and reports have been made of large flocks of pigeons seen in the country. The birds are in good condition, and are making good progress toward the north.

In conclusion, we may say that the season is favorable for bird migration, and that the pigeons have made a successful flight to the north.
"Wild Pigeons." Chicago Field 13 (April 17, 1880) 153.

Messrs. Bond and Ellsworth have information from A. Winston, which is confirmed by W. A. Price and E. T. Martin, the latter of whom left for their last week. Utah March 29 the wild pigeon commenced to nest on the Platte River, Benzie Co., Mich., about fifteen miles from Traverse City, where most of the nests have gone. Mr. Martin writes Messrs. Bond & Ellsworth that at present the nesting is only of moderate size, but it will, beyond doubt, gradually increase in size by being built on.

The wild pigeon's nest every other year in Michigan, and the nestings being large and accessible to railway transportation, such years the birds are always earlier in the market and cheaper than when they nest in other and less accessible localities. At present the number of birds in market, dead and alive is small, but daily the receipts will increase, as yet they are all old birds, but in remarkably fine condition. Dead week live birds were quoted at 1.75 a dozen and dead birds at 1.80 a dozen, this week the price is 1.50 and 1.25 respectively.


I was informed today that Mr. H. T. Phillips of that city had telegraphed his partner that the pigeon nesting was breaking up and the birds were taking their departure, saying he expects to shoot near the nesting. If much is in the case, it is the first time I have ever known of such an occurrence and
Olive I. Martin, 1st Med. 17 (May 15, 1886) 227. "The Pigeon Nesting. - Traverse City, May 3. Editor Chicago Field: - The Platte river nesting is a thing of the past. For the past four days the birds have been leaving, until now there are none more to go.

"The storm of Thursday finished breaking up what the two previous storms and the hunters and squallers corresponded, and about 2000 dozen young birds have escaped, out of the millions that were or should have been hatched.

"Thousands [sic] of dead squares and unhatched eggs cover the ground, thousands more if the squares were punched out of the nests, too small to market and left to die on the ground. What we need is a rigid law that can be enforced, making a heavy penalty for taking a pigeon out of the nest, or before it can fly."

"The stock of live birds has been very limited, I think 24,000 will more than cover the entire amount, of those 8,000 have seemed a little over 14,000; unless we get the stock for nesting at Petoskey, or elsewhere in this state, the future year will not be in bad shape. Live birds are selling here at 95 cents to 85 cents at the nest, a $1.25 - $1.50 per case, erected and fit for shipment."


Hitchcock, 19 (March 10, 1886) 170. "Oscar Grove, Minn. Feb. 25: Wild pigeons are flying quite plenty now." - W. W. T.

Hitchcock, 19 (March 31, 1886) 230. Mechanicville, Ohio, March 26. "Some small flocks of wild pigeons passed here last week, going directly north." - S. M. H.

Hitchcock, 19 (April 14, 1886) 274. "Baraboo, Wis. April 5: "Pigeons have not made their appearance." - J. F. K.
American Pigeon 17 (April 29, 1882) 291. "Wild Pigeons. -

We have received the following telegram with reference to the
nesting of wild pigeons in Pennsylvania:

"Candler, Pa., April 25. Just located a pigeon nesting about
twenty miles east of here, in the mountains, and thirty-seven
miles from railroad. Expect to commence selling orders early
next week. W.P. Thomas." The nesting is in Potter county.

Add. 17 (April 29, 1882) 294. Chicago, Ill., April 29. We have in
formation today from what we consider a perfectly reliable source
that there is a large nesting of wild pigeons north-east of Sparta,
Wis., if this nesting is not broken up by shotguns, we think we
can begin to supply clubs with birds in two weeks or less.

- Bird & Ellsworth. (Later, April 25. - The above report is verified.

B. & E.)

Add. 17 (May 6, 1882) 313. Eau Claire, Wis., April 29. Pigeons are
nesting in large numbers near Sparta, Wis., and sixty men are
reported engaged in netting them. One net is said to have captured
nineteen dozen at a single haul. Last week, Barrels of dead birds
are being shipped South and East every day. May are said to sell
for $2 per dozen." - C. M. B. - "La Crescent, Minn., April
26. - Wild pigeons are reported by millions in the vicinity of
Sparta, Wis. A small flight passed this way last week." - F. H.

Add. 17 (May 13, 1882) 331. Black River Falls, Wis., May 8. - I have
just returned from the wild pigeon woods. Twenty-four miles from
here. Its area is about three and one-half by four miles, and it is
a right to left. From nine to twenty-five nests are on each tree,
the gray pine, and the trees are thick at that. ... An army of men
were clearing, and, on the average, one bird was killed for about
eight shots fired. Young birds (squabs) about as large as a man's thumb. Netters are very numerous, but not all successful in a catch. The nearest railroad point to the nesting is at Warrens, or Ruddle Mills on the West Missouri R.R. They six miles southeast by teams. The Indians climb the trees, and break the eggs and young birds out, and eat them. — C. M. B.

Ib'id. 17 (May 27, 1882) 361. Eau Claire, Wis., May 20. It is reported that pigeons are leaving their nesting at Sparta, and are coming near Amorita. There have been a great many flying around here the last ten days. ... — C. M. B.

Ib'id. 17 (June 5, 1882) 382. Van and Springs, Among the Wild Pigeons, Howard, Wis. Brief description of a pigeon hunt starting from Touch. Road some 12 miles distant. All along the roadside were pigeon feathers and wings fluttered off by the netters returning home. Finally, after about three hours' ride, we halted at the nesting, and from the pigeons that day before we realized that there were millions of them, indeed. We expected to see men shooting, and netters at work within one-half mile of the nesting. ... (Pity shot 200 birds before lunch).

Ib'id. p. 382. Eau Claire, Wis. May 26. Unless wild pigeons are better protected during the nesting season, they will soon become extinct. I am reliably informed that at the Sparta nesting farmers and netters club down the young squabs, take them away by the wagon load, and sell them in the adjacent towns for thirty and forty cents per dozen. ... — Rell.

"Blue Jay." Shooting & the Past and Present: The Destruction of the Wild Pigeons. — Ib'id. 17 (June 24, 1882) 440. Milwaukee, Wis. Estimate 2,494,890 birds destroyed this spring in Wis. alone.

A party composed of Messrs. C.F. Cooley, T.W. Wadara, L.E. Stevens and A.M. Daggett returned last evening from a brief pigeon hunt in the neighborhood of the roost at Sparta. The hunting was continued but a part of yesterday and the day before, and yet the number of pigeons which the gentlemen brought home with them on their return last evening was upwards of nine hundred. The shooting was all done about three miles from the roost, at which distance the light of the sun was often observed by the density of the flying birds. The roost is said to be many miles in extent and is inhabited by millions of pigeons. Today, the friends of the hunters are being cheered with strings of the victors.

Messrs. C.R. Bristol and Sol. Tuttle formed another party, which returned home last evening after two days spent near Tomah, heavily laden with slaughtered birds.

*Sparta Herald* April 5, 1893: "Farmers in Greenfield think the pigeons are showing indications of a disposition to nest near Wilkesville, where they have twice before established a big roost." [1892-'95]

*Sparta Independent* [1891-'92: '94 Nothing]

*Waukesha County Republican* [1876-'78 Nothing].
Sparta Wisconsin, Greenbush, April 19, 1877. "Pigeons promise to be plenty here this summer, from the numerous flocks we have seen this week."

Said, April 26, '77. "Pigeons are very plenty. Fine sporting for the boys."

May 3. "The snow did not scare all the pigeons away. If you don't believe there are any here, just get out of bed at about sunrise, (which will do you no harm) and see the flocks as they fly over town."

[June 29, 1876 - July 12, 77] [July '77 - '79 All]

La Crosse (W) Republican Leader, Feb. 18, '82. "Sparta Local Trivia. It is possible that spring has come, many claim they have seen a few spring birds, and there are some pigeons around."

Said, March 4, '82. Sparta. "Wild pigeons are seen every day, the warm winds from the north blew them in."

Said, March 11, '82. "The scattering flocks of pigeons makes one dream of the luxuries of a pigeon pie. This is the beauty of spring poetry."

Said, April 1, '82. Sparta. "It is reported that there is plenty of pigeons."

in Vernon County."

Said, April 9, '82. Sparta. "The woods are full of pigeons."

Said, April 15, '82. Sparta. "The pigeons have about all left and our sportmen have an extra amount of ammunition."

"The pigeons are here once more. It was thought that they had left."

Said, April 22, '82. Sparta. "Pigeon catchers, who follow it for a business, are in town with all the necessary equipments to trap the birds.

Said, April 29, '82. Sparta. "Sportmen from all over the country are here shooting pigeons."

Mr. J.H. Baldwin has ordered a half a ton of shot and a large quantity of powder."

"It is claimed that there is twice as many pigeons at Cataract as here. If it is true it is a paradox."

"Every one are buying pigeon nets, but that don't catch pigeons, it requires skill and experience."

"There is no doubt but what the pigeons intend to nest in this locality, they have already commenced building their nests and unless the hunters go to their nesting place and break it up they will stay. Our citizens propose to club together and punish every one violating the statute made for the protection of nesting birds."
EDITORIAL

May 13, 1882

Sparta, N. Y.

Sparta. "Caw a little, "

"Young pigeons have commenced shooting at the roost, nine miles from here."

"Mr. Wing, an old townswoman, is in the city, going in the pigeon business. He intends to do some shooting."

The editor of the Field and other sportmen from Chicago took the evening train. They expended a large quantity of powder and shot, and in return received all the pigeons they desired, and for the amount of good cheer they left in town we hope they will soon return and stay longer."

Messrs. A. M. Nagel, C. C. Cooley, T. E. Stephens, and F. W. Madera, of Madison and George E. Todd, of Milwaukee, have been here a few days enjoying all the thrills and some of the disappointments of pigeon shooting. Wednesday night at 6 o'clock, when they arrived at the Warner House, there were a sorry looking crowd of wet, cold, and hungry hunters. But they showed up some things over two hundred and fifty pigeons that they had bagged inside of two hours. The boys tell what "might have been", if their cartridges had only held out.

Sparta, May 20, 1882

Sparta. "Pigeon catchers are bringing in hosts of pigeons."

"The pigeon business is becoming more popular, everybody is going out to the pigeon nesting."

"Messrs. Bassford and Ral, a couple of sharp shooters from St.Paul are here after pigeons."

If one wishes to have a pleasant drive, or a Sunday afternoon, there is no better place in the state to find a more varied panorama of scenery than between Sparta and Mount Falls and the pigeon nesting grounds. It is well worth going many miles to see the pigeons nesting grounds. It covers a space of two to three miles wide and right or ten miles long and each tree contains from ten to twentyfive nests, the young birds are just beginning to fledge out and in less than a week the grounds will be covered with them.

Sparta, May 27, 1882

"It is a daily occurrence to see teams passing through the streets of Sparta with a hay-rick load of pigeon crates filled with pigeons."

"Parties have been making a wholesale slaughter of young pigeons at the nest of late. This is a matter that ought to be investigated. If the present pigeon law does not protect the young pigeons before it is strong enough to leave the nest what does it amount to?"

Sparta, June 3, 1882

Sparta. "Mr. James M. Gillett, correspondent for the Chronicle, has gone to Riberton to engage in the pigeon business."

Sparta
Sparta.

2d. June 3. Sparta. "Ten thousand pigeons were purchased by a gentleman from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, yesterday, who shipped them for a grand shooting match to be held there in a short time. There is a considerable diminution of the number coming in, as the 'squabs' are confined and nests broken into. Pigeon pie is no longer considered a luxury by Chicago-Spartans."

2d. June 24. '82. Sparta, June 16. J. S. Gillett, who has been for the last two weeks slaughtering pigeons in the neighborhood of Kilbury, reports business as the reverse of good, and laments the fact that the birds are taking remarkably good care of their health. Most of the hunters have left and peace reigns."

2d. June 15, '82. "From Sparta, June 15, '82. "Near Sparta there is a pigeon roost half a mile wide and twenty miles long. The number of birds is beyond computation. The number of men engaged in netting them probably reaches over a hundred."

Whitehall Times, May 18, '82. "In a dense pine forest ten miles northeast of Sparta, Wis., until pigeons have established a roost half a mile wide and ten miles long, every tree containing twenty or more nests."

Rodгерville Sun, June 1, '82. "Near Sparta there is a pigeon roost half a mile wide and 20 miles long, in which there are millions and millions of pigeons."

Stevens Point Journal  May 1, 1872.  [Begin 1872]

"Where roosted the stately pigeons this spring? We have not seen a harrierson squad yet, and are spared the fearful stories of hunters slaying thousands of birds before breakfast on the most unfavorable mornings."

[1872-1873]

Ibid.  March 20, '73, "We must now have over three feet of snow.

April 17, '73; "Countless flocks of pigeons are to be seen in all parts of the country. The woods are full of voices, they attest them an abundance of food. Large numbers have already been killed. Towards night they fly in a southly direction, we doubt making for their roosts, which are said to be below Plainfield in Warren's county."

P.S. "Not a pigeon has been seen in the neighborhood for the last three days."

Ibid.  May 7, '73. "A few flocks of pigeons have been visible to the naked eye this week."

Stevens Point  May 4, '77.

Ibid.  Sat.  Sept. 7, '78. "W. A. Kirwan, John Shannon and Judge Sturdivant took a chicken hunt on Monday down in the town of Buena Vista. They returned on Tuesday afternoon with a nice lot of chickens, pigeons, quails, squirrels, etc. We believe that they had the finest assortment of game that has been brought in thus far this season."

Ibid.  April 5, '79. "Get Your Shotguns Ready. Some one who professed to be authority in the matter, as much as Ira B. Kersey does claim to be authority in the matter, furnished the following to authority on everything pertaining to the weather, furnishes the following, which will no doubt prove an item of interest to our city spectators: 'Every seven years, according to tradition, pigeons flock north in large numbers, the last great influx was in 1872 [1871], when their hives were plentiful in parts of this country that they fairly covered the height of the sun and awakened in such numbers on trees as to break the branches. This year being the seventh since the last migration, it is expected that these birds will again visit the north in countless numbers, and in anticipation of that event, per hunters are preparing for a harvest in the woods."

Ibid.  April 3, '80. "Ambient. "Maple Sugar, pigeons, and venison are here."

Ibid.  April 15, '82. "Frank Kirwan made one of a party of nine that went down to Coloma last Saturday [April 8] after pigeons. And they got them, too 981 of em and might just as well have used an even thousand."

Plainfield. "Quite a number of our neighbors made a visit to the pigeons nest Sunday, and report more fine than birds."

"Quite a party of pointers, including W. W. Harrelson and Crosby Grant,}
slaughtered pigeons at the roast Saturday last."

April 22, 82, "Speakers from several different states, including representa- tion from Ohio, have gathered at Coloma, and that vicinity to shoot pigeons. A report from Adams county says that the pigeons there fly 100 feet when going to and from their roosting places, and in such numbers, that they can be knocked down with a club."

May 27, 82, Pleasant Valley. A party consisting of "Deacon" Starks, J.T. Higgs, Wm. Frazier and Rev. Sherman have gone for pigeons and fun among the farmhands and farmers of Coloma. They went Thursday and are bound to keep it up until ammunition of all kinds is gone."

June 3, 82, Pleasant Valley. "The pigeons hunters got lots of fatigue but mighty few birds."

April 12, 84, Pleasant Valley. "Pigeons are very scarce this spring.""

18, 1885, "Keene. The great number of pigeons this spring calls out many hunters." April 14th."

From another correspondent. "Pigeons are quite plenty and quite a good many are being killed around here."

April 5, 1880, "Bancroft and Vine Grove. No robins, hens, gulls, pigeons or other spring birds up to April 1." [1888-89]


Steen Point Wisconsin Reminiscences April 13, 1864, "Pigeons and Robins. Pigeons have been going by in great numbers. In several days, but they seem to have in doubt whether they will proceed further west or not. Also some of them have actually turned around, which proves conclusively that they didn't know anything about the weather up here."

April 7, 1864, "Pigeons are plenty hereabouts." [1864-66 All]

S. Point Wis. Pinery [1858 - Feb. '59] [55 - '59]

June 5, 1856, "The air is full of sunshine, showers, and pigeons."

March 28, 1859, "The wild penguins are flying."

April 10, 1855, "Abe Lincoln. The first robins, pigeons and butterflies, made their appearance last Sunday."

[July '84 - July '86]

April 18, 1855, "The only symptoms of spring have yet, is its appearance. The horizon completely overcast to darkness, by heavy clouds of - pigeons."
Stevens Point Democrat [1880-85 only]
State Fair. There is a pigeon roost near Stevens Point, and sportsmen are anticipating keen fun at capturing "squabs" in a few weeks.
New Lisbon Argus April 20, 1882.

Stevens Point Democrat Sat. April 15, 1882. Pigeon Roost. From Mr. George Bailey we learn some interesting circumstances relating to the pigeon roost, eight miles west of Coloma. It is situated in a swamp about 25 miles long by about 6 miles wide. The roost is also the nesting place and the American Pigeon have only a few roosts in the whole United States, and they are three in number. Eleven years ago the present place was occupied by the pigeons. There are hunters here from all parts of the country: Missouri, Arkansas, New Jersey, Michigan, Pennsylvania and other places, but so far have not been able to induce them to take to the nets, the real hunter does not enter the roost, but shoots them as they fly in and out, but the bushwhackers go into the roost, and shoot them off in all ways; but as we expect to visit the roost soon we refrain from further particulars.

While at the roost, the party were toasting the pigeons, but the wind was in the west (the pigeons always fly for the pigeons), but the wind was in the west (the pigeons always fly for the pigeons); but the wind was in the west (the pigeons always fly for the pigeons), but the wind was in the west (the pigeons always fly for the pigeons). At noon, the party lay down in the roost, and at 3 o'clock P.M., the party having about two hours shooting, and got about 200 pigeons. Everybody enjoyed themselves and most of the party returned home on Monday.

Stevens Point Democrat June 3, 1882. G.W. Bailey and a number of others Stevens Point sportsmen went down the line after pigeons, the first of the week. We also noted several pigeon-tasters from the South, en route for the vicinity of the roost.

Mil. Daily Wisconsin April 15, 1885. Pigeons are very plentiful at Stevens Point.


March 8, '82. Almond correspondent: "Pigeons!"

April 12, '82. "Pigeons are nesting this year near Coloma, a little station on the Portage Branch of the Central, and sportsmen are arriving every day from not only all over the state, but from other states, to get a shot at the birds."

April 19, '82. "The Pigeon Root. Sportsmen by the hundred have visited the pigeon root near Coloma, on the Portage Branch of the Central, during the past two weeks to get a shot at this insect. A party of nine went down from here last week and brought back a thousand birds. At one o'clock, the sportsmen have shots at them twice a day. Some of the flocks are miles in length, literally clouding the sky. There's millions in 'em.

"It would greatly please us if our subscribers would understand that the above was written before we had visited the root, which we did last Saturday [April 15] in company with W. W. Headlin, C. H. Grant, B. W. Bailey, W. A. Heath, John Miller, Maurice Weisen, Charlie Hanacher, Warren Brown, Will Heidka, Dell Earle, Fred Lee, Johnnie Wellsby and Eds. Johnson. The pigeons down there are undoubtedly as good as they are anywhere, only a little too 'free' that is a great many have been shot. The fore part of last week there was shooting all along the country around Coloma, but now you have to go ten miles out from the railroad, to their roots and then only find fair hunting. Everybody had a jolly good time, but there were over two hundred birds shot by the party."

Ed. June 7, '82. Ed. Dunker, E. A. Murphy, Geo. W. Bailey and Geo. Fisher of this city and Geo. Nicholas of Chicago, spent the greater part of last week hunting pigeons in Waukesha county, and succeeded in cutting down the natural existences of about two hundred of the winged creatures. [Thence 1885] [1886-87]

Ed. April 6, '87. "Reapers, Reapers, nervous bluebirds, pigeons, etc. have come, but notwithstanding all of these, the spring is behind at last."

[1888-89]
Stoughton Reporter, May 7, 1867. "Several fools are capturing pigeons in considerable numbers elsewhere."

Stoughton, May 14, 1867. "Pigeons are still being caught in large numbers, with nets, but there is plenty of them left yet. These birds are more plenty elsewhere this spring, than they have been for several years."

Stoughton, June 4. "Over 10,000 pigeons have been shipped from this place within the last four weeks."

[1863-69] 944

Stoughton, March 12, 1874. "Jasper is turned heathenward at short intervals... in the vain endeavors to quit pigeons."

Stoughton, July 23, 1874. "And 'Jap' is still in Michigan crossing the gentle pigeon to his bed."

Stoughton, July 30, 1874. "Mr. Haring returned from the pigeon roosts of Michigan last week. Jasper is expected home during the present week."

[1874] All.


[1874] All.

"Reported. Matters catching large numbers of pigeons north of Stoughton. - Janesville (W) Gazette, April 17, 1872.

Record, April 25, 1876. "Pigeons and ducks are played out."
Mrs. March 23, 1871, 4" snow fell on Sunday.
30, 4-5" on Wed. night and Thursday.
April 4, '71 "No pigeons have made their appearance here this spring."
Sept. 14 '71. "Rooks and pigeons are being hunted by our sportsmen considerably."
"Pigeons are quite numerous in the woods in this vicinity just now."
April 18, '72. "Pigeons are abundant in the woods."
June 20, "There is a large pigeon roost in the town of Reedsburg. Large quantities of the birds have been killed by the people in that vicinity."
Sept. 11, '73. "Sportsmen are going for what few pigeons stay up this way."
[1871-3]
April 6, '65. "The pigeons are flying thick, and already the sportsmen are skirmishing with them."
Nov. 2, '65. "Beck nuts. The supply of beech nuts this fall is unlimited; the woods are full of them, and small quantities find their way into town for sale."
"Our sporting friends may look out for plenty of pigeon shooting next spring."
Nov. 23, '65. Again mentions abundance of beech nuts.
Sept. 26, '67. "Last week Mr. R. M. Wright walked into our garden armed with a gun and came pigeons, and in a short time that we had better take the pigeons."
May 14, '70. "Pigeons are around."
Sept. 8, '70. "We hear that pigeons are quite plenty in the woods."
[1862-70]
April 16, '74. "A few pigeons have made their appearance hereabout, and the sportsmen are preparing to go for them."
May 12, '75. "Pigeons have made their appearance."
"Our sportsmen have gone for the pigeons in a timely manner for the past week, and as a consequence a large number have been killed."
* Inserted, See Reedsburg Advocate, June 28, 1866.
Sturgeon Bay Advocate, Sept. 30, 75: "Pigeons are plenty."

"Mr. D. A. Reed, while not pigeon shooting last Tuesday [Sept. 28] received quite a severe wound from the kick of his gun."

[Note: Handwritten corrections and additions.]

Mr. W. E. Havens, Sept. 7, 75: "Deer, duck and pigeons are plenty now."

April 20, 76: "Pigeons are reported plenty in the woods."

"27: "Pigeons have been flying in large numbers the past few days, but shooters have had poor success in bagging them, the birds being too shy."


May 24, 77: "Will some sagacious individual inform us why so wild pigeons have been hanging around these parts during the present season?"

Sept. 19, 78: "Large numbers of wild pigeons have made their appearance in this neighborhood. [1874-79]

March 25, 80: "Wild pigeons, in considerable numbers, are to be seen in the woods in the town of Clay Banks.

April 8, 80: "Myriads of wild pigeons are to be seen flying in this section.

"Doc. Mullin informs us that there are thousands upon thousands of wild pigeons to be seen in the woods of Liberty and this spring, he is of the opinion that the birds have established a roost at the extreme end of the peninsula. [April 15, 80, missing].

1881

[1880-82]

Sept. 11, 84: "Pigeons made their appearance at the head of the bay about a week ago, and hundreds of them are to be seen everywhere in the marshes and along the banks of the channel. Only one bag has thus far been made by city sportmen."

April 30, 85: "Wild pigeons have commenced flying and sportmen are daily engaged in bagging the game, but thus far the number slain by any one individual will not average enough to compensate for the ammunition consumed." [1883-86] [1886-90] [91-93]

March 24, 88: "Several flocks of wild pigeons were seen flying in various Sturgeon Bay Advocate, Aug. 3, 881. ["Wild pigeons are plenty in the neighborhood."

"From Sturgeon Bay Advocate, Sept. 1, 881: "Wild pigeons are plenty in the steeple fields hereabouts, and a goodly number of them are being bagged."

[Handwritten corrections and additions.]
Sturgeon Bay Advocate May 23, 1876.

Bay View and Vicinity, old settlers will recall the great pigeon scent of thirty-two years ago, the likes of which have never been witnessed since in this county or section. The wild pigeons made their nests in the woods south of the German M.E. church and the Eocene place, which at that time covered with a dense growth of beech trees. The year before an immense crop of beech nuts had been produced and in the spring of 1859 the old birds visited this place in swarms. When the brooding season arrived they began making preparations for rearing their young, and every tree had one or more nests in its bough. When the young were finally hatched out and before they could fly the woods was the scene of the greatest fluttering and squawking imaginable, and this attracted vast numbers and squawking inanimate, and this attracted vast numbers of people from the surrounding country. Finding the young birds plump and fat the slaugher commenced and for several weeks pl umps and fat the slaughter commenced and for several weeks pl umps and fat the slaughter commenced and for several weeks, hundreds of families had a supply of pigeons in abundance. A good many families had a supply of pigeons in abundance. A good many families had a supply of pigeons in abundance.

April 17, 74. "Honey-K-Cluckers and Pigeons are returning with spring"

April 24, 74. "A few flocks of pigeons have made their appearance"

April 30. "Pigeons are flying, and some sportswomen will be seeking"

May 14, 75. "Pigeons are plenty in the woods"

May 22. "The crop of beechenuts is immense"

Friday, April 14, 76. "A flock of pigeons flying through the village"

Last Sunday [April 9] found the lanes so thick that it was impossible to dodge them all and four flew against the hammer"

April 21, 76. "Pigeons are quite plentiful in the woods, eating the residue of last year's crop of beechenuts"

Sept. 14, 76. "Pigeon hunting begins to attract the attention of sportsmen"
Sturgeon Bay Reporter March 15, '78. "Pigeons are already attracting the attention of our sportsmen."

[Exp. April 11, '79. Tradition says pigeons flock north every seven years. The last raid into this region was in 1872. This being the seventh year from the last great influx of these birds, it is expected they will visit the north in countless numbers this season, thus giving our sportsmen a chance to shoot their fill in begging a good furbelt of them." [Exp. Sept. 5-Oct. 15].

[Exp. Oct. 16, '79. "The birds are reported as being very large.

April 2, '80. "Pigeons have just returned to view, appearing in large numbers."

And April 3, '80. Ellson's Bay. April 16. "Pigeons have been quite plentiful for the past two weeks." [June '76-June '80]

And Sept. 16, '81. "Pigeon hunting is all the rage these days."

And April 7, '82. "Pigeons and geese are in the wing."

And April 24, '85. "Saloon. April 21. "Pigeons have come, and lots of them, too." [June '80-May 16, 1887].

Sturgeon Bay Independent May '87-June 1890. All. Nothing.

Republican June 50-Rev. '92. All.

Green Bay Advocate June 21, 1866. "Pigeons. The beautiful crop of beech nuts last fall, has brought along the pigeons this spring. There are plenty of them in the woods, and early in the morning the sportsmen can find them flying over the village." - From Sturgeon Bay Advocate.

Door Co. "Pigeons in great numbers have appeared at the head of Sturgeon Bay." - Manitowoc Tribune Times Sept. 16, 1884.

Mediocrity St. Journal Sept. 25, '65. "The Door County Advocate says there is a great deal of pigeon shooting in the woods."

Sturgeon Bay Advocate Sept. 22, 1874. "The Bay View." And the spring and early summer of 1857 the woods which at that time covered a portion of the farms of John Steiner, C.R. Cazac and Martin Kramer was converted into a vast pigeon roost. The beechmast crop had been a large one the year before ... the beech trees were so loaded down with the birds just before the fledglings took their departure that the limbs in many instances broke down under the strain. ... This was the first and only pigeon roost in this county of which any record has been made."
Mortello Express Aug. 23, 1879. State News. "John Sanner of Superior was killed almost instantly last Wednesday by the accidental discharge of his gun, while射击 pigeons on the Nemadji river."

Superior Times Sat. July 22, 1871. "Wild pigeons are reported to be quite numerous in the woods adjoining town." [Furnished by Mrs. B. Merrill, Librarian, Superior Public Library.]

Superior Chronicle July 10, 1855. "Large numbers of wild pigeons have passed over town within the last month, towards the wild rice fields of the north."

 Ibid. July 6, 1858. "Pigeons - Large flocks of these birds are now feeding and roosting in our forests, and owing to their great numbers and voracious appetites, they are doing considerable damage to the small grain. Hunters and sportsmen are having great success killing them; consequently our market is full of these birds, and we are enjoying an endless variety of pigeon dishes. We understand some gentlemen of Superior are making extensive preparations to catch them by means of spring nets, and thereby not only rob our agriculturists of these devouring birds but depopulate the whole pigeon race."

Ibid. Sept. 14, 1858. "Game -... pigeons are also very plenty in our neighborhood at present."

Ibid. Sept. 21, 1858. "Sport - The greatest quantity of pigeons and other game are, and have been, for the past two weeks, falling to the unerring aim of our sporting friends. The stubble fields of the adjacent farms are the resort of numberless birds."

Ibid. Oct. 1, 1859. "Our sharp-shooters come in well supplied with partridges, ducks and pigeons."

Ibid. May 5, 1860. "We hear also that a few pigeons have made their appearance." [June '56 - '61; all; gap from April 27 - Oct. 22, '61]
* Superior Times [1874-75]

* July 13, 78, "Wild pigeons have just in an appearance, and the boys are making it lively for them." [76-79; no 80]

* Aug. 27, 78, "Wild pigeons are unusually numerous in this section."

* July 1, 82, "Clean up your old muckets boys, it is reported that wild pigeons are "thick as huckleberries" in the woods back of town."

* July 29, 82, "Pigeons are more numerous than ever."

[81-84] [86-87] [88-90].

Superior Sentinel [May 9, 88 - Dec. 11, 89; all; N.S.]

West Superior Wave [June 24, 86 - 88; N.W.]

Superior Gazette [Aug. 6, 64 - Dec. 15, 70; scattering numbers].

* Times [Sept. 4, 69 - April 9, 70; ""

* Times [Nov. 12, 70 - 73; ""

* Inter-Ocean [July 17, 83 - Aug. 7, 86] N. S. all
Tomah Journal  [Nov, 1867 - '69; No 1870. Nothing]

"We are informed by the Tomah Journal that over 200 barrels of pigeons have been shipped from that depot this season." - Evansville Review May 24, 1871.

[May 14, 1871] "Innumerable numbers of pigeons are slaughtered daily, hercatically, and shipped to the eastern markets, where they command a good price. The birds are sufficiently plentiful this season, to afford employment to all our local muskets, and many from abroad, besides others who hunt only when game is found without hunting." - [June 3 - July 1, '71, missing]

"Millions of pigeons are flying about Tomah, and the hunters are making a great profit thereby." - Chariton Register, March 3, 1877.

"Tomah Shooting Club" are having fine practice now, shooting at pigeons, judging from the lively firing one heard last night and early this morning, and the pigeons we saw flying over." - Sparta Monroe County Record May 14, 1871.

Tomah Journal Sat. March 27, 1876. Several parties report having seen two or three flocks of pigeons this week.

[Dec. 26, 1874 - Dec. 30, 1876] [May 19 - July 12, 1876 Tomah Journal]

Tomah Journal Feb. 10, '76, Wilton, Mr. Carl Rifford, forester at Wilton, has mounted several birds and mammals, including "the first wild pigeon of the season, measuring 14 inches in length." [Tomah Journal for 1877, nothing.]

Tomah Journal March 9, 1878. Wild pigeons are again flying in our vicinity, and a brace, leader in the family will more surely make the average boy than an alarm clock.

[March 16, 1878] State News. Geese, ducks, and pigeons have made their appearance at Matamoras.

April 6, '78. Several of our townsman are now about trapping wild pigeons in Pennsylvania. We notice among them Wm. Bell, Templ Bell,
Aug. 21, 1880. The name "Greenfield" station is to be discarded and Tunnel City substituted.

March 4, 1882. Tunnel City Times. "Wild pigeons have been seen in this locality." Snow all gone. Kendall Links. "Pigeons.\" Wild, Pigeons have been seen in a number of places in this county." Snow gone.

March 25, '82. "The weather has been chilly as much like winter as anything we had during the winter months."

April 16, '82. "The Thursday morning [April 13] there was the largest flight of pigeons over Tonoh that has been seen for several years. They were flying high and were evidently on a western trip."

April 22, '82. "Pigeons are plenty in this vicinity."

"Many pigeons have been shipped from Tunnel City."

"The flight of pigeons in this vicinity has been very extensive during the past two weeks and many birds have been shot, but as a general thing the amount of consumption wasted was nothing more than the birds."

May 6, '82. "Pigeons have cost the shooters an average of 25 cents a piece for the last two or three weeks."

"Many parties from Tonoh have taken the opportunity of a ride through the pigeon nesting on Squirrel Creek, and it is really a sight worth seeing, and we believe many never happen again in this locality."

"The pigeon racket is getting to be quite an enterprise in this country now, and the matters are serious. They come from all over this state, and one man is a squab who came all the way from Pennsylvania."

May 13, '82. "Prof. A. R. Cornell, of Albion, Wis., was in Tonoh this week and visited the pigeons nesting near Tonoh."

"132 dozen pigeons are reported as the catch of one squad of pigeon hunters near Tonoh the bow of the week."

May 20, '82. J. S. Brown, traveling agent for A. H. Gardner & Co., of Milwaukwe, who was up here last week, took a trip out into the pigeon nesting and shot from pigeons, and was arrested, brought to Tonoh before Sept. Sowle and fined five dollars and costs, making about $12. He is satisfied that it does not pay to shoot pigeons in their nesting place. We understand that several other parties have also been arrested for the same offense."
State Steam Postage Register, May 27, 1882.

A dispatch from Tomba gives the following account of the wholesale slaughter of pigeons at the Big resort. Parties from all directions are invading the pigeon nesting and gathering the squabs in great quantities and slaughtering them regardless of age or condition, for the purpose of making money. To such an inconsiderable degree has this been carried that the authorities of Tomba and Sparta were sent to the grounds to arrest those who are there, gathering any barrels and wagon loads of the half-formed, half-feathered birds. They are being gathered as apples from a tree. Six barrels of them were shipped in one day. Such work must be stopped. It is sheer brutality and sin, they sell for $1 per dozen.

Tomba Journal April 4, 1885. "Tunnel City March 31, 1885. Pigeon lore April 24, 86. Tunnel City, "Where the doe pigeons this spring?"

April 9, 1887. "Oakdale April 7. Wild pigeons were flying around this morning for the first time this spring."

April 17, 1887. "Warren Mills, June 1. There were no pigeon hunters returned empty-handed after an absence of four days. There seems to be more pigeons this year."

[1884-87]

1887. "Kirby. The first wild pigeons seen in this vicinity this spring, were noticed on the 18th inst. flying northwest."

1887. April 12, 90. "Kirby. Jesse Christian went to Camp Douglas last week looking for pigeons, we think."

1887. April 19, 90. "Warren Mills. The past few days have been favorable to pigeons who in the absence of pigeons have been anxiously watching the flight of time."

1887. May 3, 90. "Warren Mills, T.R. Gillett, L.L. Gillett, and E.P. McHan have been away a week looking for pigeons and today O.H. Penno grounded his hutch and started for the woods of Adams county, where he says the birds can be found in great profusion. He expects to meet the rest of the party at Necedah."

1887. May 24, 90. "Kirby. Mr. Bell was seen in this vicinity looking for pigeons."

Ches. Degetel is home again from the pigeon chase."

1888-90. "Kirby. April 21. "A few flecks of pigeons are flying about, and every hunter is looking up in the

[1888-90]
air and wondering if he will meet anything this spring."

[1891-92]

*ibid.* April 8, 1893. Kirby, April 5. "Pigeon hunters are looking in vain to see some sign of the birds, but so far as heard from not one has been seen in these parts this spring."

*ibid.* March 10, 1894. Kirby, March 11. "Geese, brant, ducks, pigeons, robins and even birds of the finch variety have been seen by many since the first of the month."

[1893-94]

*ibid.* April 7, '94. Kirby, April 7. "The pigeon-hunters are getting excited a little, as now and then some are reports having seen small flocks of the birds flying over."

[1893-94]

*ibid.* April 4, 1896. Kirby, April 4. "The pigeon-hunter looks sad and tired, for no bird of his thought to show itself in sufficient numbers to put life in his limber and brighten his countenance."

[1895-96]

*ibid.* April 24, '97. Kirby, April 21. "A few pigeons are to be seen flying about, in flocks of from two to —. This brings a sad smile to the countenance of the once happy hunter."

[1897-98]

*ibid.* April 22, 1899. Kirby, April 19. "A few wild pigeons are flying, but not enough to entice the hunters."

[1899-1900] [1901-1902]

Richland Center Rustic May 20, 1882. "A letter from Tomah says: "Feathering and pigeon hunting are still the rage. Envoys says cannot be secured even a week ahead. Parties from Pennsylvania are here buying pigeons by the barrel."

Whitchall Times May 25, '82. "Near Tomah a pigeon nest exists where the young birds are killed by the barrel, selling for 14 per dozen."

Tomah Democrat March 2, 1878. "Wild pigeons have commenced flying north over Tomah."

[1878]
Princeton Republican May 25, 1882. State Item. "Pigeon hunting here at Tomah is exciting, their nesting place affords many remarkable sights. The forest is seven miles long and two miles wide, and every tree has in it several nests. We counted forty-five nests in one tree. The trees throughout the entire forest will perhaps average twenty nests each. The nests are made primarily, being composed of a few fine sticks layered crossways, with no moss, feathers or grass. Each nest contains two beautiful white eggs. The male birds sit on them half the day and the female the other half. They make two flights each day in search of food. Their number is simply incredible. We saw one flock which was one-fourth a mile square. The forests echo with their continuous moaning. Their flight, moaning and spreading are astounding, and resemble the roar of large animals, such as the howling and whining of hundreds of wolves. Although contrary to law, hunters are slaying them by the thousands in the nesting grounds. Many are visiting the Jack pine forest purposely to see what has not before been in this section since the spring of 1872 [1871]."

Milwaukee Republican and News May 3, 1882. "Tomah, May 1. Pigeon hunting continues to be exciting, your correspondent, with many others visited the nesting forest Saturday. It affords many remarkable sights. [Remainder as above]"

Correspondence of the Republican.

{*April 23, 1882. Sparta, April 24. Pigeons have commenced building their nests, and there is one continual stream of birds flying over from morning until night, while the reports of shot-guns would put a scoreboard line to blush."

*S*{April 29, 1882. "Sparta, April 28. There are myriads of pigeons here and sportmen are coming in from all directions..."

"Pigeon hunting is the rage. They are being netted and killed in unlimited numbers. Barrels of them are being shipped South and East every day. They sell for $1 per dozen. There is a large nesting forest about eight miles from Tomah, where they can be found in myriads.

Said: May 6, '82. "Tomah, May 4. Quite a sensation was created because of the Indians setting fire in the pigeons' nesting yesterday."

Said: May 10, '82. "Tomah, May 9. Pigeon hunting and pigeon shooting are still the rage. Conveyances cannot be secured even a week ahead. Parties from Pennsylvania are here buying pigeons by the barrel."

Said: May 18, '82. "Tomah, May 17. Several parties left town this morning to visit 'Trout Hills' and the pigeon nestings."

Said: May 20, '82. "Tomah, May 19. Parties from all directions are invading the pigeon nesting and gathering the squabes in such quantities and slaughtering them regardless of age or condition, for the purpose of making money. To such an inconsistent decree has this been carried that today the authorities of Tomah and Sparta were sent to the grounds to arrest those who are there, gathering by barrels and wagon loads, those half-formed, half-feathered birdlings. Six barrels of them were shipped from here this morning. They have been gathered as apples from a tree. Such work must be stopped. It is sheer brutality and sin. They sell for $1 per dozen."
Abraham Lincoln and Lincoln

Acadia Leader [July '75 - '79] [All but April 13, '76]. "Wild pigeons are now more scavenging over the country."

Independence Weekly News [March 9, '78 - Oct. 25, '79]

Whitehall Times May 19, '81. Hagg Correspondent, May 13, "Wild pigeons in large numbers are seen flying northward."

Whitehall Times May 24, '81. "Pigeons are being shot in large numbers in the vicinity of Arcadia." [1880-81]

Whitehall Times May 27, '82. "Charles Kribs and Bert Camp tried hard with their guns to shoot down a flock of pigeons that was flying over the village the other morning." [1880-84] All.

Schoesville Independent May 5, '81. Trempealeau Correspondent. "Pigeons made their appearance in large numbers Sunday [May 1], but on Monday kept out of sight."

Independence News [1889-90]


Trempealeau Republican and Arcadia Leader Vol. 7, JUNE 5, 1879. "Pleasure trip on Lake Pepin. They tell of feasting on pigeon pie made from pigeons they shot."

Mountain City Skoon [Aug. - Dec. '56; all]

Alma Journal [Jan. - Dec. '64; all]

Weekly Express [July '69 - Dec. '70] [All]

Trempealeau Independent April 25, '75. "Pigeons have been flying in large numbers over town for the last few days. The boys are all out mornings at 5 o'clock chasing away at the birds." [Jan. '74 - May 4, '76]


Pepper April 26, '62. "Ducks, geese, and pigeons are now quite plenty in this region ..." [June '60 - May '62] All.
Two Rivers Chronicle (founded 1872). Tues April 14, '74. "Pigeons are flying."

Wed. March 30, '75. "Pigeons are flying."

Aug. 17, '75. "Pigeons are reported to be very numerous in the woods north of here, (see below)."

Aug. 17, '75. "Wild pigeons have already been seen in the woods."

March 1, '76. "Wild pigeons have already been seen in the woods."

April 11, '76. "Pigeons have been very plentiful in the woods near this village, for the past few days, . . . . Here are reports of the pigeon hunters that have been remarkably successful and have come home well laden with these fleet-winged birds."

Feb. 28, '77. "(See below)."

April 3, '77. "The Niimocks of the village are getting their guns in order for the campaign against the pigeons."

Aug. 21, '77. "Correspondent hunting at Twana Lake, near Little River, branch of Peshito River, Aug. 15. "Ducks, pigeons and partridges are abundant." (5 days later). "Ducks and pigeons ... more plentiful every day."

Aug. 28, '77. "Pigeon hunting is again a popular pastime . . . ."

Sept. 13. "Pigeon hunting, which has occupied our Niimocks for some time past, has 'played out,' the pigeons having left this part of the country, or else they have all been shot."

[1874-'77]

Feb. 28, '77. "Our sportsmen are anxiously awaiting the arrival of the pigeons. A flock of wild pigeons are reported to have passed this place one day last week."

Two Creeks, March 2. "A flock of wild pigeons were seen flying northward today."

March 12, '78. "Millions of wild pigeons, in large flocks, passed over this place during the past week, and everybody who possesses a musket or a shot-gun has been pouring shot into them in a very effective manner."

March 19, '78. "A change in the weather has put a stop to the northward flight of the wild pigeons. Very few of these birds are now seen in this vicinity."

F. L. Bird, March 18. "Pigeons are on the wing."

March 26, '78. "Two Crees, March 23. "Several flocks of wild pigeons have been seen on their northward flight this morning."

Gibson, March 29. "We looked around this morning, but we couldn't see any pigeons flying over."

Tues. April 12, '78. "Pigeons were on the wing again last week."

April 11, '79. "Pigeon-shooting time is anxiously looked for by sportsmen."

April 1, '79. "If the pigeons would only fly our Niimocks would flourish their arrows."

April 15, '79. "Mishicott, April 9. "Pigeons have not crossed the isothermal line yet." Kellnersville, April 10. "Flocks of wild pigeons have been
seen passing here of late."

Aug. 26, '79. "Wild pigeons are said to be in numerous numbers in the woods surrounding our city."

Sept. 9, '79. "Wild pigeons are now abundant."

March 30, '80. "Wild pigeons are on the wing."

April 6, '81. "The young men of this city are all engaged in catching pigeon wings - with shot guns."

By inquest shooting at pigeons.

Sept. 7, '80. "I understand that large flocks of wild ducks and pigeons have been seen in this vicinity of late."

April 5, '81. "It is said that pigeons have already been seen flying over this place, making their way northward, and our hunters are out at the stern."

April 6, '81. "Pigeons are In the wing and hunters are trying to wing them."

Sept. 7, '81. "Pigeons have visited this vicinity in large numbers of late."

Feb. 21, '82. "Pigeons have not yet began to fly and if they know what is good for them they will stay in winter quarters for a time longer."

April 10, '83. "Our sportmen are keeping a sharp lookout for pigeons."

April 13, '86. "Pigeons are again flying."

20, '86. "Wild ducks and wild pigeons are on the wing."

"Every fine day in town, they brought out and made it hot at the turtle doors and pigeons that haunt the woods adjoining the city."

April 5, '87. "Pigeons were flying last week, but they undoubtedly realize by this time that they were a little too previous."n

April 12, '87. "Pigeons are not very numerous this spring."

March 20, '88. "Pigeons are on the wing again."

27, '88. "The flocks of spring are well again, the robins, bluebirds and pigeons."

19, '87. "Wild ducks and wild pigeons are on the wing in some portions of the state."

April 3, '90. "Wild pigeons are again on the wing."

May 19, '91. "Pigeons are on the wing and our sportmen are no quiesce."

1887-88

Sept. 17, '95. "Two Creelers claim, 'Our Nirvades have been recently"

[1873-75]"
Green Bay Advocate, April 17, 1879. "Movement of the Pigeons.

Some one who professed to be authority in the matter, says the Two Rivers Chronicle, furnishes the following, which will no doubt prove an item of interest to our sportmen.

Every seven years, according to tradition, pigeons flock north in large numbers. The last great influx was in 1872, when these birds were so plentiful in parts of this county that they fairly obscured the light of the sun and alighted in such numbers on the trees as to break their branches. This year being the seventh from the last migration, it is expected that these birds will again visit this north in countless numbers, and in anticipation of that event, the hunters are preparing for the harvest in the woods."

Two Rivers (Manitowoc Co.) Chronicle, March 22, '98. "Now is the time the wild pigeons used to be in the wing. They are now said to be extinct."

Shields, Jan. 11, 1876. "Pigeons were seen in different parts of the state during the recent warm weather."

Shields, Feb. 20, '77. "Pigeons have been seen in this vicinity we hear."

July 2, '78. "Several flocks of wild pigeons are said to have flown over this place last week. They are becoming quite numerous in the woods in this vicinity, we are told."

July 16, '78. "Pigeon shooting now occupies the attention of our sportmen."
Viroqua, Vernon County, Census, March 15, 1871.

"Wild pigeons have made their appearance, though they are not very plenty yet.

[1865-1870 Nothing]

Viroqua, April 26, 1871.

"Pigeons Nesting - The pigeons are nesting about three or four miles north of this place. The nesting ground extends for miles in the town of Spring Prairie, Monroe, Preston, Big Flats, and Irwin. Flocks containing tens of thousands of the birds are continually flying over, while the woods are literally alive with them. A gentleman informs us that he counted forty nests on one tree, and he don't think it was a very good day for nests either - Adams County Press.

Viroqua, May 3, 1871. "These birds are a prominent topic of conversation." - copied from Sparta Herald.

Viroqua, May 24, 1871. "The great pigeons roost to the north of us seems to be extending south. Latey these birds have been quite plenty in this neighborhood, and sportsmen are having a good time shooting them."

Viroqua, May 21, 1873. "Pigeons - The hitches and trees all around this vicinity are crowded with pigeons now; mornings and evenings, plenty of them, and to over-flowing. There need be no lack of pigeon meat."

[1871-73]

Viroqua, Sept. 16, 1874. "The Pigeon Shoot: A grand pigeon hunt gotten up by T. Henry Tate and C. M. Rogers, came off on Monday afternoon last [Sept. 14]. - The greater part of the hunters struck for pigeons in woods, where fine hunting had been reported. The afternoon was very windy, and altogether unsuitable for shooting; besides, pigeons were scarce that afternoon. Total of 216 birds were killed.
Viroqua Censor. [Aug. 23, 1874]. A second pigeon hunt was held on
Sept. 17. Total of 468 birds killed.

May 26, 1875. "Pigeons have put in an appearance in large
numbers, but are so exceedingly wild, that muskets find it
difficult to shoot them."

May 26, 1875. "A party of pigeon hunters, who have been operating
near Sparta for some time, passed through Viroqua on Saturday,
in search of new trapping grounds." [1874-76].

April 18, 1877. "Pigeon shooting is good at present, the woods being
full of them." [1877-79].

Sept. 29, 1880. On Sept. 22, in a match pigeon hunt 198 birds
were killed. Number of hunters not given. Poor day for the sport.

May 3, 1882. "Pigeon Shot. A party of Viroquans, purpose going to
Sparta, Thursday evening, and on Friday they will slaughter about
twenty car loads of birds, which are to be found in countless numbers
near there."

May 10, 1882. "The party of pigeon hunters who went to Sparta, had
poor luck, the birds being of rather a retiring disposition on Friday, it is expected
that there will be good shooting in that vicinity, as soon as the fields get
through planting. Col. Rogers was the only successful hunter in the lot,
securing some pigeons he shot at." [1880-82] [1883-85] [1886-88]

Viroqua Censor [Aug. 25 - Dec. 12] [1867-70]

Independent May 19, 1875. "They say the pigeons and the little cold
local crop, we had a short time ago, lies caused the church to be
a failure." [1872-78: 105]

De Soto Leader [1875]


Western Times [1856]

North [1857-59] [1860-65]

Expositor Sept. 10, 1859. "We have had frost in every month of
the year, so far, in 1859." [1857] [1860-68]

Wadsworth Star. Sept. 11, 1874. "The Viroqua Independent says:
Those pigeons are numerous." [1875-76]

Milwaukee Commercial Times. Sept. 2, 1875. "Stubble fields are
full of wild pigeons at Hillsborough." [1875-76]
Waterloo Journal April 13, 1872. "Pigeons and ducks are plenty hereabouts."

[Sept. 1,'71 - '74] [78-'78]

[Sept. 23, '80] Deerfield, "Pigeons are said to be plentiful."

[79-'80]

[Feb. 16, 1882] "Several large flocks of pigeons have been seen in this vicinity during the past week."

[Feb. 24, '82] "Several large flocks of pigeons have made their appearance."

Kegworth, "The settlers of this town say so many pigeons this time of year indicates good crops this coming season."

174. Atkinson Union Feb. 24, 1882. Waterloo. "Several large flocks of pigeons have been seen in this vicinity during the past week."

"Pigeon hunting has already commenced in this vicinity."
Lake Mills 
1979 - 80
[81 - Sept 28, '82]

Ira Miller
[Oct '82 - '85]
Water-town Democrat

Mrs. April 27, 1871. "Some Pigeons - Last Monday, eleven tons of wild pigeons, nicely packed in barrels, came down from Minnesota [Junction], over the St. Paul railroad, and were transferred to the Northwestern road, at the junction in this city, and sent south. These birds must be unusually numerous this season, in the northern regions, for so great a number to be caught and put up for market. It would take many thousands to weigh eleven tons."

May 18, '71. "The Great Pigeon Roost. - In the Northwestern portion of Wisconsin, an interesting spectacle may now be seen, in the form of an immense pigeon roost, where millions of these familiar birds have assembled for the purpose of building their nests in the forests, and hatching and rearing their young. In the morning and evening, multitudes of flocks fly away in every direction to feed, and return with their crops filled with grain. Already they have devoured the seed in many fields, causing the farmers in that region much trouble and loss from their constant ravages. It is of no use to rear the fields as long as these swift plunderers are around; though hundreds of thousands of them have been caught, and sent to market by the ton, no impression seems to be made on them in the way of diminishing their countless numbers. The Medical Journal of the 13th, gives the following sketch:"

[1871-73]

Watertown Republican, May 6, 1871. "Some Pigeons. - The shipment of pigeons from the country west of us, to the Chicago and eastern markets, is quite as business this spring. On Monday last one hundred and ninety-five barrels of live birds were transferred from the Milwaukee & St. Paul R.R. at the Junction in this city to the Chicago and Northwestern Ry. for the east. Vast quantities have been going through for several weeks past, and the inference might safely be drawn that considerable decimation has taken place among the pigeon tribes in certain localities."

Ibid., Sept. 6, 1871. "Capt. Samuel King of Waukesha shot himself while hunting pigeons."

Ibid., April 3, 1872. "Robins and bluebirds have appeared. They are several weeks later than last year."

Ibid., April 10, 1872. "Wild pigeons are numerous in the woods around the city, and sportmen are beginning to take them on the wing."

Ibid., Feb. 26, 1873. "Janesville Gazette, Feb. 18th, says: "Several flocks of pigeons have been visible today flying northward. Virgil Pipe, who has lived in Rock County since 1835, says this is the first time pigeons have appeared at this early date during his residence here."

March 19, 1873. "Robins and bluebirds appear."

April 16, 1873. "Pigeons have gathered in immense numbers in the western part of Rock County and sportmen are already working harrow among them."

[1871-73]

Neenah & Menasha Examiner, March 25, 1873, "Pigeons have already made their appearance in our woods." - Watertown Democrat.

[Could not find this in the Democrat]
Water town Democrat April 5, 1856. "Flocks of pigeons are now continually flying overhead from south to north, inviting the sportsmen to go out in pursuit of them."

 Ibid. April 10, 1856. "Flocks of Pigeons are now flying through the sky and filling the woods with life. Sportsmen are having a fine time shooting them."

 Ibid. May 1, 1856. "The woods are full of game -- pigeons, --"

... June 12, 1856. "The woods are full of pigeons. Sportsmen return from their excursions loaded with three admirable game birds, where next range of flight extends from the far south to the far north, and are found in all parts of this continent between the Atlantic and the Pacific. They are now in good condition. They feed principally on tender buds, and are frequent visitors of the wheat fields."

 Ibid. May 14, 1857. "Large Flocks of Pigeons are now flying through the air, and seem to be unusually numerous this spring. The woods are full of them, affording sport for the hunters."

 Ibid. Aug. 27, 1857. "Pigeons are now thick in the woods and are shot by hunters in large numbers. They may be found chiefly in the neighborhood of the wheat fields that border on the forest."

 Ibid. March 19, 1858. "Pigeons have already made their appearance in our woods. Several flocks were observed about as early as last Saturday [March 13]."

 [Ward winter.]

... March 17, 1859. "The pigeons begin to animate the woods..."

 May 12, 1859. "Pigeons are now plentiful, and are a great annoyance to the farmers. Large flocks hover around and light on the newly sown fields and soon pick up all the seed scattered over it. We heard one say that he had to sow a fine lot of several acres over again on account of their depredations. Those who are fond of hunting have no difficulty in shooting all they want, any place where grain is cut in they may be seen in any numbers. The air is full of them flying from one place to another." [Dec. 54-59]
Waterfowl

Democrat March 15, 1860. "Spent a day with my gun, paying the respects of the season to the ducks and geese, flocks that are visiting us from the south. These birds of plenty are getting quite plenty."

Feb. 10, 1860. "The woods are full of pigeons."

30, 61. "Pigeons are now plenty in the woods; large flocks are constantly flying in all directions."

March 26, 1863. "Pigeons and Ducks have commenced their migration to the north. Flocks may be seen daily flying over." [1860-'63]

March 17, 64. [Reports arrivals of robins and bluebirds]. [1864-'66]

19, 68. "Pigeons are likely to be numerous this season. Large flocks are constantly flying from place to place. Hunters will soon find plenty of shooting them."

Feb. 2, 1867. "This Wild Pigeon have invaded us in unusual numbers this season. The air and the woods are filled with innumerable flocks. They infest the newly sown wheat fields, and in many places pick up the grain as soon as it is scattered over the ground. In this respect, they are doing material injury. They are so numerous that it is almost impossible to cut all they want. There is much complaint of the ravages they are making in devouring seed."

2nd, April, 69. "Flocks of pigeons are flying from the south to the north." [67-'70]

Feb. 6, 1876. "Wild Pigeons flying north in January is a rare sight, yet we are told on reliable authority that two flocks passed over the city last Monday [Jan. 3]. We did not see them, but the man who did assures us of the fact." [Often winter]

Feb. 10, 76. "There has not been an all day affray since cold weather ought to have set in. Even now there is not snow on the ground and the tendency of the temperature is towards a thaw." [1874-'76] [77-'79] [‘80 – ‘88, ’83, All]
Waterford Chronicle, July 2, 1851. "Pigeons:—These birds have been uncommonly plentiful in this vicinity for some weeks past, and the large numbers daily taken by our sportsmen, do not seem sensible to diminish the general stock. What is a little remarkable, at least nine-tenths of them are young ones—this being their first visit to Bagardom, being in capital order, withal, they afford the finest kind of picking." [June '47 - Oct. '54, all]

Waterford Republican, March 18, 1868. "Black birds, pigeons, and other smaller specimens of the feathered tribe have arrived," [1867-'70] [1871-'73 See above] [74-'79] [76-'79] [78-'79] [80-'87] [Feb. 22, '82. Waterloo. Several large flocks of pigeons have been seen in this vicinity during the past week." [82-'83] [1884-'86] [87-'88].

Waterford Gazette, May 19, 1882. "In a dense pine forest, ten miles north-east of Sparta, Wis., wild pigeons have established a nest half a mile wide and ten miles long, every tree containing twenty or more nests." [79-'83] [84-'86].


Waukesha Plain Dealer [54:56, all] [67-70]

Thu., May 2, '71. "It has stormed nearly every day during the month of April, and the thermometer has ranged from 35 to 45. Nothing but wheat and grass can or does attempt to grow in such weather."

Thu., Tues., Aug. 29, '71. "An Saturday [Aug. 26] last Samuel King, a young man about 19 years of age, shot himself while hunting pigeons."

Fri., April 23, '72. Complaints of many summer storms.

"May 7, "An Friday morning the ground was frozen hard."

"Tues., May 20, '73. "The cold weather 'let up' a trifle on Saturday, but it froze again that night. An Thursday morning we had an accumulation of the 'beautiful snow,' we so often read of." [1871-73]

[74-Sept. '76, all]

Waukesha Republican [1877-78, all]

"Democrat [July 4, 1877 - June '52]

Chronotype, July 17, '53. "German killed hunting pigeons."

Morning News, [July '52 - June '54]

Waukesha County Democrat [March '54-'56]

"Sept. 23, '57. "Pigeons and other game are in abundance in this vicinity." [1857-'59] [1860-'63, all]

Waukesha Democrat April 13, '72. "Pigeons and other fowls are flying north."

"April 26, '73. "Hunters say that the vicinity of Waukesha is becoming a very poor place for pigeon and duck hunting."

"Sept. 12, '74. "Melandy's Prairie. "Pigeons are numerous."

"April 17, '75. "Myriads of pigeons and other fowls are daily seen in their migrating course to the north."

"Sept. 35, '75. "Pigeons and wild ducks are said to be so plentiful in this region as to afford excellent sport for hunters."

"Oct. 2, '75, Delafield. "Pigeon and duck shooting is all the rage. Mr. T. Sperry brought down 24 pigeons the other day at one shot."
Waukesha Democrat March 11, '76, Pewaukee, "...pigeons have also made their appearance." [1872-74] [75-77] [78-80]

Shil: March 4, '82, "Pigeons have already been observed on the wing northward." [81-83]

Waukesha Freeman [1857] [60 seat Nov] Sep.

Shil: March 16, '71, "Pigeons and early spring birds have made their appearance in this vicinity." [70-72] [73-74].

Shil: Sept. 16, '75, Mukwonago, "Our sportmen are killing a great many pigeons and prairie chickens. The former are very plentiful this fall.

Shil: March 30, '76, Delafield, "Ducks, geese and pigeons are making their appearance, but present prospects are rather unfavorable for them." [75 - June 24, 79].

Shil: June, Sept. 15, '81, "A party of Waukesha hunters killed 43 pigeons last Sunday." [July '79 - '81] [82-83] [84-86] [87-88]

Janesville Gazette May 3, 1867, "The Waukesha Plain Dealer states that the fields and groves in that vicinity have been alive with pigeons, who, in many places, have picked up the newly-sown wheat clean through long stretches of fields.

Milwaukee Commercial Times April 22, 1875, "Pigeons have made a settlement near Waukesha."

Shil: Sept. 28, 1875, "Pigeons are plentiful at North Prairie." [Waukesha &]
"Pigeons are plenty in this region. Sootspans are diminishing the stock of pondeer and silet in this brough." [Thm all numbers].

Waukesha County Republican [April 2, '74; May 27 - Dec. 31, '74]

said, Thurs. April 8, '75, "Millions of pigeons have gone over this week on their way to a warmer climate."

said, April 15, '75, "P. 0. C. G. E. 0. H. 8., Down, Sir."

"19, '75. "This abundance of pigeons is a great blessing to the poor. It furnishes them with food, only for the taking. A poor man can, by toiling half a day from his work, on an expenditure of seventy-five cents for ammunition, usually capture three or four pigeons. These are equal to one half pound of steak worth 7½ cents."

"Pigeons have been numerous for a week or two past and have been kept busy dodging the shot of poor marksmen, and the more they dodged, the greater danger they have been in. Many of them have found their way into the bags of sportmen, because they hadn't the name to sit still on a limb, and be shot at. Latterly they have profited by experience, and the number killed has been considerably smaller than during the first few days."

said, March 16, '76, "A flock of pigeons were seen to go over town last Friday [March 10]."

April 13, '76, "Pigeons have been rather numerous for a few days past."

[1876-'77]

said, Thurs. March 14, '78, "Scandinavia. "Pigeons and other birds are making their appearance, a fair indication that spring is really here."

Freemont, "Pigeons, bluebirds, robins, frogs -- spring."

said, Sept. 25, '79, "There are thousands of pigeons in the woods north west of town."

April 2, '80, "Pigeons have suffered some in this vicinity this week. Wednesday morning [April 1] early, guns could be heard every few minutes, as they sent their charges of shot into the passing flocks."

[1878-'80]

said, March 31, '82, "Wild pigeons have made their appearance and already some of our city sportmen have had the pleasure of bringing in some of them."

said, April 7, '82, "Pigeon hunting seems to be good in this vicinity. Your
Waukesha Republican

can get all the hunting you want, but pigeons will be very scarce.

Waukesha Post Sat. March 9, 78. (Iola) Cor. "A small flock of pigeons flew over this village Monday last [4th] about dark, as they were northward bound we may well expect warmer weather and hot little, if any more snow." [1878]

Waukesha Spirit [Not available] * 1855. "Squabes - Some ten miles south-east of this village, near Little River, a large flock of pigeons have just hatched their young, and two citizens have had rare sport in bagging a large number of squabes. The woods for several miles in circumference were, last week, all alive with pigeons and squabes, many of the trees were actually crushed to the ground with the burden of nests." - Waukesha Plain Dealer June 5, 1855 [3].

Mil. (D) Sentinel March 25, 30. Waukesha Cor. "Pigeons, robins, and bluebirds have made their appearance."

There was three inches of snow on the land, in the morning of Tuesday the 13th, last. It mostly disappeared during the day.

The ground was covered with snow on Wednesday morning, April 21st. [July 67-89]

A June 3, 1879: "Pigeons. - Nearly five thousand pigeons were shipped from Clarkfield Station, last Wednesday, filling one hundred and sixteen barrels. Right smart chance of birds that." [July 67-70]

April 12, 1872: "Pigeons are beginning to fly about three regions - a sign that spring is coming." [1871-75] [Nothing for 1871]

Fri. April 16, 75: "Large flocks of pigeons flying over."

March 17, 76: "Pigeons, in quite large numbers, have been seen in the woods northwest of town."

Feb. 17, 82: "Pigeons, robins, and other birds whose appearance indicates the return of spring - have been numerously observed, the past week or so."

March 3, 82: "Ducks and pigeons have appeared, an indication of warmer weather." [93-84] [85-87] [88-89]

Wampum Times, March 14, 1876. "The pigeons are rather early this year. Quite a number of flocks have been seen in the neighborhood of Berlin and Princeton and some of them have been shot by sportsmen." [74-76] [80-82] [83-85] [86-88]

Wampum Item [1860-'01. Nothing]
Wausau Central Wisconsin, June 17, 1857. "An abundance of pigeons about the country, are ready to eat up the grain as fast as the farmers sow it."

"Said, June 24, '58, one day last week Mr. A. H. Lee and Wm. Waters, of this village, were hunting pigeons about six miles north west of town, and when about to fire at pigeons discovered a full grown bear about two rods from them. They let the pigeon fly, and fired at the bear . . . ."

[April '57-'59] 60-62, 70-72

[Said, May 19, '75, State Stem. "The pigeon roost of America is in Wood County."

[Said, May 2, 1885; 8" of snow fell April 27.]

[84-'85] 86-89

Wausau Pilot, July 13, '72. "Pigeons are numerous in this vicinity . . . . and sportmen are averse . . . . by the work of the usual sport . . . . All classes join in the sport and send in from a dozen to fifty." [80 - Aug.'84]

[Said, July 27, '72. "Pigeons are taking their leave of us, and hunters mourn their loss." [July '67-'73]

[84-'86]

Wausau Record, Jan.-March '62

Wausau Daily Pilot and Review [Sept.'84, Waus. '84]

Review, March '83 - Aug.'84

Wausau Pilot & Review [Aug.'84-'86]

[Said, April 17, '87. "Possibly Wausau sportmen may have a chance to hang at pigeons this spring. Many are said to be mingling their way northward." [87-'88]

April 26, 87. Cold with wind and several inches of snow since the 22nd.

* Wausau Pilot June 26, 1874. "Pigeons plenty and sportmen happy."


April 6, '78. "Pigeons and ducks have made their appearance in this section." [74-'79]
*Wausau, Central Wisconsin* Nov. 17, 06. "Wild pigeons are reported in the northern woods of the state. Fifty years ago they were so numerous they obscured the sun during their flight..."
Aug. 26, 1869. 'Henry shot and bagged one dozen pigeons yesterday. He was hunting only a short time.'

March 2, '71. "In this locality the snow has disappeared, pigeons have made their appearance, --"

March 23, '71. "On Tuesday afternoon, mention that three boys were shooting pigeons, Frank Clay being accidentally shot.

April 27, '71. "Pigeons - these birds are very numerous in this part of the State. It is said they are resting west of Flyte's Mills, in Adams county. On Friday last a man from Michigan passed through here with ninety dozen pigeons. He sold them in Berlin for fifty cents a dozen.""

May 4, '71. "Pigeons - parties are netting pigeons near the village, and are sending them to market alive, The air is alive with these birds night and morning. It is claimed that a farmer near the village while dragging his sowing with cattle, saw ahead of him the ground literally alive with these pests, and was obliged to belabor them with a pole to drive them away, before he could urge his cattle forward."

May 11, '71. "A Big Haul. - One party netting pigeons near this village caught fifty dozen on Monday. This was really a good days work. They understand their business."

April 7, '75. "Pigeons and wild geese begin to make their appearance, going northward."

May 5, '75. "Several inches of snow on May 1." April 75.

'3, '76. "About three weeks ago, James Crawford went out to hunt pigeons in the rear of the house of John Crawford near Liberty Bluff in Springfield, and found body of a man."

[Page 1876]
Waucoma Argus, April 11, '77. "Pigeons and wild geese are flying about in search of somebody to shoot them. The snow is all gone."

April 18, '77. "Wild geese and pigeons are flying about.

April 21, '77. "No pigeons so far seen here.

April 23, '77. "A flock of pigeons was seen Sunday [April 17]."

"One snow now remaining is in drifts.

March 11, '81. "Pigeons are flying south in large numbers.

"Feb. 24, '82. "Pigeons were flying north last week.

"Feb. 27, '82. "Birds and blue birds were plenty last week, but it is more guess work where they are now.

March 3, '82. "Pigeons were flying in immense numbers on Wednesday [March 1]." "The pigeon hunters were out in force yesterday.


"March 17, '82. "Where are the fowlers pigeons.

"March 21, '82. "More pigeons are flying this evening than has been in a great many years. Pigeons in large numbers were flying before the snows on Monday morning [March 27]."

"April 7, '82. "Tuesday [April 4] was a big day for pigeons. They were flying in immense numbers. Our hunters exploded a heap of powder during the forenoon.

April 14. "(Mentitti's roost in Adams Co. west of Coloma). See Etna.

28. "Large numbers of hunters from all over this section visit the pigeon roost.

May 3, '82. "Plenty of pigeons, but we haven't lied any yet.

"The pigeons here commenced to nest near to where they have been roosting lately, and the authorities has put a stop to their slaughter for the present.

May 12, '82. "Ed. Hathaway, Jack Dresser, Fred Coon, and stolen agent Croft of Berlin, arrived in town on Tuesday enroute to the pigeon fields. Chas. Heathert, and Biles Coon accompanied them from here.

"They got back yesterday having in their possession nearly 1000, they all report an immense time, but too much shooting made them lame. It would be impossible they report to diminish the clouds of pigeons around the roost. We acknowledge receipt of a mess.
Wautoma Aug. 13, '82. “Quite a number of Wautoma

crimes have visited the pigeon roost beyond Wautoma Lately, succeeded
in securing a large number. Ed. Hathaway reports, he shot 150 one
afternoon. — Berlin Items.”

May 19. “Pigeons in considerable numbers were on the wing Wednesday
[May 17], and our hunters were out in force.”

N.C. Britton, T. Holley, and E.M. Dolson comprised a party of Berlinites
who passed through here the first of the week on their way to the pigeon grounds.”

June 28, '82. Fred Eason and Ed. Hathaway, of Berlin, and Miles Coon of

Wautoma, went up after pigeons again last week and secured about
400. They report fine weather and an immense time.”

May 26, '83. “Is about time for pigeons to begin to fly.”

[Asp until June 15]

March 28, '84. “Pigeons are flying.”

April 3, '85. Wild Rose. “Pigeons have made their appearance.”

April 2, '86. “No pigeons reported yet.”

May 15, '87. “Pigeons are flying, but not in numbers sufficient
to excite any great enthusiasm in our hunters.”

May 20, '87. “Pigeons are quite plenty, hereabouts and are said to be
nesting in the swamp north-east of this village.”

The game law prohibits the shooting of pigeons within three miles of
their roost, or nesting grounds and fines the penalties as high as a fine
of $100 or imprisonment for each offense. The state is at a very large
expense for paying wardens to see that this law is not violated or the
quilty are punished and it is now a very unsafe thing to tender
with. It will be well for those who have been shooting pigeons
hereabouts within the three mile limit to look a little out.”

May 17, '87. “A number of professionals have been netting pigeons in
this vicinity for a week past.”

“The pigeons that are nesting north-east of this village it is said
started to nest near Sparta but were driven to Berlin.”

June 3, '85. “Several more professional pigeon hunters arrived here
the latter part of last week.”
* Wanton Journal June 3, 87. "The pigeons that were nesting in the swamp near this village have nearly all left, presumably being scared away by being shot at on the nesting ground. Most of the professional rafters have also left. They did not make a very large catch here."

* "March 23, 88. "It was reported that pigeons were flying the week before of this week."


* "Pigeons nested near Plyto's Mills, Adams County in the spring of 1881."

* "April 11, 1890. "Wild geese and pigeons seem to be quite plentiful."

* "April 14, 1893. "A few flocks of pigeons have been seen this spring, but these birds which were formerly so plentiful are now, like the buffalo of the prairies, nearly extinct."

* March 8, 1894. "The first wild geese were reported last Monday. Pigeons and blue birds have also made their appearance."

[Turn 1897]

* Sparta Herald June 7, 1887. "The pigeons returned to nesting near Wanton, Waukesha County last week. Men turned out and went to shooting them, and the birds straight away got up and flew out, going west."


* Wanton Arque [Jule 9, 1869 - Rec: 1869] [1860]

* [1863-66] [1867-68] [1869-70] said. April 10, 61. "Pigeons are plentiful in this vicinity. The air is filled with flocks, and the swamp just north of this village has evidently been selected by them as a nesting place."

* Wanton Journal June 29, 1858. "Sketches of Waukesha County. Signed "Pioneer." In spring of 1849 he passed through the town of Warren and having shot several pigeons gave them to "Menominee John." Manner of dressing: the squaw first put the pigeons head in their mouths, belly up, and blowed them up as a boy would a bladder, then took out their crops, etc., and peeled them, and cooked them in water, and then served them up in a skillet with salt."
Washington County Democrat [Sept. 19, 1857 - Mar. 28, 1859, Setauket]; West Bend Post [June 12, 1867 - June 8, 1867]

May 4, 1867. "Wild pigeons have never been so plenty in this region than at present. In the morning millions of them may be seen Wendy their way westward to return again in the evening."

West Bend Republican [March 7, 1873 - '74]

Washington County Democrat [Jan. 20. 1873: changed name to Post]

West Bend Post Wednesday, April 20, 1874. "There was quite a flight of pigeons during the past week, moving from southeast to northwest, and many of them flew quite low. In a few days we may expect to see them in abundance. They look out for sport."

Wednesday, April 8, 1874. "Pigeons and ducks have arrived with the warm spring weather in large numbers. Sportmen however, inform us that they are very wild."

Wednesday, May 27, 1875. "Pigeons are abundant now on fields of new corn wheat, and are sportmen are having gay times." [1874-75]

West Bend Republican [July 4, 1875]. "Hartford. The 'boys' had a good time shooting pigeons this week."

By shot hunting pigeons at Richfield.

"Pigeons are on the wing." [July 12, 1875 published at Hartford: 1875-76]

West Bend Democrat Wed., April 10, 1877. "Wild geese and pigeons are winging northward."

“Benton. Pigeons and wildfowl flying northward mornings."

"Young America."

When I can shoot my rifle clear For pigeons in the sky Then I can live in splendor And never need a sigh but. . . . . "[1875-76]
West Bend Democrat Apr 2, 1879, "Wild pigeons are seen these days flying in a northerly direction."
[1877-79]

Ibid, Aug 24, 1881, "A few wild pigeons have already arrived."
[1882-84]

Ibid, Sept 21, 1881, "Our sportsmen meet with plenty of rail and pigeons."
[1885-87]

West Bend Times Thrus, Feb 16, 1882, "Pigeons have already made their appearance, but may have to go into winter quarters again."
[1881-83]

Hartford Republican [Stated at West Bend] [1878-80]

Ibid, Wed. April 27, 1881, "Large flocks of pigeons were seen flying over this place, westward, for the past week."

Ibid, Feb 15, 1882, "The indications are that we are to have an early spring. Several flocks of pigeons have been seen in this vicinity recently."

Ibid, May 3, 1882, "As those old and experienced hunters, Messrs. Ben, Place, Chet, Amidon and Toc. Simon, have gone to Sparta on a pigeon hunt, we shall expect to see this market well supplied with these birds."

Ibid, [1883. Name changed to Press] [1881-83] [1884-87]

Hartford Home League [Aug, 1860 - March 5, 64, all: Nothing].

Milwaukee Daily Journal April 10, 1865, "Pigeons and ducks abound at West Bend."

Milwaukee Commercial Times Sept 24, 1875, "West Bend has a pigeon roost."
Westfield Central Union.

Feb. 16, 1882. "Pigeons are on the wing". Harrsiville. "Indications of spring quite noticeable this week. Pigeons, etc."

Apr. 16, 1882. "We are informed that pigeons are nesting this spring near Fordham, in Adams Co."

Apr. 30, 1882. "Germania. Many large flocks of pigeons

"flew over and around Germania on the morning of the 28th

of this month."

Apr. 13, 1882. "H. Gibbs, Dr. Bell, Archie and Jimmie

Crawford, went up yesterday for a night with the pigeons."

"Pigeons are nesting in countless numbers in the swamp...

near Ship Rock, Adams Co. Many large numbers are

being slaughtered by gunners from all the neighboring sections."

they are shot from the ridges surrounding the swamp, as they

fly to and from their roosting places, evening and morning.

and from their pastures during the night. Many are also being

taken with nets spread on their feeding grounds during the day.

They are worth about $0.25 per dozen in the city market, where

they are shipped in boxes and barrels. Reports say they are

preparing to nest some miles distant from their present roosting

places."

"Buckhorn. I hear that past week at Ship Rock shipped pigeons

at the rate of two barrels a day."

Apr. 20, 1882. "The pigeon hunters from this village are enthusiastic

in denying that there is any spot worth shooting in the swamp...

of Adams Co. They secured 13 dozen of flocks."

May 11, 1882. "Pigeons have been flying in great numbers

the past week."

May 18, 1882. "Buckhorn. Week ago last Sunday Fred Miller, of Spring-

field, met pigeon shooting, [and] injured his eyes."

Westfield
Marquette Co.
Westfield, July 2, 1882. "A squad of pigeon hunters from New Lisbon stopped near here one night last week.


[1879-1882 All]

Montello, June 29, 1882. Westfield correspondent, "The pigeons have commenced to nest in the pieces west of the big marsh where they were roosting lately. The hunters followed them up, but we learn the authorities have interfered and put a stop to the wholesale slaughter. While they are nesting, as soon as the young pigeons get large enough to fly a little, will be the time to leave sport catching them."
May 6, '71. Pigeons have been flying this week thicker than ever. Sportsmen are having fine times with them.

May 13, '71. "Pigeon hunting is about played out in this section."

"27," "Sportsmen are having a dull time just now; nothing to hunt; or rather it requires considerable hunting to find anything to shoot."

April 13, '72. "Pigeons have made their appearance."

12 '73. "Our sportsmen are beginning to think that the pigeons will give them the slip this year. We do not suppose that the farmers will feel sad if such should prove to be the case."

"Our Madien papers report that the pigeons are roosting near that place, and also that they are being caught and shipped to Chicago and other points by the carload."

April 26, '73. "Pigeons are falling before the uncouning [2] shot-gun of our sportsmen."

[1871-73]

"Wayanmega Herald" Aug. 3, '59. "Duck and pigeon hunting is now the rage."

Aug. 24, '59. "Hunters bring in some pigeons."

[May 4, — Oct. 5, '59]

"Wayanmega Republican Times" April 26 '77. "Wayanmega. A flock of pigeons was discovered last Sunday [22nd]."
Pigeons and ducks have made their appearance. 

April 7, '77. "Pigeons and ducks have made their appearance."

"April 25, '78. "Ducks and pigeons have been flying this week."

May 3, '79. "Hardly a pigeon has been seen in this vicinity during the spring. They seem to have taken up their quarters somewhere else."

April 3, '80. "Pigeons have been flying in large numbers and our sportsmen have had a skirmish line pushing away at them during the early hours of the morning."

Fremont. Spring has indeed put in its appearance, or at least pigeons have. (1877-79)

May 14, '81. "What has become of the pigeons? No flocks have been seen around here this spring."

April 1, '82. "Big time shooting Wednesday morning."

April 22, '82. "There is a nest of pigeons near Coloma, Mo."

May 12, '82. "Large flocks of pigeons have been seen passing over the village."

April 11, '83. "Pigeons were flying over town on Tuesday."

(1883-85)

April 17, '86. "Pigeons commenced flying over the town Wednesday morning, and everybody that had again was at playing away at 'em."

[1886-91] [92-93] last years N. A.

Weyamwega Times. Apr. 18, '74. "Pigeons are flying."

Apr. 10, '75. "Wild pigeons, geese, ducks, robins, and others of the feathered tribe are putting in their appearance."

Mar. 11, '76. "Large flocks of pigeons have been seen this week."

[1874-76 all]

Now London Times. Apr. 1, '82. "Weyamwega. "Swallows and pigeons now occupy the time of our sportsmen.""

Wamepea Republican. April 17, '86. "Pigeons have begun to fly."

Weyamwega Chronicle. [March 17, '77 - 1900]
Whitewater Register  Wed. Sept. 13, 1871: "Pigeon shooting is becoming an everyday amusement in these parts and the birds must be wonderfully thick to stand such a campaign long. The largest score we have heard of for a single morning is forty, nearly enough to make a pigeon pie we should say, not bad for an insurance agent."

Pigeons have gathered in immense numbers in the western part of Rock county and sportsmen are already working havoc among them. (Copied by Delavan Republican, April 17, 1873.)

Waukon Star, May 13, 1869. State Stem. "The Whitewater Register reports that pigeons are flying by the thousands. They have become a positive nuisance on the prairies, and in many cases almost destroying whole fields of spring corn wheat."

C. H. D. Post & Steam 42 (May 19, 1874) 422. Whitewater, Wis. May 7, State Stem: "A flock of 150 wild pigeons flew over this city last Friday [May 7]."

Whitewater Register Times, May 10, 1894. Mr. Merriam saw a flock of about 150 wild pigeons last Friday. This beautiful race of dwellers in sky and woods has been declared to be wholly extinct; yet a few small flocks have been seen the last two years. One hundred and fifty in a single company has been unprecedented of late years, but the vast of us are too young to remember the times when flocks of pigeons stretched from horizon to horizon. With absolute protection for ten years, or even five, and then saved from disturbances at their resting places, it is possible they could he
"The Whitewater Register [not in library] reports that pigeons are flying by the thousands. They have become a pest and nuisance on the prairies, in many cases almost destroying whole fields of spring corn or wheat." - Winona Chronicle (A) Sentinel May 11, 1869.

"Pigeons are so numerous in some portions of Rock County as to give considerable trouble to the farmers." Winona (A) Sentinel Sept. 6, 1869.

"The Whitewater Register says that ducks, pigeons, geese, and partridges are making their appearance in large numbers in that vicinity." - Winona (A) Sentinel Sept. 20, 1869.

- March 24, 1865: "Ducks and pigeons have already made their appearance." - Sept. 10, 1874: "Excellent shooting, one man killed 97 morning of Sept. 8.
- Sept. 16, 1874: "Wild pigeons are numerous now.
- March 13, 1879: "Have appeared.
- Register Fri. April 14, 1873: "Pigeons ... having been flying to the north in large numbers the past week."
- Feb. 27, 1873: "A gentleman informs us that he started up a large flock of pigeons while on the road from Allen's Grove to this place, last Saturday (Feb. 22), which were the coldest and most disagreeable days of the season."
- April 10, 1873: "Pigeons have gathered in immense numbers in the western part of Rock county."
Juneau Co. Wisc
Milwaukee Commercial Times May 3, 1875: "Wild pigeons at Wiscosin." 

Wilson (St. Croix Co.) Pioneer April 16, 1877. "The woods are full of pigeons."


Child's April 19, '73. "Pigeons are getting numerous..." Aug. 30. "Pigeons are now making their appearance..."
St. Paul Weekly Press, May 22, 1873. "Pigeon shooting is the amusement just now. The birds are roosting just beyond the old village of New Haven, in this county, where we are told there are four miles of them. Parties go out every day and bring them back by the bag full." Rochester Post, May 17, 1873.

[July 26, '71 - Dec. 25, '73]