

Spiza americana.—A single immature male shot from a mixed flock of small Sparrows feeding in an asparagus bed, on September 30, 1889, is my only Cape Cod record of this species.

Thoreau in speaking of this part of the Cape ('Cape Cod,' p. 120) says: "Of birds not found in the interior of the State—at least in my neighborhood—I heard, in Summer, the Black-throated Bunting (*Fringilla Americana*) amid the shrubbery." This was in 1855 (l. c., p. 1) and it is very possible that the bird was more common there then than now. If the species breeds at all near Highland Light at present, it must be a very rare occurrence, as I utterly failed to detect it during the breeding season, although, having read Thoreau's note, I was constantly on the lookout for it.

Dendroica palmarum.—Two specimens taken on September 23, 1889, and another on the 24th of the same month, are the only specimens of the Western form of the Palm Warbler that I have met with at Highland Light. *Dendroica palmarum hypochrysea* was quite common from October 2 to 12 in 1888, and in 1889 arrived on October 6 and remained fairly common until the time of my departure from High Land on October 15. These individuals of *palmarum* were much less shy than the average *hypochrysea*, but otherwise I noticed nothing peculiar in their habits.

Polioptila cærulea.—An adult female was secured on October 9, 1889. The bird was feeding among some small pines not over four feet high, in company with a small flock of *Dendroica coronata*, *Sitta canadensis* and *Spinus tristis*, and is the only one that I have met with on Cape Cod.

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF ONEIDA COUNTY, NEW YORK.

BY WILLIAM L. RALPH AND EGBERT BAGG.

SINCE the publication of our local list* in 1886, we have devoted a much larger portion of our attention to the western part of the County, the eastern end of Oneida Lake. We have also had during the past four years the benefit of the observations of Mr. W. P. Shepard of Utica and Mr. R. J. Hughes of Remsen, both students at Hamilton College at Clinton. The results of the time since 1886 will be found in the following notes.

*Transactions of the Oneida Historical Society, Vol. III, 1886, pp. 101-147.

Of new records we have the following :

Urinator lumme.—A young bird of this species was killed at Clinton, in October, 1889, by a young man of that place, who has had it mounted and preserved.

Crymophilus fulicarius.—A young bird, probably a female, was killed at Sylvan Beach on the east end of Oneida Lake, Oct. 4, 1889, by Messrs. Shepard and Hughes.

Icterus spurius.—A male of the third year was seen near Bear Pond, Herkimer Co., May 15, 1887. Unfortunately, as it was on Sunday and no gun was at hand, the bird was not secured, but there is no doubt of the identification, as he was watched for some time, both with a field glass and with the naked eye, and every mark was plainly seen.

Coccythraustes vespertina.—The unusual migration of this species during the past winter, brought a record to us as it did to many other localities in the State. On Feb. 9, 1890, Mr. James R. Benton of Clinton, N. Y., saw a flock of four singing on a tree before his house, and had the good fortune to secure three of them, a male and two females, all of which have been preserved.

Seiurus motacilla.—In a little ravine in the town of Kirkland we secured our first specimen May 9, 1887, and in the same ravine it has been found by Mr. Shepard in May, 1888, and 1889, and it undoubtedly breeds there, though no nest has been found.

These five additions, together with *Tringa bairdii*, recorded by Mr. Henshaw in 'The Auk,' Vol. II, p. 384, from Locust Grove, N. Y., but overlooked in making the List, raise the total number of recorded species for Oneida Co., and its immediate vicinity to 230.

The following are some observations upon species given in the List, which seem to us worth a record.

Olor columbianus.—A fine specimen of this bird was killed on the river flats in the town of Deerfield, March 13, 1890, and is now in the collection of W. L. Ralph. This bird was given in the List on the authority of De Kay, with the further statement that several Swans, undoubtedly of this species, had been killed on Oneida Lake. This is, therefore, the first positive record for the County.

Ardea egretta.—A specimen killed in Marcy, about Nov. 10, 1889, was mounted by Messrs. J. P. and F. J. Davis, taxidermists, of this city. This is our third record.

Phalaropus lobatus.—A specimen killed at Sylvan Beach, east end of Oneida Lake, Sept. 21, 1889, is our second record.

Tringa minutilla.—One taken at Sylvan Beach, Oneida Lake, Sept. 18, 1888.

Charadrius squatarola.—A specimen was taken at Sylvan Beach, Oct. 8, 1888. Another was taken at the same place Sept. 24, 1889. These are the first records for the County, though the species was given in the List as taken on the Lake by Mr. A. A. Howlett of Syracuse.

Zenaidura macroura.—We find the species rather common on the pine barrens at the east end of Oneida Lake, undoubtedly breeding, though we

have failed to find a nest. A female killed April 13, 1889, contained a fully formed egg. A single bird was also observed at Utica, May 7, 1889. This species was given in the List on the strength of a single specimen taken in Herkimer Co., and its occurrence in such numbers as we have found it, was a great surprise.

Accipiter velox.—Two nests were taken near Holland Patent, May 18, 1887, and June 7, 1887.

Accipiter atricapillus.—A specimen was taken at Remsen in January, 1888, a second somewhat later in the same winter, a third at Trenton Falls during the next summer, and a fourth at Remsen in October of the same year. The first and last are in the collection of Mr. Hughes. We had but one previous record.

Falco columbarius.—A specimen was taken at Sylvan Beach, Sept. 12, 1889, by Messrs. Shepard and James R. Benton.

Syrnium nebulosum.—Breeds. A nest containing two eggs was taken at Holland Patent April 18, 1889.

Nyctala acadica.—Our fifth nest of this species was taken near Holland Patent April 30, 1889, from a hollow 65 feet from the ground in the dead limb of a living tree. The clutch (which was probably not completed) consisted of four fresh eggs.

Melanerpes erythrocephalus.—Messrs. Shepard and Hughes found these birds at Remsen, Dec. 20 to 22, 1888.

Antrostomus vociferus.—This species is common along the shore of Oneida Lake in June. Undoubtedly breeding, though we have not found it. It was given in the List on the strength of a single specimen taken in Herkimer Co.

Spinus tristis.—Messrs. Shepard and Hughes found these birds at Remsen, Dec. 20 to 22, 1888.

Spinus pinus.—Messrs. Shepard and Hughes found these birds in large numbers near Remsen April 4 to 9, 1889, apparently mated and preparing to nest, but a careful search a week or two later failed to find them.

Pipilo erythrophthalmus.—A fine male killed in New Hartford, May 12, 1889, is our second record.

Vireo solitarius.—Mr. Shepard states that this bird is a summer resident about Joc's Lake, in Herkimer Co., where he found a nest containing young July 25, 1888.

Dendroica cærulescens.—Our fifth nest of this species was found June 22, 1888. It contained two addled eggs, one young Warbler, and two young Cow Birds able to fly.

Dendroica blackburnia.—Breeds. Mr. Hughes found a nest containing young in July, 1887, near Remsen. July 16, 1888, we took a nest about four miles north of Holland Patent, which contained four eggs on the point of hatching. The nest was well concealed in a bunch of small branches, about fifteen feet above the ground, in a spruce tree. It was composed of hemlock and spruce twigs outside, then pine needles and dry grass, and lined with horsehair. The eggs (which we were unable to save, they were so near hatching), were large for the size of the bird, and darker colored than is usual with Warblers' eggs.

Dendroica vigorsii.—June 11, 1889, at Sylvan Beach, we saw at least two pairs building in high pines. We watched them, with a glass and the naked eye, collecting spiders' nests from under the veranda of a cottage and carrying these and other materials into two places in the pines. A day or so afterwards a gang of men moved a neighboring cottage a few feet, cutting two trees near those in which the birds were building, and the birds disappeared. About two weeks later a single bird was seen at the same place. This species was given in the List on the strength of the single specimen given by Dr. Merriam, in his 'Preliminary List of the Birds of the Adirondack Region,' as taken at Lyon's Falls. It must now be given as a rare summer resident, breeding.

Dendroica palmarum.—Given in the List on the authority of Dr. Merriam. Mr. Shepard has taken three specimens, two near Clinton, May 3 and 9, 1888, and one at Sylvan Beach, Oct. 5, 1889.

Troglodytes aëdon.—Perhaps the strangest observation we have to record is the entire disappearance of this species which was ten or fifteen years ago one of our most abundant species, nesting in dozens of bird houses in the city and in every empty shed and wooden bridge in the country. In the List it is given as "a summer resident, not nearly so common as formerly, breeds." Since that was written four years have passed during which, of the four workers whose observations are here recorded, only one has seen a single specimen of this bird. Since 1887 not a single one has been observed. We are unable even to suggest an explanation of this mystery.

Troglodytes hiemalis.—We have taken two more nests of this species, June 28 and 29, 1887, at Holland Patent and Trenton Falls. They were placed and constructed almost exactly as the one described in the List, and contained four and six fresh eggs respectively.

Certhia familiaris americana.—Since the nest described in the List, we have taken three more, all near Holland Patent, and each placed under a loose piece of bark beside the trunk of a dead tree. The first was taken June 15, 1888, and contained four young birds ready to fly and two addled eggs. The second was taken June 21, 1888, and contained five nearly fresh eggs. The third, taken June 30, 1888, contained six fresh eggs.

Sitta canadensis.—A common migrant; summer resident in the northern part of the County. Breeds. A second nest, taken May 30, 1887, in Wilmurt, Herkimer Co., contained six fresh eggs.

Parus hudsonicus.—A specimen was killed by Mr. Hughes at Remsen, Dec. 25, 1886. This species was given in the List on the authority of Dr. Merriam.

Regulus satrapa.—Given in the List as "a common migrant." To this must be added:—An occasional resident, both winter and summer; breeds.—A specimen was taken by Messrs. Hughes and Shepard at the same time and place as the preceding, and they also report that they have found them other winters. During the latter part of June, 1888, near Holland Patent we observed a pair of these birds followed by seven or eight young which they were feeding.