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should have shown this clearly and effectively decades ago.

It is not surprising that Darwin, with his weak scientific education should fall into error; but it is surprising that the great physicists and chemists of his time and following should not have taken time enough to point out the errors effectively. But this sort of thing happens, as in the case of Archimedes who came so near to discovering the calculus and failed to do so.

Physical scientists, who know higher mathematics and are capable of analytical thinking, should never have allowed the thoroughly mis-

taken mechanical theory of evolution to reach such a degree of apparent certainty in the thoughts of nearly every one.

Let us recognize that although the human mind is capable of discovering highly reliable scientific truth, it is also capable of generating dangerous superstitions through ignorance, careless and incomplete observations, numerous biases, and generalizations not justified by evidence. It is ironical that the Darwinians, who have made great efforts to destroy superstitions, should themselves be responsible for one of the worst superstitions of all time, the mechanical theory of evolution.

## A QUAIL: COTURNIX COTURNIX

WILLIS E. KEITHLEY\*



Figure 1. Illustration of natural camouflage of *Coturnix* quail.



Figure 2. Young Coturnix quail.

God's grace and also His judgment was demonstrated in sending quail to feed His people on their way from Egypt to Canaan. In Exodus 16, quails were provided in connection with the manna. But in Numbers 11, they appeared in such a teeming multitude that the people foundered in their voracious gluttony.

Flying at about three feet above the earth (they were not piled that deep!) they could be easily captured, and it is recorded in Numbers 11:32 that the least any man gathered was 860 gallons. It is not known how many persons

gathered such a tubful, but even that was a lot of quail!

We might wonder at such statistics until we examine the fertility and potential of the *Coturnix* quail. It has been said that in their migration across the Red Sea, their numbers blacken the sky. This incredulous anomaly of propagation becomes understandable when we discover that they are capable of laying an egg per day all through a year, and begin laying at the age of six weeks.

This fact, coupled with their secretive nature and the natural camouflage as evidenced in the illustration, makes it possible for them to feed a multitude even yet today. This actual descendent of "Pharoah's quail" gives ample evidence of the veracity of God's Word.

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