

showed no inclination to associate with them. Most of the time while under observation the bird was feeding in a plowed field close to a barbed-wire fence to which it flew and perched occasionally. It allowed me to approach within fifteen feet, from which distance every detail of color and marking was brought out through a good glass, or even with the naked eye.

Just once the bird uttered a note suggestive of that of the Bewick's Wren.—A. SIDNEY HYDE, 1008 S. Lincoln St., Urbana, Illinois.

Singing by Migrant Gray-cheeked Thrush.—The Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Hylocichla a. aliciae*) is generally regarded as one of our most quiet Thrushes during migration. Most ornithologists state that it rarely, if ever, sings, except on its breeding grounds, and none of my bird associates has ever heard it in song. On May 25, 26, and 27, 1926, we experienced the unusual pleasure of listening to *H. aliciae* in full song within a hundred feet of our house in Glenolden, Pa. Briefly described, the song in question commenced with a slurring "wee-oh," strongly suggesting the beginning of a common variation of the White-eyed Vireo's song. This was followed by two, and sometimes three, high pitched, staccato notes resembling "chee-chee," intermingled with almost inaudible cymbal-like tones. From notes taken at the time, the full song might be represented as "Wee-oh, chee-chee-wee-oh, wee-oh," the latter half suggesting the Goldfinch in tone and execution. The bird was very wary and led me quite a chase before I was satisfied it was *aliciae*, or possibly *bicknelli*. Mathews' 'Field Book of Wild Birds and their Music' gives no illustrations of the Gray-cheek's song, but, quoting Torrey, describes the song of Bicknell's Thrush as "wee-o, wee-o, wee-o, tit-ti wee-o," which is a close replica of the song we heard. We were now in a quandary as to which race it was, but bird-banding solved the problem most satisfactorily. On the 26th a Gray-cheeked Thrush was trapped, carefully measured and identified as true *aliciae*. But was this our songster of the day before? The following morning we again heard the rare song, and the singer now wore a band, so the question of identity was settled.—JOHN A. GILLESPIE, *Glenolden, Pa.*

Notes from the Mt. Marcy Region, N. Y.—The notes here presented were taken in July and August 1926, in the Mt. Marcy region, New York, by Mr. and Mrs. Philip Livingston and myself. We stayed in St. Huberts at the home of Mr. LeGrand Hale who was the guide of Professor Eaton on one of his surveys of the region; and only those notes which may be interesting in the light of Professor Eaton's paper on the Mt. Marcy region (*Birds of New York*, vol. 1, p. 42) are given here. The identifications are visual—not captures.

Among water birds, a family of Loons, not mentioned for the region by Professor Eaton, was being reared on Elk Lake. A family of American Mergansers was also seen there. The Solitary Sandpiper was seen along

the Ausable River, between St. Huberts and Keene Valley, on several occasions, but for the first time on August 2.

A Bald Eagle, apparently in full plumage, was seen soaring over Elk Lake, July 15; over the houses at St. Huberts, July 19, and over the north fork of the Boquette River near Chapel Pond Road, July 25. On each occasion it disappeared in the direction of the Marcy range. It had been seen several times at Elk Lake, and when it flew low, uttering its scream at St. Huberts, guns were brought out but the bird was not shot. Among Owls, the Barred Owl, and, it is believed, the Great Horned Owl were heard at night. An individual of the latter species was trapped by Mr. Hale at St. Huberts some years ago. Near the base of Giant Mountain, in fairly open woods, and about one hundred feet from the trail, a Saw-whet Owl was spied sleeping on a branch about five feet above the ground. From three sides we closed in upon it and studied it. Crackling underfoot awakened it and when within a yard of it, it flew to a nearby tree and then into the woods.

The Black-billed Cuckoo was seen three times near the road at St. Huberts. It was reported that a Pileated Woodpecker had been seen and heard in the notch between Noonmark and Round Mountains, but on three trips to that region we were unable to get a record of the bird. Blue-headed Vireos were almost common at the lower altitudes, especially about the houses. We saw individuals of various ages daily. This duplicated our experience of three years before, as did the prevalence and general distribution of the Redstart. A record of which we are confident, yet which was quite unexpected is that of the Bay-breasted Warbler. The individual identified was seen along Deer Brook on the slope of Snow Mountain at an altitude of less than 2000 feet.¹ An adult male was perched on a low branch singing when we came upon him. The song was totally new to us. The three of us studied him intently with glasses for several minutes while he seemed unaware of our presence. After this he retired to higher parts of the trees and moved about. We kept him in view for about fifteen minutes, after which we lost him. This was on July 11. We were not able to find him again after that day. The White-breasted Nuthatch, which was not found by Professor Eaton's party in Essex County, was almost as abundant in the St. Huberts region as its Red-breasted relative. Many times we saw adults feeding young. On July 29, there were six individuals in view at once on the trees in front of the house. Others were seen on the lower sections of mountain trails. This also duplicated our experience of 1923. A pair of Bicknell's Thrushes was encountered on the Marcy trail at an elevation of about 4000 feet. From their anger and their boldness we judged that we were near the nest, but a search did not reveal it. An individual of this species was found singing near the top of Giant Mountain on our previous trip.

Certain birds were noticeable for their absence or scarcity. Duck

¹See also p. 111.

Hawks which had been found by Professor Eaton on Mount Colvin, and observed by us in 1923, had not been seen for some time. We saw no Hummingbird nearer than Lake Champlain, although one was said to frequent a certain garden nearby. Until the July 30, our only records of the Blue Jay, visual or aural, were taken at Elk Lake. On this date and after I saw three on the Keene Valley Road, all of which were silent. As in 1923, only one Scarlet Tanager was found. Although we were constantly on the lookout we found no trace of the Water-Thrush. The Veery which has been so abundant previously in St. Huberts seemed to have diminished appreciably in numbers.

We observed 85 species in the region.—EDWARD WEYL, 6506 Lincoln Drive, Philadelphia, Pa.

Notes from South Carolina.—On April 17, 1926, as I was motoring from Charleston, S. C., to Walterboro, crossing the long bridge over the Edisto River, a large Blackbird was also crossing the river from the opposite direction. It passed quite close to me, in bright sunshine, and I was amazed to see a male Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*), in full breeding plumage, with brilliant yellow head and neck and the conspicuous white markings on the wings. I had seen thousands of them in the West, and could not be mistaken. My wife was with me and confirmed the "diagnosis." Mr. Arthur T. Wayne, in his book, 'Birds of South Carolina,' quotes two previous records for the state.

On another trip the preceding year, April 28, 1925, driving from Charleston, to Summerville, about nineteen miles out we crossed a causeway where the waters of Goose Creek are dammed up, making quite a pond. A considerable number of Ducks were scattered about on this water feeding, accompanied by a few Coots, Florida Gallinules and Pied-billed Grebes. Some of the Ducks were within twenty-five yards of me, and with the naked eye I could clearly see that they were Gadwalls. However, I stopped the car and for half an hour studied them with my eight-power binoculars.

There were seventy-four Ducks in the pond, and every one was certainly a Gadwall. Hitherto this species has been considered a rarity in the state, as Mr. Wayne's book gives but four records. But Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr., of the Charleston Museum, has found that considerable numbers of them have recently been shot during the hunting season on certain rice plantations near the coast. It is probable that the species may be found locally from fall to spring as a regular visitor.

The Starling is increasing rapidly and breeding in South Carolina. I have spent the winter and spring now in the state for the past three years. In 1924, I did not notice any of them. In 1925, I saw flocks in Greenville in February, saw young fed in Cheraw on May 17, and also knew of their breeding in Anderson. In January, 1926, they had invaded the grounds of the State capitol at Columbia in large flocks. I saw flocks in February at Sumter, and in April and May noted them, evidently breeding, at Rock