

"The parent birds were very bold and perched within two feet of the nest while I was examining it, continually uttering their clear piping call and ruffling the feathers on their heads into a small crest. The female sat very close and almost allowed herself to be touched before flying."—
JOHN E. THAYER, *Lancaster, Mass.*

The Prairie Horned Lark a Summer Resident in Connecticut.— In 'The Auk,' Vol. XXII, July, 1905, I reported having secured a pair of Prairie Horned Larks (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*) on May 25, 1905, at Litchfield, Conn., which were undoubtedly breeding birds and which made the first breeding record for Connecticut. Though no nest has yet been found, there can be no question but that these birds are regular summer residents in the vicinity of Litchfield, and not rare, for they have since been seen quite often both by my cousin, Mr. Harrison Sanford, and myself during the months of April, May, June, July, and August on several of the high ridges in the vicinity of the village.—E. SEYMOUR WOODRUFF, *Litchfield, Conn.*

The Bobolink in Colorado.— The migration and nesting of the Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*), which visits certain portions of Colorado, has always been of no little interest to bird fanciers and students.

The Bobolink was first seen by myself in Rio Blanco County, near Meeker, the county seat, in the late spring and early summer of 1905. I have found them in three localities about six miles apart and in each instance in a low or marshy place, usually six or eight in a place. They are quite quiet if the day is cloudy and could easily be overlooked, but should the sun suddenly appear the birds almost as suddenly fly into the air singing their beautiful little song on the wing. On bright sunshiny days I have always found them in the three places referred to above, viz., Cool Creek, Wilber Ranch, and Harp Ranch on White River. I have never seen the bird in any other place in Rio Blanco County than the three mentioned above.— F. H. HOPKINS, *Meeker, Col.*

Probable Breeding of the White-throated Sparrow in Connecticut.— On June 26, 1906, while tramping through a spruce swamp near Bantam Lake, Litchfield, Conn., I was surprised to hear the song of the white-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). I soon found and secured the bird, a male. The date and the fact that the testes were much enlarged makes it almost certain that this bird was breeding there, and if so, the first breeding record for Connecticut. I searched for sometime in hopes of finding his mate and clinching the record, but that I did not find her was not surprising considering the denseness of the thickets of spruce and larch.— E. SEYMOUR WOODRUFF, JR., *Litchfield, Conn.*

A New Song.— Several years ago, at Lakewood, New Jersey, I saw a small bird in the top of a maple on First Street which was singing a song entirely new to me. It was unmusical and very simple, but earnest and

persistent. I cannot suggest it more clearly in syllables than as *Chur*, *chur*, *chur*, *chur*, *chur*. The commas indicate pauses quite as long as the notes, each of which was about three quarters of a second in duration.

Perched on one of the topmost twigs of the tree, in a crouching attitude, the singer showed little of his form and nothing of his colors. I failed to identify him; and since I soon left Lakewood for the season, for a year the song remained a mystery to me.

The following April I heard it again, issuing from a tree-top within a few yards of the one from which I first heard it. Again I failed to identify the author of it, who kept amongst small branches in the tops of tall trees. After a day or two, however, he began to frequent small trees and shrubs. Then I discovered that he was a Chipping Sparrow.

During the earliest hours of the morning he sang at greater length than at other times. That is to say, the syllable *chur* was repeated a greater number of times before he took a rest. Often it was repeated a dozen times, occasionally even more. At no hour of the day was it uttered less than three times in succession.

This second year I heard the bird daily for several weeks,— until I left Lakewood again. The next year I did not stay at Lakewood late enough in the season to hear him. But early in the fourth spring I heard him there once more.

Direct evidence that a migratory bird — the same individual — has returned to the same locality for several years is not frequently obtainable. Here appears to be such evidence. In the present case, too, the bird returned to the same spot, and was only to be found within an area of about two acres.— NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine*.

The Towhee Nesting in Bushes.— On June 12, 1906, I found in Cochi-tuate, a village of the town of Wayland, Mass., a nest built in a sapling white pine, at the top. This nest may have been three feet from the ground. The pine was within twenty feet or so of a submerged bog, but was on a dry strip of thin scrub-growth, very open, within a few feet of an open wood-road. The nest was a rather bulky one made of dry miscellaneous stuff, including dead weed stalks, and was lined entirely with soft dead grass.

It contained two eggs; — palpably those of the Chewink or Towhee Bunting. I was unable to identify the nest and eggs by the presence of the owners, but Towhees were in the neighborhood, and there is no question in my mind as to the accuracy of identification. A few hours later, on the same day, I came to a similar nest, fully as bulky as a robin's, built in the first fork of a rather large red cedar on the edge of an open field bordered by a pine grove. Although shadowed by a taller pine, the cedar was practically in the open. The nest was not concealed by any foliage, but was as openly placed as the nest of a semi-domesticated robin in the low fork of a household apple tree. The nest contained four *indubitable* Towhees' eggs, and was about 5½ feet from the ground. The