

returning migrants. By midday the wind had subsided and the rain had become a mere drizzle. Shortly after 1 P. M. I ventured out, directing my steps to the nearest woods. But few birds were found, and I continued my search until I came to an extended body of scrubby black-jacks, pines, and red cedars about a mile and a half from home. Here I discovered a small gathering of Tufted Titmice, Carolina Chickadees, Ruby-crowned Kinglets, and several species of Warblers. I drove the gathering about through the low growth, shooting the birds that were not instantly recognized, until I reached an edge bordering on an old-field where I noticed a small bird fly into a low cedar. It was promptly shot. A glance was sufficient to reveal the fact that it was wholly new to me. I saw that it was a Warbler and a *Dendroica*. I began to revolve in mind the distinctive characters of each member of the genus until I had eliminated all save one—the one I had suspected it to be, for I had in memory Mr. Maynard's illustration of the female Kirtland's Warbler ('The Birds of Eastern North America,' pl. xvii). I hastened home to my library, and found that I had worked it out truly and that I had indeed "the rarest of all the Warblers" inhabiting the United States.

This, if I have read the records aright, is the third instance of *Dendroica kirtlandi* having been taken in the Atlantic States, and the second of its capture in South Carolina.—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS, *Chester, S. C.*

A Peculiar Nest of *Cinclus mexicanus*.—In an exceedingly interesting collection of nests and eggs recently received from Mr. Denis Gale, of Gold Hill, Colorado, a gift to the National Museum at Washington, D. C., an interesting Water Ouzel's nest, deserves mention.

Usually the Ouzel's nest is a domed, oven-shaped structure, ten to twelve inches through at its base, and from seven to eight inches high.

The nest now before me, No. 23,685, Nat. Mus. Collection, taken in Boulder Co., Colorado, May 31, 1888, and containing three fresh eggs at the time, was placed against one of the stringers, and close up to, and under the plank platform of a bridge, which saved the birds the trouble of doming it, in fact there was no room to do so. A full view of the interior can be had. The front face of this nest is five and a half inches high, by eight and a half inches wide. The depth of the nest gradually diminishes so that the rear of it is barely two inches high by eight inches wide. A side view of the structure gives it almost a triangular appearance. Outwardly the nest is principally composed of decayed plant fibres and lichens (*Hypnum* sp.?) used in a wet condition, and considerable sandy clay is mixed in amongst the outer portions of the structure which is covered all around with this material excepting at the entrance. This is near the top of the nest, four inches from the base, in the centre of the structure, and is two and one-half inches wide and one and a half inches high. The inner lining of the nest is composed of pine needles and stalks of grasses, amongst which that of the timothy grass (*Phleum pratense*) is plainly distinguishable. The inner cavity of the nest is three and a quarter inches wide by two and one-half inches deep, circular, and compactly built.—CHAS. E. BENDIRE, *Washington, D. C.*