

ludovicianus, and for this reason is referred to the latter form. — J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

Parula Warbler and Short-billed Marsh Wren. — In referring to the Parula Warbler and Short-billed Marsh Wren in the January issue Mr. Swales has left the impression that these birds are very rare in Wayne County, Michigan. His records represent the first specimens taken but not the first observed. I have seen the Parula here at various times during both spring and autumn. The specimen I secured, and mentioned by Mr. Swales, is typical of Ridgway's *C. a. ramalinae*.

The Short-billed Marsh Wren is a summer resident but not common and no eggs have been taken in this immediate vicinity, probably because no local oölogist has devoted especial attention to the species. In Ecorse Township, on May 27, I found two nests in a small inland swale covered with fine marsh grass interspersed with bush clusters. The greatest depth of water at that time was about one foot, but this swale is perfectly dry from July to November, except during short periods after heavy rains. The nests were fastened to the marsh grass only a few inches above the water. They were composed of fine grasses and were without lining, being either the well known false nests or good ones not yet completed. I drove one of the birds out of the grass and into a bush where he remained for some time not more than five feet from me. My next visit was September 11, but no birds were seen in the marsh. However, one was discovered in a thick weed tangle on the bordering high ground. — J. CLAIRE WOOD, *Detroit, Michigan.*

A Supposed Specimen of the Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica æstiva*) from Grenada, West Indies. — Mr. Ridgway (Birds No. and Mid. America, II, p. 510, 1902) gives *Dendroica æstiva* (Gmel.) as having occurred in Grenada. His words are: "No certain record from West Indies, except Grenada, but doubtfully credited to Bahamas and Cuba." In the distribution of the subspecies *D. æ. æstiva* he includes Grenada, "one specimen, November 14, 1882, in U. S. National Museum collection."

Through the kindness of Dr. C. W. Richmond I have been enabled to examine the bird in question. The label attached to the skin reads: "Shot on a mangrove tree on border of swamp at Telescope, 14th Nov. 1882. Only 2 seen." This is in the writing of the late Mr. John Grant Wells, by whom the bird was taken. The name of the bird as given on the label is "*Dendroica petechia*," but the name "*petechia*" is crossed out and "*æstiva*" written above it. The dimensions of the bird (which is an immature male) are given on the label as " $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches."

In Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., IX, 1886, p. 611, in a list of the birds of Grenada we find: "No. 5. *Dendroica petechia* (Linn.). Yellow Bird.

"♂; Length, $4\frac{1}{4}$ in., expanse, $7\frac{1}{2}$ in., wing, $2\frac{3}{8}$ in.

"Not numerous; very shy; frequents the mangrove trees near to the swamps or windward side of the island."

The occurrence of "*D. petechia*" in Grenada was apparently based on this specimen, if one can judge from the dimensions given on the label of the bird and their correlation with those in the text; the locality given in the article and that on the label (Telescope is on the windward side of the island); the fact that the bird was originally labelled "*D. petechia*"; and the fact that in writing up the species Mr. Wells gave it the local name of "Yellow Bird," which name is also on the label in his handwriting.

This one specimen, therefore, represents two records; Lawrence records "*D. petechia*" from Grenada, and Mr. Ridgway *D. æstiva* on the evidence of it alone.

Now *Dendroica ruficapilla* occurs as a resident in the swamps of Grenada, Carriacou, Union Island, and Prune Island (Grenadines), and is probably the bird referred to by Lawrence and Wells as "*D. petechia*."

With the assistance of Mr. Outram Bangs I tried to determine whether this bird was an example of *D. ruficapilla* or of *D. æstiva*. It is an immature male, with the coloration of the female. In size it is identical with specimens of *D. æ. æstiva* in Mr. Bangs's collection, and also with specimens of *D. ruficapilla* obtained by myself on Prune Island and on Carriacou. The pileum is of the same color as the back as in the adult females of *D. æstiva*; but one example of *D. ruficapilla* which I obtained in Carriacou (an immature male) also shows this character, and I have seen it in birds of that species from Dominica. There is, therefore, absolutely no way of distinguishing between the young of these two species, either by coloration or size.

From the following circumstantial evidence, however, it seems clear to me that the bird in question is an example of *D. ruficapilla* and not of *D. æstiva*.

Although it appears not to have been previously known, *D. ruficapilla* occurs, as a rather rare resident, in the swamps on Grenada, especially on the windward side. Telescope (near Grenville) is one of the localities in which it is found. Unless one is familiar with the retiring and shy character of this bird, it is very easily overlooked, which probably accounts for the fact that no collectors ever previously obtained it on Grenada or the Grenadines. It is far more often heard than seen. The greatest number which I ever obtained in a single day was two, the result of wading about knee deep in mud and water in the midst of a mosquito infested mangrove swamp from sunrise to sunset. Mr. Wells, who recently died, at the age of fifty-eight years, lived all his life in Grenada, except for eleven years spent in Carriacou. He never took but a single Yellow Warbler in his life, and does not record the species from Carriacou, although my specimens all came from a swamp within gunshot of his residence.

I believe, therefore, that we had best exclude *D. æstiva* from the avifauna of the West Indies for the present, until a bird referable to that species is taken on St. Vincent, or on some island which has no resident yellow

warbler, or which has a species which may be distinguished from *D. aestiva* in all its forms.—AUSTIN H. CLARK, *Boston, Mass.*

Breeding of Wilson's Thrush (*Hylocichla fuscescens*) in Virginia.—“Northern New Jersey and the northern part of the Lake States northward” is the breeding range of Wilson's Thrush (*Turdus fuscescens* Steph.) as outlined in the A. O. U. Check-List. There does not appear to be any record of the breeding of this species further to the southward. It therefore gives me pleasure to record the fact that on June 25, 1903, while on a collecting trip in my interest to Mt. Rogers (5,719 ft.), Grayson County, Virginia, Mr. Harvey G. Davis found a nest of this species containing three eggs, which, together with the parent birds, is in my collection. This record definitely establishes the breeding range of this species as including the higher mountain region of Virginia. It is probable that this species breeds also in the mountains of North Carolina, but this fact does not seem to be yet established.—JOHN W. DANIEL, JR., *Lynchburg, Va.*

Notes on the Nesting of the Varied Thrush.—The following notes on the nesting of the Varied Thrush (*Ixoreus naevius*) in southern British Columbia may be of interest, as most of the published records are from more northern latitudes.

During the Spring of 1903 I had a good opportunity to note their nesting habits, while running a line of bear traps at the base of Cheam Peak on the lower Fraser River, altitude about seventy feet above sea level.

The birds were found nesting in heavy coniferous forest of very tall timber, with very little undergrowth for the coast district, where dense brush is the rule.

The nesting site was usually a small tree heavily draped with the rank growth of green moss which grows in such profusion in these dark woods. Five nests were taken on the following dates:

28th April. Three eggs, incubation slight. Nest in small hemlock, nine feet from ground, saddled on limb close to trunk, composed of green moss, twigs and rootlets, in a loose foundation of larger twigs, and lined with shredded cedar bark.

3d May. Three eggs with large embryos. Nest in moss-covered spruce, on dead limb ten feet from ground. Nest same as last but lined with fine dry grass, with a few dead leaves in outer structure.

3d May. Three eggs with small embryos. Nest in leaning cedar nine feet from ground; structure and lining same as preceding.

7th May. Three eggs, nearly fresh. Nest in vine maple (*Acer circinatum*), nine feet from ground.

16th May. Four eggs, fresh. Nest in the pendant branch of a large cedar, twelve feet from ground. The last may have been a second laying, as I noticed the birds were breeding there two weeks previously.

Three eggs seems to be the average, as two nests I have taken in previ-