

grain; to obtain the latter, the whole flock would often alight on the ground and eagerly devour the scattered grain. As spring advanced they were usually seen, especially early in the morning, in the top of some tree, singing or chattering noisily, thus attracting the attention of nearly every passer-by. Their loud, clear, rather harsh, piping notes, uttered in concert, reminded one forcibly of the familiar chorus of a flock of Rusty Blackbirds in the spring, and have also been likened to the shrill piping arising from some frog pond on a quiet summer evening. In Iowa, the Evening Grosbeak may be regarded as a rare and erratic winter visitor, though its appearance is perhaps most regular in the northern portions of the State. It arrives from the north about the middle of November and remains until May. Prior to last winter it has been observed in the vicinity of Iowa City but once—in February, 1884. Correspondents have also reported this species from Charles City, in March, 1879; Grinnell, December and April, and Burlington in the southeastern part of the State.—C. R. KEYES, *Iowa City, Iowa*.

Loxia curvirostra minor again at Yemassee, S. C.—On November 20, 1887, two Red Crossbills were seen at Yemassee, S. C., by my collector who shot large numbers in April for me. —ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Charleston, S. C.*

A Philadelphia Vireo and a Cobweb.—On September 13, 1886, while collecting in a thicket near Bardstown, Kentucky, my companion, a small boy, called my attention to the peculiar actions of a bird eight or ten paces in advance of us. It proved to be a Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphica*) suspended by the tip of its right wing from a twig at a distance of three or four feet from the ground, violently struggling to free itself. Flying above, within a few feet of it, was another individual of the same species, an apparently interested and distressed witness of the strange performance. Both birds were shot, and upon examination I discovered that the first one had become entangled in a sticky, cobwebby substance that was found to be quite common during that season in the locality mentioned. The end of the wing was completely 'gummed up' with the viscous filaments, and the struggles of the captive had twisted the web into a slender and elastic but strong cord, the other end of which was attached to the twig. The webs in question I found only in thickets, and had been much annoyed by often running against them and getting the glutinous stuff on my face and hands. It is doubtless produced by some spider, but I have never recognized the species. However, I think it improbable that the wily Arachnid deliberately attempts the capture of such large game, and in this particular instance it was doubtless as much surprised as the cockney sportsman in 'Punch,' who fired at a hare and killed a calf.—CHARLES WICKLIFFE BECKHAM, *Washington, D. C.*

Helminthophila leucobronchialis in Pennsylvania.—A specimen of this bird was taken, August 31, 1887, in the central part of Chester Co.,