

Penn., on the edge of a dense swamp. It differs from the type in being more washed with yellow below, and olive above. Dr. Fisher (to whom the bird was sent for identification) writes that it closely resembles his specimen from Englewood, N. J. (See Auk, IV, p. 348).—WITMER STONE, *Germantown, Pa.*

The Yellow-breasted Chat Breeding in Malden, Mass.—On June 2, 1887, while exploring a large tract of wooded swamp in the eastern part of Malden, I was so fortunate as to discover a nest of the Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*). The bird was sitting when I approached the nest which was almost completely concealed by the thickly-clustering leaves of a dense, stunted witch-hazel bush growing in a partially cleared tract of swamp. She sat very close, and made little complaint when she flew. The nest held five eggs, the full complement, which I found to have been incubated a few days. I visited the nest several times, nearly always finding both parent birds near it. A brood of three was successfully reared, and left the nest on June 19. The nest is now in my possession. It was built three and a half feet from the ground, and is very thick-walled and deep. On June 29 and 30 I saw a Chat that might have been the male of this pair. On both occasions he was in a dense thicket fully a mile from the nest.—H. P. JOHNSON, *Everett, Mass.*

Sylvania mitrata at Germantown, Pennsylvania, in November.—On November 19, 1887, Mr. Herbert Brown, of Germantown, presented me with a Warbler that he had just shot, and which proved to be a Hooded Warbler (*Sylvania mitrata*) in immature plumage. The bird was taken in a cabbage patch where it was apparently feeding on insects.—WITMER STONE, *Germantown, Pa.*

On the Nesting of Palmer's Thrasher.—In 'The Auk,' Vol. IV, No. 2, Col. N. S. Goss asks: "What constitutes a full set of eggs?" In reply I offer no suggestions, but pass my observations, which were carefully and conscientiously made, to the more mature judgment of others.

Among the birds most common on the cactus-covered plains of Arizona, is Palmer's Thrasher (*H. c. palmeri*). I particularly speak of this bird because of my long familiarity with it. From observations made in 1885 and 1886 I was led to believe that three eggs constituted a full set, but my oölogical notes of 1887 on this particular point are much at variance with those of the two preceding years.

March 6, 1885, I found a nest of this bird containing four young sufficiently feathered to fly. I secured several nests containing eggs—generally three—but four was no uncommon number. I also noted other nests containing a like number of young, but none of the latter so far advanced as the ones first mentioned. By the 13th nesting was well under way, not only with the *palmeri*, but also with the Bendire's Thrasher (*H. bendirei*) and Cactus Wren (*C. brunneicapillus*). I cite these additional cases as proof of the early nesting of birds that year. Throughout the next several