

This was in early May. On June 24, I was told that a "small greenish bird" had been seen to enter the deserted Cardinals' nest. Investigation revealed the fact that this bird was a female Nonpareil or Painted Bunting (*Passerina ciris*) and that in the nest were three tiny, nearly naked Nonpareil nestlings.

Examination of the nest showed that in adapting it for their use the Nonpareils had not altered the appearance of the exterior. They had, however, made the opening smaller, by weaving around it grass and fine palmetto fibers, and had thus given it a more compactly constructed rim. In thus building up the rim, they had made the depression or cup decidedly deeper. They had also put into the nest a beautifully woven lining of fibres much more skillfully contrived than the rather loose lining of a typical Cardinal nest.

Two of the Nonpareil nestlings came to grief in some unknown way before they were fully fledged. The third left the nest on July 6.

The Nonpareil breeds abundantly in this region and is a familiar summer bird in my garden in Charleston but I have never before found it making use of the nest of another species of bird.—HERBERT RAVENEL SASS, *Charleston, S. C.*

The Dickcissel in Colorado.—Cooke in his 'Birds of Colorado' characterized this species (*Spiza americana*) as a rare summer resident, a very correct definition of its status in 1897, for there had then been but three published records, so far as I can learn, of the occurrence of the Dickcissel in Colorado. He enumerated the following locations in Colorado, as places where the Dickcissel had been detected, Fort Collins, Colorado Springs, Canyon City, Beulah and Fort Lyons. Cooke listed the species as breeding on the plains of Colorado, but I know of no record giving definite particulars concerning its nesting.

In the past seventeen years there seems to have been a change in the abundance of the species in this State. By 1909, Cooke was able to say in his last supplement to the 'Birds of Colorado' that it was "not rare," showing that the species was becoming more frequent, a condition which has prevailed up to date. It is very plain from many reports sent in to me during the past ten years from various parts of the state that the Dickcissel is growing more common yearly, especially in some districts, as the Arkansas Valley. In view of this summer's experience the species may be said to be almost common and there must have been a very extensive wave of these birds into Colorado this season. Mrs. John Weldon tells me that it has been "thick" in the vicinity of her home, about eight miles west of Loveland, and that two pairs nested in her neighborhood. This is the first definite breeding record for Colorado so far as I know. Mrs. Weldon also saw Dickcissels near Boulder this summer, and reports that she has noted the species in her vicinity practically every summer since 1905.

Miss Prue Bostwick saw a single Dickcissel at Parker on June 8, 1926.

while my first sight of a Dickcissel in Colorado was on July 20, when two males were noted in Aurora, adjacent to Denver on the east. A third was seen the next day in the same neighborhood, and a fourth well within the eastern border of Denver on July 30, apparently the first record for the city. Mr. McCrimmon has published his observation of the species in the western part of the state ('Auk,' 1926, p. 550).—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver, Colorado.*

More Notes on Cliff Swallows.—In the October, 1924, issue of 'The Auk' I reported the return of Cliff Swallows (*Petrochelidon lunifrons lunifrons*) to Brookfield, Mass.

The next summer Mrs. Charles Thompson of New Braintree, a neighboring town, told me that some strange Swallows had come to her farm and were building inside the barn. I accordingly investigated and found a small colony of Cliff Swallows.

When the large barn door was open these birds had entered and begun plastering nests along the side of the center beam which supported the middle scaffold of the barn. Since the Cliff Swallows would not use the small windows under the roof as the Barn Swallows have always done, Mr. Thompson kept the large door open all the nesting season for their accommodation.

Unlike the nests built by the Brookfield Cliff Swallow colony under the eaves outside the barn, these nests were not retort shaped. One pair of birds forsook the colony and built a nest under the piazza roof close to the right of the back door where they seemed as undisturbed by the constant traffic through the door and slamming of the screen as did their barn kinsmen when high loads of hay passed perilously near their homes.

Shortly after the eggs had hatched in the nest under the piazza roof, it crumbled to pieces and fell with the young to the floor. Fortunately the Thompsons saw the tragedy and Mr. Thompson hung a strawberry box up where the nest had been plastered and put the two young birds in it. The parent birds spent so much time covering the strawberry box with mud that it seemed at first as if their nestlings were neglected. They thrived, however, and were interesting pets when learning to fly.

This spring the Swallows returned and a pair set about repairing the strawberry box. All the other birds nested as before in the barn. Something happened to an egg in the strawberry box and the home was deserted. Still wishing to dwell apart these Cliff Swallows made over a Phoebe's nest much to the Phoebe's disgust, as it was in the interim between her first and second brood, and raised a family successfully there.—CLARA EVERETT REED, *Brookfield, Mass.*

Yellow-throated Vireo Breeding in Delaware Co., Pa.—The Yellow-throated Vireo (*Lanivireo flavifrons*) I consider an uncommon bird in the vicinity of Glenolden, Pa. During the eight years we have lived here, I have observed it but twice. This species evidently prefers