

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

Tennessee Warbler was almost common in the *village* of Litchfield during the nine days from May 19 to 27 inclusive this last spring. Litchfield is situated on a high ridge, along the crest of which runs the main street, bordered with tall elms. To these trees and to those in the grounds about the houses close to the street the birds seemed to be restricted; for though I was in the field every day throughout the migration, I did not see or hear one outside of the village. I secured five on different days within that time out of one tree in our own grounds, and heard or saw several others in the neighboring yards.—EDWARD SEYMOUR WOODRUFF, *Litchfield, Conn.*

Two Records for Colorado.—FLICKER. *Colaptes auratus*.—Oct. 24, 1904, I obtained in Hall Valley, Park Co., Colorado, a specimen of the eastern Flicker showing not a trace of hybridization with the Red-shafted Flicker. This is the first record for this bird in our State at such an altitude, this specimen being taken at an altitude of 10,000 feet.

CANVAS-BACK. *Aythya vallisneria*.—July 4, 1900, I found near Barr Lake, Adams Co., Colorado, a set of eleven eggs of the Canvas-back. The eggs were fresh. This is the first record I believe for this bird's breeding in our State.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Colo.*

Colorado Notes.—The Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*) may now be added to the Colorado avifauna. It is reported by Miss Jennie M. Patten at Yuma, Colo., one specimen being seen on May 27, 1905, under such circumstances that identification was easy and certain. She also reported a Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), but afterwards discovered that it was an escaped cagebird. The same observer reports two Red-eyed Vireos (*Vireo olivaceus*) at the same station on May 27, 1905, and afterwards. Colorado records for this species are meager. Also Baltimore Orioles (*Icterus galbula*) in 1903 and May 22 and 23, 1905.

I watched a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila cærulea*) for some time at short range near Boulder on May 12, 1905. This is the first record north of Denver in Colorado, so far as I am aware. Bobolinks appeared again this year in some numbers east of Boulder, from which the inference is warranted that they are regular visitants, unnoted until last year.

A male House Finch (*Carpodacus mexicanus frontalis*), assisting his mate in raising a family of five nestlings under the roof of our front porch, confirms a long cherished suspicion that lack of red plumage does not always indicate immaturity. His plumage appears to be almost exactly like that of the female. He sings a great deal, with the full song of the male, though at first the song seemed a little weak—perhaps a mere fancy engendered by the apparently immature plumage. He had several fights with a highly colored male when nest building first began, and his mate then fought more valiantly than he did.

Songs of Female Birds.—Ornithological literature seems to say very little about the nesting songs of female birds, or I have been unfortunate