

turally, in which respect it comes much nearer to *Icteria*." I have carefully tabulated the structural differences between these three genera, and the result to my mind unquestionably indicates a nearer relationship of *Chamæthlypis* with *Geothlypis*.

Sharpe (Hand-List of Birds) while recognizing *Chamæthlypis*, included in this genus two South American species of *Geothlypis*, *G. æquinoctialis* and *G. auricularis*. These two species and *G. cucullata* are intermediate between *Chamæthlypis* and the typical species of *Geothlypis* in coloration and in the form of the bill and have well developed rictal bristles as in *Chamæthlypis*. They do not, however, approach the latter genus in the length of the tail, as do certain Mexican species of *Geothlypis*, notably *G. nelsoni*.

While in Nicaragua in the spring of 1917 I had the opportunity of hearing the song of the 'Ground-chat' on several occasions. It is a highly musical warble resembling that of *Geothlypis semiflava bairdi* but even superior; the songs of both these species much excel that of *G. trichas*. The song of *Chamæthlypis* possesses nothing whatever of the eccentric qualities of the Yellow-breasted Chat's vocal performance.

In conclusion, the evidence of size, coloration, external structure and song, strongly indicate the near relationship of *Chamæthlypis* with *Geothlypis* and the more remote affinity of the former with *Icteria*. The first two genera are, in fact, practically connected by intermediate species.—W. DEW. MILLER, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City*.

Blue-winged Warbler Feeding a Young Field Sparrow.—On June 16, 1918, I was passing through a brushy area near Norwalk, Conn., when my attention was attracted by a Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) evidently much excited at my presence as though it had a nest or young in the vicinity. It carried a green caterpillar about with it, as though wishing to feed young, so I sat down to watch it. A Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*) soon appeared and also manifested excitement at my presence. After some waiting the Blue-wing approached a certain point in the bushes so frequently, that I got suspicious and searched it, finding to my surprise a young Field Sparrow, evidently just out of the nest and unable to fly. I waited some time longer, hoping to find the young of the Blue-wing, and finally the latter got over its fear, and approached the young Field Sparrow, and fed it the caterpillar it had been carrying. The adult Field Sparrow remained near-by but would not go to the young bird.

This incident seems rather surprising, but I believe it is explained by supposing that the two species nested near each other; that the young of the Blue-wing were destroyed by a natural enemy just as they were about to leave the nest; and that the adult Blue-wing, finding a young Field Sparrow of about the same age nearby, fed it, perhaps not realizing that it was not its own offspring, and in any event, satisfying its natural instinct to feed and care for young at that time.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Norwalk, Conn.*