

incommoded by the weather. So far as I know, this is the farthest north this species has been found in winter, at least in the Eastern States. Mr. Geo. B. Sennett informs me that he has never seen it or heard of its being seen in Crawford County, just north of Mercer, where he lived for a number of years.

This note was published in the 'Ornithologist and Oologist' several years ago, but through a blunder on my part, the name "Bewick's Wren" was substituted for Carolina Wren.—F. LEROY HOMER, *New Hamburg, Mercer Co., Pa.*

The Yellow-breasted Chat in Maine.—In the autumn of 1893,—she believes it was during the month of September,—Mrs. William Senter, of Portland, found upon her lawn the mangled remains of a small bird. It had apparently been mouthed by a cat. Mrs. Senter cut off its head, legs, wings and tail, and preserved them. A few days ago, the relics were shown me. They were those of a Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*) in full autumn plumage. Thus is a bird added to the Maine list.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

Nesting of the Red-bellied Nuthatch in Templeton, Mass.—On the morning of June 10, 1894, while walking through the woods with my nephew on the banks of Otter River in Templeton, and having for an object anything new or interesting, with an especial 'leaning' towards birds' nests, we came to an old stub about fifteen feet high. Following my usual custom in such cases I pounded vigorously to see if any one was "at home." I was surprised to see a Red-bellied Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*) fly from the stub and perch on a hemlock limb within six feet of my face and remain there for some minutes, giving me abundant opportunity to positively identify her.

I immediately climbed the stub and found a hole which, had I been as familiar with the breeding habits of the Nuthatch as I have since become, I would have recognized at once as belonging to this species. The lower half of the circumference of the hole was thickly smeared with pitch, which seemed such a strange circumstance that I tore that portion of the wood away whole and passed it carefully down to my nephew and we brought it home. I thought at first that the pitch must have dripped from some wounded limb overhead but there was none there, and the stub was perfectly dry and very much decayed; therefore it must have been brought there by the bird for some purpose doubtless well understood by her, but, so far as I can learn, to no one else.

The hole was about 12 feet from the ground, on the side towards the river (north), and directly over the water where the river widens out into a shallow, weedy lake of perhaps twenty acres in extent. It was about 1½ inches in diameter and 6 inches deep, running down just inside the hard shell of the stub. The nest was simply a handfull of what appears to be fine shreds of inner bark of the dead branch of some tree,

and fine bark from weeds. There was no attempt at weaving, but the depression was apparently shaped by the body of the bird. It was so loosely constructed that I was obliged to carry it home carefully in my hand for fear it would come to pieces. The nest contained three perfectly fresh eggs, agreeing with the description given by various authors of those of this Nuthatch; also *two young birds* apparently two days old and larger than young of the Red-bellied Nuthatch could possibly be at that age. What could the youngsters be? Surely not Nuthatches, and it did not seem possible that a Cowbird could gain access to the nest, even if she were disposed to try. The place and situation of the hole is just where we would expect to find the White-bellied Swallow breeding, and this led me to think that in some way the claims to the hole were somewhat mixed between these two birds.

I immediately wrote to Mr. William Brewster, and at his request sent him one of the young birds, which I had preserved in spirit, for examination. Mr. Brewster writes: "Your youngster is positively not a Cowbird. It differs from my specimen of the latter (two days old) in having a much wider head and gape, a more depressed bill, shorter tibiae, and in many other essential respects. I have not been able to get at any young Swallows, but your bird looks to me like a young White-bellied Swallow, and I am very sure that is what it will turn out to be."

At Mr. Brewster's suggestion I sent it to Mr. Frederic A. Lucas, who also kindly interested himself in the case, but failing to get a young Swallow for comparison, owing to the lateness of the season when the bird was sent to him, he was unable to positively identify it but expressed himself as very confident that it is a White-bellied Swallow.

It would be interesting to know the exact relations between these two birds. The logical conclusion would seem to be that the Swallow was the first occupant and had succeeded in laying two eggs when she was routed or crowded out by the Nuthatch, who retained possession and unintentionally, perhaps, hatched the eggs of the Swallow while laying her own eggs, and the youngsters, either with or without the aid of their foster-mother, worked their way up through the loose material of the nest. Yet one is left to wonder which parent fed them, or if they were fed at all.—CHARLES E. INGALLS, *East Templeton, Mass.*

Notes from Raleigh, N. C.—*Ammodramus lecontei*. One female taken at Raleigh by me, April 21, 1894, on the edge of a wet meadow. This is the first record for Raleigh, and we believe also for North Carolina.

***Ammodramus henslowi*.** One male taken by me April 21, 1894, within a few yards of where I killed the Leconte's Sparrow; and another April 27, also a male, on the edge of a small stream. These are the second and third records for Raleigh.

***Habia ludoviciana*.** One male taken by me May 4, 1894, at Raleigh.

***Empidonax pusillus trailli*.** One taken Sept. 21, 1893, a male, the third record for Raleigh.