

Myadestes townsendi. TOWNSEND'S SOLITAIRE.— One individual seen in Gardiner Cañon February 23 and 26.

When in the Park in the summer of 1904 I saw 3 or 4 Cranes, either the Sandhill (*Grus mexicana*) or the Little Brown (*G. canadensis*), in Gibbon Meadow, on July 26; and Rocky Mountain Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator montana*) were seen at the Thumb July 22, and at Upper Geyser Basin July 23. Neither of these species is mentioned by Dr. Palmer.— EDWARD R. WARREN, *Colorado Springs, Colo.*

Some Breeding Birds of Garrett Co., Md.— During a residence of fourteen years at Jennings, Garrett Co., Maryland I have had abundant opportunities to study the birds of the vicinity. I have recorded practically all of the boreal species listed by Mr. G. Eifrig (*Auk*, 1904, pp. 234–250) and have made a few observations which being supplementary to his seem worthy of record.

Astur atricapillus. GOSHAWK.— A pair were present all summer and nested about three miles above Jennings in 1901 but were both shot by a native and since the cutting away of the spruce and hemlock forest they have disappeared as breeders.

Nuttallornis borealis. OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER.— Seen regularly in spring migration but I have no positive evidence of their breeding here.

• **Nannus hiemalis hiemalis.** WINTER WREN.— Formerly frequent and still found as a regular breeding bird in this vicinity.

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.— A regular summer resident before the cutting of the spruce timber, but does not now remain to breed in this vicinity.

Regulus satrapa satrapa. GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET.— Formerly a regular breeder in localities thickly sprinkled with spruce timber but for the past six years since the last of the spruce was cut the Kinglet does not remain here to nest.— HERMAN BEHR, *Jennings, Maryland.*

Serious Loss of Bird-Life During Spring Migration.— There is undoubtedly a very serious loss of bird life every few years during the spring migration by sudden climatic changes, yet it is only occasionally that any details of unusual mortality are brought to the notice of those interested in the subject.

A severe storm of wind or rain with a sudden sharp drop in temperature will, I have no doubt, kill more small species than we have any realization of.

After a storm in May, Mr. E. W. Nelson once picked up on the shore of Lake Michigan forty-four recognizable specimens, including twenty-six species. This covered a stretch of only two miles.

On May 12, 1888, when the wind blew a gale and the temperature suddenly dropped from 64° to 34°, there was a great mortality in bird life between Chicago and Milwaukee, and probably over a much larger territory. In some localities the ground was strewn with birds, largely warblers. At

Racine, Wis., the late Dr. P. R. Hoy personally examined 645 specimens, including 22 species, of which 437 were warblers. They were picked up in one locality. Imagine the devastation which must have occurred, even between these points, right in the tide of the migration.

Another instance has just come to pass, and while comparatively few specimens were seen that had perished, there is no question but that the mortality was great.

Mr. W. B. Mershon and my brother Charles E. Deane, reached the Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec, on June 6, 1914, for salmon fishing on the Grand Cascapedia River. They learned that from the third to the fifth the region about had experienced a very severe storm of rain and snow, accompanied by a fierce gale of wind. Snow fell to the depth of four inches at Matapedia and other points, with a temperature down to 34°, and reported even lower further east. The snow did not remain long except on the high hills. One guide at Grand Cascapedia reported that he picked up five dead birds near his barn, while numbers flew into the barn and around the doors of his dwelling, seeking protection. Other guides reported dead birds lying around their buildings and along the road, and brought in specimens. Three that were forwarded to me proved to be females of the Redstart, Canadian and Blackburnian Warblers.

That this unusual storm and low temperature was general over the peninsula, is shown by the following letter, received from the director of the Canadian Meteorological Office under date of June 25, 1914.

"With reference to your letter of the 23rd. inst. I would inform you that between the 4th. and 5th. of June, 1914, quite a severe northeasterly storm occurred on the Gaspé coast caused by the development and movement of an area of low pressure from the New England States to the Gulf, taken in conjunction with the approach at the same time of a pronounced cool wave from the Hudson Bay Region. The temperature along the Gaspé coast varied between 36 and 42 degrees. The precipitation was largely rain, but at the same time wet snow fell locally, and in a few localities the fall is reported to have amounted to as much as six inches. On the 3rd. there was also some light local snow in the Gaspé Peninsula, but unaccompanied by wind, the temperature then fell to the freezing point or a little below."

Mr. Mershon states that he has never been in a region where warblers were more abundant in June, his observations covering a series of year dating back to 1886 — RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*