

Rare Birds near Springfield, Mass.—*Sturnus vulgaris*. In April, 1908, a Starling was taken in Agawam, near Springfield. It was with a flock of blackbirds. Eleven years ago about a hundred Starlings were liberated here, but they soon disappeared.

***Oceanodroma leucorhoa*.** The last of October a Leach's Petrel was captured alive on the Connecticut River, in the extreme southern part of Northampton. There are numerous records of the presence of this bird here, the earliest being previous to 1839, when W. B. O. Peabody stated that although this bird seemed so bound to the ocean by all its habits and wants, he had one brought him that was taken near Chicopee River, in Springfield, seventy miles from the shore. It has been supposed that these petrels were driven inland by storms, but in October of this year we had no severe gales in New England that were noticed inland at Springfield; in fact, generally currents in the upper air were so sluggish that the numerous balloons that were sent up from this point were unable to cover any great distance, and it is also singular that if the appearance of these birds inland depends on storms, that they should be found here only in autumn and usually in October.

***Ammodramus nelsoni subvirgatus*.** On the sixth of October last, an Acadian Sharp-tailed Sparrow was taken in Longmeadow, near Springfield. This is the first time the presence of one here has been proved, but I believe that its appearance in this vicinity is not so rare as is supposed.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

Notes from West Virginia.—*Sphyrapicus varius*.—On June 17, 1908, I found the nest of a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in an old dead tree near 'The Sinks' in the southern part of Randolph County. As I watched the old birds, they went back and forth continuously, making very frequent and rapid flights from the nest to a large sugar tree that stood some rods away. When I examined the sugar tree, I found that they had filled with punctures a space on the side of the tree about a foot long and several inches wide. Insects were attracted to these wounds in the bark and the old sapsuckers made this their hunting-ground. They seemed to have no difficulty in finding abundant food for their young. Two days later I passed this nesting site again. The old birds were still carrying food to their young from the same place. Although I saw them make many trips, coming and going, not a single time did they bring food from any other place. On this same trip into the Spruce Mountain region, I saw great numbers of these birds in different places.

A young female of this species was taken at Horton, near the terminus of the Dry Fork R. R., on June 16. At this place old birds and their young were flying about in considerable numbers. The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is by far the most common woodpecker breeding in the Alleghenies of central West Virginia at 4,000 feet altitudes.

***Corvus corax principalis*.**—Northern Ravens were seen and heard a

number of times on the summit of Spruce Knob (4,860 feet alt.), June 19-22. While our party was encamped near this highest elevation in West Virginia we hoped to find this species breeding, but failed to do so.

Junco hyemalis carolinensis.— I find this note concerning the Carolina Junco, made while on the summit of Spruce Knob. "Nest of Carolina Junco, under edge of stone; lined well with dry grasses; in bed of blooming *Cornus canadensis*; four eggs." All nests found on the almost bare top of this mountain were similarly placed under the edge of protecting rocks.

Oporornis philadelphia.— At the edge of an old 'burning' near the summit of Spruce Knob, Mourning Warblers were seen. As we came down the mountain on the afternoon of June 19, we found old birds feeding their young. The rich song of this species was heard almost constantly on some parts of this mountain. An adult male was taken as it sang on the border of a large tract of rather dwarfed black spruce trees near the top of the knob. I have never seen this warbler in any other part of the Alleghenies in the breeding season.

Thryomanes bewickii.— Bewick's Wren is the common 'house' Wren of western, southern, central and northern West Virginia. This species is exceedingly common in many sections in the central part of the State, and by no means rare in any of that large region mentioned above. As one goes eastward from the interior of the State, he finds, near the summit of the Alleghenies, that *Troglodytes aëdon* replaces this species. At Horton, on June 16, four species of wrens — Carolina Wren, Bewick's Wren, Winter Wren, and House Wren — were all heard in full song.

Regulus satrapa.— I took an adult male Golden-crested Kinglet on top of Spruce Knob on June 18. Two of these birds were flying about in the tree-tops.

Hylocichla fuscescens.— On an old fallen spruce log, half-hidden by branches of hemlock and Allegheny Menziesia, at the foot of Spruce Knob, we found a nest of the Wilson's Thrush. On June 20 it contained four eggs. I found this species in abundance in many of the higher sections of the State while on my trip to the mountains in the middle of last June.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsonii.— A nest of the Olive-backed Thrush was found in the top of a little spruce, on June 19, near the top of Spruce Knob. It contained one young bird and three eggs. I saw several birds of this species near the same place. It seems that this nest of mine makes the most southern record of the breeding of the Olive-backed Thrush.—
EARLE A. BROOKS, *Weston, W. Va.*

Colorado Notes.— **Cyanocitta cristata.** BLUE JAY.— Mr. B. G. Voigt informed me a short time before his death that a Blue Jay, which I examined, had been killed by him half a mile east of Limon, Colorado, in October, 1898. Mr. H. G. Smith's note on this species published in 'The Auk' (Vol. XXII, pp. 81, 82) was taken at Wray, Colorado, just over the Nebraska line. Wray is 165 miles a little north of east of Denver on the