

about sunset, and between that and dark *leucobronchialis* did not again appear in sight. I had previously had it in view, or could hear its song, almost continuously. On several days following I searched this thicket thoroughly, as it seemed, and once succeeded in flushing a *pinus*, but could not even then find its nest. In company with *pinus*, *leucobronchialis* cautiously approached and surveyed me for a short time, then departed with no apparent misgivings. At all other times *leucobronchialis* was near by and always reconnoitred the track of my careful search when I had moved to some distance, then, apparently satisfied, pursued its avocations as before.

I was not able to visit the spot again until June 17, and neither then nor since have I found this *leucobronchialis*, but I did find a brood of several young being fed by an *H. pinus*, possibly the result of a union between the two. These two birds were the only ones of the genus which I had at any time detected in the locality.

During this time I had seen four other *H. leucobronchialis* (*i. e.* six in all, this season), and in widely separated localities, as follows:

June 1, one was seen for a moment only in a hickory tree whence it flew into an adjoining alder swamp. It was never seen afterward.

June 4, one in the edge of a dry woodland was watched some time, but never seen again, although upon a subsequent visit some time was spent in hunting for it.

June 10, two were seen by a friend and myself. One, among the branches of the taller trees in a pasture-lot adjoining a dry wood, was again seen June 19 and July 7, this being the latest date I have heard its song or seen the species. The other was seen about one hour later in a similar situation, but fully three-quarters of a mile from the first. I saw this one again June 22. It was always in full song, otherwise I might never have detected it.

The peculiarities of the species are numerous, especially its song, so that, aided by my field-glass, identification was perfectly satisfactory to me in each instance. Moreover, its leisurely movements in conspicuous places always gave good opportunity for study. By actual count all these birds with the exception of the one shot May 26 were seen in hickory trees seven times to three in trees of all other species combined. Its flight on many occasions was protracted to at least 400 feet, always, when so continued, to a tree towering far above the surroundings.

I have heard of one other *H. leucobronchialis* taken in Connecticut this year, at Stamford by a Mr. Hoyt.—EDWIN H. EAMES, *Seymour, Connecticut*.

Bachman's Warbler (*Helminthophila bachmani*) at Key West, Florida, in July and August.—The following extracts are from two letters received by the writer from Mr. J. W. Atkins, of Key West, dated July 30 and August 9 of the present year.

"I have the pleasure of announcing the capture on the 26th and 28th (July) and to-day of nine Bachman's Warblers, seven of the nine being

well-marked examples, the other two being undoubtedly young birds without any black on the throat and breast, and two other birds taken in company with the foregoing about which I am doubtful.

“On the first mentioned date (26th July) I saw about two dozen of the birds, and could have taken more of them if I had been better prepared, but I had a large gun and mutilated several birds beyond use besides the four taken in a preservable condition. On the 28th I got one finely marked adult male, two young females without black on throat or breast, and two others of the genus that may not be Bachman’s Warblers. The same day I saw two others. To-day (July 30) I took two fine adult males and saw two others.

“The Bachman’s Warbler collected last year was taken on August 30, which would seem to give the species something more than a month’s time to pass at this place; perhaps longer, as I had not been in the woods for ten days previous to the 26th (July), the first day they were noticed this year.”

Mr. Atkins then expresses regret at the probability of his being unable to collect or observe further, at least for the present, his duties in connection with cable service to Cuba and the West Indies demanding his constant attention.

Happily, however, he was able to make further investigations and the following quotations from his letter of August 9, 1888. speak for themselves:

“I could not resist the temptation to follow up the beginning made with the Bachman’s Warblers, so I took an hour with them at break of day on the 6th, 8th, and today (August 9).

“On the 6th (August) I got two birds and saw about two dozen others; broke my gun and had to leave them unmolested. On the 8th (August) I got five and saw about a dozen beside, not more than that number though. This morning (August 9) I got two and saw another half dozen. I found yesterday’s [August 8] and today’s [August 9] birds in a wild fig tree, feeding upon its fruit, and a walk over the ground where they had been seen on the other occasions failed to disclose any others. Yesterday there were quite a number of other *Helminthophilæ* seen with the Bachman’s Warblers, today not more than a dozen were seen. I do not know what they were; didn’t collect any of the others because I could not have taken care of the skins. The call-notes made by both the Bachman’s Warblers and the other *Helminthophilæ* were similar, being a sharply uttered *twee* or *chee*. I am certain the Bachman’s Warblers did not breed on this island. As to their having bred on the outlying and adjacent islands, I, of course, cannot say, but I believe them to have bred further away. For if they had bred near Key West I ought to have found them earlier than July 26, it being natural to suppose that, being so near, a few stragglers, at any rate, would have come along earlier than the main body, which seems to be passing now. I believe these early birds bred somewhere on the East Florida Coast—that is, if they are too early to be identified with those birds found as reported in the last ‘Auk’ (Vol. V, p. 323) at Lake Pont-

chartrain, and which were said to have passed on to the northward from there. Two years ago, perhaps not so long (not having my 'Auk' to refer to I cannot tell), a Bachman's Warbler was sent to Washington from Sombrero Light House by its keeper, and as the Sombrero is eastward and north of Cape Sable, this would show a tendency of the species to migrate *up* the East Coast, taking Cape Sable and its vicinity as the diverging point.

"I will send you the entire series of Bachman's Warblers in a few days; the collection now numbers sixteen well marked adults, two young females, and two others that I at first thought to be Bachman's Warblers, but now feel sure are not."

Mr. Atkins concludes his letter of August 9 with some very instructive notes on the migrations of other Warblers, Vireos, and the like, at the point where he is located, which notes I hope to present to the readers of 'The Auk' at an early day in a more detailed manner than present space permits.—W. E. D. SCOTT, *Tarpon Springs, Florida*.

Dendroica coronata at Key West in Summer.—Mr. J. W. Atkins has forwarded to me for examination an individual of this species taken by him at Key West, Florida, on July 28, 1888. It is an adult female bird in very worn plumage.—W. E. D. SCOTT, *Tarpon Springs, Florida*.

Breeding of the Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica cerulea*) in Niagara County, New York.—On May 30, 1888, while passing through a large wood, I noticed a nest on a fork of a horizontal limb of a small basswood tree, which I took to be the nest of the Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*). I also saw a pair of birds in a large tree, near the one containing the nest, but I was unable to identify them. On June 8 I found the bird on the nest, and on its leaving I shot it and was surprised to find that it was a female *Dendroica cerulea*. The nest contained three eggs when secured, but one or two fell from the nest when the bird left it. Incubation was nearly complete, and it was with difficulty that I succeeded in saving two good specimens and the broken shell of the third. I did not succeed in securing the male, but an hour before in another piece of woods half a mile distant I had shot by mistake another male of this species, which was also a surprise, as I had found but two of this species during ten years' collecting in this County, and they were both male birds, taken May 10, 1882, and May 11, 1883, and not over ten rods apart. I had come to the conclusion that they were to be found here only during migration, and rarely then. On leaving the woods after securing this nest, we passed into an old pasture lot or clearing in which were a few small trees left standing, and while digging out a set of four eggs of the Yellow-bellied Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) I noticed another pair of *D. cerulea*, and on watching them found they were building a nest in a small basswood, also on the fork of a horizontal limb, about twenty feet from the ground and eight feet out from the trunk. I am so particular in describing the position of these nests, as in 'North American Birds,' Baird, Brewer and Ridgway, Vol. I,