THE GREAT WISCONSIN PASSENGER PIGEON NESTING OF 1871*  
By A. W. Schorger, Madison, Wisconsin  
(Continued from January Issue)

THE NUMBER OF BIRDS NESTING

The main nesting took place in the sandy, scrub oak region of central Wisconsin. Chief Pokagon states regarding the large Wisconsin nesting: "Every tree, some of them quite low and scrubby, had from one to fifty nests on each. Some of the nests overflow from the oaks to the hemlock and pine woods. When the pigeon hunters attack the breeding-places they sometimes cut the timber from thousands of acres." With specific reference to the nesting of 1871, he says: "I there counted as high as forty nests in scrub oaks not over twenty-five feet high; in many places I could pick the eggs out of the nests, being not over five or six feet from the ground." Quoting General Harnden on the Kilbourn roost: "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." Kelly says: "The first belt of timber we came to shows signs of the game, and no sooner have we struck the solid forest than we come upon the deserted nests in great quantities, the birds having been driven back or killed. Every tree is full of the nests—often we counted thirty in a single tree. . . . Whatever induced the pigeons to stop here is more than I can comprehend. All the soil you find is bottomless drifts of white sand, capable only of producing little scrubby oaks and stunted pines, which appear to be better adapted to bearing pigeons' nests than foliage."  
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