

A Specimen of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis* in New Jersey.—A fine male was shot on May 11, 1883, at Maplewood, Essex Co., N. J., feeding in tree-tops on the blossoms of the oak tree. This, I believe is the first specimen for this State.

Not being able to satisfactorily identify the bird I sent it to Mr. E. P. Bicknell, whose remarks on the subject I give, as follows: "The specimen of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis* from Maplewood, New Jersey, is similar to an adult male taken by Dr. A. K. Fisher, at Sing Sing, N. Y., August 29, 1879, and recorded in B. N. O. C., IV, 4, 234. As I recall Dr. Fisher's specimen, the present one differs chiefly in having the yellow breast-band less pronounced, both in color and outline. The wing-bars are narrow, conspicuously separated, and, as in Dr. Fisher's example, whiter than in many individuals of *H. pinus*. The specimen shows one peculiarity which I do not remember to have observed in others, or to have seen recorded, namely, a distinct bleaching of the ashy-blue of the dorsal surface on the rump and proximal tail-coverts. Carried a few steps further this tendency would have given us a *Helminthophila* with a white rump! This bird is the first for New Jersey. Mr. Brewster alludes to a specimen from Nyack, "New Jersey" (B. N. O. C., VI, 4, 219). The specimen referred to, however, was from Nyack, Rockland Co., New York, the error in the record being obviously from some mishap in publishing. But Nyack, N. Y., is within a few miles of the New Jersey State line."—C. B. RICKER, *New York City*.

Capture of two more Specimens of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis* at Sing Sing, New York.—On August 11, 1883, I killed two specimens of the so-called White-throated Warbler (*Helminthophila leucobronchialis*). The under parts of both specimens are much more deeply suffused with yellow than is the case in any of my other three specimens; in fact, the yellow on one is evenly distributed over the entire under surface, but is not so deep as in *Helminthophila pinus*.—A. K. FISHER, M. D., *Sing Sing, New York*.

Evidence Concerning the Interbreeding of *Helminthophila chrysoptera* and *H. pinus*.—On July 4, 1885, while collecting specimens in a piece of woods underlaid by a scattering undergrowth, I came upon a female Golden-winged Warbler busily engaged in collecting insects. As I stood watching her she flew to a neighboring cedar tree and commenced to feed a young bird. I immediately shot and killed the latter as the female flew away. The noise of the discharge started another young bird from some bushes near by, and as it flew the female flew and alighted near it. Just as I was on the point of firing they started, and I succeeded in wounding the female only and had to follow and kill her with a second shot. On my return to the place where I first shot at her, I could not find the young one, nor did a careful search disclose it. In advancing for a nearer shot I had a good opportunity of seeing the young bird: it closely resembled its mother in appearance and had no yellow on the breast, whereas the one

killed was the exact counterpart of the young of the Blue-winged Yellow Warbler, with its yellow breast and white wing-bars.

In all probability the father of this interesting family was a specimen of *Helminthophila pinus*.—A. K. FISHER, M. D., *Sing Sing, New York*.

The Loggerhead Shrike in New Hampshire.—On the morning of the 16th of April of this year an unfamiliar bird-note — as of a Robin with a cleft tongue — attracted my attention to a clump of balsams (*Abies balsamea*) in the yard of our nearest neighbor. Here, after a few moments of hide and seek, I discovered the birds to be a pair of these Shrikes (*Lanius ludovicianus*) although at first I quite naturally supposed them to be *Lanius borealis*, with whose acquaintance I have been little favored. For the next ten days the birds were seen continually as they boldly flew about the houses gathering materials for their nest. This they built close to the trunk of one of the balsams, at a distance of about 20 feet from the ground and scarcely more than that from the upper windows of the house. On the 27th one egg was found, and, to anticipate any possible unnatural actions on the part of the birds, was taken. The female, however, soon resumed her oviparous duties so that on May 4 we secured five more eggs. But meanwhile doubts had arisen as to the species; accordingly the birds were shot and have since been identified by the editor of this Journal as *Lanius ludovicianus*.

The nest, which is large for the size of the birds, is composed outwardly of twigs rather loosely joined together by wads of worsted and twine; the inner portion, however, is quite compact, being composed of dried grasses and roots finely interwoven with feathers and soft bits of worsted. The depth of the nest is two inches; its diameter is three inches.

The eggs are of a grayish-white ground-color, entirely covered with small blotches of a sandy-brown of several shades, darkest at the large end. The eggs measure (in inches) 1.01 × .70; .94 × .74; .98 × .70; .96 × .70; .96 × .70; .98 × .66.

While under my observation the Shrikes did not evince a particularly savage or quarrelsome disposition; when the nest was building they enjoyed driving away the Robins, whose customary abode they had pre-empted, yet neither in the trees near at hand, nor in an apple tree about 300 yards distant which the male made his look-out, did we see any evidences of impaled victims. They frequently alighted in the grass, apparently in search of grasshoppers and crickets. Their vocal range was broad; but to our ears disclosed a painful lack of culture; save for an occasional liquid, far-away, tone, like a bit of blue sky seen through angry clouds, — their notes were very harsh and discordant. In concluding I will say that another season will doubtless add further evidence, and sufficient, for the complete establishment of the fact that *L. ludovicianus* is a regular resident in this locality. —EDWIN BRANT FROST, *Hanover, N. H.*

Breeding of *Loxia americana* in the District of Columbia. — In Vol. I of 'The Auk,' p. 292. Mr. Ridgway cites the occurrence of *Loxia americana*