

**A Third Autumnal Record of Kirtland's Warbler** (*Dendroica kirtlandi*) for South Carolina.— Early in the morning of October 4, 1910, I heard on Oakland plantation, Christ Church Parish, a peculiar call-note, intermediate in tone between those of the Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) and Palm Warbler (*D. palmarum*). The sound came from among the terminal ends of a very leafy branch of a small live oak tree, but although I was within twenty feet of the sound it was impossible to see the bird. I was satisfied then that it was a Kirtland's Warbler, and convinced when it flew and alighted on a dead branch of another live oak near at hand — but too close to obtain it in perfect condition. The pale yellow under parts and the deliberate wagging of the tail, aside from its large size, made the identification as absolute and conclusive as though it was in my hand. Upon my retreating to secure it in perfect condition the bird flew and lit among hundreds of lavender bushes across a canal. In attempting to enter the place by a circuitous route it flew again and this time out of vision. The pale yellow under parts suggested that it was a female. The bird was entirely alone and, like the one I shot on October 29, 1903 (Auk, XXI, 1904, pp. 83, 84), was absolutely fearless.— ARTHUR T. WAYNE, Mount Pleasant, S. C.

**A Mockingbird in Rhode Island.**— Miss Julia Herreshoff of Bristol, R. I., communicates to me the following in a letter dated November 8, 1910: "The Mockingbird came with the Blackbirds, first noticed March 12 (1910). He was near the house for a fortnight and then deserted his black friends for Robins and lived at the Old House (the Herreshoff homestead next door). I did not see him after July 25 when tenants took possession. He was quite friendly though I think by his early coming there was no chance of his being an escaped cage-bird."— REGINALD HEBBER HOWE, JR., Thoreau Museum, Concord, Mass.

**A Pair of Mockingbirds near Boston in 1902.**— Concerning the note in the October 'Auk' of 1910 entitled: "The Mockingbird near Boston," signed by Mr. Francis H. Allen of West Roxbury, I would say, that in 1902 a pair of Mockingbirds (*Mimus polyglottos*) built two nests within sight of my home in Roslindale. The male was constantly under our kitchen windows. He entertained us the entire summer, not only with his singing, but also by his gymnastics while doing so. He would frequently light on the ridge-pole of my neighbor's house, and vertically bounce up and down, five to ten feet, singing all the while. He would do this frequently eight or ten times in succession. I first noticed the male when the apple trees leaved out, but neglected to record the exact date.

Shortly afterward he was joined by a female. They built in a large white oak tree situated midway between Congress and Fletcher Streets on Center Street, Roslindale.

The nest was quite high up. Four young were raised, but were presumably stolen by a laborer who was working on a sewer, then in construc-

tion, on Center Street. When the young were about to leave the nest, one of my sons heard the man in question say, that he was "coming out early to-morrow morning and take those birds." As the nest was empty on the day designated, it is quite probable he succeeded in doing so. The parent birds were inconsolable for a time. Soon, however, they built again; this time low down in a golden elderberry bush which grew, within twenty feet of the house, on the front lawn of one of my neighbors. Here three young were raised and successfully launched from the nest. I saw two of the young birds killed by neighbor's cats. This same fate overtook the mother.

One day while sitting on my piazza, I saw in the vacant lot opposite, a cat spring into a hollow apparently in the act of catching a bird. Hearing the great distress of the male mockingbird directly over the hole, I ran to the place, but alas! too late. The cat bounded away but in her fright dropped the bird. Immediately picking it up, I recognized the still beautiful though lifeless mate of the distracted father who was hovering over me.

The father mockingbird and one of the young were constantly seen about the neighborhood until autumn, when they probably went South. In passing, I may say that it was this particular pair of mockingbirds which first incited me to the study of bird life. Whether the pair of mockingbirds described above are the pair referred to by Mrs. Seriah Stevens or not I do not know, but I have never heard of other than this pair nesting in Roslindale in 1902.—JULIA WINGATE SHERMAN, *Roslindale, Mass.*

**A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher in Brookline and Boston, Mass.**—On December 3, 1910, when passing through Olmsted Park, lying partly in Boston and partly in Brookline, I came upon an Orange-crowned Warbler (*Vermivora celata celata*) in a planting of shrubbery. It was an unusually brightly plumaged bird, others which I had seen in former seasons having been much more dusky and dull-plumaged. This warbler had just gone from view by taking a short flight out of my range of vision, when another very small bird was seen directly before me, which by coloration, form, and movement I perceived at once to be a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Polioptila caerulea*). The tone of color of the upper parts was a very clear blue-gray, and the nervous switching and erecting of the tail were characteristic movements. I had several good views of the bird both in trees, on shrubs, and on the ground before it passed from sight, when automobile travel intervened. It appeared to be gleaning food of larvæ or insect's eggs from the twigs and remaining leaves. The following day five other observers, associate members of the A. O. U., to whom the knowledge had been given, also saw this bird in the same park a little farther southward. The earliest observer found it still in the company of the Orange-crowned Warbler, but the later group, while seeing the Gnatcatcher, was unable to find the warbler. On December 4 the bird was on the Boston side of the park, having been on the Brookline side when seen by me. In 'The Auk'