

bird was hidden by thick bushes, handed me his gun and I secured it. They proved to be a young male and a female, the first examples of this species, I believe, ever taken in Worcester County.— R. E. KIMBALL, *Fitchburg, Mass.*

**A Yellow-crowned *Regulus calendula*.**—April 27, 1890, I shot near Laurel, Md., an adult male 'Ruby-crowned' Kinglet which has the crown-patch pure orange-yellow instead of vermillion, the plumage being otherwise quite normal. The crown-patch is very well developed, being more extensive than in the average of specimens. — ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

**The Breeding Ranges and Songs of Three Thrushes in Montana.**—In June, 1889, while collecting in the Belt River Cañon I found the summer home of three of the smaller Thrushes more or less overlapping, and the following notes and comparisons, made at the time, may be of interest. The birds referred to are *Turdus fuscescens salicicolus*, *T. ustulatus swainsoni* and *T. aonalaschkae auduboni*, the Willow, Olive-backed and Audubon's Thrushes.

First, I will speak of the Willow Thrush, the commonest and most widely distributed of the Thrushes in Montana. It finds favorite nesting sites all along the valley streams in thickets of willow, rose, box-elder, etc., that, as the summer advances, become almost impenetrable with a rank growth of weeds. From such localities its song is often heard on its first arrival, but later little else than its loud, plaintive call-note greets the listener's ear and one may spend many a fruitless moment in trying to obtain a fair glimpse of the wary little inhabitant of the secluded covert. From the lower valleys this species ranges up to the mountain foot-hills and cañons, but I have never seen it far from water or more than a few yards above the earth, and never in heavy, evergreen timber. The Willow Thrush's song, identical with that of the Eastern form, although so difficult to describe, is probably familiar to most lovers of birds in the regions where either variety breeds. It is not surpassed, in my estimation, either in beauty or length by the song of the Olive-backed or of Audubon's Thrush. The song of the latter may about equal it, while in any case, I should put the Olive-back last on the list of vocalists, although its notes are the most varied, and quite odd as well. Willow Thrushes are rare here in spring and fall migration, from which it may be inferred that no great numbers go much farther north. They arrive with considerable regularity about May 15. The latest date I have for their departure is September 7.

Next in order of abundance during the breeding season, is the Olive-backed Thrush. In migration it is the only common bird of the three, appearing in considerable numbers about the middle of May, and again the second or third week in September, along all the lower valley streams. The earliest I have noted their arrival in spring is May 10, and at this season they do not tarry long away from their breeding grounds. In the fall they appear from the higher elevations about September 1, and