

this species that has come from Point Pelee within three years.— W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ontario*.

Prothonotary Warbler taken on the Coast of Maine.— A number of bird skins collected between about 1867 and 1874 by the late Levi L. Thaxter and his two sons have recently come into the possession of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. Among them is a beautiful adult male Prothonotary Warbler in fresh nuptial plumage. Like many of the others it is encircled by a broad, close-fitting paper band into which, no doubt, it was slipped when freshly skinned and put away to dry, according to a practise much in vogue half a century ago and one followed rather frequently, although not invariably, by the Thaxters. This band was made to serve the place of the usual tag or label, for on it is clearly inscribed in ink, and in the handwriting of Mr. Levi L. Thaxter, the following brief record:— "Matinicus Id., Me., August, 1868."

In addition to these data there is the word "Lonys" faintly written in pencil. "Lony," it seems, was a familiar nickname applied to Dr. Roland Thaxter in his early youth and sometimes used in the possessive case to designate the birds which he himself had killed. Although he has no distinct recollection of the Prothonotary Warbler his brother John, whom he has just questioned on the subject, remembers it perfectly and is certain that it was shot on Matinicus Island. It is not less reassuring than satisfactory to have so positive a statement from such a source; for when Mr. Samuel Henshaw first called my attention to the bird I could not help suspecting, and indeed, suggesting to him, that its original paper wrapper might easily have been exchanged through accident for that of some other skin of similar size, prepared in the same way. There is, I believe, but one record besides this of the occurrence of the Prothonotary Warbler in Maine. It relates to a specimen taken by the late Mr. George A. Boardman at Calais on October 30, 1862.¹— WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

The Races of the Parula Warbler.— On a short trip to Seaford, Delaware, in June, 1908, Mr. James Chapin and the writer found the Parula Warbler an abundant bird along the Nanticoke River. The subspecific identity of the breeding bird of Delaware has heretofore been uncertain, Ridgway stating that the southern form, true *Compsothlypis americana*, probably reached the State. To settle this question, five males and one female were collected. The males are all fully adult birds, none being in the immature first nuptial plumage. They prove conclusively that the Delaware bird belongs to the northern form, *usneæ*. The size and proportions of wings and bill agree nearly with *usneæ*, while the coloration, though perhaps not typical, is nearer this race. Three of the specimens have a blackish jugular band, while the two others have no trace of it. In this species, however, the total absence of blackish seems to be an individual peculiarity and as

¹ Verrill, Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., IX, 1863, p. 234.