

This egg, the first one taken in West Virginia, is now in the collection of Orr R. King, Weston, W. Va. During the past ten years this sparrow has become quite common in many parts of our state.

Dendroica tigrina.— Though the Cape May Warbler is rare in many places, it is exceedingly common in the interior of West Virginia, in migration, and, at times, becomes very destructive to the grape crop.

Dendroica caerulescens cairnsi.— Several specimens of Cairns' Warbler were taken about the Cranberry Glades showed few of the supposed marks of *cairnsi*. In almost every respect they were typical specimens of *Dendroica caerulescens caerulescens*.

Seiurus noveboracensis noveboracensis.— The Water-Thrushes were very abundant at the headwaters of Williams, Cranberry, Greenbrier and Cheat Rivers in West Virginia. At our camp near Cranberry Glades these birds could be heard almost constantly, and were common in the higher altitudes wherever we went.

Oporornis philadelphia.— A great many Mourning Warblers were seen in the mountains round about the Cranberry Glades and in the more elevated regions at the head-waters of the Greenbrier and Cheat Rivers. Previously Dr. Rives had found this bird in the summer in the great spruce belt near Davis in Tucker County, and I had found them breeding on Spruce Knob in Pendleton County. The presence of this northern warbler in so many places greatly extends its known breeding range in West Virginia. No nests were found, but up to June 9 the birds were still abundant in the regions visited. Three pairs were observed on Shaver's Mountain near Wildell.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni.— A nest of the Olive-backed Thrush was found on June 9 on top of Shaver's Mountain. This nest was placed in a small red spruce about two feet from the ground, and contained three fresh eggs. This is the second nest of this species ever found in West Virginia, and, with the nest which I found on Spruce Knob in 1908, marks the southern limit of the breeding range of this species. The eggs, which we needed for scientific purposes, are now in the private collection of Orr R. King. I believe this species may soon be found as far south as the Cranberry Glade region, where so many northern forms occur.— EARLE A. BROOKS, *Weston, West Virginia.*

Some Winter Bird Notes from the Yellowstone National Park.— From February 21 to March 1, 1914 I was at Gardiner, Montana, having gone there to see what I could of the game animals of the Yellowstone National Park in winter. I spent some of every day during that time in the Park, sometimes the greater portion of the day. My observations extended as far as Mammoth Hot Springs, and from there along the Cook City road for about two miles. On the twenty-eighth I walked to Mammoth by way of the "old road" which takes one up over the hills; the other days I was up and down the road along the Gardiner River. I also spent considerable time about the low hills around the field just inside the

Park near Gardiner. The following list of nine species would hardly be worth publishing were it not for the fact that nothing at all seems to have been published about the winter birds of the Park. I was surprised not to have seen Juncos and Tree Sparrows. On the banks of a ditch around and across the field was a dense growth of "sweet grass" which seemed like excellent cover for such species but no birds of any sort were seen there; possibly because of the lack of any food.

The following birds were seen:—

Anas platyrhynchos. MALLARD.— On February 28 I saw six Mallards about open water below the military post electric light plant near Mammoth, the water being from the stream or ditch which supplies the plant. A young man living at Gardiner told me that several species of ducks wintered in the Park, but this was the only one I saw there, but I did see Golden-eyes in the Yellowstone River between Gardiner and Livingstone, March first. The warm water from the hot springs flowing into the Gardiner River keeps the latter from freezing.

Ceryle alcyon alcyon. BELTED KINGFISHER.— A Kingfisher was seen on the Gardiner River on February 21, 23, and 27. But one bird was seen on each occasion, presumably the same individual.

Otocoris alpestris leucolæma (?). DESERT HORNED LARK.— February 28 half a dozen Horned Larks were seen on the old road about a mile from Gardiner. Possibly this subspecies.

Pica pica hudsonia. MAGPIE.— One seen February 28 near the old road two miles from Gardiner. The only one of the species observed and I saw no nests in any of the trees or bushes anywhere that I went.

Corvus corax sinuatus. RAVEN.— Ravens were seen on five different days, mostly in the cañon along Gardiner River, but once at Fort Yellowstone, Mammoth Hot Springs.

Nucifraga columbiana. CLARKE'S NUTCRACKER.— This species was common at Fort Yellowstone and Mammoth Hot Springs, and was noted once or twice in Gardiner Cañon. It was quite tame at the Fort. I was surprised not to see any Rocky Mountain Jays, *Perisoreus c. capitalis*.

Cinclus mexicanus unicolor. DIPPER, WATER OUSEL.— Water Ousels were more common along the Gardiner River than I have ever seen them anywhere, and I noted them daily, half a dozen or more each day in a distance of less than three miles. This abundance of a species which is apparently numerically limited in individuals is probably explained by the fact that birds from various parts of the Park were wintering here where there was open water. Cold weather has no terrors for them, but they must have open water.

Penthestes atricapillus septentrionalis. LONG-TAILED CHICKADEE.— A few Chickadees of this species were identified in Gardiner Cañon February 23. This species is not given by Dr. Palmer in his 'Notes on the Summer Birds of the Yellowstone National Park.' I saw Chickadees on another occasion but could not get close enough to identify them.

Myadestes townsendi. TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE.— One individual seen in Gardiner Cañon February 23 and 26.

When in the Park in the summer of 1904 I saw 3 or 4 Cranes, either the Sandhill (*Grus mexicana*) or the Little Brown (*G. canadensis*), in Gibbon Meadow, on July 26; and Rocky Mountain Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator montana*) were seen at the Thumb July 22, and at Upper Geyser Basin July 23. Neither of these species is mentioned by Dr. Palmer.— EDWARD R. WARREN, *Colorado Springs, Colo.*

Some Breeding Birds of Garrett Co., Md.— During a residence of fourteen years at Jennings, Garrett Co., Maryland I have had abundant opportunities to study the birds of the vicinity. I have recorded practically all of the boreal species listed by Mr. G. Eifrig (*Auk*, 1904, pp. 234–250) and have made a few observations which being supplementary to his seem worthy of record.

Astur atricapillus. GOSHAWK.— A pair were present all summer and nested about three miles above Jennings in 1901 but were both shot by a native and since the cutting away of the spruce and hemlock forest they have disappeared as breeders.

Nuttallornis borealis. OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER.— Seen regularly in spring migration but I have no positive evidence of their breeding here.

• **Nannus hiemalis hiemalis.** WINTER WREN.— Formerly frequent and still found as a regular breeding bird in this vicinity.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.— A regular summer resident before the cutting of the spruce timber, but does not now remain to breed in this vicinity.

Regulus satrapa satrapa. GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.— Formerly a regular breeder in localities thickly sprinkled with spruce timber but for the past six years since the last of the spruce was cut the Kinglet does not remain here to nest.— HERMAN BEHR, *Jennings, Maryland.*

Serious Loss of Bird-Life During Spring Migration.— There is undoubtedly a very serious loss of bird life every few years during the spring migration by sudden climatic changes, yet it is only occasionally that any details of unusual mortality are brought to the notice of those interested in the subject.

A severe storm of wind or rain with a sudden sharp drop in temperature will, I have no doubt, kill more small species than we have any realization of.

After a storm in May, Mr. E. W. Nelson once picked up on the shore of Lake Michigan forty-four recognizable specimens, including twenty-six species. This covered a stretch of only two miles.

On May 12, 1888, when the wind blew a gale and the temperature suddenly dropped from 64° to 34°, there was a great mortality in bird life between Chicago and Milwaukee, and probably over a much larger territory. In some localities the ground was strewn with birds, largely warblers. At