

shrubs and bushes, and with a very small spring brook flowing through the centre, I took a nest and four eggs of the Yellow-breasted Chat (*Icteria virens*). Only one pair of birds was found, and I am assured by Mr. Egbert Bagg, of Utica, N. Y., who was the compiler of the list of Oneida County birds, that this is the first known record of the occurrence of the Yellow-breasted Chat in Oneida County.

A Whip-poor-will (*Antrostomus vociferus*) made his first stop here this season, although they are resident in localities twenty miles to the east or west. — W. J. B. WILLIAMS, *Holland Patent, N. Y.*

**Curious Nesting of American Redstart.** — On June 5, 1898, while hunting through a great timber swamp in Yates Co., N. Y., in company with Mr. C. F. Stone, I saw a Vireo's nest and the bird on it appeared to be new to me, but as I drew near it left the nest, dropped to the ground and fluttered away, when I recognized it as a female American Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*). Mr. Stone then came up and we examined the nest and found it to be an old Red-eyed Vireo's (*Vireo olivaceus*), newly lined by the Redstart with the fine red bark fiber that it usually uses to line its nests with in this locality, and it contained three fresh eggs of the Redstart. — VERDI BURTCHE, *Penn Yan, N. Y.*

**Nesting of the Robin.** — In 'The Auk' for July, 1898 (p. 274) I read Mr. S. M. McCormick's very interesting article on the 'Nesting Habits of the Robin,' and having found a rather unusual place for a nest I would like to report it. In Woodbourne, N. Y., Dr. Munson has a large dwelling with a piazza in front over which a honeysuckle has been trained, and in this vine, about eight feet up, on a branch three quarters of an inch in circumference, with six little runners, the nest was built, it being made doubly secure by the winding of grasses around the branches, covering the bottom entirely. But what struck me as remarkable was the almost perpendicular hanging of the nest, looking very much as a China saucer does on a bracket. The bottom partially rested against some wire that the vine ran on, but it was not fastened to it. Two broods were raised in it without any attempt at house-cleaning. Possibly they found there was no time for such a luxury. I was very sorry not to see the birds in it, but I did not get to the place in time. — A. A. CROLIUS, *New York City.*

**A Note on the Wood Thrush.** — It seems worthy of mention, that on examining a large series of Wood Thrushes (*Turdus mustelinus*) taken throughout their range, the majority of specimens from west of the Appalachian Highlands and the St. Lawrence Valley average much smaller in measurements (bill, culmen .56 in. and depth .18, tarsus 1.08, and wing 4.22), than those from east of the Highlands (bill, culmen, .63+ and depth .21+, tarsus 1.15, and wing 4.31). Typical western

birds having been secured not uncommonly in the East, and vice versa, does not allow, however, the establishment of a western subspecies.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

**Notes from Chateaugay Lake, New York.**—During a collecting trip to Chateaugay Lake, Northern Adirondacks, last autumn (Aug. 24 to Sept. 7, 1897) I secured with Mr. G. C. Shattuck, a pair of American Three-toed Woodpeckers (*Picoides americanus*), a species not very uncommon about the lake. One specimen of the Wood Thrush (*Turdus mustelinus*) was also taken. Mr. Shattuck had in previous years taken specimens. This bird was generally found in company with Hermits and Swainson's Thrushes behind the camp where the waste food was thrown. Its occurrence there seems to show that it is found along the western as well as eastern shores of Lake Champlain. Early during my stay I was pretty sure I caught a glimpse of a Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*), and after I left Mr. Shattuck secured a specimen.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

**Ectopistes migratorius, Mimus polyglottos, and Sturnella magna neglecta in Bristol Co., Mass.**—In company with a friend and my brother on August 23, 1889, I was shooting on the mud flats around the reservoir at Norton, Mass. In making a detour of a small inlet, I flushed a Passenger Pigeon from among the low blueberry and bayberry bushes among which I was tramping. The bird alighted in a small white birch near at hand, seeming very unsuspecting, and I shot it. On dissection it proved to be a ♀ young-of-year and was in very good plumage. This is the last record I have of this species. The bird is now mounted and in my collection.

April 30, 1896, a Mockingbird appeared and established himself among the shrubbery in a neighbor's grounds. This was no escaped cage-bird, as his perfect, unfrayed feathers evinced. He was in constant song during his stay, frequently singing half the night when the moon was bright. After enjoying a week of Mockingbird music I was disappointed to find the singer gone, owing to a late driving snow storm, and he did not again appear.

On April 9, of this year (1898), a Western Meadowlark made a visit of a few days in the fields not far from my home. The bird was first seen by an acquaintance, who asked "what bird is it that resembles a Meadowlark in form and color, larger and darker possibly than the Meadowlark but with a wonderfully beautiful song." This bird remained in the same locality for four days, showing no signs of fear, and offering an excellent opportunity for one to observe its habits. I was unable to shoot the bird, but identity is beyond all doubt, the song alone being sufficient to remove all queries on that score.—BRADFORD ALEXANDER SCUDDER, *Taunton, Mass.*