

The first of the rarer species to be noted was the Red-breasted Merganser, on April 2, when six individuals were seen, the males simplifying identification.

On the same date were also seen the Canvas-back and Old-squaw ducks, two individuals of each. Gunners also report the shooting of several Old-squaws. Dawson, in *The Birds of Ohio*, says this latter species is a rare winter visitor on Lake Erie, and casual in the interior; while the Red-breasted Merganser is stated to be a rare migrant. The Canvas-back, although less rare here than the others, is till entitled to mention.

April 9, and Osprey made its appearance here, staying in the vicinity of Meyer's Lake about a week. I had not met with an Osprey since January, 1904; long enough, certainly, to permit the species to be called rare.

Two Ring-billed Gulls were observed April 16, and one April 30. This species, Dawson states, is a rare migrant for the state elsewhere than on Lake Erie. Both observations were at close range under favorable conditions, and presented the peculiar condition of the first birds seen, being in full summer plumage, while the one observed a half-month later still bore some of the streakedness of head and rear-neck of the winter plumage.

April 23, two flocks of Bonaparte Gulls were met with, twelve and seven individuals respectively. Several times in years past early cottagers at the lake have reported gulls which, from description, were possibly of this species, but so far as I know this is the first time the species has been definitely identified here.

The Red-throated Loon, two individuals were observed April 30, by an ornithological friend, Edward Jacot, and myself. This species, also, is reckoned a rare migrant for Ohio, especially in the interior.

*Canton, Ohio.*

EDWARD D. KIMES.

BIRD NOTES FROM NORTHERN NEW JERSEY.—American Merganser (*Mergus americanus*). At Pompton Plains, Passaic County, on January 1st, 1911, I found a drake of this species on the Pompton River in behind a cluster of willows. The ice had thawed slightly the night before and quite a pool had formed and in this the bird was floating and bathing. This is rather a rare bird in this locality. On February 18th, two more (drake and duck) on the river about two hundred yards from where the one of January 1st was found.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa*). At Pompton Plains on March 26th I found a pair of these beautiful ducks floating on the river near

the Canal feeder. The male was full grown and had a crest which fell on its back as it rested on the water. The female was not fully grown and its plumage was very much ruffled up. The birds were quite fearless, as they allowed me to approach within fifty feet before rising to wing, and on rising just moved far enough off to be at a safe distance. On following them up stream they kept about 100 feet ahead of me for over a mile.

Killdeer (*Oxyechus vociferus*). At Pompton Plains on March 26th, four of these birds were found on the banks of the river searching the sand for food, which they were finding in great abundance. This bird is not as abundant of late as formerly and only found occasionally during the vernal migrations.

*Bloomfield, N. J.*

LOUIS S. KOHLER.

THE CONNECTICUT WARBLER IN MAHONING Co., OHIO.—October 3, 1910, early in the morning, I started a Connecticut warbler from the rank encircling growth of a button-bush swamp. He flew to a twig and sat intently regarding me, while I just as intently examined him through the binoculars as he paused in the effulgence of the ascending sun. His yellow was not strong nor was the slaty gray of the throat and fore-breast, but the eyes were plainly encircled by that white ring which it is so important to look for and which distinguishes him from the mourning warbler.

A moment more and he was satisfied with his examination and dashed from sight like a tiny olive-backed or gray-cheeked thrush, to which, in expression of eye, attitude, and general behavior he bore no little resemblance. By no amount of beating about the bush or wading through the wet outer tangle of jewel-weed, spanish needle, fire weed and wild-rose bushes could he be forced to reveal himself again.

Dawson, in his Birds of Ohio, regards this as one of the rarest warblers of the state, and evidently not without reason.

This is the writer's third record for this bird during a period of eleven years' observation at this station. This was in all probability a male. The first record was a female secured from high tree-tops in September, 1906. While the second bird was observed in the low herbage of a hillside thicket May 28, 1909. This bird, like the one of last autumn, was examined carefully at short range and identified beyond any doubt.

It may be noted that so far I have never recorded the mourning warbler in autumn.

*Ellsworth, Ohio.*

ERNEST WATERS VICKERS.