

Manitoba was that if they happened to find a nest of this species containing eggs or young, either they themselves or a near relative would soon die. Nothing would induce the Indians to search for nests of this species.

Passerherbulus nelsoni nelsoni. NELSON'S SPARROW.— This species was found about midway up the west shore of Lake Winnipeg on July 11, 1914. No doubt it was breeding there.

Penthestes hudsonicus hudsonicus. HUDSONIAN CHICKADEE.— As there is only one record of this species for the Province, that of Macoun for Porcupine Mountains, it may be well to state that I noted it at two places on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg on July 17 (an immature bird) and on September 6. I also noted it at Lake St. Martin on October 26, 1914.—ERIC B. DUNLOP, *Winnipeg, Manitoba.*

Bird-Notes from Cambridge, Isanti County, Minnesota.— Isanti county is situated in the southern part of east-central Minnesota, and is at one point only eight miles distant from the St. Croix River — in this vicinity the boundary between Minnesota and Wisconsin. Its northern boundary is about thirty miles south and slightly southeast of Mille Lacs Lake, which is midway between the northern and southern extremities of Minnesota. The size of the county is small compared with the others in this state, its area being only 456 square miles. In shape it is practically a square from which two townships placed north and south of each other have been cut out from the northeast corner. The adjoining counties are: Kanabec on the north, Mille Lacs and Sherburne on the west, Anoka on the south, and Chisago on the east.

The greater part of the county is drained by the Rum River and its tributary streams which are all small brooks and brooklets issuing from nearby lakes. Rum River rises in Mille Lacs Lake, flows southward through Mille Lacs, Sherburne, Isanti and Anoka Counties and unites with the Mississippi at Anoka. Entering Isanti County about five miles south of the middle of the western boundary, it flows northeastward about fifteen miles, turns abruptly southward and leaves the county about eight miles east of the southwest corner. Cambridge is situated five miles south of the vertex of the angle formed and is near the river. The course of the river is winding as may be shown by the fact that (according to the State Drainage Commission) there are fifty-two miles of river in this county. Its fall is very slight, only eleven inches per mile, the altitude of the river surface ranging from 891 to 939 feet. The river valley is bordered by side hills ranging as high as sixty feet above the level of the river. These sometimes rise directly from the water's edge in the form of bluffs but usually are farther in the background, giving space for ample meadows in which graceful bayous or "ox-bows" delight the eye. However, the southeastern projecting corner of the county and the extreme northeast and northwest corners are drained by small tributaries of the St. Croix. There are numerous lakes of varying size usually small, Green Lake, the largest one,

having only a square mile or more of surface. The precipitation at Cambridge is between twenty-nine and thirty inches.

Cambridge lies about five miles north of midway between the 45th and 46th parallels of latitude. The surrounding country is gently rolling and as a whole is of a sandy character. The black heavy loam which we find in the southern parts of the state is here totally absent and consequently such lovers of a fertile soil as the bloodroot and bellwort are here not nearly as common. In many places we find extensive black oak barrens where only black and bur oaks will grow to represent the trees but where the Pasque Flower, the pioneer of early spring startles us with its beauty when we pass through its haunts. The aspens, oaks, birches and red maples form the bulk of the more fertile upland wooded areas, while soft maples, white ashes and elms clothe the river bottomlands. Logging has ceased to be a large industry although a few sawmills are still running to accommodate those farmers who haul in their sled loads of logs to be sawed into lumber.

Cambridge seems to lie on the very southern edge of the Canadian life area of this state. Here we find large tracts of Tamarack bogs covered with a thick layer of peat-moss where the Reindeer-lichen, Labrador Tea, Leather-leaf, Rosemary, Pitcher-plant and Sundews grow in profusion. White Spruces grow abundantly in some places, intermingling with the Tamaracks and from whose dead limbs hangs the long waving *Usnea* and other lichens in which the Northern Parula Warbler may occasionally be found nesting. The mossy mounds and old hoary stumps are covered with mats of the Twin-flower and creeping Snowberry, and several species of Cyripedium grow as well. These swamps are the paradise of Orchids and Heaths. A grove of Balsam Firs grows in the northwest corner of the county at Maple Ridge, and extensive patches of White Pine are found throughout the northern half. In the larger patches the drowsy, buzzing song of the Black-throated Green Warbler can be heard all through the heat of midsummer. Jack Pines grow fairly commonly in some places but are usually under twenty-five feet in height. The leaves of the *Clintonia* cover the ground around the borders of the bogs. In hot sandy soil around some lake shores and in the pines we find the ground matted with Bearberry one of the few plants to be found growing in these situations. Wolves are still quite common in the Tamarack bogs and rarely the bear is met with. The Great Plains fauna is represented by the Jack Rabbit and Brewer's Blackbird.

So far as I know, very little if any study had ever been made of the avifauna of this county before I began my observations here in 1913. These were all made within a radius of seven miles of Cambridge. The following list is intended to give some of the observations which may be most interesting to other Minnesota bird students. With these explanatory paragraphs they are submitted as follows:

1. **Cryptoglaux funerea richardsoni.** RICHARDSON'S OWL.— I have two records in 1914 for this boreal bird. One was a female shot and brought

to me on January 31 and the skin of which I have. The other was observed March 1 and was remarkably tame. In wooded bottomland by the river.

2. **Picoides arcticus**. ARCTIC THREE-TOED WOODPECKER.— November 1–February 28. Common in winter in tamarack bogs but they can also be found in any kind of woods. Their presence is usually betrayed by a sharp “kip” which they utter at irregular intervals. Tamaracks are their favorite trees and often they will peck off the dead scaly bark the whole length of a tree to get at the borers underneath. The fact that I have no summer records and that they are so common in winter shows that they migrate somewhat south of their breeding range, in winter, through the tamarack belt.

3. **Euphagus cyanocephalus**. BREWER'S BLACKBIRD.— Since colonies of this species have been found near Minneapolis it was no great surprise to me to find another colony in a meadow just east of the station at Grandy five miles north of here on June 30, 1915. It consisted of at least five pairs and during my brief visit there two fledglings were seen able to make extensive flights.

4. **Zonotrichia albicollis**. WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.— Summer resident, April 18–November 9. Common in summer in tamarack and spruce woods. All day long their clear whistle can be heard if we are near their haunts. One nest with five almost fresh eggs on June 4, 1915. Their breeding range does not probably reach much further south than Cambridge.

5. **Spizella pusilla pusilla**. FIELD SPARROW.— In hot sandy places covered with black and bur oaks, this bird was found to be not at all uncommon, although very local. Often two or three can be heard answering each other. A nest with three young and a Cowbird was found on June 16, 1914.

6. **Melospiza melodia melodia**. SONG SPARROW.— My notes contain two wintering records for this bird. On December 8, 1913, I was surprised to hear the characteristic call-note of this bird in a weedy fence-row entering the south side of a tamarack forest and a little search revealed the bird. It was seen again in the same place on several occasions up to January 8 which was the last time it was observed. Again, this winter (1914–1915), one was seen on an average every other day between November 17 and January 12, after which period I did not see it again. It seemed to make its headquarters every night in the willows bordering an “oxbow” a quarter of a mile north of Cambridge. From this place it made frequent trips to feed on the weed seeds on a neighboring hillside and field. I scattered food for it regularly in several places. On December 4 I was surprised to find two birds instead of one, but with that exception only one was seen. Still another bird was observed on the east side of a tamarack bog two miles north of this village on December 19, 1914.

7. **Protonotaria citrea**. PROTHONOTARY WARBLER.— Six miles west of Cambridge and about one mile above Findell Bridge, the river has at some time changed its course, leaving now only a small stream of water to flow through its former channel which is called “Lost River”

and follows a winding path parallel to the new one for a distance of about a mile. At the point where they reunite, the river flows out into large sloughs, losing all semblance of its usual appearance, and affording a favorite feeding ground for herons. In the tall elm trees between "Lost River" and the main channel there is a heronry of at least twenty pairs of Great Blue Herons. This place resembles in all respects though on a smaller scale, the river bottoms of the Mississippi in southeastern Minnesota where the Prothonotary Warbler occurs so abundantly. Even a slight rise in the river will drench it with a foot of water in many places and at all times there is a network of muddy streams to be forded by the intruder. Here we find old decayed stumps, logs and fallen trees which often give natural bridges across the streams. In such a place it was small wonder that the Prothonotary was found breeding, and its clear ringing song associated with that of many Redstarts, was a familiar sound there. I found at least five pairs though there may have been more and also located a nest on June 17, 1915, with three eggs. The most northern point at which they had been found hitherto was four miles below Hastings on the Mississippi: about sixty miles further south.¹ Therefore the birds here form an isolated colony.

8. **Vermivora chrysoptera.** GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER.—A fairly common summer resident, May 11–September 25. Isanti County seems to lie near the northern limit of their range. They frequent hot, open second growth where hazelnuts grow in abundance.

9. **Vermivora celata celata.** ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER.—The breeding range of this species is supposed to reach only as far south as Manitoba. I was greatly surprised, therefore, to find one singing in the willows and alders bordering the sloughs at the mouth of "Lost River" on June 11, 1915. It was very confiding so that I could approach quite close to it while it was singing and could plainly see the obscure streaks on the breast; as it was preening its plumage the brownish bases to the feathers on the crown could even be seen. I am thoroughly familiar with the Nashville, Orange-crowned and Tennessee Warblers and their songs so I have no doubt that it was the Orange-crown although the specimen was not collected. It seems probable that it was breeding there, though of that I am not certain.

10. **Dendroica vigorsi.** PINE WARBLER.—Very common in the pines in the northern parts of the county. Often only two or three large pines near farmhouses will shelter a pair of them.

11. **Oporornis agilis.** CONNECTICUT WARBLER.—Summer resident, May 18–? This interesting species was found to be common in summer in the tamarack and spruce bogs where its loud, liquid song was a dominant sound in the morning and evening hours. In the middle of the day they are much less in evidence since they are then preoccupied in *walking* about in the damp moss and undergrowth searching for insects. They display

¹ Roberts, T. S. Auk, Vol. XVI, No. 3, July 1899, pp. 236–246.

very little shyness but instead a great deal of curiosity, and if the observer is still they will come very close to him and sing. On June 26, 1915, Dr. T. S. Roberts and I saw a female with her bill full of food in the spruce swamp north of Cambridge.

12. **Oporornis philadelphia.** MOURNING WARBLER.—A few may be seen and heard singing here in summer in the second growth of rich woods. This species like the last is very tame while singing and chooses some dead limb in full view from which to deliver its loud song. May to September.

13. **Certhia familiaris americana.** BROWN CREEPER.—Permanent resident. A few winter in the tamarack and spruce woods where they are protected from cold winds. In the heavily wooded bottomlands by "Lost River" I saw a pair on June 11, 1915. The scaly bark which was peeling off the old soft maples gave suitable nesting sites and the birds' anxious call-notes indicated that they had a nest near by.

14. **Regulus satrapa satrapa.** GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.—Last winter (1914-1915), this bird was found to be quite common throughout the cold months in the pine and spruce woods, where its penetrating "ti-ti" betrayed its presence for some distance through the clear, frosty air. It was supposed to be very rare and sporadic in southern Minnesota in winter.

15. **Hylocichla guttata pallasii.** HERMIT THRUSH.—In the extensive pine woods bordering tamarack swamps northeast of Grandy, at least three Hermit Thrushes were heard singing this summer (1915) whenever I visited that locality. This is the most southern summer record thus far for Minnesota.—LAWRENCE L. LÖFSTRÖM, *Cambridge, Minn.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

Dall's Biography of Baird.¹—Twenty-seven years have elapsed since the death of Prof. Baird, and while numerous tributes to his scientific attainments and achievements have been published, no biography at all commensurate with his position in the development of science in America, has hitherto appeared. This was undoubtedly due to the fact, well known to Prof. Baird's friends, that his daughter Miss Lucy Hunter Baird was engaged upon such a work with the aid of Prof. G. Browne Goode, assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution during her father's incumbency as secretary. Prof. Goode's death and the recurrent illness and ultimate

¹ Spencer | Fullerton Baird | A Biography | Including Selections from his Correspondence | with Audubon, Agassiz, Dana, and others | By | William Healey Dall, A.M., D.Sc. | with nineteen illustrations | [vignette] | Philadelphia & London | J. B. Lippincott Company | 1915. 8vo. pp. i-xvi + 1-462. \$3.50 net.