

66. *Hylocichla swainsonii*. *Olive-backed Thrush. Once seen.
 67. *Hylocichla guttata pallasii*. *Hermit Thrush. Commonest of the thrushes.
 68. *Sialia sialis*. *Bluebird. Common.
 69. *Passer domesticus*. English Sparrow. Only once seen in Kearsarge village.

In addition to these, nineteen species were recorded from the village by four other bird-lovers, including Warbling Vireo.

The most remarkable facts are the extreme abundance of the Black-throated Green Warbler, the infrequency of all warblers and the absence of the Northern Parula Warbler, Scarlet Tanager, all Grouse and the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker.

AN OCTOBER ALL-DAY AT BLAINE, WASHINGTON.

BY WILLIAM LEON DAWSON.

Of course it was cloudy. That it was so instead of *rainy* was a mark of special favor, received by the Bird-Man with becoming gratitude, for every loyal Puget-Sounder knows that rain has the right of way from October first *on*. The clouds formed a great leaden canopy centering over Blaine, with no visible support by way of tent poles upon either horizon, but with certain airy hangings and draperies at the edges which not even the rising sun could thrust aside. But in his attempt to do so the draperies caught fire, warming from saffron to Saturn red and rolling up from the east in billows of flame which threatened the eternal hills. Mt. Baker, our patron saint and watchful sentinel, situated some fifty miles to the east and south, stood apart from the conflict, but reflected something of the heavenly ardor from its new-fallen snows until the sun found a rift in the curtain of cloud and shot a full glance at the mountain, whereupon it cast a huge shadow athwart the sky, like the umbration of the needle upon the dial. The northeast in glory and the southeast in the shadow of our glorious mountain—it was worth the sacrifice of a few early birds to have seen it!

The first half hour of indecision, from six o'clock on, was spent awheel, ranging the sidewalks of the still silent town, gleaning the bird-notes from orchard and garden and unreclaimed ravine. The writer was just congratulating himself upon the abundance of native birds hereabouts, undisturbed

as yet by the presence of the all but universal scourge, when "Yark, yark, scrape, chirp, chirp" came from a little fir-tree a block away, in the center of the central business block of town. His obscene majesty, the English Sparrow, has arrived! His half century of conquest is appropriately consummated upon this last square rood of Uncle Sam's undivided possession. Blaine stands at the exact northwestern corner of the United States, and the goal of the Gamin is reached.

The aliens can be very crafty if they choose, and they do choose while they are in the minority. I have searched the townsite over, during the two months past, fearing the dread presence, yet resolved to know the worst, without having heard a single chirp from the *domesticus* until to-day. Yet I am assured that the creatures have been here in small numbers for two or three years past. Nine Sparrows were frightened, upon this occasion, from the little fir-tree, and all became instantly silent upon their escape.

The cataloguer's attention was next directed toward the water birds. Drayton Harbor, which is the inner sea sanctum of Blaine, is some seven miles in circumference at high-tide, and save for a narrow channel, is shut off from the wide waters of Semiahmoo Bay by a sand-spit a mile in length. As flood-tide approaches, the number of sea birds upon the harbor is augmented to several thousand by the arrival of ducks, mostly Scaups, "Bluebills," and Scoters, or "Black Ducks." These birds, upon entering or leaving the harbor, usually fly low over the sand-spit and are here assaulted by a battery of ever-ready guns. As a result of the steady maintainance of the firing line, the ducks upon the harbor are nervous and unapproachable—save by eight-power binoculars.

The constant residents of the harbor are Grebes. Western Grebes (*occidentalis*), to the number of a hundred or more, move about singly or in small groups, occasionally calling to each other in shrill notes, like the squeaking of rusty windlasses. They are graceful creatures—cruelly graceful with their dagger beaks and eyes of fiery red—and yet there is something swan-like in the carriage of the head upon the mobile neck.

Holboell Grebes (*Colymbus holboellii*), appear in lesser

numbers and are less conspicuous by reason of their compact build and blended colors.

Horned Grebes (*Colymbus auritus*), abound. As a rule they frequent the shallows, where escape by diving is not always convenient; but, unlike their congeners, they take to wing with great readiness. At times they will fly back and forth upon the merest whim, or for exercise.

The presence of a school of smelt or herring will attract all the Grebes at once. On this all-day trip the writer drew near a busy company of several hundred birds, and when they took flight the pattering of tiny feet and the dipping wing-tips was like the fall of a small cloud-burst upon the water.

Gulls, at high-tide, are like street car conductors off duty. There is nothing for them to do but to haunt unavailingly the scenes of their former activity, or to gather in languid companies and discuss the prospects of the next shift. At such times they are glad to find log-booms or floats to rest upon; but in the absence of these (as at present in Drayton Harbor) they sit upon the water or drift about on pieces of mill waste, or else desert the harbor altogether.

Bonaparte Gulls (*Larus philadelphia*), which have swarmed to the number of thousands for six weeks past, are now represented by a few stragglers, wounded birds and their faithful mates; while Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*) have become common, and California Gulls (*Larus californicus*) are slowly increasing in numbers.

The Terns, Arctic (?) and Common (*Sterna paradisva* and *hirundo*) have disappeared, and after them has apparently followed their arch-persecutor, the Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*), a specimen of which I shot from "the spit" on September 30th.

In contrast with all this was the trip into the interior, made in the afternoon. The gray cloud-cap still hung over everything, but it included within its dome distant Baker, whose uplifting presence made one feel that his world was good enough, however circumscribed.

Mile after mile was done off over gravel pikes, past stump-scarred clearings, tiny orchards and deserted townsites, through somber forests of fir and hemlock, and through wildernesses of second growth, alders, willows and evergreens.

But the bird-world was oppressed by the cloud-cap. It had had its breakfast, and, since there was not light enough to encourage thoughts of supper, it betook itself early to bed. There was little to be heard except the *tick, tick, tick* of the Western Winter Wren (*Olbiorchilus hiemalis pacificus*) and the drowsy *tss, tss; tss tsec* of the Western Golden-crowned Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa olijaceus*).

At 3 p. m., as I stood upon a little bridge over a ravine choked full with a jungle of vine maple, gooseberry bushes, devil's club, and ferns, an incautious chickadee, grumbling over its hard pillow, led the Bird-Man to attempt the chickadee call. (The notes of these Oregon Chickadees, *Parus atricapillus occidentalis*, have a slightly different pitch from those of *Parus atricapillus*, and I have not quite mastered them yet). As a result, the bushes began to yield up sleepy Chickadees. Western Golden-crowned Kinglets emerged unexpectedly from snug sleeping-bags hidden in the vegetation under my feet. The Northwest Bewick Wren (*Thryomanes bewickii calophonus*) scolded, W. W. W. (which is note-book shorthand for Western Winter Wren) ticked apprehensively, and the fruitful bush began to yield a tribute of Ruby-crowned Kinglets, aroused from deeper slumbers, but cheerful and forgiving still. It remained only for the *Major domo*, which in these parts is the Oregon Towhee (*Pipilo maculatus oregonus*), to peep out and through the curtains to see that the children were not taking harm, and then the disturber of midnight peace, at 3:00 p. m., withdrew "in good order."

But even after this disheartening adventure, Fortune perched upon the Bird-Man's banner in the shape of a California Pygmy Owl (*Glaucidium gnoma californicum*). This pocket edition of the powers that prey stood out boldly upon the topmost splinter of a wayside stub and challenged scrutiny. The gnoma gave his back to the road, but every now and then turned a careful eye upon the stranger. Then all at once the bird whirled backward and launched himself like a bolt across the road, at a mouse some sixty feet away. Seizing the "wee, timerous, cowerin' beastie" at the very entrance of its hole, the bird maintained its grasp with both feet and supported itself by wings outstretched upon the ground. Not until the squeakings of the victim had quite ceased, did the captor rise

and disappear by rapid flight into the wood.

There are always a few staple species which try the patience of the ardent horizonist by deserting on the "All-Day." Formerly they have been the most inevitable of birds afield, but now, forsooth, they must lurk in hiding with the most cunning intent to defeat the ends of science. Among such that I would hold up on this occasion to well deserved scorn, are Kingfisher (*Ceryle alcyon*), (think of it!), Audubon Warbler (*Dendroica auduboni*), and Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*). Others which might have been gracious are Mongolian Pheasant (*Phasianus torquatus*), Northern Pileated Woodpecker (*Ceophylus pileatus abieticola*), Harris Woodpecker (*Dryobates villosus harrisii*), and California Creeper (*Certhia familiaris occidentalis*). With these additions I feel that the "All-Day" would have been fairly representative of the vicinity of Blaine at this season.

Horizons, Blaine and vicinity, October 13, 1904, 5. a. m. to 5 p. m.:

BLAINE, 5:00 TO 8:00 A. M.

- Rusty Song Sparrow,—*Melospiza cinerea morphna*.
 Northwest Crow,—*Corvus caurinus*.
 Northwest Bewick Wren,—*Thryomanes bewickii californicus*.
 Western Meadowlark,—*Sturnella magna neglecta*.
 Western Robin,—*Merula migratoria propinqua*.
 California (?) Finch,—*Carpodacus purpureus californicus*.
 Oregon Junco,—*Junco hyemalis oregonus*.
 Western Golden-crowned Kinglet,—*Regulus satrapa olivaceus*.
 Western Winter Wren,—*Olbiorechilus hiemalis pacificus*.
 English Sparrow,—*Passer domesticus*.
 American Pipit,—*Anthus pensilvanicus*.
 Oregon Towhee,—*Pipilo maculatus oregonus*.

DRAYTON HARBOR, 8:00 TO 10:00 A. M.

- Horned Grebe,—*Colymbus auritus*.
 Western Grebe,—*Echmophorus occidentalis*.
 White-winged Scoter,—*Oidemia deglandi*.
 Greater Scaup Duck,—*Aythya marila*.
 Lesser Scaup Duck,—*Aythya affinis*.
 Bonaparte Gull,—*Larus philadelphia*.
 Holbæll Grebe,—*Colymbus holbællii*.
 Western Gull,—*Larus occidentalis*.
 Surf Scoter,—*Oidemia perspicillata*.
 Marbled Murrelet,—*Brachyramphus marmoratus*.
 Glaucous-winged Gull,—*Larus glaucescens*.

Ruddy Duck.—*Erismatura jamaicensis*.
 Red-breasted Merganser,—*Merganser serrator*.
 Loon.—*Gavia imber*.

SEMLAHMOO POINT (The Sand Spit), 10:00 TO 12:00 A. M.

Western Bluebird.—*Sialia mexicana occidentalis*.
 Nuttall Sparrow.—*Zonotrichia leucophrys nuttalli*.
 Northwest Flicker.—*Colaptes cafer saturator*.
 Sandwich Sparrow.—*Ammodramus sandwichensis alaudinus*.
 Ring-billed Gull. *Larus delawarensis*.

BLAINE BEACH, 12 M.

California Gull.—*Larus californicus*.
 Northwest Coast Heron.—*Ardea herodias fannini*.

BLAINE-LINDEN ROAD, 1:30 TO 4:00 P. M.

Steller Jay.—*Cyanocitta stelleri*.
 Oregon Ruffed Grouse.—*Bonasa umbellus sabini*.
 Oregon Chickadee.—*Parus atricapillus occidentalis*.
 Pine Siskin.—*Spinus pinus*.
 Ruby-crowned Kinglet.—*Regulus calendula*.
 California Pygmy Owl.—*Glaucidium gnoma californicum*.
 Gairdner Woodpecker.—*Dryobates pubescens gairdneri*.

A SUMMER PORCH LIST, AT HINSDALE, ILL.

BY ESTHER CRAIGMILE.

It was almost discouraging to look forward to a summer without bird tramps, but that was the outlook from the end of June to the middle of August, 1904. But there is something to be seen and heard, even from one's own door, if eyes and ears have been trained. The location was a few miles west of Chicago, half a mile distant from Flag creek. To the east, west and north, rolled the fertile prairies, while a wood of small trees stretched to the south, bordering the creek until it reached the Des Plaines river, four miles distant.

A dense thicket, several rods in length, grew along the roadside, furnishing food and shelter for not a few birds. Song Sparrows, Chippies, Catbirds, Thrashers, Chewinks, Cowbirds, and Indigo Buntings were always in evidence there. Numbers of water birds were to be seen mornings and evenings, going to and from their feeding grounds.

Previous to this year the fields have been alive with hundreds of Dickcissels. No nests were found this summer,