

ON THE OCCURENCE OF TWO SOUTHERN BIRDS IN VA.

Virginia offers many conditions from a geographical standpoint which make it a state well favored with an extensive and somewhat varied avifauna. On the West, the Alleghanies, stretching from a northward to a southward direction, afford the conditions for the Alleghanian and Canadian faunae, while on the East, along the Atlantic sea-board as far as the Chesapeake bay, the Austroriparian life area, semi-tropical in its nature, gives rise to a fauna markedly peculiar as regards Mammals—some being of distinctly tropical genera—and containing some peculiar species of birds, as Swainson's Warbler. Throughout the remainder of the state the Carolinian fauna is present, and in certain sections one may find birds of several faunae mingling together. In Southwest Virginia in the Piedmont section I have observed birds of the cold temperate sub-region fauna present in abundance,—as, *Dendroica castanea*, *D. virens*, *D. blackburiae*, *Troglodytes hiemalis*, *Turdus a. palasi*, *D. tigrina*, *Certhia f. american*, *Helminthophila ruficappila*, *Junco hyemalis carolinensis*, and others, while birds of the Humid Warm Temperate faunae, were also present in great numbers and breeding, so that there were characteristic birds of three life zones present in the same locality,—birds of the Canadian, Alleghanian and Carolinian faunae all associating together in the same immediate territory. This was at Lynchburg, a locality that seems to be a merging point of the Alleghanian and Carolinian zones. At this same locality, later in the season, the Ground Dove and Bachman's Sparrow have been taken, the latter breeding. The Alleghanian zone has been considered by Dr. Allen as a transition belt LIMITING THE

NORTHERMOST RANGE OF MANY Southern species and the extent of the Southern range of many Northern species; hence the mentioned locality being of an Alleghanian X Carolinian nature, accounts for the protracted presence of these two Southern forms, and is probably the northermost point of their regular range, inasmuch as the chain of the Blue Ridge Mountains stretches from North to South, only a few miles from this locality, and these birds no doubt arrive from a Southeasterly direction and find their futher progress toward West and North barred by the mountain ranges.

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HELMINTHOPHILA PINUS IN WISCONSIN.

The Blue-winged Warbler has always been considered a *very* rare bird in Wisconsin, as indeed it probably is, and so it was with a great deal of pleasure that I found myself on July 11, 1897, while pushing my way through the edge of a deep second growth oak wood, with an entire family of them before me—parents and four or five young. They were busy feeding among the lower branches of the small, thickly growing young oaks, remaining in company like a family of young Redstarts and gathering their food entirely from the under sides of the leaves, hanging head downward a large share of the time; full fledged at this early date and only showing his immaturity by the indistinctness of the orbital stripe, the paler yellow crown and the general pin-feathered condition of the post-juvenile moult.

They had without doubt been reared in this very wood and it was with considerable eagerness that I watched for their possible arrival the following spring, but although I fairly haunted these and nearby woods the entire season, but one was noted—a fine male, killed before I realized what it was, while collecting Warblers on May 22.

I could not however give them up and the spring of 1899 found me early in these same woods—where on May 14 I came upon a Blue-wing and at the same instant saw the tell-tale grass