

Dendroica striata. BLACK-POLL WARBLER.—Letcher County, September 24, 1921.

Dendroica virens.—BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER.—Four birds September 20, 1921.

Geothlypis trichas trichas. MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT.—Noted in September in Eastern Kentucky, on former trips only seen in May.

Wilsonia citrina. HOODED WARBLER.—Letcher County, September 25, 1921.

Wilsonia canadensis. CANADA WARBLER.—September 25, 1921, Letcher County.

Setophaga ruticilla. REDSTART.—Letcher County, September 25, 1921.

Mimus polyglottos polyglottos. MOCKINGBIRD.—September in Letcher County.

Toxostoma rufum. BROWN THRASHER.—September 17, Kenton County.

Thyromanes bewicki bewicki. BEWICK'S WREN.—September 25, 1921, Letcher County.

Sitta carolinensis carolinensis. WHITE-BREADED NUTHATCH.—Boyd County, September 20, 1921.

Penthestes carolinensis carolinensis. CAROLINA CHICKADEE.—One to five birds at a time in September, Letcher and Boyd Counties.

Hylocichla mustelina. WOOD THRUSH.—September 20, 1921. Boyd County.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.—September 20, Boyd County and September 25 and 26, 1921, Letcher County one to four birds.—R. E. HORSEY, *Highland Park, Reservoir Ave., Rochester, N. Y.*

Summer Shore Birds of the North Carolina Coast.—The islands in Pamlico Sound and the neighboring waters off the coast of North Carolina have long been known to ornithologists, and the following notes may have some interest as a chronological link in the history of the constantly changing ornithological aspect of our coastal islands.

From June 24 to June 29, 1922, Mr. Stanley Bright and the writer cruised about these waters and visited as many favorable localities as possible in the time at our disposal. We found the trip itself well worth while if only considered as a pleasure trip, whether "chugging" through the picturesque passages of Core Sound, and threading among the many interesting islands, or dodging the numerous squalls which infect Pamlico Sound at this season.

We made our headquarters at Ocracoke, a small village on one of the narrow beaches which separate Pamlico Sound from the Ocean. Ocracoke itself is probably one of the quaintest towns in the country, peacefully slumbering away from the whirl and bustle of the mainland. Indeed it seems more like a subtropical island than a portion of our middle coast

line. The sole means of conveyance, so far as we were able to ascertain, are gasoline launches and a few of the rangy ponies which are common to all these beaches.

Streets are conspicuous in their absence, a few well painted frame houses, setting snugly among the wind-blown live oaks, holly, and bay trees, and connected by the most picturesque grassy lanes, housing the small population. Here and there a patch of prickly pear, a well-developed Yucca, or a fig tree added a semi-tropical touch to the scene, and the voices of Mockingbirds, Prairie Warblers, Carolina Wrens, and Nonpareils were to be heard at all hours.

Perhaps the most conspicuous birds of the entire region during our stay were the Brown Pelicans, which were said to have invaded this region in unprecedented numbers during the present year. At evening long strings numbering 40 or more were frequently seen passing into the sound from Ocracoke Inlet, and every small reef or "lump" had its small flock of Pelicans standing in statuesque poses along the water's edge. Out among the fish ponds they could be seen at any time, flapping heavily over the surface, or taking their toll of the finny inmates.

The fishermen have come to regard them with a great deal of animosity from their habit of robbing their nets and claim that they lose a large percentage of their catches through Pelicans and Florida Cormorants, which were almost equally numerous during our stay. During certain tides nearly every buoy and stake had its Cormorant.

A trip to Royal Shoal Rocks on June 26, proved somewhat disappointing, as we failed to find any evidence of Royal or Cabot's Terns nesting there, as we had hoped. However, there was an abundance of Laughing Gulls, the eggs being deposited frequently on the bare sand. We also saw several well-grown young skulking among the dense bushes and grass. There were possibly 150 Gull's nests on the three small islands which constitute this group. Common Terns (probably 100 nests,) Skimmers, (about the same number,) and Least Terns (possibly 20 pairs,) constituted the bulk of the population of the islands. A few Song Sparrows, a Red-breasted Merganser and one lone Oystercatcher completed our list.

The following day we made a trip to Legged Lump, now a flat circular islet of less than 200 feet in diameter, but said to have formerly been considerably larger. Here we found a small population of perhaps 20 pairs of Common Terns, 15 pairs of Skimmers, and 8 of Least Terns. A pair of Dowitchers left the island soon after we landed.

Heavy squalls prevented a satisfactory survey of Clarke's Reef, which was certainly not over a foot above high water, and we did not wish to have the eggs chilled by the rain as would probably have happened if we extended our visit. Here we found two pairs of Royal Terns, although they had evidently not commenced to nest.

At Ocracoke inlet we found probably 15 or 20 nests of Common Terns, four of Least and two of the Gull-billed. Skimmers were also common,

but we did not locate their breeding grounds. The Wilson's Plovers were very common here, although we saw no eggs nor young.

It was the migrating *Limicolae* that attracted our attention particularly at this spot, an ideal one for their purpose. The tide, in rising eighteen inches or so, covers and uncovers a great sand flat of some 200 yards in depth and on this flat at low tide we found most of the shore-birds observed during our stay. Besides the resident Willet, Wilson's Plover and Oystercatcher, on June 24, our first visit, there were a pair of Black-bellied Plovers and a small flock of Semipalmated Sandpipers.

On the June 26, besides the Black-bellied Plovers of the 24th, four Hudsonian Curlews were feeding on the flats. On the 27th, following a storm, several new species appeared, namely, Dowitchers (45) Least Sandpipers (2) one lame Sanderling, and the Hudsonian Curlews had increased to 6, while the Black-bellied Plovers had added 12 more, one in full plumage, to their numbers.

These observations it seems to me, are rather interesting as confirming those made on the Virginia coast last year, (Auk, July 1922) and commented upon by J. T. Nichols. It is evident that the conditions noted at the former locality are probably not unusual on these southern islands, but that the migration of *Limicolae* frequently "overlap," as far as the different species are concerned.

Among the "strays" or unusual summering birds we frequently saw Red-breasted Mergansers, and on one occasion each, a Loon and a Canada Goose. The latter however may have been an escaped decoy, as these are quite common in a semi-wild state at Ocracoke. One day, in Core Sound, we saw a fine old Bald Eagle swoop down from some piling and capture a large mullet so neatly that I doubt if it wet a feather.

The country on the mainland was full of many birds which we had only too little time to study. A couple of brief stops at Marshallburg and Atlantic producing an abundance of such interesting species, to us, as the Bachman's Sparrow, Nonpareil, Boat-tailed Grackle, Prothonotary and Yellow-throated Warblers, and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher. The well-known heronry at Marshallburg is now evidently a thing of the past, as no birds have been seen there this year.

One of the curiosities encountered on the trip was a colony of Purple Martins which were nesting by the side of a lighthouse far out in Pamlico Sound.—EARL L. POOLE, *Reading Public Museum*.

Some Biloxi, Mississippi Bird Notes.—The writer spent the first three weeks of February, 1918 at Biloxi, Miss., and was much interested in Mr. Julian D. Corrington's paper: 'The Winter Birds of the Biloxi, Mississippi Region,' appearing in the October 'Auk'. As I noted several species not seen by Mr. Corrington it seems advisable to place the following on record:

***Larus atricilla*.** LAUGHING GULL.—Included in Corrington's list but not recorded by him. I observed two of these Gulls on Deer Island, February 13, 1918.