

pinus. When seen again, June 14, it contained four eggs, two of which were Cowbirds, which were removed. Those remaining brought forth a pair of birds that, as they left the nest, could not be distinguished from normal young of the female parent, as would be expected, whatever the color of the male.

The Nashville Warbler probably breeds regularly throughout southern Connecticut and perhaps even in Westchester County, New York, as a pair spent the summer in Woodlawn Cemetery. I took a beautiful set of five fresh eggs in Bridgeport, June 6. The five nests I have seen were found by accident, mostly a few miles inland. In one place at Seymour, and almost within hearing of each other, five or six pairs have regularly nested for several years. With rare exceptions theirs are the best concealed nests of our birds.

The Worm-eating Warbler is a regular summer resident; I have found them in about every swampy or partly inundated wood, especially if with a rank growth of skunk cabbage. Twenty-five miles inland in the valleys I have also found them rather common, and breeding in the same situations and in kalmia thickets, generally not far from a brook or standing water.

The Hooded Warbler is common in this vicinity wherever the laurel grows in abundance, but is less so toward the central part (Seymour, etc.).

White-crowned Sparrows were abundant, in Stratford at least, during the middle of October (14th), and were by no means rare in the preceding May. At the same time in the spring there was also an unusual number of Bay-breasted Warblers, and in the latter part of the month Yellow-bellied Flycatchers.—E. H. EAMES, *Bridgeport, Connecticut*.

On the Occurrence of Three Rare Birds on Long Island, New York.—

Strix pratincola. — Mr. Wm. Conselyea of Brooklyn has a mounted specimen in his possession, which I examined and identified a short time ago, and which he has permitted me to record. He shot it at Hicks Beach, Long Island, about January 10, 1892. Mr. Conselyea was walking along the beach about four P.M. when he saw a large bird flying steadily and noiselessly over the sand hills towards him. He shot the bird, which makes the fourth record from Long Island¹.

Helminthophila celata.—This bird has been recorded from a number of localities in the Atlantic States, but never from Long Island. The nearest approach to our limits is found in a specimen taken at Hoboken, N. J., in May, 1865, by Charles S. Galbraith [Amer. Mus. coll. no. 39,669]. Dr. Edgar A. Mearns² refers to it as a "rare migrant" in the Hudson River valley, and cites a specimen from Highland Falls, N. Y.,

¹ For previous records see Auk, III, 439; V, 180; VIII, 114.

² 'A List of the Birds of the Hudson Highlands,' Bull. Essex Inst. 1878.

May, 1875, and two specimens noted by Mr. E. P. Bicknell at Riverdale, N. Y., October, 1876. Mr. W. E. Treat¹ records a specimen at East Hartford Conn., May, 1888, and Mr. Wm. Brewster² speaks of a number of other records from New England.

On October 12, 1892, at Flatbush, King's Co., New York, I shot a young male. It was in a hedge-row in company with great numbers of Myrtle Warblers, White-throated Sparrows, and a few other species. My brother and I were driving these birds along the hedge, watching for anything rare, and most of them were very alert and continued their flight at every motion we made. This bird, however, was sitting quietly on a bush, and was at once shot.

Turdus aliciae bicknelli.—I shot two Bicknell's Thrushes on Oct. 5, 1892, at Rockaway Beach. They were not together, but at widely separated parts of the Beach. I found them exceedingly shy, and it was only after much watching and pursuing of all the Thrushes that were noticed that I secured them. Many Thrushes were observed, but no others of any species were identified, for the cedars which grow on the Beach, and the tangled thickets of briars, afford excellent concealment to ground-loving birds, and in these spots they remained despite our most persistent efforts to dislodge them. Hence it seems probable that some of these others also were *T. a. bicknelli* and that there was a small migration of them at that time.

I have already noted³ the capture of this bird at Rockaway Beach on Oct. 5, 1889, and may mention the following cases of its occurrence in this region. Mr. Wm. Dutcher writes.—“My Long Island records of *bicknelli* are as follows: Oct. 1, 1881, two, Shinnecock Light; Oct. 23, 1886, one, shot at Astoria; Sept. 23, 1887, one or more, Fire Island Light; Sept. 18, 1889, one, Shinnecock Light. I believe them to be a regular migrant but not nearly so abundant as *aliciae*.” Mr. L. S. Foster writes me that he has three skins of this bird taken at the Statue of Liberty, New York Harbor, one Sept. 18-19, 1889, the others Oct. 11-12, 1891. I believe with Mr. Dutcher that this subspecies is a regular, though uncommon migrant.—ARTHUR H. HOWELL, *Brooklyn, N. Y.*

Rare Birds near Washington, D. C.—The spring migration, which is reasonably productive here about once in every four years, was remarkably so in 1892, in the number of rare and desirable birds it brought to local collectors. For the first three of the following records I am indebted to Mr. Frederick Zeller, a professional gunner, whose almost constant presence on the marshes, and excellent knowledge of local birds, enables him to detect and capture new or uncommon species in the District.

Tantalus loculator.—On July 2 Mr. Zeller brought me two females, adult and young. They were killed on the flats a short distance from the Washington Monument, and on the Maryland side of the Potomac. This is the first record of the species here in seventy-five years. According to

¹ Auk, V, 323.

³ O. & O., XV, 170.

² B. N. O. C., I, 94, 95, and Auk, III, 278.

⁴ Auk, III, 443.