

REWARD FOR WILD PIGEONS.

Ornithologists Offer \$3,000 for the Discovery of Their Nests.

Special to The New York Times.

BOSTON, April 3.—Three thousand dollars in prizes is offered by the American Ornithologists' Union for the discovery of nests of the passenger pigeon or wild pigeon. Dr. C. F. Hodge of Clark University, Worcester, has charge of the reward, and all finds must be reported to him.

This species of pigeon was once thick in Massachusetts, and people armed with poles and nets often would kill and gather in fifty and sixty at once, so closely did they roost. The slaughter assumed such proportions that the pigeons are almost extinct to-day.

A full-grown wild pigeon is about fifteen inches long from its bill to the end of its tail. The male is blue-gray above and on the head, and reddish beneath. The female is of duller color, inclining toward brown. The birds nest during April and May.

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