

winter residents in that vicinity. Of the list of thirty-four species observed by us the following seem worthy of note.

Otocoris alpestris. — Immense flocks.

Molothrus ater. — A small flock.

Poocætes gramineus. — Flock of a dozen or more.

Ammodramus princeps. — Two shot on the sand-hills, and there were no doubt others, as we failed to make a very careful search for them.

Ammodramus sandwichensis savanna. — Common in flocks.

Spizella pusilla. — Several flocks.

Melospiza georgiana. — Common on the marshes.

Passerella iliaca. — Several seen.

Dendroica coronata. — Tolerably common among the pines.

Cistothorus stellaris. — Several secured on the marshes.

Cistothorus palustris. — Tolerably common in cat-tail swamps.

Parus carolinensis. — This was the only Chickadee to be found; indeed I have never seen any *P. atricapillus* from southern New Jersey.

Among other species may be mentioned *Cathartes aura*, *Colaptes auratus*, *Agelaius phœniceus*, *Sturnella magna*, *Spinus pinus*, *Cardinalis cardinalis*, *Thryothorus ludovicianus*, *Merula migratoria*, *Sialia sialis*, most of which are regular winter residents in the vicinity of Philadelphia. — WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia*.

Notes on a Few Louisiana Birds.—The following observations were made at Calumet Plantation, Parish of St. Mary's, Louisiana, during October, November and December, 1889; July, 1890, to March, 1891; and June to November, 1891; and relate to a narrow strip of territory extending along both banks of Bayou Teche, near the town of Patterson. Other interests have prevented as yet very close attention to the birds. The following notes are offered for what they may be worth, in the hope that they will be followed later by a more complete list of the birds of this very interesting region.

Ægialitis vocifera.—Resident throughout the year, but locally rare in the breeding season. Very abundant in fall and winter, first appearing in any numbers about the last of September. Frequents open fields and margins of waterways, and the characteristic cry is often heard late into the night.

Colinus virginianus.—Very common at all seasons, breeding locally in cane and corn fields.

Zenaidura macroura.—Exceedingly common in fall and winter when pursued as game. Lingers late, and a few breed.

Cathartes aura.—Common.

Catharista atrata.—Common. It is interesting to note that this and the foregoing species seem to alternate, each occupying the field for a time very nearly to the exclusion of the other. The Turkey Buzzard, in spring and early summer, is not very common, and the Carrion Crow is quite rarely seen. As the season advances, the former species soon becomes abundant, while comparatively few of the latter are among them.

In September there seems to be an increase of the Carrion Crows, and a diminution of the Turkey Buzzards, and gradually these are less and less often observed, until by November they are comparatively scarce, remaining so through the rest of the winter.

Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi.—Fairly common in winter, hovering low over open land. One specimen taken in October.

Falco columbarius.—Not very many noted. One example taken Oct. 5, 1891.

Falco sparverius.—Very numerous from September to March. Have never seen one here in summer.

Syrnium nebulosum alleni.—Quite common. This is locally the commonest hooting Owl about houses. Between August and November, 1891, five of these Owls were shot in the grounds about the plantation residence.

Coccyzus americanus.—Common in summer, and breeds locally in some numbers.

Sphyrapicus varius.—One specimen shot in November, 1890, in the swamp.

Colaptes auratus.—Common in winter and very abundant in early spring. Confined strictly to the swamp lands. Not very many noted in summer.

Chordeiles virginianus.—Abundant in summer, breeding in grassy fields.

Chætura pelagica.—Not at all common, even as a migrant. A few noted in April and in August, 1891.

Trochilus colubris.—A small number breed, but from the first week in August onward thousands are present, staying until late in October, and always to be found as long as the flowers of the cypress vine and trumpet creeper bloom.

Tyrannus tyrannus.—Very scarce locally, the only two specimens noted being seen on July 11 and 20, 1891. Probably more common in higher districts within a few miles.

Sayornis phœbe.—Rather common and breeds.

Agelaius phœniceus.—One of the most abundant of local breeders. About the middle of August this species, as also the Great-tailed Grackle, becomes temporarily scarce, presumably leaving for the better feeding grounds of the rice districts further northward. Returning later, much swelled in numbers, they continue abundant until about April first, when the departure of migrants thins the ranks appreciably.

Scolecophagus carolinus.—An abundant spring and fall migrant. A female secured from a flock seen Jan. 19, 1891. This species, when here, does not associate with other Blackbirds.

Passerina ciris.—Very abundant. One of the few birds breeding in the cane fields.

Progne subis.—Common from April to August, breeding wherever boxes or gourds are prepared for them. They generally disappear quite early in the autumn; the last brood is usually fledged by the middle of August.

Chelidon erythrogaster.—Fairly common as a spring and fall migrant.

Tachycineta bicolor.—Like the preceding species, but more abundant and remaining for a longer period in the fall. Flights noted as late as November 25.

Merula migratoria.—Abundant in flocks during winter. Sometimes lingers as late as March 17. Is hunted as game while here, and soon becomes very shy of approach.

Passer domesticus.—This introduced species has appeared in this locality within the past five years, and has increased in numbers so rapidly that at the present time it is as common as in any northern town. Particularly abundant in summer, nesting in colonies among the live-oaks and using the common long moss with a few feathers as building material.—FRANK E. COOMBS, *Patterson, La.*

An Overlooked Volume.—In the Bibliographical Appendix to Dr. Coues's 'Birds of the Colorado Valley,' I can find no reference to a small volume in my library, a short account of which will doubtless be of interest to the students of Kentucky ornithology. It consists of a series of letters by G. Imlay, written and published during the latter part of the last century, entitled, "History of Kentucky,"* and containing among other things a catalogue of the mammals and birds of the State. Some forty-two species of the former are given, and their distribution is defined by the degrees of latitude between which they are common. The list of birds is considerably larger, a hundred and twenty-eight species in all being enumerated, for the most part under the Linnæan as well as the vernacular names. Unfortunately all reference to the distribution and abundance of the various species is omitted, thus detracting much from the value of the list. The Carolina Parakeet (*Conurus carolinensis*) and the "Large pouch pelican," (*Pelecanus fuscus?*) are among the birds mentioned.—J. H. PLEASANTS, JR., *Baltimore, Md.*

* A | Topographical Description | of the | Western Territory | of | North America; | containing | a succinct account | of its | Climate, Natural History, Population, | Agriculture, Manners and Customs, | with | an ample description of the several divisions into which that country is divided. | And an accurate Statement of the various Tribes of | Indians that inhabit the Frontier Country, | to which is annexed | a delineation of the laws and government | of the | State of Kentucky, | tending to shew the probable rise and | grandeur of the American Empire, | in a series of letters to a friend in | England. | By G. Imlay, | A Captain in the American Army during the late War, and a Commissioner | for laying out Land in the Back Settlements. | New-York: | printed | by Samuel Campbell, | no. 37, Hanover Square: | MDCCXC-III. 2(?) vols. 8vo. Vol. I, pp. (i)—(xxiii), [25]—[260], map. Mammals and birds, vol. I, pp. [202]—[209].