

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION.

Geographical Range. "Eastern North America; from Florida and the Gulf coast north through the maritime provinces of Canada to Newfoundland and southern Labrador, and the shores of Hudson Bay to about latitude 58° ; thence in a northwesterly direction to Alaska, to about latitude 68° ; west through about the eastern half of Texas, the greater part of Indian Territory, Kansas, eastern half of Nebraska, South and North Dakota, and the province of Assiniboia and Saskatchewan, Dominion of Canada, to northern British Columbia; accidental in Greenland and Europe."—Bendire's Life Histories of North American Birds. Ranging from the sub-tropical climate of southern Florida and the Gulf coast to the tree limits of the boreal zone, it would appear not only pushing out further to the west into the territory of *cafer*, but a foothold which promises to become permanent has been gained in California. While frequently mixed birds, a number of apparently pure *auratus* have been found; the first record being from San Bernardo, taken early in January, 1885."—Auk, Vol. II, p. 383. Mr. R. P. Sharples, during several years' residence in Oakland, Alameda county, has found it and believes it to breed there. He also examined one skin in a small collection in Marin county, and its owner informed him that he had taken it nearby. This is the most direct route for migrants going to or from the northwestern breeding grounds, yet a little over a quarter of a century ago birds exhibiting even traces of the Yellow-shafted were practically unknown in all that region. There is one record for Colorado. A straggler taken in England in the autumn of 1836 is the only record I have been able to find, though doubtless it has been taken on the Continent also, and a few may and probably do wander into northeastern Siberia.

Winter Range. "It is much more abundant in Winter than in Summer south of latitude 36° , usually inhabiting the

woods and swamps, where it is reported as very wild, keeping well out of the reach of the gun. While it is said to be usually a resident as far north as the 38° parallel, further north it becomes less common, and above the 40° parallel is rather scarce as a resident, although a few are reported at almost every station on the Atlantic slope. "At Cape Cod it is very mischievous during this season, boring holes through the weather boarding of vacant summer residences for no apparent reason except for shelter. Drumming on tin roofs also seems to afford it pleasure."—J. H. Bowles. "At Taunton, Mass., the few that remain find shelter in the deep evergreen swamps or in old ice houses, in which it excavates its winter quarters."—A. C. Bent. "West of the Alleghenies it is found in small flocks on Big Island, Burlington county, Iowa; and is not uncommon at Oberlin, Ohio, Port Sanilac and Plymouth, Mich.; and at Mexico, Mo., extending well out on the prairies, seemingly less migratory yearly, as it was found throughout the cold winter of '93-'94. "At Wady Petra, Ill., for three winters—'93 to '96—an old male was present almost every day, though during the coldest weather he disappeared for as long as a week at a time; during the morning he usually sat on the east side of the roof of the house."—Virginius H. Chase. "At Oberlin College for two winters—'95 to '97—a solitary bird roosted between the vertical water pipe and wall of Spear Library, and during the winter of '97-'98 one bird made its headquarters in the cupola of the Theological Seminary building."—Lynds Jones. Two records are given for Perry, Iowa—Nov. 18, '93, and Dec. 22, '94. Regardless of the Winter weather from one to three have been noticed every few days throughout December, '99, and January, '00, at Hillsboro, Iowa, which is within ten miles of the Missouri border; and at Waseca, Minn., one was seen on Dec. 11 and 12, '86. At Plymouth, Mich., the cold winters and the scarcity or abundance of beech nuts does not seem to effect the rarity or abundance of the Flicker as it does the Red-headed Woodpecker. It does not winter at Glen Ellyn, Ill.; Iowa City, Iowa, or at any station in Wisconsin or Minnesota. While stragglers have wintered even north of the United States in mild seasons, I believe nearly if not quite all birds found above latitude 40° to be Winter visitants from further north,

mainly hardy old males. In this locality it has decreased as a Winter resident during the last fifty years from common to casual.

Breeding Range. Nesting from Newfoundland to the Dakotas and from the Florida peninsula to Alaska, its range is more extensive than that of any other American Woodpecker. It is said to be nearly co-extensive with its geographical range, being found generally below altitudes of 4000 feet. It is in greater abundance and more generally distributed between the 36° and 46° parallels than anywhere else, and in actual numbers probably falls but little short of equalling all other members of the family combined in the same area. It has been found breeding at Fort Churchill, the most northerly outpost of civilized man's residence on the west coast of Hudson Bay. Unfortunately but little data is available from the great northwest, which is doubtless in part owing to its greater abundance in the States. "At St. Vincent, Minn., it is at no time abundant, nor is there an appreciable increase during the autumnal migrations."---Rev. P. B. Peabody. G. G. Cantwell found it breeding in numbers along the Sixty Mile river, N. W. S., on July 8, '97. — Osprey, Vol. II, p. 25. The table given below is compiled from a large amount of published and unpublished data, showing the average period of Summer residence in various sections of the country. It is believed to be approximately correct. The average date of the arrival of the bulk in Maine, while much later than that given for Wisconsin and Minnesota, is taken from thirty-four records; probably a larger number of dates would make it earlier, and consequently show a longer period of summer residence in that section :

LOCALITY.	Av. Date When First Seen.	Av. Date When Common.	Av. Date When Bulk Depart	Av. Date When Last Seen.	Av. Period of Summer Residence.
S. E. Penn'a.....	March 21	April 8	Oct. 9	Oct. 27	189 days.
New York.....	April 7	" 12	" 3	" 6	174 "
Maine.....	" 17	" 27	Sept. 26	" 2	152 "
S. W. Penn'a, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois.	March 15	" 3	Oct. 13	" 26	193 "
Iowa.....	" 22	" 3	" 2	" 25	185 "
Wis. and Minn....	April 5	" 8	" 2	" 9	177 "