

seen by my brother the past spring at North Greenfield. As observed at some distance, the bird seemed pure white in color. It was with a flock of Crows of normal color and behaved like any ordinary Crow. It did not seem to receive any unusual attention from its companions.

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER AND KINGBIRDS.—A pair of Kingbirds built a nest in a white oak tree, near the house, in June. About the time of its completion, an ill-tempered Red-headed Woodpecker came along and proceeded to tear up the nest in spite of vigorous attempts at remonstrance by its owners. Several times the birds came to close quarters and indulged in a rough and tumble fight.

R. M. STRONG. *North Greenfield, Wis.*

NOTES FROM OBERLIN, OHIO.—Of the 180 odd species of birds which an active ornithologist might feel reasonably confident of finding in Lorain County during a spring, summer and early autumn, only 149 have been seen by the writer thus far during 1897. Of the thirty odd unrecorded species at least two must have failed to appear in the county. These are the Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) and Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*). They were diligently searched for in all places without success. Many of the others escaped notice because of lack of opportunity to search for them where and when they could be found. Of the 149 actually recorded, at least twenty-six appeared in a more or less unusual role. Since there was a marked increase in the numbers of twenty-two species, and just as marked a decrease in the numbers of but two, it is fair to conclude that the season has been favorable for the birds. The records of many of these twenty-two species is so interesting that they deserve special mention:

GREAT BLUE HERON, *Ardea herodias*.—It has been not only more common than usual, especially on the lake shore, where a small flock was seen for weeks during the early autumn, but one settled in a pasture within the village corporation. His vain efforts to balance himself upon the top wire of a fence were tantalizingly ludicrous.

BOB-WHITE, *Colinus virginianus*.—It is gratifying to notice that this species is decidedly on the increase. A covey of some fifteen was startled from an evergreen in my neighbor's front yard, on a Sunday morning.

TURKEY VULTURE, *Cathartes aura*.—Seen almost every day during the spring and summer.

LONG-EARED OWL, *Asio wilsonianus*.—This is the first year that it has ever approached being common.

YELLOW-BELLIED WOODPECKER, *Sphyrapicus varius*.—The first season it has been actually found nesting.

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER, *Melanerpes carolinus*.—A very noticeable increase in numbers and consequent greater boldness. During September one individual ventured upon the college campus several times. His call sounded strangely on the busy street.

BOBOLINK, *Dolichonyx oryzivorus*.—A decided decrease in numbers, probably due to the conversion of so many pastures and meadows into cornfields. It seemed to be more common after the molt.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE, *Icterus galbula*.—It has been universally remarked that the "Orioles" were never so numerous before. "Abundant" would not overestimate the numbers.

AMERICAN CROSSBILL, *Loxia curvirostra minor*.—Not only far more numerous than ever before, but remained much later also. There is a suspicion that broods were raised in the county.

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH, *Spinus tristis*.—Certainly abundant. One could not get beyond the reach of the plaintively fretful call note.

CARDINAL, *Cardinalis cardinalis*.—In nearly every small woods, and common along the rivers. A noticeable increase.

CEDAR WAXWING, *Ampelis cedrorum*.—Never so many before. Nested plentifully in the village.

OVENBIRD, *Seiurus aurocapillus*.—Abounded in the woods. Unmercifully imposed upon by the Cowbird. Last year (1896) the Ovenbird was not at all common.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT, *Icteria virens*.—The increase over last year was fully 100 per cent., judging from the numbers observed.

BARN SWALLOW, *Petrochelidon lunifrons*.—The birds came into town, two pairs nesting in my neighbor's barn. They were everywhere in evidence.

BROWN CREEPER, *Certhia familiaris americana*.—Common during the spring migration. The increase seemed to be fully 300 per cent. None could have spent the summer here.

PURPLE MARTIN, *Frogoe subis*.—While not common outside of town, it was not unusual to see birds flying over the country. In former years it has been confined to the towns.

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER, *Polioptila cerulea*.—Never more common before. This summer every woods boasted several pairs. Nesting in all woods.

WILSON'S THRUSH, *Turdus fuscescens*.—Common and nesting in the deeper woods. Singing well into July.

BLUEBIRD. *Sialia sialis*.—Nearly equal to its former numbers, but not singing.

GREEN-CRESTED FLYCATCHER, *Empidonax virescens*.—Abundant in all woods, and nesting plentifully. Its note was one of the ceaseless sounds of the woods.
LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

RUBY-THROATED HUMMING-BIRD BREEDING IN THE SAME LOCATION FOR TEN CONSECUTIVE YEARS.—On May 29, 1897, I collected a nest and two fresh eggs of the little Ruby-throat from a pair of birds which have annually nested in the same locality. The bird remained on the nest while I severed the branch on which it was placed. The locality in which this pair of birds have nested so long, is a small group of sugar maples near a brook in a ravine on the border of a large wood. The first time I found them nesting here was May 29, 1897, when I took a nest and two fresh eggs from a neighboring tree. On the same branch, and only six inches away, was an old nest, showing the birds had used the locality in previous years.
J. WARREN JACOBS, *Waynesburg, Pa.*

ABUNDANCE OF DENDROICA IN CALIFORNIA.—For about a week prior to January 21, 1897, I noticed a number of Warblers along a creek that ran near a road, over which I passed daily. They were very active and could be heard chirping as they searched for insects in the trees and on the ground. I thought they were Audubon's, but on the 22nd I thought the note sounded different from Audubon's, so I returned earlier than usual (about 4:50 P. M.) and found them quite common, and they allowed me to approach within from six to eleven feet, when to my surprise I saw they were Myrtle. The creek was quite low and they would sit on the rocks in water or search along the bank. On the 23rd I found about fifty and shot one. On the 2nd of February I shot two more, and they appeared to be old birds, though I could not say for sure. (One of the birds was named by Mr. R. Ridgway of the Smithsonian.) I had not met the Myrtle at any place except along the creek, but after February nearly all the birds I noticed seemed to have the white throat patch. I could not see any difference between this bird and Audubon's except there seemed to be a slight difference in the note, and in the latter part of February I could generally tell by note whether it was Audubon's or Myrtle. A small note-book in which I kept my rough notes after March was lost, so all I have is as follows: February 6, about twenty in oaks on hills. February 14, more common than Audubon's. March 7, about equally divided. March 20, still common in hills. April 4, common as Audubon's. Al-