San Francisco, Aug. 14. 1878.

Mr. Ernest Ingersoll,

Dear Sir;

I was glad when I received a notice of your forthcoming work on Oölogy and thought to myself, now I will write and tell him about my Falcon's eggs, but, like most boys have postponed writing until I fear it is too late.

On the 7th of April 1877 while out in the mountains north of Oakland collecting, I came to an immense rock some thirty or more feet in heighth, having many cavities that from certain indications I judged were tenanted.

I succeeded in reaching a heighth

of some twenty five feet and near to a sort of cave.

Just then a male F. polyagrus came swooping past me, uttering a cry like, ca—ca—ca—ca—ca—ca—ca—ca, commenced slowly at first and repeated faster and louder as he neared the rock, shearing off at the last moment only to repeat the performance.

When within a few feet of the cavity, a female flew swiftly out and went in about five feet and secured five slightly incubated eggs.

I now had both birds to contend with shooting past me so close that I could hear the rush of their wings, however, I succeeded in reaching the ground in safety and started home well pleased with my success.

The eggs, which resembled those of Sparrow Hawks, (Tinnunculus Sparverius) only being much larger, were

laid on the bits of pulverized rock, bones and hair of our common ground Squirrel (Spermophilus beecheyi.)

They measured $2\frac{2}{32} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, $2\frac{2}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$, $2\frac{5}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$, $2\frac{5}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$, $2\frac{6}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$ and were of light reddish brown.

On the 6th of April 1878, I took another set of five fresh Eggs from the same cavity under similar circumstances.

The last set is much lighter colored, two of them showing considerable white, with a tendency to darken towards one end, four of them are darkest at the small end, the fifth has the dark shading at the large end.

Of the first set only one darkens at the small end, the others being nearly uniformly marked.

The ground color of all is whitish,

blotched or evenly sprinkled with a light reddish brown.

The second set measured, $2\frac{4}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$, $2\frac{2}{32} \times 1\frac{17}{32}$, $2\frac{1}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$, $2.\frac{2}{32} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, $2\frac{1}{32} \times 1\frac{18}{32}$.

From all I can learn they are the first of the kind ever taken in this state.

Should you deem it of sufficient importance I will get Dr. J. G. Cooper to measure and describe them more accurately than I can with my limited experience.

I have simply given you the facts, trusting that you will rewrite it in suitable form.

Yours Truly.

Walter E. Bryant.

Box 890. San Francisco.