

and one in Groton by Mr. C. F. Batchelder. The only cases where young birds have been found with their parents in Massachusetts, thus giving satisfactory evidence of a successful nesting within the State, are of two nearly full-grown young taken by Mr. W. S. Townsend at Arlington, Aug. 15, 1883 (C. W. Townsend, *Auk*, I, April, 1884, p. 192), and of one young female with speckled under parts shot by Mr. H. A. Torrey at Marshfield, Aug. 15, 1889 (O. and O., XIV, Sept., 1889, p. 144). The present instance seems to be the first to be recorded where the entire nesting has been under observation in Massachusetts.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

The Carolina Wren in Washtenaw County, Michigan.—The Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) has not been recorded from Washtenaw County since May 18, 1891, when a female was taken at Ann Arbor. But on June 6, 1909, the writer was fortunate enough to discover a male in full song in a bit of swampy woodland to the south of Ann Arbor. The clear, penetrating notes of the wren's fine song first drew my attention but the wren was not located until some time later when he was found on the lowest limb of a small sapling, preening his feathers. He was remarkably free from timidity and permitted of considerable familiarity. On June 13, this same locality was again visited but without results as far as the Carolina Wren was concerned. However, on June 20 the nest with five well developed young and one runt egg was discovered by following up the old bird. She was, by the merest chance, noted gathering moths and other insects from the decaying logs that lay about on the ground and by patient watching was seen to approach a small stump and disappear underneath it. Soon she returned with a bit of the excrement of the young in her bill. This she dropped at a short distance from the nest and resumed the hunt for more bugs, etc. Investigation showed the nest—a rough structure of moss, leaves, etc., lined with dried grasses, horse-hair and a few feathers—underneath a bit of decayed wood among the roots of the stump. Only one bird, presumably the female, was present in the vicinity of the nest-site, and she was far from showing any anxiety at my presence so near her home. On June 30 I revisited the nest in company with Mr. N. A. Wood of the University Museum and Mr. F. Novy. At that time the nest was deserted and the young flown. Mr. Wood collected the nest and runt egg for the Museum. One thing in particular regarding the find struck me as rather interesting and that was the fact that after the date of first discovery of the presence of the wrens not a snatch of song was heard on any of the subsequent visits.—A. D. TINKER, *Ann Arbor, Michigan.*

Brown Creepers Nesting near St. Louis.—About twenty miles northwest of St. Louis, in the bottom-land of the Missouri River, there is a swampy formation called Duck Pond. It consists of a horse-shoe-shaped body of more or less stagnant water extending for perhaps a mile and a quarter.

The water is studded with trees that have been dead long enough to lose their branches and part of their bark. Bushes and cat-tail flags border the inside of the horseshoe, while beyond the dead trees is a fringe of mixed growth of willows, ash and elm. The adjoining fields are not at present in cultivation. While wading through this swamp on the 6th of June, 1909, I observed two Brown Creepers (*Certhia familiaris americana*) making trips to one of the dead elms with something in their beaks. As they were not very timid, the spot they were visiting was easily located. A strip of bark about eight inches wide had drawn away from the tree and a nest was placed behind this and about twelve feet from the water. It did not contain young, as I expected, but the surface was covered with small pieces of bark, evidently the objects that the birds were carrying. I left the nest undisturbed and returned the following week. During an hour's wait no creepers visited the tree, though I thought I heard one's note. The nest was still empty, possibly deserted, and, as it was very doubtful whether I would have another opportunity to visit the nest, I collected it. The nest was placed between the bark and the trunk, filling the crescent-shaped opening. Some coarse material, sticks and pieces of bark, formed a framework for the support of the nest proper which was composed almost entirely of downy material, packed rather closely. The downy material appeared to be a mixture of fine shreds of bark and a cotton-like substance. The width of the nest was four and a half inches at the top and the depth was about three and a half. Mr. Widmann, after examining the nest, felt sure that it was of last year's make. Its condition indicated that young birds had been raised in it at some time. Perhaps the pieces of bark that were being added were in the nature of repairs. On the 20th of June the tree was again visited for a short time but no creepers were heard. On the 27th of June, I entered the swamp at a point about a half mile from the 'Creepers tree' and was fortunate enough to find a pair of Creepers feeding in the live growth of willows and ash. They did not act as though feeding young, the only thing in any way peculiar in their actions being the fact that one bird, on two occasions, flattened itself out on a horizontal limb, with wings and tail extended, and remained in that position for several seconds. Other birds frequenting the swamp were Flickers, Hairy, Red-headed, and Red-bellied Woodpeckers, Yellow-billed Cuckoos, White-eyed Vireos, Yellow-breasted Chats, Redstarts, Yellow-throats, Prothonotary Warblers, Crested Flycatchers, Bronzed Grackles, Redwing Blackbirds, Green Herons, Chickadees, and Titmice. One Black-billed Cuckoo and a Song Sparrow were also seen, both rather rare breeders in this part of Missouri.—NORMAN DEW. BETTS, *Pittsburgh, Pa.*

A Colony of Hermit Thrushes at Yaphank, Long Island, N. Y.—On the afternoon of the 25th of July, 1908, I heard an unfamiliar bird song in the woods at the easterly end of the village of Yaphank, not far from the middle of Long Island. Upon investigation I found several of the