

bler was taken on the Cornell Campus; May 30, the White-eyed Vireo in the Inlet Valley; May 31, the Tufted Titmouse at the divide; and June 12, at the head of the Lake, the Prothonotary Warbler.

Thus we have four Austral species simultaneously invading a region previously unknown to them and at the same time, an increasing abundance in the Austral forms already resident. The direction of this invasion has been undoubtedly from the south by way of the Susquehanna but speculations as to the reasons ought not to be given until it is determined whether this movement is general or purely local. Before these can be formulated, the coöperation of other observers is necessary and it is with this in view that we have submitted our data from Ithaca.

NOTES ON SOME OHIO BIRDS.

BY W. F. HENNINGER.

Plate VI.

1. **Florida cærulea.** LITTLE BLUE HERON.—On August 16, 1909, a young male in the white plumage with the slaty primary tips was shot at the Loramie Reservoir in Shelby County, Ohio, and is now in my collection. Since July 2, 1902, when I recorded this bird for the last time in southern Ohio (Auk, Vol. XIX, October, 1902, p. 396) no other specimens seem to have been recorded from the State. The above mentioned specimen is the eleventh one I have recorded in Ohio since August, 1901, more than any other ornithologist has seen in the State and more than all the other records put together.

2. **Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis.** BLACK TERN.—This bird, which I found nesting in the Sandusky Bay marshes in 1903, 1904, and 1907, and which Dawson and Jones found plentifully in August, 1902, along the Ohio River, is a rare migrant in middle western Ohio. Three were seen April 19, 1909, one on May 14, 1908, and a young male was shot on August 31, 1909, at the Grand Reservoir. They evidently make two broods in the Sandusky Bay



NEST AND SEVEN EGGS OF KING RAIL. JUNE 22, 1909, GRAND RESERVOIR, OHIO.



NEST AND TEN EGGS OF KING RAIL. JUNE 5, 1909, GRAND RESERVOIR, OHIO.

marshes, as the writer saw young barely able to fly on July 4, 1907, and at the same time collected fresh eggs.

3. **Calidris leucophæa.** SANDERLING.—While seen regularly along the shores of Lake Erie, this species is rare inland. On September 24, 1909, I saw a flock of 50 at the Grand Reservoir and shot 6 of them, 4 females and 2 males. A note in the October 'Auk,' 1909, shows that it is very rare even in the vicinity of Detroit.

4. **Charadrius dominicus.** GOLDEN PLOVER.—In the fall of 1908 I was able to record this species in 'The Auk' as taken at the Loramie Reservoir. On April 19, 1909, I saw a flock of 25 at the Grand Reservoir and on September 24, 1909, shot a large female from a flock of 9 at the same place and again a male on October 16, 1909, at the Loramie Reservoir. Hence this species, which seems to be becoming very rare in many localities, is still a regular migrant across this part of Ohio, which is "close to the major axis of its elliptical orbit."

5. **Phalacrocorax auritus.** DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—A fine female of this species, in first winter plumage, was shot October 16, 1909, at the Loramie Reservoir and is now in my collection.

6. **Ixobrychus minutus.** LEAST BITTERN.—To the breeding places of this species in Ohio, enumerated in Jones's Catalogue of Ohio birds, must now be added the Grand Reservoir, where at one particular locality it is a common breeder.

7. **Rallus elegans.** KING RAIL.—This species, seen in 1908, was found as a breeder at the Grand Reservoir in 1909 on June 5. Six nests were found on this date at a locality which I shall not disclose. Two sets of 11 eggs were found, the two nests being well out in the cattails, and one of 10 eggs, about 50 feet away from water in plain view in the grass. A fourth nest contained 2 eggs and one young and while looking at the third egg I noticed a small hole and soon had the chance to see a young Rail chick's bill pecking away at its inclosure. The chick kept up a constant pecking and calling with a shrill voice *peep peep*, till the one half of the egg, the more pointed end, dropped away. The blackish little creature showed some traces of blood and seemed to have a hard time to free itself from the membrane, and it took considerable time till it had extricated itself from the other half of the egg, the whole process oc-

cupying perhaps 16 to 20 minutes. Then it shuffled down to its brother and laid there gaping from time to time, where I left it after having seen one of the most interesting phases of wild bird life.

The various notes of the adults were noted as follows: *Kërplŭnk* as they dropped into the cattails out of the air; *kĕk*, *kĕk*, *kĕk-kĕk-kĕk* when running back and forth in the grass; and a noise similar to the grating note of the Corn Crake, which I heard so often in Europe in former years.

On June 22, 1909, a beautiful domed nest was found in a tussock of grass, containing 7 eggs. The photograph plainly shows on the northeast the inclined approach, a fact which is stated in the books to be contrary to the Rail fashion and characteristic of the Coots and Gallinules only. A photograph of a Rail standing in the Cattails was also taken but owing to the vibration of the wings is blurred and not fit for reproduction.

8. *Haliæetus leucocephalus*. BALD EAGLE.—This bird, which breeds at the Lewistown Reservoir, was also found breeding at the Grand Reservoir in the summer of 1909.

Of breeding ducks we have here the Wood Duck, and occasionally the Blue-winged Teal, which also breeds at the Sandusky Bay. In southern Ohio I was able to record the Mallard as a rare breeder, while on July 2, 1907, I met in the Black Channel Marshes at Cedar Point, Ohio, a female Lesser Scaup Duck (*Marila affinis*) leading her brood of nine young not far from a similar family of Coots. This seems to be the limit in Ohio breeding ducks and proves that, although explored for years, there is still many a new thing to be found out about the birds in the old "Buckeye State."