

well started. The down does not at once disappear, but persists after the feathers are well grown, sticking out between them in little tufts, giving the young bird a very comical appearance. Not longer than fifteen days after hatching, the young leave the nest and begin to "dig" for themselves.

It is exceedingly difficult to trace the life history of the larks after the nest is deserted. All that I have been able to discover is that in a remarkably short time the young become able to catch insects for themselves; when the old birds at once begin building another nest.

Not until late in August, after the birds of the last brood are well grown, is there a time for rest. Then the moult begins, and the birds seem to disappear.

#### THE AVI-FAUNA OF BROOME COUNTY, N. Y.

BY WILLARD N. CLUTE, BINGHAMPTON, N. Y.

In presenting the following list of the birds of Broome County, N. Y., it may be well to add a few notes on the position and topography of the section under review. Broome is one of the counties forming the "Southern Tier" of the State, and is situated near the centre of this tier. Its southern boundary is the state line—parallel  $42^{\circ}$ . There are no mountains in the county, the highest points being about 1700 feet above sea-level. It is watered by the Susquehanna and Chenango rivers and several minor streams. As there are no lakes or ponds of any size, we have but few water-birds. The chief waterway of the county—the Susquehanna—which, in part of its course, forms a natural highway for the migratory birds, here flows east and west, and many of the rare migrants have, doubtless, left it for a more direct route northward. The list given herewith is the result of six years' observations and makes no pretensions to completeness. The nomenclature is that of the American Ornithologists' Union. Except in a few instances, I have given the common name by which the bird is best known in the county.

1. **Urinator imber.** Loon.—Occasional migrant.

2. **Merganser serrator.** RED-BREADED MERGANSER.—Common in spring and fall. Some winter.

3. **Lophodytes cucullatus.** HOODED MERGANSER.—Somewhat rare migrant.

4. **Aix sponsa.** WOOD DUCK.—Not uncommon in spring and fall. A few probably breed.

5. **Branta canadensis.** WILD GOOSE.—Not uncommon migrant. It seldom tarries with us but is often heard flying over at night.

6. **Botaurus lentiginosus.** BITTERN.—Somewhat rare summer resident.

7. **Botaurus exilis.** LEAST BITTERN.—Summer resident. About as common as the preceeding.

8. **Ardea herodias.** GREAT BLUE HERON.—Rare; commonest in spring. As individuals are occasionally seen all summer they doubtless breed sparingly.

9. **Ardea virescens.** GREEN HERON.—Common summer resident; often breeding in communities.

10. **Porzana carolina.** SORA RAIL.—Rare. Probably breeds, as immature birds have been taken in the county.

11. **Philohela minor.** WOOD-COCK.—Not uncommon summer resident.

12. **Actitis macularia.** TIP-UP.—An abundant summer resident.

13. **Ægialitis vocifera.** KILLDEER.—Rare. Occasionally seen in spring.

14. **Colinus virginianus.** QUAIL.—Not very common. Breeds.

15. **Bonasa umbellus.** PARTRIDGE.—Common resident, greatly outnumbering the preceeding species.

16. **Zenaidura macroura.** MOURNING DOVE.—Common summer resident.

17. **Circus hudsonius.** MARSH HAWK.—Not uncommon. Probably breeds.

18. **Accipiter cooperi.** COOPER'S HAWK.—Common summer resident. Breeds.

19. **Buteo borealis.** RED-TAILED HAWK.—Not uncommon. Breeds.

20. **Falco sparverius.** SPARROW HAWK.—Common summer resident.

21. **Pandion haliaetus carolinensis.** OSPREY.—Occasionally seen all summer; may breed.

22. **Nyctala acadica.** SAW-WHET OWL.—Not uncommon resident.

23. **Megascops asio.** SCREECH OWL.—Tolerably common resident.

24. **Bubo virginianus.** GREAT HORNED OWL.—Not uncommon resident.

25. **Nyctea nyctea.** SNOWY OWL.—Occasional winter visitant.

26. **Coccyzus erythrophthalmus.** BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO.—Common summer resident.

27. *Ceryle alcyon*. KINGFISHER.—Common summer resident. Some winter with us.
28. *Dryobates villosus*. HAIRY WOODPECKER.—Tolerably common resident.
29. *Dryobates pubescens*. DOWNY WOODPECKER.—Common resident.
30. *Sphyrapicus varius*. YELLOW-BELLIED WOODPECKER.—Spring and fall migrant. Sometimes abundant, but often not seen during migrations.
31. *Melanerpes erythrocephalus*. RED-HEADED WOODPECKER.—Not uncommon summer resident.
32. *Colaptes auratus*. FLICKER.—Abundant summer resident.
33. *Antrostomus vociferus*. WHIP-POOR-WILL.—Not uncommon summer resident.
34. *Chordeiles virginianus*. NIGHT HAWK.—Common summer resident.
35. *Chætura pelagica*. CHIMNEY SWIFT.—Abundant summer resident.
36. *Trochilus colubris*. RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD.—Tolerably common summer resident.
37. *Tyrannus tyrannus*. KINGBIRD.—Common summer resident.
38. *Sayornis phoebe*. PEWEE.—Common summer resident.
39. *Contopus virens*. WOOD PEWEE.—Common summer resident.
40. *Empidonax minimus*. LEAST FLYCATCHER.—Tolerably common summer resident.
41. *Otocoris alpestris*. HORNED LARK.—Commonest in spring and fall; many winter with us, and a few are seen in all the summer months; they probably breed.
42. *Cyanocitta cristata*. BLUE JAY. Common resident.
43. *Corvus Americanus*. CROW.—Common resident. The crows winter with us in large numbers.
44. *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. BOBOLINK.—Common summer resident.
45. *Molothrus ater*. COWBIRD.—Common summer resident.
46. *Agelaius phoeniceus*. RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD.—Common summer resident.
47. *Sturnella magna*. MEADOWLARK.—Common summer resident.
48. *Icterus spurius*. ORCHARD ORIOLE.—Rare summer resident. Several nests have been taken.
49. *Icterus galbula*. BALTIMORE ORIOLE.—Common summer resident.
50. *Quiscalus quiscula*. CROW BLACKBIRD.—Common summer resident. Partial to cemeteries and groves of coniferous trees near water; seldom found elsewhere.

51. **Carpodacus purpureus.** LINNET.—Common in spring. Some breed, and a few occasionally winter.
52. **Passer domesticus.** ENGLISH SPARROW.—Common nuisance.
53. **Spinus tristis.** GOLDFINCH.—Abundant summer resident. Often seen in winter.
54. **Plectrophenax nivalis.** SNOWFLAKE.—Irregular winter visitant; seen only in the hardest winters.
55. **Poocætes gramineus.** BAYWING.—Abundant summer resident.
56. **Ammodramus sandwichensis savanna.** SAVANNA SPARROW.—Tolerably common summer resident.
57. **Zonotrichia leucophrys.** WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW.—Not uncommon migrant.
58. **Zonotrichia albicollis.** WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.—Abundant migrant.
59. **Spizella monticola.** TREE SPARROW.—Most abundant in spring and fall. Common winter resident.
60. **Spizella socialis.** CHIPPING SPARROW.—Common summer resident.
61. **Spizella pusilla.** FIELD SPARROW.—Common summer resident.
62. **Junco hyemalis.** BLACK SNOWBIRD.—Abundant in spring and fall. Rare breeder: one nest taken July 24, 1890. See *Oologist* for Sept. 1890.
63. **Melospiza fasciata.** SONG SPARROW.—Abundant summer resident.
64. **Melospiza georgiana.** SWAMP SPARROW.—Not uncommon summer resident.
65. **Pipilo erythrophthalmus.** CHEWINK.—Common summer resident. Found in upland slashings, only.
66. **Habia ludoviciana.** ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK.—Rare summer resident.
67. **Piranga erythromelas.** SCARLET Tanager.—Rare summer resident.
68. **Petrochelidon lunifrons.** CLIFF SWALLOW.—Tolerably common summer resident. Restricted to a few favorable localities.
69. **Chelidon erythrogaster.** BARN SWALLOW.—Not uncommon summer resident.
70. **Tachycineta bicolor.** TREE SWALLOW.—Common summer resident. The most abundant of our swallows.
71. **Clivicola riparia.** BANK SWALLOW.—Common summer resident. Restricted to a few localities.
72. **Ampelis cedrorum.** WAXWING.—Common summer resident.
73. **Lanius borealis.** NORTHERN SHRIKE.—Regular winter resident.
74. **Vireo olivaceus.** RED-EYED VIREO.—Common summer resident.
75. **Vireo gilvus.** WARBLING VIREO.—Not uncommon summer resident.

76. *Mniotilta varia*. BLACK AND WHITE CREEPER.—Not uncommon in spring and autumn: has been seen in summer, and may breed.
77. *Compsothlypis americana*. PARULA WARBLER.—Not uncommon migrant.
78. *Dendroica æstiva*. SUMMER YELLOW-BIRD.—Common summer resident.
79. *Dendroica maculosa*. BLACK AND YELLOW WARBLER.—Not uncommon migrant.
80. *Dendroica cærulescens*. BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER.—Common migrant.
81. *Dendroica coronata*. YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER.—Common migrant.
82. *Dendroica pennsylvanica*. CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER.—Tolerably common migrant. Sometimes seen in summer.
83. *Dendroica castanea*. BAY-BREASTED WARBLER.—Not uncommon migrant.
84. *Dendroica blackburniæ*. BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER.—Common migrant.
85. *Dendroica virens*. BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER.—Common summer resident.
86. *Seiurus aurocapillus*. GOLDEN-CROWNED THRUSH.—Common summer resident.
87. *Seiurus noveboracensis*. WATER-THRUSH.—Somewhat rare summer resident.
88. *Geothlypis philadelphia*. MOURNING WARBLER.—Not uncommon migrant.
89. *Geothlypis trichas*. MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT.—Common summer resident.
90. *Icteria virens*. YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT.—Not uncommon summer resident.
91. *Setophaga ruticilla*. AMERICAN REDSTART.—Not uncommon summer resident.
92. *Galeoscoptes carolinensis*. CATBIRD.—Common summer resident.
93. *Harporhynchus rufus*. BROWN THRASHER.—Abundant summer resident.
94. *Troglodytes aedon*. HOUSE WREN.—Tolerably common summer resident.
95. *Troglodytes hiemalis*. WINTER WREN.—Not uncommon winter resident.
96. *Cistothorus palustris*. LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN.—Not uncommon summer resident.
97. *Certhia familiaris americana*. BROWN CREEPER.—Not uncommon resident. Seen oftenest in spring.

98. **Sitta carolinensis.** WHITE-BREADED NUTHATCH.—Common resident.
99. **Parus atricapillus.** CHICKADEE.—Abundant resident.
100. **Regulus satrapa.** GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.—Abundant migrant. These birds usually winter with us in small numbers, and some are seen in summer.
101. **Regulus calendula.** RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET.—Common migrant.
102. **Turdus mustelinus.** WOOD THRUSH.—Common summer resident.
103. **Turdus fuscescens.** WILSON'S THRUSH.—Abundant summer resident.
104. **Turdus aonalaschkæ pallasii.** HERMIT THRUSH.—Not uncommon during migrations.
105. **Merula migratoria.** ROBIN.—Abundant summer resident.
106. **Sialia sialis.** BLUEBIRD.—Abundant summer resident.

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### THE MAGPIE IN WASHINGTON.

(*Pica pica hudsonica.*)

W. L. DAWSON.

In his chosen haunts amongst the brown hills of Yakimer County, there is no bird more interesting than the Black-billed Magpie. Like all the other aborigines who will not adapt themselves to the ways of civilization, he has been compelled to seek his home in out of the way places.

During a residence in eastern Washington of some four seasons, I had ample opportunity to note the habits of this bird, both as it wintered in the valleys, and as it spent the breeding season in the lonesome foot-hills.

Through the short winter it hangs about the farmhouses, with an eye to pilfering from the poultry yard, or else in anxious expectation of its annual festival, "slaughtering time." Necessity alone makes him so bold, for as soon as the warm Chinook winds drive off the snow, early in March, he repairs to the lonesome canons in the foot-hills, and for the rest of the year severs his connection with the busy world.

I made four different visits to their retreats, and each time returned well laden with specimens for the cabinet.