

ON A BIRD NEW TO NORTHERN NORTH AMERICA.

BY C. HART MERRIAM, M. D.

Among some birds sent me by Mr. Napoleon A. Comeau from Godbout, Province of Quebec, Canada, is a specimen of the Yellow-green Vireo (*Vireo flaviviridis* Cassin). Mr. Comeau writes me that he found it, dead, near his home at Godbout, May 13, 1883. The specimen agrees well with Baird, Brewer and Ridgway's description of this species except in size, it being considerably smaller than the measurements there given. Its measurements are: wing, 72 mm. (2.83 in.); tail, 48 mm. (1.88 in.); bill, 10 mm. (.40 in.); while Baird, Brewer and Ridgway, in their diagnosis (Hist. N. Am. Birds, I, p. 359), give: wing, 3.15 in.; tail, 2.55 in.; and bill, .41 in. The wing formula in the Godbout specimen is as follows: 2d and 3d primaries subequal; 4th shorter; 1st between 4th and 5th, but much nearer 4th (2 = 3, 4, 1, 5). The sides of the breast, axillars, and particularly the crissum, are of a bright sulphur yellow, much more brilliant than in the brightest fall specimens of *V. olivaceus*.

Mr. Robert Ridgway of the Smithsonian Institution, to whom I submitted the specimen, writes as follows concerning it: "The Vireo sent for examination seems to be true *V. flaviviridis* but is unusually small for that species, the smallest example in our series of fourteen skins having the wing 2.90 inches long, the average being a little more than 3 inches."

The northernmost record of *V. flaviviridis* that I have been able to find is that of a specimen procured at Fort Brown, Texas, August 23, 1877, by Dr. James C. Merrill, U. S. A. (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. I, p. 125, 1878).

The route by which this little waif reached the Gulf of St. Lawrence is open to conjecture. My opinion is that it was carried to sea in a storm, and, chancing to fall in with a northward bound vessel, remained about the rigging till within sight of land; and were the vessel bound for Quebec the first land neared would probably have been Point de Monts, only nine miles from the spot where it was picked up, emaciated and dead.