

them as Reedbirds. Red-winged Blackbirds, plucked, are also palmed off to the ignorant as Reedbirds.

By October 1 the dead marshes are almost forsaken by the Reedbirds; my latest records of their occurrence are October 7, 1907, and October 14, 1908, when I saw several on both occasions at Bridesburg, but I have the assurance of reliable gunners that they have taken them as late as October 25, and wounded individuals have been killed as late as November. Whether the adult or young birds are the last to depart I cannot state from experience.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Harrowgate, Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Regular Summer Crossbills at Ithaca, N. Y.**—These erratic nomads have so long enjoyed a reputation for irregularity in their movements, both winter and summer, that the regularity of their appearance at Ithaca, especially during the past four years, seems worthy of note. In fact they have come to be predicted as accurately as many of our spring migrants.

In all we have about 40 records for the species. Of these, none have been made during the fall migration, but six during the winter, five during the spring, from the middle of March to the first of May, and thirty during the month of June.

A more detailed study of our data will better reveal the regularity of their appearance. The first record was made June 16, 1889, by Mr. L. A. Fuertes who with us in recent years has noticed the regularity of their occurrence. In 1900 and 1904 records were also made in June. In 1906 a flock of 10 were seen on the Cornell Campus from June 21 to 24. In 1907 they were first seen on May 28 when twelve were recorded, and they continued common until June 24. In 1908 they were daily noted from June 10 to 17. In 1909 a flock of fifteen appeared June 6 and the species remained until June 14. Thus, for four successive years they have returned in approximately the same season of the year and the appearance is apparently regular.—ALBERT H. WRIGHT, ARTHUR A. ALLEN, *Ithaca, N. Y.*

**Breeding of the White-throated Sparrow in Yates County, N. Y.**—Owing to the fact that the White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) has never been reported as breeding in western New York, it gives me pleasure to record the nesting of this species in the famous bird haunt, Potter Swamp, in the northern portion of Yates County.

On the evening of May 31, 1909, as I was leaving the edge of this swampy forest I was surprised to hear the sweet clear whistle of a White-throated Sparrow coming from a two-acre clearing at the edge of the woods. Again on June 6, while photographing a nest of the Cerulean Warbler "in situ" near this clearing I heard the White-throat again, and as the bird sang so constantly and remained in a restricted area I felt convinced that it was singing to its mate on the nest. Therefore upon descending from the Cerulean's nest I began a search for the nest that was only successful after over

two hours' hunt among the tangle of weeds, ferns, bushes and swamp grass. The female was flushed directly from the nest at my feet, thus proving her to be a very close sitter. The nest contained four fresh eggs and was hidden on top of a grassy hummock at the base of a bunch of weeds surrounded by ferns and small bushes. Several photographs of the nest and eggs were taken.

The nearest record that I have been able to find was of a pair found breeding in Oneida County, near the village of Holland Patent, on June 16, 1886.

Of other species nesting in the near vicinity were Golden-winged Warbler, Canadian Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Water-thrush, Winter Wren, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Wood Duck, and Brown Creeper.—CLARENCE F. STONE, *Branchport, N. Y.*

**¶ The Grasshopper Sparrow in Ontario.**—In 'The Auk' for October, C. W. Eifrig, reports the occurrence of this bird in Ottawa, stating that this extends the bird's range by a long distance. This is, however, not the first time that the bird has been taken there. In the 'Ottawa Naturalist' for 1898, page 87, under the heading of 'Bird Notes' by W. T. Macoun, is the following: "Grasshopper Sparrow, one seen beyond Hull, on the 24th of June, doubtless breeding. Seen in rear of Experimental Farm on 26th and 27th, and one shot on the 28th." This is another addition to Ottawa's bird list.

My impression is, that this bird has not been observed near Ottawa in the intervening period, but evidently there were several of them around in that year. But it will also be observed, that as Hull is in Quebec, the bird was added that year to the Quebec list as well.—W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ont.*

**The Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) Breeding in Burke County, North Carolina.**—On April 17, 1909, I heard what I then supposed to be the song of the Parula Warbler (*Compsothlypis americana*). The song, while almost identical with the song of that diminutive species, was not the song that I am accustomed to hear every spring on the coast of South Carolina. As the birds did not increase during the months of April and May and as there was scarcely any *Usnea* "moss" in which to build their nests, I concluded to make the identification positive, at close range, not wishing to shoot one. The few birds kept almost constantly in the topmost branches of sycamores, poplars, birches and deciduous oaks. On May 28, while *en route* to the locality, near Morganton, it suddenly occurred to me that the songs I had been hearing for over a month were produced by the Cerulean Warbler, as I had just remembered Mr. Brewster's description of the song of this species in his 'Birds of Ritchie County, West Virginia' (Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. N. Y., XI, 1875, 134). The morning on which the birds were positively identified I was accompanied by a friend, who is much interested in ornithology, and as we entered