

in the higher mountainous and densely wooded tracts of the northern half of the State. Wells post office is located in the margin of a dense pine and spruce forest at the western base of the lofty Wind River range of mountains, in Uinta County, Wyoming, and its elevation, by aneroid barometer, taken the day we were there, was 8,000 feet. — FRANK BOND, *Cheyenne, Wyo.*

Breeding of the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii alnorum*) near Plainfield, New Jersey. — During a visit to Ash Swamp, three miles east of Plainfield, Union County, New Jersey, on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of July, 1899, I was surprised to find the Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii alnorum*) a common species there.

My identification was confirmed by Dr. Jonathan Dwight, Jr., who examined a bird-of-the-year secured on August 6, 1899.

Circumstances pointed to its breeding here, and my experience during the past summer proves that it does so, for on every visit to the swamp I found the shy little flycatchers among the alders. These dates include May 30, June 17 and 24, and July 8, 15, 22 and 29.

The species is rather numerous and generally distributed throughout the swamp (which is less than one square mile in area), frequenting chiefly the alders along the streams and edges of the woods. Elsewhere in the vicinity of Plainfield I have found it only during the migrations.

I have not yet succeeded in finding an occupied nest, but discovered a deserted nest containing one egg, which may belong to this species. On July 29 I came upon one of these birds with a brood of full-grown young and saw one of the latter fed by its parent.

I believe this to be the first positive record of the breeding of this species south of northwestern Connecticut.

Its three congeners of the eastern United States all occur in this vicinity. The Least Flycatcher is a common summer resident, the Green-crested Flycatcher is a rare summer resident, and the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher is a fairly common transient visitor.

The avi-fauna of this region is decidedly Carolinian. — W. D. W. MILLER, *Plainfield, N. J.*

The Raven in Polk County, North Carolina. — On the morning of February 15, 1897, I saw a Raven as it passed over the mountain village of Tryon, Polk County, N. C. Tryon is said to have an elevation of about 1500 feet, and is situated on a ridge leading up from the Piedmont Region to the peaks of Melrose and Hogback, the latter in South Carolina. — LEVERETT M. LOOMIS, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco.*

Song of the Western Meadowlark. — Referring to the comment of G. S. Mead in his letter of August 18, 1900, printed in the October number of 'The Auk,' relative to the musical ability of *Sturnella magna neg-*
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