

ARRIVAL OF WHIPPOORWILL AND PURPLE MARTIN IN SPRING.

Information of the time when these two species arrive in spring was solicited in BULLETIN 14. Only a very few localities were heard from, but the presentation of records from these few will aid materially in any further study of the movements of these birds.

The record of Mr. Frank L. Burns, of Berwyn, Pa., is as follows: For Purple Martin, April 4, 1889; April 22, 1890; June 2, 1896; April 23, 1897. At West Chester, Pa., March 24, 1897. Mr. Burns states that this last is "*very early*." For Whippoorwill, Mr. Burns has no spring records.

Mr. James Savage, Buffalo, N. Y., sends the following record: For Purple Martin, April 16, 1894; April 23, 1896; May 19, 1897. At Ann Arbor, Mich., April 15, 1890. For Whippoorwill, May 1, 1894; May 13, 1897.

At Oberlin, Ohio, I have the following records: For Purple Martin, April 8, 1896; March 31, 1897. The arrival of Whippoorwill has not been observed. It is not common.

Mr. J. N. Clark, Meridian, Wis., sends the following notes: For Purple Martin, May 18 is the earliest recorded arrival, but since it is rare in this locality it may come earlier. For Whippoorwill, April 23, 1891 is the earliest date, April 26, 1887.

My Grinnell, Iowa, records are as follows: For Purple Martin, April 10, 1885; April 13, 1886; April 3, 1887; April 3, 1888; April 1, 1889; April 8, 1890. For Whippoorwill, April 23, 1885; April 28, 1886; April 14, 1887; April 17, 1888; April 19, 1889; April 23, 1890.

Mr. John W. Daniel, Jr., Lynchburg, Va., sends the following records for the Whippoorwill: April 2, 1896; March 26, 1897.

Mr. O. M. Meyncke, records one Whippoorwill on March 2, 1897, at Brookville, Ind., in *The Osprey* for May, 1897, p. 123.

My experiences with both species at Grinnell, Iowa, where they are far more common than here in northern Ohio, led me to believe that they were greatly influenced by weather. The Martins came with the first genuine signs of spring, and the Whippoorwill's first note came in with the perfume of opening blossoms. But with the Martins it is necessary

to be particularly careful, for the first few days, or even weeks it may be rarely, they stay closely at home in the boxes or houses where they are first seen. The present season the first one appeared promptly at noon on March 31, taking possession of the house at once, where he rested the remainder of the day, and was not seen a block away during the next two weeks or longer. Severe weather late in April, and weather unfavorable for vegetation and insect life during all of April resulted in the starvation of one of the company. No other Martins were seen nor reported until well into May. Hence, keep watch of your martin boxes if you would make early records.

In this region the Whippoorwill is restricted to certain localities several miles from Oberlin, and hence has not been recorded until some days or even weeks after its arrival. Twice only have I heard its note in the woods near Oberlin, and then only one day in an entire season.

LYNDS JONES, Oberlin, Ohio.

GENERAL NOTES.

SOME WARBLERS OF EL DORADO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA.—A hint of the physical features of the county is necessary to a proper understanding of its Warbler inhabitants. The altitude is about 3750 feet above the ocean. The country for miles around is covered with tall firs, pines, cedars, spruces, with here and there oaks and thick brush, called "deer brush." In various places under the trees there are large patches of a species of wild rose, called "mountain misery."

HERMIT WARBLER, *Dendroica occidentalis*.—During my stay from the 7th to the 14 of July, 1897, I saw but six Hermit Warblers. A nest with four young was found in a cedar tree about twelve feet up. All but the one female belonging to this nest seemed to be males. They seemed to prefer the tops of tall trees where they searched through the foliage for insects, singing all the time.

CALAVERAS WARBLER, *Helminthophila rubricapilla gutturalis*.—These were quite common, spending their time in the "deer brush" and "mountain misery." No nests were found, but several broods of young were noticed. They keep well out of sight and therefore are easily overlooked.

BLACK-THROATED GRAY WARBLER, *Dendroica nigrescens*.—One of the commonest Warblers, both in brush and high trees. A pleasant song-