

cola, the pale color and small size of the birds, both of which were closely observed for fully twenty minutes, making identification practically certain. Snow is nearly always on the ground at this time of the year, and the birds search for hillocks of bare earth. The nests are beautifully cupped and carefully built of roots of grass.—C. K. CLARKE, M. D., *Kingston, Ontario.*

**An Addition and a Correction to the List of North Carolina Birds.**—**BAY-BREASTED WARBLER** (*Dendroica castanea*).—A female *D. castanea* was taken by myself at Chapel Hill, Oct. 2, 1897, and a male was secured on the 8th of the same month. Both specimens were in the immature plumage. They were identified by Prof. Robert Ridgway. I believe this to be the first record of this bird in North Carolina.

**CLAY-COLORED SPARROW** (*Spizella pallida*).—In part second of the 'Journal of the Elisha Mitchell Scientific Society,' for 1887, published at Chapel Hill, Prof. Geo. F. Atkinson gives a 'Preliminary Catalogue of the Birds of North Carolina.' Under the name of *S. pallida* he says: "Accidental. One taken at Chapel Hill, March 8th, 1886 (Univ. Coll.)" The specimen to which he refers is No. 1050 in the University collection.

In two or more publications since, references have been made to this as the one record of this Sparrow's occurrence in the State. Upon examining the specimen I became convinced that an error had been committed in the identification, and at once sent it to the Smithsonian Institution. Prof. Richmond identified it as being simply *Melospiza georgiana*.—T. GILBERT PEARSON, *Chapel Hill, N. C.*

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## RECENT LITERATURE.

**Two New Popular Bird Books.**—Two more popular bird books have just been added to the long series of hand-books for beginners. Though both are prepared with the same object in view, they differ radically from each other in style of treatment of the subject, and also are quite unlike any of their predecessors. One is the work of an enthusiastic ornithologist of wide experience with birds in life, the other by a schoolmaster and an amateur, who has his subject well in hand, and who knows from practical experience the needs of beginners in attempting nature studies. With points of view and previous experience so unlike, it is not surprising that the method of treating the subject here in hand—the birds of eastern North America—should also widely differ.