

not in an up-rooted tree but sunk in a bank only a few inches from the ground. The bird was extremely tame. She kept moving her tail up and down every step she took. We all sat down not over ten feet from the nest and watched her. After waiting a few moments she went back on her nest. If I had had a camera I could have taken a most interesting picture. I could almost put my hand on her. After a consultation we all agreed that it would be a needless waste of life to shoot her, as we already had secured one bird. We were absolutely positive as to the identity of this one.

The eggs were incubated as much as the first set.

Mr. Wm. Brewster has seen both sets and has identified the bird.—  
JOHN E. THAYER, *Lancaster, Mass.*

**The Louisiana Water-Thrush in Philadelphia in Summer.**— On June 14, the only day this year, so far, that I have hunted on the Wissahickon Creek, I found two birds of this species (*Seiurus motacilla*) on the left bank of that stream, just above the Valley Green Hotel. With beaks full of food they chirped continually in protest at my presence, and altogether showed plainly that they had young in the immediate vicinity.

A nest recorded by Mr. H. K. Jamison (O. & O., 1891) is the only other breeding record inside the city line with which I am acquainted. It, also, was on the Wissahickon.— CHARLES H. ROGERS, *Crosswicks, N. J.*

**The Redstart (*Setophaga ruticilla*) a Resident in Dominica, West Indies.**— In a letter dated Barbuda, April 8, 1905, Mr. H. G. Selwyn Branch writes me that the Redstart is a resident in the island of Dominica, and that he has observed it building its nest there. From this it may be inferred that the bird breeds in the island, a locality very far south of its breeding range as now understood.— AUSTIN H. CLARK, *Boston, Mass.*

**The Black-fronted Warbler (*Dendroica auduboni nigrifrons*) in Southern California.**— I have an adult male of this species in breeding plumage taken on April 1, 1901, by Mr. H. S. Swarth, at Los Angeles, California. The specimen is marked *Dendroica auduboni*, but upon comparing it with several males of *D. a. nigrifrons* in breeding plumage taken late in May and June in the Huachuca Mountains, Arizona, I find that the Los Angeles specimen is much more richly colored. As far as I am aware, this subspecies has not been before reported from California.— ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**Young Birds Killed by Trains.**— On June 13, 1905, Mr. B. W. Griffiths and the writer were walking along the tracks of the Downingtown and Lancaster Branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad near Honeybrook, Chester County, Pa. Inside of a mile we picked up two dead birds from between the tracks— a young Vesper Sparrow, and a young Purple Grackle. The whole side of the grackle's head was torn off, but I could find no marks upon the sparrow.

Several days later, on the Wilmington and Northern tracks near the same place, I picked up a young Grasshopper Sparrow—also dead but without a mark. All three of these birds were in the juvenile plumage and of about the same age—just beginning to use their wings. Does it show lack of intelligence on the part of the young bird? I believe a great many are killed this way every year and I have never found an adult bird that had been killed by a train.

I believe it is due more to their weak flight than to anything else. They get near the tracks and the suction caused by the passing train draws them beneath it, their wings being too weak to resist the strain.—CHRESWELL J. HUNT, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Some Massachusetts Records of Interest.**—During the past year I have noted several birds of some interest in this region.

Late fall migrants, 1904, include :

*Empidonax minimus*, Chebec, Concord Turnpike, Lexington, Oct. 2, one.

*Dendroica maculosa*, Magnolia Warbler, Waltham, Oct. 9, one.

*Dendroica striata*, Blackpoll Warbler, Cambridge, Nov. 7, one.

An interesting winter record is *Euphagus carolinus*, Rusty Blackbird, Concord Turnpike, Concord, Jan. 22, 1905, one.

Early spring migrants, 1905, include :

*Butorides virescens*, Green Heron, Charles River, Needham, Apr. 9, one.

*Zonotrichia leucophrys*, White-crowned Sparrow, Hobb's Brook, Lexington, May 4, one.

*Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*, Black-billed Cuckoo, Rock Meadow, Belmont, May 4, one.

Other records of interest, 1905 :

*Oidemia deglandi*, White-winged Scoter, one male, Arlington, Spy Pond, May 9.

*Bartramia longicauda*, Bartramian Sandpiper, Ipswich River, North Reading, May 13, one.

*Icterus spurius*, Orchard Oriole, Ipswich, May 28, one male.

*Vireo noveboracensis*, White-eyed Vireo, Ipswich River, South Middleton, June 9, one.—ARTHUR C. COMEY, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Notes from Northwestern Connecticut.**—*Otocoris alpestris praticola*.—On May 25, 1905, I secured a pair of these birds in a meadow on the crest of a low ridge about eight miles south of the village of Litchfield. They undoubtedly had a nest there, for they both had been seen in the same meadow the preceding day, and the thin skin of the belly of the female indicated that she probably had a brood. Both were very shy, which I have not found to be the case with these birds later in the season. I believe that this is the first breeding record for the State of Connecticut.

*Helminthophila peregrina*.—It may be of interest to note that the