

NOTES ON THE NESTING OF BEWICK'S WREN.—I had seen Bewick's Wrens nesting in southern Ohio several years ago, but the first time I ever observed them nesting near my old home in middle western Ohio,—one hundred miles farther north,—was in the spring of 1908. Here, during the month of April, a pair built a nest upon a board above a door in a small building near a dwelling-house. The nest was composed of twigs, weed stems, dead grass, insect cocoons, leaves, and fragments of a cast-off snake skin, lined with horse-hair and feathers. This is the first time I ever saw any nest that contained pieces of a snake skin, except that of a Crested Flycatcher. The male bird helped in the building. During the latter days of April, six eggs were laid, and after sixteen days of incubation these were all hatched. The young were fed upon worms, larvæ, moths, and spiders.

During the summer, the pair built another nest in a nearby shed, in which they successfully reared a second brood. The second nest contained no fragments of snake skin.

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SWAMP SPARROW AT CANTON, OHIO.—Each summer since 1903 I have noted the presence at Canton of the Swamp Sparrow (*Melospiza georgiana*) at various points in the lowlands along the west branch of Nimishillen creek.

For several seasons I searched unsuccessfully for a nest. June 4th last, however, while in one of these places I noticed Swamp Sparrows carrying food, and after a little hesitation, apparently on my account, diving suddenly into a thick growth of flags.

The spot was marked carefully, and a little search revealed the nest. It contained three young and was well concealed in a rank growth of swamp grass and flags, situated well down near their roots and but a couple of inches above the surface of the water of a brooklet which flowed beneath.

The parent birds did not appear greatly perturbed by my presence. They merely hung around at a short distance and patiently watched. Four days later the nest was again visited, and after opening the rank growth I found the nest intact but the young birds gone. Judging from their size at the first visit they must have met their fate at the hands of some devouring enemy. The nest, with one unhatched egg remaining, was taken home, while the pleasure of finding the nest of a species which Dawson states breeds but casually in Ohio, was somewhat marred by conjecture as to the fate of the late tenants.

From the number of Swamp Sparrows I see and hear each summer in the localities mentioned above and in a swamp bordering Meyer's Lake, it seems evident that this sparrow breeds regularly and in considerable numbers in the vicinity of Canton.

*Canton, Ohio.*

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