

the north coast of Santiago Province in eastern Cuba on May 20, 1909. These pines are locally known as "Pinares de Mayari," and extend over an area of some 50 square miles, the ground underneath them being covered to a depth of from 6 to 12 feet with loose iron ore which is being crushed by the Spanish American Iron Co. and sent to the "States." The altitude of the Pinares is 1800 feet above sea level.

It is worthy of note that this warbler is not found in the pines on the south coast of this province, where I have looked for it diligently; nor is it found, according to Dr. Gundlach, on the Ile of Pines where there are to be found large extents of pine woods. Although there are clumps of other timber scattered here and there through the pine forest *D. pityophila* is not to be found in them, it living strictly on the pines and usually in the highest branches, where were it not for its song it would be next to impossible to locate, as it is very difficult to see among the branches. I have never seen it on the ground and believe it does not leave the trees.

On the above date I found full grown young flying about showing it to be an early breeder. Heretofore it has been reported only from western Cuba, where Dr. Gundlach found it.—CHARLES T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba.*

**A New Breeding Record for Wayne Co., Michigan.**—In a hawthorn pasture on P. C. 669, Ecorse Township, August 13, 1910, I found a nest of the Mockingbird containing three young that would have flown in a day or two. The adult birds were present in dirty and worn plumage with a suggestion of molt and with sexual organs reduced to minimum size, indicating a conclusion of the breeding season. The nest was placed two and a half feet above the ground in a hawthorn tree, a typical Brown Thrasher site, but it differed somewhat in construction from the nest of that species or the Catbird. The foundation was composed entirely of dead hawthorn twigs, those with the greatest profusion of thorns being selected. The sides were of the same material except that near and on the top an abundance of small dried aster plants were interwoven, including the stems, leaves and flowers. The inner foundation consisted of black horse-hair, about a quarter of an inch thick on the bottom and thinning to nothing an inch up the sides; this and the inner sides of the walls were concealed beneath a covering of dried aster leaves and flowers. The nest presented an excellent example of protective coloration, for viewed from any angle above its surface the general aspect of gray blended with the backs of the young birds. On the other hand it was very poorly concealed, in fact, I first saw it at a distance of about thirty yards. Later, both the pasture and surroundings were thoroughly searched but no trace of a previous brood was found. Of the three nestling Mockingbirds two were males and the other a female.

Southern birds occasionally appear here during the spring migrations, apparently carried north in flocks of other species. This may explain the

presence of these Mockingbirds. The fact that they were a breeding pair, however, suggests deliberate migration and so late in the season as to derive no guidance from the normal spring movement. This idea is suggested by the breeding Dickcissels that I have found here. One afternoon, in early June, 1899, I searched some ten acres of neglected land that had been my favorite collecting grounds in 1890. There were few, if any, Dickcissels present for I saw none. This was on P. C. 405 and within the present city limits of Detroit. I happened to be in the neighborhood on July 30 and was at once attracted to this field by the songs of about a dozen males and later estimated the colony to consist of fifteen pairs. They never returned to that locality and, with the exception of one bird in Monguagon Township and two in Fairview Village in 1904, none were seen until 1906. Practically all my spare time in 1906 was devoted to a portion of Grosse Pointe Farms and Township and probably the male noted June 10 was the first arrival, and the first female was seen June 24. Three nude young in the nest were located July 29, and a female was flushed from her three eggs August 5. In 1907 I first visited this locality June 30 but found only one pair and their nest containing two fresh eggs. Three additional pairs were present July 7, which was my last visit until 1909-10 when not a bird could be found there nor anywhere in the county.

On consulting available data regarding Mockingbirds breeding north of their normal range I find that from one to several pairs would nest in some locality for a season or two and then disappear, exactly as did the two above colonies of Dickcissels, which seems to place both species here in the class of irregular invaders. Time will probably show that the present occurrences of Mockingbirds in the north are efforts in the direction of permanent summer residence. Last summer was unusually dry and warm here and our local pair may have traveled the whole distance through conditions not materially different from those in their normal range.—  
J. CLAIRE WOOD, *Detroit, Mich.*

**Townsend's Solitaire in Eastern South Dakota.**—A specimen of *Myadestes townsendi* was closely observed at Vermillion, extreme south-eastern South Dakota, on January 9, 1911. Having observed this species at several localities, from Alaska to Arizona, I have not the slightest doubt as to the identification. This species breeds sparingly in the Black Hills, and this individual may have been driven here by a severe west wind which prevailed during the first week of the month.—STEPHEN SARGENT VISHNER, *State University, Vermillion, S. D.*

**A Remarkable Number of Robins in Maine in Winter.**—The winter of 1910-1911 was rather steadily cold in southern Maine. December and January brought little snow, and the ground was bare most of the time during those months; but in February much snow fell. Nearly if not quite throughout the season there were many more Robins in Portland and its