

withstanding its weaker emphasis, with the five to eight notes pitched all on the same key. The call-note was not heard.

This would appear to be the first known occurrence of this bird in the State outside of Long Island, where the capture of two has been recorded by Mr. Dutcher (*Auk*, V, 1888, p. 182; X, 1893, p. 236).—EUGENE P. BICKNELL, *New York City*.

**Occurrence of *Helinaia swainsoni* in the Dismal Swamp, Virginia.**— During the early part of June, 1895, the writer made a short trip to the Dismal Swamp, and, as far as practicable, explored the region bordering Lake Drummond. Various forms of animal and plant life occurring in the locality demonstrate conclusively that the northern extension of the Austroriparian region includes this swamp area. The cane (*Arundinaria*) grows commonly through the swamp as well as along the lake shore, and often forms extensive, almost impenetrable masses. On the morning of June 2, near the edge of one of these canebrakes, the writer had the pleasure of seeing a Swainson's Warbler which, although rather wary, alighted within a few feet of him, but immediately flew off and was not seen again. On the following day an adult male was secured near an old boggy road, a couple of miles from where the first one was seen, and on June 5, still another was observed. The last, like the first, alighted near by, and, after looking at the collector for a few moments, disappeared in the thicket. From the number seen it is probable that the species is a common summer resident.—A. K. FISHER, *Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

***Helminthophila leucobronchialis* in Maryland.**— An adult male specimen of this Warbler was shot at Beltsville, Md., not far from Washington, D. C., on the first of May, this year, by Mr. A. H. Thayer, who brought it to the National Museum for identification. The bird was secured in exchange for the National Museum collection (Museum register No. 150,120). It is a very typical one, absolutely without any trace of yellow on the breast or abdomen, but with rather more black on the post-ocular streak than is shown in the plate accompanying the description of the type, and considerably more than in the specimen shot by Mr. Wm. Palmer near Washington, May 8, 1885 (No. 105,684). Some of the feathers of the cheeks are black, a feature not shown in the type, nor in the above-mentioned example collected by Mr. Palmer. The back is clear ash gray, with the faintest possible tinge of yellow in the interscapular region. The crown and wing bands are bright yellow, as in the type.—CHAS. W. RICHMOND, *Washington, D. C.*

**Nesting of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis* in Connecticut.**— My collector, Mr. Samuel Robinson, found here June 24, 1894, a nest of this puzzling Warbler containing four eggs, but did not disturb it. The next day I visited the spot and started the female from the nest a number of

times. Her mate was *H. chrysoptera* in normal plumage. He flew to the female occasionally and was quite tame. At this time, when swinging in an apple-tree near by, the drawling note peculiar to this species was so faint as to require close attention to hear it. My first idea was to leave the eggs and have them hatch, then watch the young and so try to settle the perplexing question about these birds, but the nest was so close to a cattle-path in the swamp that it was liable to be destroyed by the animals when passing to and fro after water, they having already nearly stepped in it. I finally waited until the 23d of the month and took the nest and eggs and secured both birds. After the female was shot, and the male was unable to find her, his song changed and was as loud and sharp as in early spring. The nest was on the ground among thick alder bushes on the edge of a swampy thicket. It was composed externally of dry leaves and a few pieces of coarse grass, and lined with delicate strips of grape-vine bark. The eggs are white, finely and sparsely speckled with reddish brown, the dots being more conspicuous about the larger end, forming in one egg a noticeable ring. This female *leucobronchialis* is nearly as bright in color as the males. The chin, breast and abdomen are marked with yellow, the breast strongly so. Wing-bars yellowish white. I have now found Brewster's Warbler here for nine successive years, the specimen referred to above being the only female. The large series in my collection shows many variations. — JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

**Nesting of *Mimus polyglottos* in Eastern Massachusetts.**—On June 3, 1895, while walking along a narrow country road in Groton, Massachusetts, my attention was suddenly attracted by the strange sight of a Mockingbird flying across an adjoining field. It alighted on a fence post near by, and, as I turned back to make sure that I had seen aright, my surprise was increased by the appearance of a second one. The two birds flew off together with such an evident air of being mates that I immediately began to look for a nest. The road was bordered on each side by a broad stretch of grassy fields, divided by rail fences: an eighth of a mile away it crossed a much travelled highway, strung along which a dozen houses could be seen; while at about the same distance in the opposite direction was the beginning of a large tract of deciduous woods. Besides these woods, there was hardly a tree anywhere near, save a few small apple-trees by one of the houses and one or two more—stunted, chance-sown seedlings—growing by the roadside. To one of the latter, a few steps away, I directed my search. In a moment I discovered a clumsily built nest a dozen feet from the ground, amid the thick foliage of a branch that overhung the road. I climbed the tree and, though I found the nest empty, I was rewarded by a scolding visit from the birds. When I came again on June 13 they gave me a still more unfriendly greeting though they were so wary that I obtained only the male to accompany the nest and four half-incubated eggs which I secured.