

Florida coerulea. LITTLE BLUE HERON.—Three immature white birds were found in a small fresh water swamp on August 29, 1920, where they remained until September 12 or a few days later. The greenish yellow legs gave the deciding evidence of their identity. No dark tips could be seen on the primaries of two of the birds, either when wings were closed or extended, and I had opportunity to observe them feeding and preening at close range with glass. In the third bird the dark tips were only faintly discernible when the bird was flying overhead with sunlight coming through the wings. The outer half of the bill in all was much darker than the basal half, and in two the outer half appeared almost jet black. They were relatively tame—tamer than the Black-crowned Night Herons, the Little Greens and the Great Blues with which they associated—and when disturbed they did not leave the swamp (which was relatively small) as did the other species.

Tringa solitaria solitaria. SOLITARY SANDPIPER.—A partial albino was seen August 29, 1920. The white was on the outer half of the wings and was fairly evenly balanced. In flight the bird made a striking picture.

Cryptoglaux acadica. SAW-WHET OWL.—One seen February 16, 1919, and another (or possibly the same individual) in the same spot March 21, 1920.

Corvus corax principalis. NORTHERN RAVEN.—Two birds seen on an "island" in the salt meadows May 31, 1919.

Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina. EVENING GROSBEAK.—Fourteen seen December 31, 1916, and the same number in about the same locality February 23, 1920.

Acanthis linaria linaria. REDPOLL.—Abundant here from December 10, 1916, to March 11, 1917, and again from December 1, 1919, to March 21, 1920.

Spinus pinus. PINE SISKIN.—A dozen seen December 31, 1916. One seen January 25, 1920, and another May 9, 1920.

Mimus polyglottos polyglottos. MOCKINGBIRD.—One bird seen and heard May 11, 1919.—CHARLES A. URNER, *Elizabeth, N. J.*

Notes on Five Birds Taken Near Charleston, South Carolina.

Empidonax flaviventris. YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER.—I wish to place on record the capture, by myself, of a third specimen of this rare autumnal migrant on September 16, 1920. This specimen was shot from a clump of viburnum bushes in low, swampy land, and is a young female. For previous records of the capture of this bird by the writer see 'The Auk,' XXX, 1913, pp. 273-274, and XXXVII, 1920, p. 92.

Empidonax minimus. LEAST FLYCATCHER.—On September 8, 1920, I shot a young male of this bird from a viburnum bush within less than a mile of my house. Upon picking the specimens from the jungle I was struck immediately with its small size and horn-colored lower bill and was satisfied that I had at last taken a bird of this species that I had

never before seen alive, and hastened home to consult Mr. Ridgway's 'Birds of North and Middle America.' My specimen did not fit Mr. Ridgway's description in regard to the emargination of the tail, but agreed in other respects. In order to place the identification beyond question I sent the specimen to Mr. Outram Bangs and asked him to make a careful comparison, as the bird in question, if really a Least Flycatcher, was new to the fauna of South Carolina, there being no valid record of its occurrence. Mr. Bangs wrote me under date of September 21, 1920, as follows: "I have carefully compared the flycatcher you sent and should without any doubt call it *Empidonax minimus*. The only thing I could see that was not quite right was the tail, which seems to be not so much emarginate or slightly forked as it should; but perhaps being a young bird just moulted into autumn plumage the tail may not be fully developed."

Long years ago I sent a somewhat similar "suspect" to Mr. William Brewster for identification, hoping it would prove to be a Least Flycatcher. But Mr. Brewster wrote me that the specimen was somewhat too large and the tail not quite sufficiently emarginate for *E. minimus* and that he considered it an example of *E. trailli alnorum*. I believe I sent this bird to Dr. Leonard C. Sanford and it must be now in the American Museum of Natural History. The actual capture of the Least Flycatcher is an addition to the fauna of South Carolina.

Vermivora pinus. BLUE-WINGED WARBLER.—In 'The Auk' for July, 1920, p. 462, I recorded seeing a bird of this species which I was unable to secure. I made no mistake in my identification of this bird despite the fact that it was the first one I had ever seen alive. I now wish to record the taking by myself of three specimens that I shot near Mount Pleasant. On September 4, 1920, I shot a young male, after a long chase, from the top of a live oak tree fifty feet above the ground, and on September 11, I obtained a young male and a young female, both shot from live oak trees. The female, which has the wing bars yellow as in *Vermivora chrysoptera*, was taken within a quarter of a mile of my house. These three birds are the only examples taken in South Carolina since Mr. Leverett Mills Loomis secured one at Chester on April 30, 1887 (Auk, VIII, 1891, p. 169).

I had not overlooked this species during the past 37 years that I have devoted exclusively to ornithology; and my belief is that since the wholesale destruction of the primeval forests along the coast, within the past fifteen years, this area has become covered with a second growth of bushes and small trees and the Blue-winged Warbler has found here a region to its liking during the migrations.

Dendroica discolor. PRAIRIE WARBLER.—On October 1, 1920, while I was within a quarter of a mile of my home, I saw a lovely yellow warbler fly across a road and alight in a small patch of rice. Never before in all my life had I seen such a strange as well as beautiful bird, and wondered

what species it could be. As the bird was extremely restless it was difficult to get a fair shot at it and as I did not want to lose so rare a prize I took a chance shot and luckily secured it in perfect condition. Upon lifting it tenderly from the ground I was momentarily puzzled as to the species I had secured, but as I examined the bill, wings and tail, I found that I had taken a unique, partly albino Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*). This exquisite bird is an adult female and is colored as follows: head, nape, neck, and most of the back canary yellow; throat of the same color becoming paler on the breast and abdomen. There are a few reddish brown feathers on the right side of the back and the wings and tail have many pure white feathers showing. These pure white feathers, however, do not correspond, as is usual in most birds that show albinism, and differ in position on either side. The bill, legs and feet are pure white, and the streaks on the sides of the body faint or nearly obsolete.

Hylocichla ustulata ustulata. RUSSET-BACKED THRUSH.—In 'The Auk' for July, 1920, pp. 465-466, I recorded two specimens of this bird taken by me near Charleston on October 22, 1901, and May 3, 1902, and expressed my belief that I had not shot six Olive-backed Thrushes since 1883. Since the above was sent for publication I carefully looked through all my bird registers which go back systematically to 1884, and find that I have taken three so-called Olive-backed Thrushes up to 1920, a typical specimen having been secured on May 5 of that year. One bird taken October 18, 1901, was missing and I tried to ascertain the person to whom I had sent it. I finally located it, in the collection of Mr. John Lewis Childs, who kindly loaned it to me. This bird taken here on October 18, 1901, is a male and was labeled by me *Turdus ustulatus swainsonii*. It is, however, an undoubted example of the Russet-backed Thrush as I had suspected when I wrote to Mr. Childs. I wish to state that shortly after I had sent the MS. to Dr. Stone for publication on the two Russet-backed Thrushes, Dr. Chapman very kindly sent to me two birds of that species, one from Sinaloa, Mexico, taken in September by J. H. Batty, and the other from San Diego, California, taken in May by F. X. Holzner. The South Carolina birds were again carefully compared and matched the birds sent by Dr. Chapman feather for feather. ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina.*

Two Rare Birds in the Chicago Area.—On September 7, while walking along the beach of Lake Michigan, I noticed a Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*) on the little stretch of sand immediately in front of the Liberty Building in Jackson Park. The bird was very tame and excited a great deal of interest among the people who were watching it. It remained in this rather exposed place all afternoon.

On September 26, I noticed several large gray sparrows in company with a large flock of White-throats (*Zonotrichia albicollis*). Upon closer examination they proved to be Harris' Sparrows (*Zonotrichia querula*). Two individuals were positively identified as this species and several