

THE WILSON BULLETIN

A Quarterly Magazine Devoted to the Study of Living Birds.
Official Organ of the Wilson Ornithological Club.

Edited by **LYNDS JONES.**

PUBLISHED BY THE CLUB, AT OBERLIN, OHIO.

Price in the United States, Canada and Mexico, one dollar a year, 30 cents a number, post-paid. Price in all countries in the International Postal Union, \$1.25 a year, 40 cents a number. Subscriptions may be sent to Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio, or to Mr. Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Penn.

Officers of the Wilson Ornithological Club for 1909:

President—Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Pa.

Vice-President—W. E. Saunders, London, Ont.

Secretary—Benj. T. Gault, Glenn Ellyn, Ill.

Treasurer—W. F. Henninger, New Bremen, Ohio.

Members of the Executive Council—Lynds Jones, Oberlin, O.; H. C. Oberholser, Washington, D. C.; B. H. Swales, Grosse Isle, Mich.

EDITORIAL.

Lack of necessary material for making the desired pictures has resulted in necessary postponement of the second paper on the Falcons until the December issue. Specimens of some of the rarer forms are not easy to secure.

The editor would like to get into communication with persons who have ready access to the breeding places of wild ducks. Any information which will lead to his securing fresh eggs suitable for hatching or ducklings will be thankfully received. Only eggs or ducklings taken in the wild are desired.

This is the season when a sharp lookout should be kept for the departure of our nesting birds for their winter homes. Many of the birds are so seclusive that it is difficult to find them in their retreats. There is hardly a species whose time of departure southward is known with sufficient accuracy. Some leave their nesting places to gather in companies elsewhere in the region, delaying their departure for a considerable time. Which species are they?

Do most of the song birds have an autumn period of song after the completion of the molt? Among the autumn singers is flight song frequent, or does it occur at all? Are the autumn singers

adults with unusual vigor or birds of the year? Is the autumn song period ever accompanied by a period of mating phenomena? These and other questions relating to the same subject are questions well worth careful study. It is entirely possible that their careful consideration might throw light on other phases of bird life.

FIELD NOTES.

ILLINOIS NOTES.—The Cardinal (*C. cardinalis*) at Glen Ellyn. It is with pleasure that I am enabled at last to add the Cardinal to our local list. For years it has been known to nest in the county and is now regularly found at points in the adjoining county of Cook to the eastward; so, that so far as northeastern Illinois is considered, the northward movement of this species is a well-settled fact.

Possibly it may have occurred here sooner, for what has been described to me as seen by others was unquestionably this bird. Still, for the writer, its status has remained undetermined until recently, when on the 15th of August last the cheery notes of the male bird were heard in our woods for the first time. On the day following they were heard again, soon after which the author of same must have disappeared. Of the Cardinal's song I feel absolutely sure, and believe there can be no doubt as to the correctness of this record.

THE CAROLINA WREN (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) AT HENNEPIN.—The expansion or northward extension of the range of the Cardinal has been attended it seems by a like one on the part of other species as well; for example, here in Illinois we may mention the Carolina Wren and Bell's Vireo, the latter having been found nesting at Joliet.

There is a possibility also of a similar movement on the part of Bewick's Wren, while the facts concerning *T. ludovicianus* have been noticed in other parts of the country.

Writing to me under date of April 21, 1909, our fellow member, Hon. R. M. Barnes, of Lacon, Marshall County, this State, has this to say, in relation to the latter:

"Yesterday at Hennepin, twenty-one miles north of here, I made a discovery which was entirely new. I saw sitting in the yard adjoining the public park and also adjoining the business part of the town, an adult Carolina Wren, and made a very careful investigation of the singer—stayed with him at least a half an hour. I have never seen the bird before in the State of Illinois."

It may be of interest to state in this connection that Ellen Drummond Farwell has recorded in "The Auk" (Vol. XIX, p. 209) the