

Saskatchewan, the eggs of which successfully hatched. On May 24, 1937, I again located a nest and on May 28, 1937, a second nest at least one hundred yards distant from it. On the latter date I saw the male and female copulating about twenty feet from nest no. 1, and was surprised to see a second female with wings quivering, fly close to the pair. The male then commenced to copulate alternately with the two females. This was accomplished several times and one of the females then flew to nest no. 1, while the other, when disturbed, flew immediately to nest no. 2, the site of which was clearly visible from where I was standing. This I think is evidence that one male had two mates. Both nests were on the ground and in each case on the northwest side of a clump of grass.—E. H. M. KNOWLES, 1104 College Ave., Regina, Saskatchewan.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Colorado.—The Rose-breasted Grosbeak (*Hedymeles ludovicianus*) is an unusual species in Colorado, having been recorded only a few times; the first record was by W. W. Cooke ('Birds of Colorado,' p. 167, 1897) of a pair that nested near Longmont, Boulder County, in the summer of 1894. Another pair was observed near Loveland, Larimer County, June 1, 1902, by L. E. Burnett, and the male was collected (W. L. Burnett, Condor, 4: 94, 1902). This specimen, the first taken in the State, is in the collection of this museum (C. M. N. H. no. 715).

During the summer of 1924, Robert B. Rockwell saw a bird on a feeding-shelf of Dr. C. E. Sidwell, at Longmont, Boulder County, and Dr. Sidwell has recently written Mr. Rockwell regarding his birds as follows: "I first saw the Rose-breasted Grosbeak on my feeding-shelf, May 10, 1924. The next year he returned on the same day, May 10. I wrote in my notebook, 'he is plump and sleek. Every day he comes several times to eat the sunflower seeds and later in the season he brought his mate and a young one belonging to him, because I saw him feed it.' May 5, 1926, he returned, and I quote from my notes, 'Well, old Rose-breast arrived five days ahead of time, and he seems fond of sunflower seeds'. May 13, 1927, he came again and it proved to be the last season for we missed him the middle of the summer. Each year we had observed the bird all during summer, but he left fairly early in the year. Every year we saw the Black-headed Grosbeaks on our feeding-shelf, sometimes observing both species at the same time, but the Rose-breast has not been seen since 1927."

Two other sight records are available. Bergtold mentions one bird at Colorado Springs, El Paso County, observed by Mrs. Ivah Elliott, May 11, 1929 (Bird-Lore, 31: 279, 1929), and another (Bird-Lore, 37: 295, 1935), by E. Hellstern, of Fort Morgan, Morgan County, during May or June 1935.

In view of the rarity of the Rose-breasted Grosbeak in Colorado, we were greatly pleased to see a male on May 20, 1938, feeding among the scrub oaks in the broken country twenty miles southeast of Denver, in Douglas County; it was an added pleasure to have the privilege of showing the bird to our companion, the veteran Colorado naturalist, Horace G. Smith, who has accomplished so much in advancing knowledge of our local birds. The specimen was collected (C.M.N.H. no. 18900) and proved to be in worn plumage with testes undeveloped.—ALFRED M. BAILEY AND ROBERT J. NIEDRACH, *The Colorado Museum of Natural History, Denver, Colorado.*

Notes from West Virginia.—For the past three years I have been attempting to build up a private collection of West Virginia birds and through this work, I have been able to visit many interesting localities within the State. The principal parts of the State where collecting has been carried on are: Brooke County; Ohio County; near Point Pleasant, Mason County; Fort Gay, Wayne County; Pineville, Wyoming

County; Alderson, Greenbrier County; Cranberry Glades, Black Mountain, Thorny Flat (elevation 4400 feet), and Marlinton, Pocahontas County; Canaan Valley, Tucker County; Preston County; Leetown, Jefferson County; Mount Storm, Grant County. All the specimens collected in this State, with but one or two exceptions, are in my private collection at my home near Short Creek, West Virginia.

WILSON'S SNIBE, *Capella delicata*.—I secured a juvenile male of this species in Canaan Valley, Tucker County, about three miles south of Davis, on July 13, 1937. The elevation is about 3300 feet. The farmer, on whose land I was collecting, told me that he had a number of times during the summer, flushed from the same wet meadow where I took the juvenile snipe, two or three birds that made a "funny rasping noise" when they flew. He called them "snipes."

There is no definite breeding record for this bird in West Virginia but the collection of the juvenile male and the statement of the farmer are good indications that the birds nested there during 1937. There are one or two summer sight records for the State. This collected specimen extends the summer range of the bird definitely southward.

WESTERN SANDPIPER, *Ereunetes maurii*.—Two non-breeding females were taken near Leetown, Jefferson County, at a small pond of the federal fish hatchery, on July 15, 1937. Both birds were in summer plumage which showed very little wear. They were very easily approached. These specimens establish a previous sight record made by Poland at the same locality (Auk, 55: 129, 1938).

LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN, *Telmatodytes palustris palustris*.—Of five specimens taken in the fall of 1936, all proved to be of this subspecies. A male and a female were taken September 12, at Beech Bottom, Brooke County, and three females were taken at the head of Lake Terra Alta, Preston County, on September 17, 19, and October 14, respectively.

SHRIKE, *Lanius ludovicianus* (ssp.?).—A male was taken on the Knight Farm near Lakin, Mason County, March 30, 1937. On careful comparison of this specimen with the series in the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, it is evident that it is not a typical individual of *L. l. migrans*. In coloration, especially of the upper parts and in the amount of gray on the chest, it agrees very closely with the southern race, *L. l. ludovicianus*, but approaches *L. l. migrans* in tail and wing measurements. The bill is intermediate. Breeding specimens are needed to establish definitely the form found in the southern part of the State. Measurements of the specimen are as follows: wing, 100.0 mm.; tail, 96.0; exposed culmen, 14.5; depth of culmen at base, 9.5; tarsus, 27.0; bill from nostril, 11.5.

WESTERN PALM WARBLER, *Dendroica palmarum palmarum*.—Seven specimens taken during the fall of 1937 are all typical of the western race. Specimens are as follows: one male, September 12; one female, September 21; and one male, October 17, all taken near my home on Bethany Pike, Ohio County; two females, September 17, and two females, September 18, were taken on Knight Farm, near Lakin, Mason County. Published records show only one specimen of this race collected previously from the Northern Panhandle, that taken by Sutton on September 14, 1935 (Auk, 53: 89, 1936).

GRINNELL'S WATER-THRUSH, *Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis*.—A male and a female were taken two miles southeast of Holliday's Cove, along Harmon Creek, Brooke County, September 11, 1936. Dr. George M. Sutton collected the male and the female was collected by myself. These are the only two specimens that, to my knowledge, have been taken in this State.

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD, *Agelaius phoeniceus*.—Dr. Alexander Wetmore in his

recent paper ('Observations on the birds of West Virginia,' Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 84: 401-441, 1937) lists the collecting of a Giant Red-wing, *A. p. arctolegus*, near Enon, Nicholas County, May 11, 1936. This was the first record of this larger form for the State.

I secured eight Red-wings, two males and six females, from a flock of about three hundred on the Knight Farm, near Lakin, Mason County, on December 30, 1936. On comparing these specimens with skins in the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, the two males and four females were determined as *A. p. arctolegus*. The other two females were assigned to the common eastern form, *A. p. phoeniceus*. Identifications were made by Miss Ruth Trimble of the Carnegie Museum staff and myself. These identifications were checked by Dr. H. C. Oberholser of the U. S. Biological Survey.—KARL W. HALLER, *Bethany College, Bethany, West Virginia*.

Some rarer birds at the Falls of the Ohio.—The Falls of the Ohio River at Louisville, Kentucky, made famous in Audubon's writings, continue to produce some of the rarer records for the State. Several made here in recent years are worth reporting.

SNOWY EGRET, *Egretta thula thula*.—Six birds were seen on August 21 and nine on August 22, 1937. Their yellow feet were easily noted as the birds flew and waded about.

WOOD IBIS, *Mycteria americana*.—One individual, first seen at a small pond in southern Indiana, a very short distance from the Falls, on August 5, 1934. It appeared on the Falls proper on August 12 and was recorded again on August 18.

PIPING PLOVER, *Charadrius melodus*.—Two birds seen on September 5, 1937. One was collected and is now in my possession.

RUDDY TURNSTONE, *Arenaria interpres morinella*.—Seen on the Falls from September 1 through September 27. Two specimens in my collection, both females in winter plumage, were taken September 27, 1936, and September 7, 1937, respectively.

WESTERN WILLET, *Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus*.—One record only: a single bird was seen on August 21, 1937, and I collected it on August 22. It was a female and in a somewhat emaciated condition. The left leg had been broken and had healed at about a thirty-degree angle, giving the bird a limping and sidewise motion when walking. It is a coincidence that on September 6, 1936, at Ashtabula, Ohio, Dr. Lawrence Hicks, of Columbus, collected a female Willet in exactly this same condition (Auk, 54: 536-537, 1937). This is the first specimen taken in Kentucky.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER, *Tryngites subruficollis*.—Three individuals of this species were observed walking among the rocks and sandhills on September 17, 1936. Two were collected and the skins are in my possession at the present time. This establishes the first published record, to my knowledge, for the State.

SANDERLING, *Crocethia alba*.—These birds are seen here in flocks of as many as twenty or thirty individuals and appear each year with regularity. They have been recorded from early August to October 12. Two specimens in my collection, taken August 2, 1936, are yet in the brownish breeding plumage. A third specimen, taken September 11, 1937, has changed to the winter plumage.

CASPIAN TERN, *Hydroprogne caspia imperator*.—This tern is a very regular autumn migrant to the Falls of the Ohio, appearing as early as August 4 and recorded regularly from August 21 through September 20; most often seen in flocks of three, four or five but has been seen in flocks numbering as high as fifteen individuals.—BURT L. MONROE, *Curator, Kentucky Ornithological Society, Louisville, Kentucky*.