

appeared to be the fur of the northern hare or rabbit nicely felted together.

This record of *Parus hudsonicus* would appear to indicate a later season for nesting than that occupied by *P. atricapillus*, as I discovered a flock of the latter containing both the old and young birds, several days from the nest, feeding only a few rods from the spot where, snug in their tree, lay concealed the brood of young *hudsonicus* which appeared to be only about a week out of the shell. Accordingly *atricapillus* must have been out in the world quite ten days before *hudsonicus* would leave its nest.

During my rambles in this vicinity in the months of September and October, I found *hudsonicus* to be more abundant than during previous years, and on at least one occasion a flock containing five or six individuals was seen. May we not hope that this occasional resident bird is becoming more abundant within our borders, and that the observations of future seasons may prove it to be a permanent though rare species.—SANFORD RITCHIE, *Dover, Me.*

Hudsonian Chickadee about Boston, Mass.—Mr. M. C. Blake and I have four records of the Hudsonian Chickadee (*Parus hudsonicus*) in the vicinity of Boston in November, 1904, namely: Middlesex Fells, Virginia Wood, November 4; Ipswich, Castle Hill, November 12; Belmont, November 25; and Waverley, Beaver Brook Reservation, November 25. In each instance a single Hudsonian has been in the company of a flock of Blackcaps in evergreen growth. In the case of the Ipswich bird he was in closely growing young spruces and hardly above the level of the eye and was very finely seen while he gave a sweet warbling song. The Belmont bird was also well seen and gave a few notes of the warbling song. In another flock of *P. atricapillus* the distinctive calls of a second *hudsonicus* were heard, and when we reached Waverley upon the same afternoon a third *hudsonicus* was giving calls among a flock of *atricapillus*. As it has not been my good fortune in previous autumns and winters to meet with this species, it would appear that at least it is in more evidence this season in the vicinity of Boston than for the last five years.—HORACE W. WRIGHT, *Boston, Mass.*

The Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in the Public Garden, Boston, Mass.—In the early morning of October 22, 1904, which was clear with a light southwesterly wind, following a southeasterly gale of fifty miles an hour along the Middle Atlantic and New England coasts the previous day, I found upon entering our Public Garden in the heart of the city a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila cærulea*). Immediately upon my entrance his call was heard from a neighboring beech, and being different from any call-note with which I was acquainted,—tiny, nervously given and oft-repeated,—it guided me at once to the presence of the bird. He constantly flitted from one bough to another with even more rapidity than does a kinglet and was of about kinglet size. The clear blue-gray of the entire head