

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

A Yellow Phase of the Cassin Purple Finch.—Although Linnets (*Carpodacus mexicanus*) are well known to show variable amounts of yellow, this color has not been detected, so far as I am aware, in other members of the genus. An adult male Cassin Finch (*Carpodacus cassini*) taken by the writer near Sierra City, Sierra County, California, July 17, 1916, has the normally red areas entirely replaced by lemon yellow. It is now in the collection of Mr. A. B. Howell.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Los Angeles, California, March 25, 1921.*

Black-and-White Warbler Again in Southern California.—On April 20, 1921, I observed a male Black-and-White Warbler (*Mniotilta varia*) in full song in a plane tree in a stream bed in Carpinteria, Santa Barbara County. This is, I believe, the sixth known occurrence of the species in California (see *Pac. Coast Avifauna*, no. 11, p. 144, and *Condor*, xxii, p. 76). The bird noted above was within a mile of the spot where Dr. Henderson saw the bird noted by him (*loc. cit.*).—RALPH HOFFMANN, *Carpinteria, California, April 23, 1921.*

Notes on Some Birds of the Berkeley Campus.—From 1883 to 1889 I was actively engaged in collecting birds at Berkeley, California, and for several years made regular notes on bird migration. Some of these notes appeared in Belding's "Land Birds of the Pacific District", issued by the California Academy of Sciences in 1890, but many of them have never been published. Those on early arrivals or late departures are still interesting in comparison with subsequent observations or in averaging dates of arrival of certain species during a term of years.

Examination of the records in Grinnell's "Second List of the Birds of the Berkeley Campus" (*Condor*, xvi, 1914, pp. 28-40), indicates that several entries among my notes may be of interest. While my earliest or latest dates have probably now been superseded they may still be worth recording as they refer to years for which there are comparatively few published notes.

Larus philadelphia. Bonaparte Gull. A male bird of this species was "found nearly dead" on the University grounds April 21, 1888, and was presented to me by Mr. J. J. Rivers, then curator of the University Museum. The specimen was duly made up and was preserved in my collection in the California Academy of Sciences which was destroyed in the San Francisco fire of 1906.

Stellula calliope. Calliope Hummingbird. The statement in Belding's "Land Birds", p. 89, that the Calliope Hummingbird is a "rare accidental visitant" at Berkeley was based on a single specimen collected on the hill, just east of the grove where the Greek Theater now stands, in the early fall of 1884 or 1885. Frank H. Holmes, Hubert F. Burgess and I were collecting together at the time, and the bird was shot by Holmes or Burgess. So far as I am aware it was the only specimen obtained in Berkeley during the years that I collected there.

Passerina amoena. Lazuli Bunting. The earliest date of arrival according to my notes is April 18, 1888, which is six days earlier than that mentioned in Grinnell's "List".

Dendroica auduboni. Audubon Warbler. My earliest dates of arrival in the autumn seem to be October 8, 1887, and October 2, 1888, and the latest date on which the bird was observed in spring April 15, 1887—all of which have now been superseded.

Anthus rubescens. Pipit. The earliest date of arrival that I have for the Pipit in autumn is September 28, 1887, which is several days earlier than the dates given by Grinnell.

Salpinctes obsoletus obsoletus. Rock Wren. Not included in Grinnell's list. Although I can not now give any specific dates, I frequently found the Rock Wren, especially in autumn and winter, on the hills east of the Greek Theatre and on the north side of Strawberry Canyon.

Sitta canadensis. Red-breasted Nuthatch. My latest spring record is March 27, 1888, while the latest mentioned by Grinnell is March 24, 1913.

Hylocichla guttata nanus. Dwarf Hermit Thrush. Early fall records include

October 12, 1885, and October 11 and 13, 1888, but subsequent observers have noted the arrival of the bird as early as October 4, in 1912 and 1913.—T. S. PALMER, *Washington, D. C., May 8, 1921.*

Extension of Breeding Range of Marsh Sparrow and Monterey Hermit Thrush*.—

While carrying on some field work for the California Academy of Sciences in Del Norte County, California, during this past spring (1921), with Chase Littlejohn as assistant, I kept special lookout for marsh sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis* subsp.?), as there did not seem to be any good reason for this species limiting its northern range to Humboldt Bay. While it is true that there are but few attractive localities for it along this rockbound coast, at the same time a few small meadows do exist at the mouths of rivers and at the heads of lagoons. One such meadow is at the mouth of the Klamath River, just opposite the little settlement of Requa, Del Norte County, this being an alluvial flat about a mile long and half a mile wide. It is shut off from the ocean by a bar of low sand dunes, and seemed as if it might be a breeding ground for this sparrow, which it proved to be.

A visit to this flat on May 7 resulted in our finding a small number of these birds there, and two males were secured. On May 16 another visit was made to this place and a search carried on for nests, of which none was found. Several birds were seen and another male taken. They were found only at the ocean end of the flat, in land that is more or less of a meadow and has a small stream running through it that is backed up by the tides. Most of the drier parts of the flat are covered with scattered bushes of lupine, and it was perching upon these that the birds were most often seen.

On May 29 another visit was made to this meadow and two or three of the birds were again seen. As we could not find a nest we endeavored to obtain a female, for examination as to breeding status. A pair was finally located, but the female was lost in a thick growth of lupine and grass, most unfortunately. Not wishing to run the chance of exterminating this small colony no further attempt was made to obtain a bird. There can be no doubt, however, as to this species breeding there, to judge from the actions of those seen. A number of dairy cattle daily grazing in this meadow not only kept the grass very short, where unprotected by lupine bushes, but also made the search for nests more difficult by continually getting in our way, or stirring up the birds as they moved about. There was so little grass for concealment in the open that it seems probable that the nests were either in the lupines, or else at the edge of the sand dunes where small drift wood would protect them. As much time as could be spared was devoted to searching for nests, but without result.

Passing through Crescent City, Del Norte County, on a trip into the interior, some good-looking meadow was noted and, upon returning to that town, the morning of May 27 was devoted to settling the question as to the presence there of the marsh sparrow. In a small damp spot just south of the town a pair of this species was located and again a male was taken. The female escaped and disappeared for the moment. A long tramp failed to discover any more, nor did a visit by Littlejohn to another meadow meet with success. This may have been due to the constantly increasing gale that sprang up early that morning and finally drove us indoors for the rest of the day. We arranged to get out at five o'clock next morning for a further search, but a heavy rain set in, with the promise of such bad weather that it was decided to return to Requa, our principal objective, and finish up the work there.

The original idea in looking for marsh sparrows on this field trip was the possibility of finding the Bryant Marsh Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis bryanti*) breeding farther north along the coast than Humboldt Bay. The first bird taken at Requa appeared to prove such a possibility to be a fact, but upon careful study of the other four specimens secured I have concluded to place them all in the category of Dwarf Marsh Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis brooksi* Bishop), not so much on account of measurements as compared with the Bryant Marsh Sparrow, but rather on account of the coloration. As remarked above, the first one obtained is indistinguishable from many specimens of *bryanti* taken in the breeding season in the recognized habitat of the latter form, while the other four of our Del Norte County specimens have the backs

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