

the fifth egg was laid a dog came around near the back door and caught sight of the bird in the shoe and made a dash for her, the bird escaping, but breaking three of the eggs.

The shoe, nest, and two eggs are in my collection. The nest was composed of dry grasses and fine moss and lined with horse hair. — ARTHUR WILLIAM BROCKWAY, *Old Lyme, Conn.*

**Puerto Rico Honey Creeper.** — I have been interested in a pair of Honey Creepers, *Cæreba portoricensis* (Bryant), building about my house. They began in a rose bush, but it being too close to the ground they deserted the place and are now busy upon another nest in a small tree. The nest is a little larger than a baseball, perfectly round, with the opening like a well drilled auger hole, just below the middle. Outside are grasses and bits of twine; inside are feathers, and when the birds leave the nest for any time they cover the hole with a couple of feathers. The female does this also when she is within, just peeping out with bill and head, which with the aid of my glass makes a *real picture*. These birds are our 'Jenny Wrens,' and there are a good many of them here all around our houses, especially where roses, coral plants, and other smaller flowers abound. We have become very much attached to them. — GEORGE B. PRATT, *San Juan, Puerto Rico.*

**Notes on Marian's Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus marianæ*, and Worthington's Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus palustris griseus*.** — On April 16, 1897, I shot a very dark colored Marsh Wren near Mount Pleasant, South Carolina, which has the top of head deep black. At Mr. Ridgway's request, I sent the specimen to him and under date of June 10, 1897, he wrote me as follows: "I have just finished examining the Wren, with the aid of Mr. Brewster's series of both *marianæ* and *griseus*. Your dark bird is intermediate, but on the whole may best be considered an exceptionally dark specimen of *griseus*. *Marianæ* is a more rusty brown and usually has the breast speckled with blackish."

I sent the Wren above mentioned to Mr. Brewster and he wrote me under date of Dec. 6, 1897, as follows: "As to the April bird (Wren), I cannot agree with Mr. Ridgway, for it has absolutely none of the true characters of *griseus* and is quite indistinguishable, so far as I can see, from some of my examples of *marianæ* from Tarpon Springs, Florida; although it certainly has more white beneath than is usually the case with that form. In respect to the coloring of the upper parts, and especially of the crown, it is typical *marianæ*, to which I should accordingly refer it despite the locality at which it was taken."

It will be seen from the above that this record extends the range of this bird to the Atlantic coast, and that it is an abundant bird in this State during the migrations the following records will show. On Oct. 1, 1898, I killed four; Oct. 4, five; Oct. 11, one; Oct. 15, one; Oct. 17, three; Oct. 28, two; Oct. 31, two; April 21, 1899, one; May 6, one; May 8, one.

This Wren does not breed anywhere near Mount Pleasant, but is simply a migrant. It will, without doubt, be found breeding on the North Carolina coast.

Worthington's Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus palustris griseus*, which was described by Mr. Brewster (Auk, X, July, 1893, 216), was a very common resident breeding bird. In 1893 I took many nests and eggs—all of them being fully identified—but since that date I have taken but *two* birds! They do not breed here now, and the bird is practically extinct. The great cyclone of August 27-28, 1893, must have completely exterminated them, as it occurred at the height of the breeding season. This Wren was a very late breeder, as full complements of their eggs could not be taken until the first week in July, and two, or even three, broods were raised. This Wren is very distinct—being a *gray* bird—with the black of head confined to the extreme sides of head. There is no evidence that it interbreeds with *palustris* or *marianæ* and should be accorded full specific rank.

Since the above was written the July 'Auk' came to hand and I notice an article by Mr. T. G. Pearson mentioning Worthington's Marsh Wren, *Cistothorus palustris griseus*, page 250, as taken at Beaufort, N. C., the identification being made by Mr. Ridgway. I wrote Mr. Pearson to send me these Wrens and they are both typical *marianæ*. The August 2nd specimen is in very worn plumage, but the characters are diagnostic of *marianæ*—the crown being wholly black and the upper tail-coverts showing traces of barring, this being plainly noticeable in spite of the worn plumage.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**Birds Feeding on Hairy Caterpillars.**—In the July Auk, A. W. Perrior, of Syracuse, N. Y., in a note on the 'Food of the Robin,' expresses surprise at seeing the Robin feeding the larvæ of *Clisiocampa americana* to her young, saying that this is the first instance he has known of any bird feeding on them except the Cuckoo. From my own experience I can testify that the Baltimore Oriole eats them also. I have no doubt that a little observation would give us a long list of birds which eat them, judging from the list which has been found to eat *Clisiocampa disstria*, a caterpillar about as hairy as *C. americana*. While in Brandon, Vt., for a short time this spring, I saw the larvæ of the latter eaten by Baltimore Orioles, Red-winged Blackbirds, White-breasted Nuthatches, Chipping Sparrows, Robins and Red Crossbills; and this list is extended to no less than twenty-four species by the observations of Miss Caroline G. Soule, who is working on *C. disstria* at that place. Besides those given above, her list includes Tanagers, Rose-breasted Grosbeaks, Cedarbirds, both Cuckoos, Bluebirds, Flickers, Warbling, Red-eyed, White-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos, American Goldfinches, Catbirds and Yellow Warblers, as well as Kingbirds, Phœbes, Great-crested Flycatchers and Chebecs. The Flycatchers darted upon the caterpillars as they swung suspended by their webs or fed on pendant leaves.—MARY MANN MILLER, *Brooklyn, N. Y.*