

marked with white, together with the size of the birds led him to the conviction that they could be nothing else than Snow Buntings. Since none was secured he did not make the observation public, but there seems little, if any doubt, that his identification was correct. Upon taking flight, his birds headed directly across the Ashley River toward James Island.—EDWARD MANIGAULT, *Evening Post Building, Charleston, S. C.*

Nashville Warbler at Lexington, Virginia.—On September 29, 1930, I collected an immature Nashville Warbler (*Vermivora r. ruficapilla*) in a willow thicket along a stream near Lexington, Virginia, the identification later being confirmed by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. This seems worth recording, for while Miss May T. Cooke in her 'Birds of the Washington, D. C., Region' lists this Warbler as a "tolerably common migrant" it seems to be rare elsewhere in Virginia. This is the first specimen, so far as I have been able to ascertain, to be taken in Virginia west of the Blue Ridge. Dr. E. A. Smyth, Jr., did not meet with it in the thirty-five years of collecting in Montgomery Co. It has been reported a few times from Lynchburg, on the eastern side of the mountains.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Va.*

Note on Kirtland's Warbler.—On June 2, 1930 being in the Au Sable River district in Michigan, in company with friends having land holdings there, it occurred to me that I might see Kirtland's Warbler, a species with which I had never met. We drove through jack-pine growth to a small lake where the party stopped to appraise it from the land-looker's viewpoint. Immediately I heard an unfamiliar bird song. It was by no means difficult to determine its source nor to identify the author. The party remained by the shore of the lake above an hour. Meanwhile I had seen and heard another male Kirtland's. It was then arranged that I should return to the place in the afternoon and that my friends should pick me up toward nightfall. Hence I had about 5 or 6 hours, altogether, in which to search the comparatively limited cover for evidences of nesting.

It was about 10.30 A. M. when I first entered the field. The birds sang at intervals for the next half-hour. Then they fell silent. In the afternoon they sang but little. About 4 o'clock there was singing, with brief pauses, for the space of five minutes. The birds were quite tame, allowing approach to within six or seven feet. They sounded no alarm notes nor gave any evidence of nervousness or suspicion. They fed much, for the most part near the tips of the lower branches of jack-pine. Occasionally they wagged the tail like the Palm Warbler. There was also much preening.

Their indifference and the fact that diligent search for a nest was unsuccessful led to the conclusion that while these birds had selected their territory actual nesting had not begun. Of the various descriptions of the song that comes nearest to my record of it which is given by Leopold (Auk, vol. 41, p. 50).—EDWARD R. FORD, *Chicago, Ill.*

Carolina Wren in Michigan.—On August 11, 1930, about seven in the morning, I heard the unmistakable song of the Carolina Wren (*Thryo-*

thorus l. ludovicianus) about two miles north of Frankfort, Benzie County, Michigan. I followed the song and soon saw a pair of the birds. I was able to approach within twenty-five feet of them and see their markings distinctly. I have become familiar with this Wren, having seen and heard it several times in Wilmette and often in Tennessee, and I am certain that there is no mistake about the identification.—DAVID E. DAVIS, *Wilmette, Illinois*.

Hermit Thrush Feeding on Salamanders.—I have heard and read of a few instances in which Hermit Thrushes fed their young salamanders, but in July of this past summer I became a witness to the operation. In the Allegany mountains of the western part of New York state I discovered a nesting pair of exceedingly tame Hermit Thrushes. After my third day of observation the female fed her young while she was perched on my right fore-finger (along the rim of the nest). From such close quarters I had a good chance to recognize the food given to the young. I should say that on fully one-quarter of the trips made to the nest bringing food—male and female fed—salamanders were brought. I recognized both the Allegany and Red-backed salamanders in the menu. On one day when a Sharp-shinned Hawk flew low overhead, the female in excitement dropped to the forest floor a living but much-bruised Allegany salamander. I noticed that during the hotter parts of the day fewer salamanders were brought and attributed this to the fact that the heat had driven the salamanders deeper under cover.—COTT M. COKER, *Chapel Hill, North Carolina*.

Connecticut Notes.—In the October, 1930 issue of 'The Auk' I note that Mr. Devere Allen of Little Forest, Wilton, Conn., confirms previous observations on the undoubted increase of Killdeer Plovers throughout this section of the State. My business takes me into the field all through this region; so for the past years I have happily witnessed the Killdeer's increased presence in Branchville, Ridgefield, Wilton, Westport, Norwalk, Darien, Stamford, and New Canaan.

I have also observed for the past three seasons, at Forestby; a male Blue Gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila c. caerulea*) on the following dates May 12, 1928; May 4, 1929; and April 27, 1930. My attention was first attracted to this unusual visitant by its unceasing activity; an almost constant darting out from the limbs of small trees after insect food. As Neltje Blanchan puts it the bird resembles in manner and form a miniature catbird.

Apparently the most identifying feature was its white outer tail quills very prominent in its warbler like antics.

It would be very pleasing to know if others have noticed this bird; as in the "Birds of Connecticut" it is listed as a very rare summer visitant.

I was not favored with any call or song note from the bird, probably because of its smallness in volume; as Nuttall says it is scarcely louder than the squeak of a mouse.—BEAUMONT J. MOREHOUSE, *Branchville, Conn.*

Notes on the Breeding-Birds of Orange County, N. Y.—In an effort to further a plan of the Linnaean Society to obtain as much detailed