

Mississippi Kite

CA 1819

Engineer's Contanment, IA

Thomas Say

James 1923

Record Number: 81-MC

Classification: NA

REFERENCE

James 1823

Anderson 1907

VOTE (1981): 2-IV, 4-V, I-VI

IV, seems probable.

V, no details.

V, Possibly correct, but no information (however, see Bartsch 1895).

James, E. 1823. Account of an Expedition from Pittsburgh to the Rocky Mountains in the Years 1819-1820 . . . London, Longman, Hurst, Rees Orme and Brown. p 362

— *Mississippiensis*, Wilson — Mississippi kite.] 1

Mississippi Kite

136. (329). *Ictinia mississippiensis* (Wils.). Mississippi Kite.

Though the Mississippi Kite has been quoted by nearly all authorities as ranging north "casually to Iowa and Wisconsin," I was for a long time constrained to place it in the hypothetical list for want of a definite, authentic record of its capture in Iowa. It has been referred nominally to Iowa by Thomas Say, Baird, Brewer and Ridgway, Allen, Goss, Fisher, Coues, Ridgway, Bendire and others, but no recent records have appeared in print.]

County records: Blackhawk—"only one observed here. I remained over half an hour within twenty feet of the bird when it was resting on a post in hedge, so that identification is positive" (Salisbury). Linn—"rare summer resident" (Berry). Van Buren—"a kite of this species occurred one spring on Big Cedar at a certain place and stayed four or five weeks, then disappeared. I saw the bird many times and once while fishing it came and sat within twenty yards of me, so I positively identified it. The stream running about east and west, it ranged in Van Buren and Henry counties, four and one-half miles north and a little east of Hillsboro" (W. G. Savage). Webster—"a specimen was seen around Duncombe's Stucco Mill (Ft. Dodge) nearly every day, and I finally shot him a mile further down the stream (Des Moines River); length 14.5 inches; dark bluish, grayish to slate color; tail nearly black" (Somes). Woodbury—"according to D. H. Talbot, formerly visited this county" (Rich). 6
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Anderson 1907
pp 243-244