

Zonotrichia albicollis in California.—Mr. L. Belding has sent to the National Museum a specimen of this species shot by him at Stockton, California, April 22, 1892. It is an adult (apparently a male) in full spring plumage, and is quite identical in coloration and other characters with Eastern specimens. This is apparently only the third Pacific Coast record for the species, the first having been published only a few years since by Mr. W. Otto Emerson of Haywards, California.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Abnormal Plumage of *Habia ludoviciana*.—On May 17, 1892, at Stamford, Connecticut, I shot a Rose-breasted Grosbeak, a male (as proved by dissection), which presented certain peculiarities of plumage. It showed the brown wing feathers of the immature bird, but the rose color was exceedingly prominent. Its size was large: 7.5-8 inches in length, and 4.1-2 inches wing. It differed from ordinary specimens of the second year in the following particulars: top of head, crown and neck black flecked with rose; a large rose-white patch specked with black at back of neck; rump rosy white; tail coverts black with white tips; tail as in old male; lower parts and chest as in adult male; throat entirely rose red; chin black; long quills of wing brown as in second year plumage; rest of wing as in adult male; shoulder with one or two rose flecks; a rose-white streak starting at base of lower mandible, extending down the throat to the chest, then abruptly turning across the neck, past the shoulder, and terminating in the white patch at back of neck; a second stripe starts at base of upper mandible, continues over the eye, and down the neck to the white patch. This second stripe is narrow, but bright rose-red from the bill to the eye, and then becomes broader and lighter as it extends down the neck.—LOUIS H. PORTER, *Stamford, Conn.*

On the Breeding of *Helminthophila pinus* with *H. leucobronchialis* at Englewood, New Jersey.—As additional evidence in this puzzling case, I desire to record the breeding of a typical male of *H. pinus*, with a non-typical female of *leucobronchialis*. The nest was found on the west slope of the Palisades at Englewood, New Jersey, June 12, 1892. It was placed on the ground in a small bushy opening in a piece of mixed woodland, and contained three eggs (one of which was broken) of the rightful owners and one of the Cowbird. In construction it agreed with typical nests of *pinus*. The eggs are similar to those of *pinus*, but are somewhat more heavily spotted than the average eggs of that species. The female was closely examined both while she was on the nest and in the bushes and trees near it. In coloration she was intermediate between *pinus* and *leucobronchialis*; the underparts were washed with pale yellow, the upper back was bluish, the rump grayish; the wing-bars were white. She was flushed from the nest three times, and on each occasion was at once joined by a typical male *pinus* which shared her anxiety. Frequently they were so close to each other that they were both in the field of my glass at the same time, and I thus had an excellent opportunity

to compare them. The broken egg and the egg of the Cowbird were removed. On returning to the nest June 19, it was found to be deserted.

While interesting in itself and of importance as a fact in the history of the relationships which exist between these two birds, this record has no decisive bearing on the case, and it would be unwise therefore to attempt to draw inferences from it.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Warblers Destroyed by a 'Norther.'—Thousands of Warblers undoubtedly perished here last week during the 'norther,' which lasted three days, commencing on March 16. On the evening of that day flocks of Warblers were noticed around the gardens and houses here, and the next day many were found dead or were caught in a half-perished condition. About fifty per cent of them were Black-and-white Warblers (*Mniotilta varia*). The remainder were about equally divided between Parulas (*Compsothlypis americana*) and Sycamore Warblers (*Dendroica dominica albiflora*). Many Sycamore Warblers and Parulas were captured alive in the houses.

On the 19th, among many dead Warblers which were brought to me were a specimen of the Louisiana Water-thrush (*Seiurus motacilla*) and one Hooded Warbler (*Sylvania mitrata*). Many Yellowrumps were in company with the rest, and, though much tamer than usual, none were found dead or were captured. On the 19th I made a trip for the purpose of observation, and found many Black-and-white Warblers and Parulas lying dead on the ground at the foot of live-oak trees.

From many of the ranches in the country round here, came reports of similar occurrences, and many dead birds of the species mentioned have been sent to me.—H. P. ATTWATER, *Rockport, Aransas Co., Texas.*

Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis in New Jersey.—On the 30th of May, 1889, I shot at Raritan, New Jersey, four Water-thrushes. The skin of one I have since shown to Dr. J. A. Allen of the American Museum of Natural History, New York, and he pronounces it, without a doubt, Grinnell's Water-thrush (*Seiurus noveboracensis notabilis*).—WILLIAM C. SOUTHWICK, *Raritan, New Jersey.*

Melanism in a Caged Wood Thrush.—A melanistic specimen of *Turdus mustelinus* (American Museum, No. 57,507, New York, June 20, 1892, presented by W. Warren Brown) differs from normal specimens of this species as follows: Two primaries, one entire secondary and a part of the outer web of three others of the right wing, and one primary of the left wing, are dull grayish; the auriculars are black, lightly tipped with fulvous; half the feathers of the chin are wholly black; the throat is normal, the sides of the neck are slightly blacker than is usual, the exposed portion of the feathers of the breast, flanks, under wing-coverts, and crissum are black with narrow tips or borders of tawny which on the breast are reduced to the minimum.