

I then waited for the Shrike to return, which it did almost at once, and struggled hard to carry its victim in its *claws*. It dropped it twice before finally carrying it to a thick-leaved live oak tree in the swamp. I then made the Shrike drop its prey and found that the bird was killed by the *claws* of the Shrike in the interscapular region. This Phœbe was a very large one measuring 7.5 inches in length and was very fat. Never before in all my experience have I seen a Loggerhead kill so large a bird. In the winter in South Carolina many Palm Warblers (*Dendroica palmarum palmarum*) fall victims to these hawk-like birds.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

Orange-crowned Warbler in Boston in Midwinter.—On December 28, 1920, in the Arnold Arboretum, Boston, Mass., my husband and I found two Orange-crowned Warblers (*Vermivora celata celata*) feeding with five or six Chickadees. The birds kept in rather low, leafless shrubbery most of the half hour we had them under observation, but at times both Chickadees and Orange-crowns fed upon something found in the thick clusters of dried leaves hanging upon the white oaks. We were especially interested to find two of the warblers together, as most of the records for our section seem to be for single birds.—HELEN GRANGER WHITTLE, *Cambridge, Mass.*

The Proper Name of the Pine Warbler.—The confusion of the Pine and Blue-winged Warblers by the early writers, owing to the poor quality of Catesby's plate of the former, is well known, as is also the fact that Linnaeus, who never saw either species, supposed when he published the name *Certhia pinus* that he was naming the Pine Creeper of Catesby, whereas his description, taken from Edwards, was based upon the Blue-wing. His name *pinus* has therefore, very properly, always been applied to this latter species.

Alexander Wilson in 1811 untangled the confusion and clearly separated Catesby's Pine Creeper which he called *Sylvia pinus*, his specific name being current for seventy-five years. Then, in 'The Auk' for 1885, p. 343, Dr. L. Stejneger reviewed the subject stating that Wilson "well aware of the term *Sylvia pinus* did not intend it as a new name, but simply restricted it to Catesby's bird." He therefore proposed to drop Wilson's name and adopt *vigorsii* of Audubon.

Only two authors actually used the term "*Sylvia pinus*" prior to Wilson and these were Latham and Vieillot who were simply transferring Linnaeus' "*Certhia pinus*" to the genus to which, at that time, it belonged.

Now Wilson may have intended to "restrict" the earlier name but it is much more likely that he intended to name Catesby's bird "*Sylvia pinus*," regardless of what anyone else had done, and that is precisely what he did. As he nowhere mentions *Certhia pinus* Linn. nor *Sylvia pinus* Lath., and had never seen Vieillot's work, it does not seem that we have any right to infer that he meant to do anything beyond what he actually did,

and as the validity of *Sylvia pinus* Wilson is not affected by the earlier *Certhia pinus* Linn. nor by *Sylvia pinus* Lath., a mere reference of the former to the genus *Sylvia*, the Pine Warbler should revert to its old name of *pinus* and be known as *Dendroica pinus* (Wils.).—WITMER STONE, *Academy Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) on Belle Isle, Detroit, Mich.

—On page 463 of 'The Auk,' for 1920 there is a note by Bradshaw H. Swales recording a Hooded Warbler (*Wilsonia citrina*) seen by him on Belle Isle, May 6, 1920.

Strange as it may seem I probably saw the same warbler on that date as my report to the Biological Survey will disclose. I saw the bird first about 8 A. M. and watched it for some time. It was in low bushes on the edge of a road bordering one of the canals. It would drop down to the ground, then up to the low bush again, constantly uttering its fine, high "chip" note and nervously flitting about in such a manner as to show the extensive white on the tail. Finally I walked on through the woods but when I returned to the same locality an hour or so later the bird, a lovely male in full plumage, was still in the immediate vicinity. I sat down and watched him again for some time and knew that there was no mistake in the identification as I had seen and studied many of this species while living in Indianapolis, Indiana, where the bird is fairly common.—ETTA S. WILSON, *Detroit, Mich.*

Some Records of Breeding Birds for the Vicinity of Washington, D. C.—During the many years of collecting oological material in the marshes along the Potomac River on the District of Columbia boundary line and vicinity, I have personally collected nests and eggs of the following species, which have never been recorded.

***Rallus virginianus*.** VIRGINIA RAIL.—While collecting with my son Edward E. Court, June 3, 1917, we found two nests of this species, containing 7 and 11 eggs respectively, in the marshes just back of Jackson City. The nests were built among the cat-tails about six inches above high water, and composed of reeds, lily stems and marsh grass. In both cases the eggs were heavily incubated, but made perfect specimens. There were other pairs nesting as we heard birds at several other places in the marsh.

The eggs were all uniform in color, a light cream-white, spotted mostly at the large ends, with reddish-brown and with faint markings of lavender.

The whole time we were in this part of the marsh the birds were within twenty feet of us.

***Rallus elegans*.** KING RAIL.—Reported by Dr. Chas. W. Richmond and Mr. S. S. Dickey, Pennsylvania, as nesting here. This season Mr. Ernest A. Sikken, Hyattsville, Maryland, and myself found a set of eleven eggs in the marshes back of Jackson City, Virginia. This set is in the Sikken collection. The eggs were incubated about five days. This is one of the rarest of the nesting species in this locality.