

dark throats and red foreheads, the male with a conspicuous red patch on his breast.

It might also be of interest to note that the Scaup Duck (*Aythya marila*), found quite abundantly on the Magdalens by both Rev. C. J. Young and the Rev. H. K. Job, on their visits to the Islands, were this year no where to be found and the islanders could not account for their sudden disappearance.—J. P. CALLENDER, *Summit, N. J.*

Nesting of the Junco in Eastern Massachusetts.—On May 25, 1905, in the Middlesex Fells, near the Medford border, I ran across a pair of Juncos (*Junco hyemalis*) with food in their bills. I watched them and the female soon went to the nest. It was situated under the edge of a tussock of grass, in an open space in the woods, and contained four well-grown young.

The nearest breeding record I have yet found is Fitchburg, mentioned by Messrs. Howe and Allen in their 'Birds of Massachusetts.—R. S. EUSTIS, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Possible Breeding of Junco hyemalis in Essex County, Mass.—On Sept. 2, 1905, I saw at Boxford, Mass., a young Junco in the juvenal plumage, with streaked back, breast, and belly. The bird was not taken, but I watched it for five minutes, part of the time within ten feet, and fully identified it. Dr. C. W. Townsend (Birds of Essex County) mentions seeing a Junco at Groveland, Mass. (just north of Boxford), Sept. 3, 1904, but he tells me that it was identified from an electric car, and he does not know whether it was an adult or an immature bird. These dates are much earlier than any migration dates known to me. Messrs. Howe and Allen (Birds of Massachusetts) give Sept. 18 as the earliest fall date, and Dr. Townsend gives Sept. 26 for Essex County. As far as I can learn, moreover, the Junco has never been taken in the first plumage at any distance from its breeding grounds, and Dr. G. M. Allen writes me that he has no breeding records for this bird from Southeastern New Hampshire. It is almost impossible, too, that the Boxford bird could have been one of the brood raised in the Middlesex Fells last summer, and recorded by Mr. R. S. Eustis in this number of 'The Auk', for Boxford is some eighteen miles from that locality and nearly due north. All these facts seem to point to the conclusion that the Junco may prove to be at least an occasional, thought doubtless an extremely rare, breeder in Eastern Massachusetts.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

The Lark Sparrow in Massachusetts.—On August 12, 1905, at Ipswich, Massachusetts, I observed at close range a Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus*). This makes the sixth record of this species for the State, and the fourth for Essex County. Nearly a year before this, on August 21, 1904, I took at Ipswich an adult male Lark Sparrow (Birds

of Essex County, p. 268). It has occurred to me that stragglers in the migrations along our Eastern Coast may not be so very rare, but that they are overlooked, being mistaken for Vesper Sparrows, owing to the white outer tail feathers. In both of the above instances, however, the slightly fan-shaped tail, and the fact that the white was not confined to the two outer feathers, as in the Vesper Sparrow, attracted my eye. The characteristic marking on the side of the head in the Lark Sparrow, seen with a glass within thirty feet, made the diagnosis in the second case absolutely certain.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, M. D., *Boston, Mass.*

A Male Golden-winged Warbler (*Helminthophila chrysoptera*) Mated with a Female Blue-winged Warbler (*Helminthophila pinus*) at Bethel, Conn.—On June 11, 1905, Robert Judd, H. C. Judd and myself were walking through a patch of second growth when our attention was attracted by the sharp chipping of two birds, which we found to be a male *Helminthophila chrysoptera* and a female *Helminthophila pinus*.

After nearly two hours of searching and watching I flushed the female *pinus* from the nest, which contained five young about two days old. During this time both birds were very much excited. These two birds were the only *Helminthophila* seen or heard in the vicinity.

The nest was placed on the ground in a bed of leaves at the foot of a bunch of chestnut sprouts and was concealed by a few grasses. The grass was not as thick as is usual in typical nesting sites of *H. pinus*. The male *chrysoptera* frequently flew into this bunch of chestnut sprouts while we were watching the two birds.

June 16, Robert Judd and myself again visited the nest and found the young birds had left it. Both of the old birds were around and were very much excited.

After watching them for some time we found one young bird which the female was feeding. This was apparently the only young there was left and it was in typical plumage of young *H. pinus*. We caught the young bird, and among the Chewinks, Yellow-breasted Chats, Indigo Buntings, Field Sparrows, etc., that were attracted by its cries of distress, was a male *H. pinus*, who was promptly driven off by the male *H. chrysoptera*. This was the only male *pinus* seen near the nest at any time. We gave the young bird his liberty again and watched the two old birds for some time. The male was not seen to feed the young bird, but he flew uneasily from bush to bush, chipping frequently.

On account of thunder storms and heavy rains we were unable to make any further observations until June 23. On this date neither the old birds nor young could be found, although we searched thoroughly for several hours. Possibly the young were destroyed by the heavy rains, or some predatory mammal may have finished them. A further search on June 25 and July 9 also failed to show any trace of them.—JESSE C. A. MEEKER, *Danbury, Conn.*