

Further on in this favored woodland where the trees were scattered, but the underbrush dense, a pair of Mourning Warblers (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) were feeding their young; not far distant another pair had a nest full of fresh eggs concealed among the blackberry bushes and ferns beside a moss-covered log.

Near Springville the Hooded Warbler (*Sylvania mitrata*) was common. Nest and eggs of this species were taken here and at East Hamburg. The Black-throated Blue Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, and Black and Yellow Warbler were all found in full-breeding dress and song. The nest and eggs of *Sylvania canadensis* were taken on the 5th of June; also a pair of the old birds and a young bird in full plumage the last of June, 1895.—ELAN HOWARD EATON, *Canaan-dauga, N. Y.*

Virginia Notes.—My notes of a visit to Southwestern Virginia in the spring of 1895—April 24 to May 9—contain three or four items which may be worthy of record.

Chondestes grammacus.—On April 28, at Pulaski, I found a bird of this species feeding in grass-land, where it allowed me to watch it at my pleasure. Dr. Rives reports a single Virginia specimen as having been taken in Washington, and in 'The Auk' for January, 1896, Mr. William Palmer records a second specimen taken in August, 1895.

Helminthophila chrysoptera.—Of the species Dr. Rives mentions a single Virginia specimen, taken near Washington by Dr. Fisher. At Pulaski, I saw four or more individuals April 28 to May 1. On my last morning there (May 1), in a hurried visit of a few minutes to the edge of the woods near the hotel, I found two Golden-wings among a bevy of new arrivals of different species. The Warbler migration was still only beginning, and I had then little doubt that a longer stay would show the species to be pretty common. All my birds were males.

Dendroica cærulea.—This species marked by Dr. Rives as "accidental or very rare," seemed to be moderately common at Natural Bridge, where it frequented exclusively the tops of hills covered with old deciduous forest. I saw it first on May 4. Two days later a female was seen gathering nest materials, but a long hunt failed to find the nest itself. The males sang with the utmost freedom. On May 6 I found them thus engaged on four hilltops.

It may be worth adding that Red Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra minor*) were seen or heard on four dates at Pulaski and Natural Bridge, and that I found a flock of five birds feeding at Arlington, in the national cemetery, on May 12.—BRADFORD TORREY, *Wellesley Hills, Mass.*

On Birds reported as rare in Cook County, Ill.—*Porzana noveboracensis.*—In Ridgway's Birds of Illinois, this species is given as not uncommon, but from the observations of Mr. J. G. Parker and myself the Yellow Rail is a quite common resident of Cook County. I have had no