

that visits the Northern Hemisphere after its breeding season" (Proc. Calif. Acad. Sci. (4), Vol. 2, Pt. 2, p. 179, 1918) seems unlikely, since it is in general the "cold water" types of southern Tubinares, such as *Puffinus griseus*, *Priocella*, *Oceanites oceanicus*, etc., rather than the southern subtropical representatives, which make regular migrations to littoral waters of the northern hemisphere.

Gray's description (Proc. Zool. Soc. Lond., Vol. 21, p. 62, 1853) states that the type specimen of *O. hornbyi* came "from the northwest coast of America," and that Admiral Hornby had "obtained it during his command on the Pacific station," perhaps during the period in which his headquarters were at Vancouver. In view, however, of the known circumstances and the probabilities as to the bird's habitat, together with the fact that the northern range has never been confirmed, and the utter lack of certainty as to the exact source of an unlabeled skin brought to England by a naval officer who had doubtless traversed the entire west coast of South America, it would seem to the writer that the species should be stricken entirely from the list of North American birds unless collateral evidence that the type was taken in the North Pacific can be produced.

American Museum of Nat. Hist., New York.

SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

BY WALTER FAXON AND RALPH HOFFMAN.

The following notes are offered as a supplement to the authors' 'Birds of Berkshire County, Massachusetts,' published in the 'Collections of the Berkshire Historical and Scientific Society,' Vol. III, pp. 107-166, Pittsfield, Mass., 1900. The numbers enclosed in brackets refer to the pagination of the separates issued at the same time.

P. 115 [9]. ***Hylocichla mustelina*** (Gmel.). WOOD THRUSH.—Seen as late as September 16 (Stockbridge).

P. 116 [10]. ***Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*** (Tschudi). OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.—Add Washington to the list of towns in which this bird breeds.

P. 117 [11]. **Hylocichla aliciae bicknelli** Ridgw. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—Since the publication of the *Birds of Berkshire* the presence of Bicknell's Thrush on the summit of Greylock Mountain has been recorded anew by R. H. Howe, Jr., June 18, 1902, one heard (Auk, XIX, Oct, 1902, p. 405), C. J. Maynard, May 28-30, 1910, about twelve pairs (Record of Walks and Talks with Nature, III, 1910, p. 120), and C. F. Jenney, June 8, 9, 1911, two heard, one seen (Record of Walks and Talks, IV, 1911, p. 173). Some of those seen by Mr. Maynard were undoubtedly transients, since only one or two pairs of Bicknell's Thrushes have ever been found on Greylock in the breeding season.

P. 117 [11]. **Hylocichla fuscescens fuscescens** (Steph.). VEERY.—A Veery shot by the senior author in Lanesborough, Sept. 27, 1900, was recorded in 'The Auk,' XVIII, 1901, p. 198, as *H. f. fuliginosa* Howe (*H. f. salicicola* Ridgw., see Noble, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., LXII, 1919, p. 565), but we now believe it is *H. f. fuscescens* in autumn plumage. It is in the Collection of the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

P. 118 [12]. **Penthestes hudsonicus littoralis** (Bryant). ACADIAN CHICKADEE.—In the 'Birds of Berkshire,' p. 118, and previously in 'The Auk,' VII, 1890, p. 408, birds found on Greylock Mountain in December, 1889, were referred to as *Parus hudsonicus* Forster. It has since been found that the individuals belonging to this species that migrate south into Massachusetts in the autumn belong to two geographical races, *Penthestes hudsonicus littoralis* (Bryant) and *P. h. nigricans* C. W. Townsend. It therefore behooves us to revert to these specimens in the light of the knowledge since acquired.

On the 14th of December, 1889, after a few days' stay in Ashby, Mass., the late Mr. William Brewster and the senior author of these 'Notes' went to Laban Wilbur's, the highest of the farms that then lay in the secluded Greylock Notch, North Adams. On the 15th we found one Hudsonian Chickadee in the second-growth spruces above Wilbur's house (altitude, 1600 feet), and on the following day Mr Brewster shot two out of three seen in the same neighborhood. The two that were shot have been determined by Dr. Townsend (Auk, XXXIV, 1917, p. 163) as *P. h. littoralis* (Coll. W. Brewster, No. 30309) and *P. h. nigricans* (Coll. W. Brewster No. 30310). Mr. Brewster was suddenly called home on the evening of the same day, but I remained at Wilbur's until the 20th of December. On the 17th I saw one Hudsonian on the Greylock carriage-road from North Adams, two on the 18th on the "Winter Road" from the Notch to North Adams, and on the 19th a flock of from six to ten among the second-growth spruces in the "Mountain Pasture" on the Greylock carriage-road (alt. 2200 feet); from this flock I shot one, determined by Dr. Townsend (*l. c.*) as *P. h. nigricans* (Coll. W. Brewster, No. 26270).

Thus within a space of four days Mr. Brewster and I found from twelve to sixteen of these birds on the sides of the Greylock Mountain range, which seems to indicate a heavy influx into that region. Nor was the flight confined to western Massachusetts: on the 19th of October of the

same year I shot one of a pair found in Arlington, Middlesex Co., (Auk, VII, 1890, p. 408) which proved to be *P. h. littoralis* (Coll. W. Brewster, No. 25621), and another passed the winter of 1889-90 in a pine grove in Waverley in the same County (Auk, *l. c.*). The Waverley bird was not killed and therefore its race was not ascertained.

The two specimens shot by Mr. Brewster in the Greylock Notch on the 16th of October, 1889, afford the only instance, I believe, of the two subspecies being found together.—W. F.

P. 118 [12]. ***Penthestes hudsonicus nigricans*** C. W. Towns. LABRADOR CHICKADEE. *Vide supra*.

P. 119 [13]. ***Telmatodytes palustris palustris*** (Wils.). LONG-BILLED MARSH WREN.—This bird was again discovered by us at the upper end of Pontoosuc Lake, Lanesborough, on the 22d of May, 1901, and a pair was found in Hoosac Swamp, Williamstown, in June, 1902, by R. H. Howe, Jr. (Auk, XIX, Oct. 1902, p. 405).

P. 119 [13]. ***Cistothorus stellaris*** (Naum.). SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN.—Add Pittsfield to the number of towns in which we have found this Wren.

P. 120 [14]. ***Troglodytes aedon aedon*** Vieill. HOUSE WREN.—Seen up to Sept. 28.

P. 120 [14]. ***Mimus polyglottos polyglottos*** (Linn.). MOCKING-BIRD.—One spent the winter of 1917-18 in Williamstown, frequenting a porch to feed on the berries of the Virginia Creeper.

P. 121 [15]. ***Vermivora peregrina*** (Wils.). TENNESSEE WARBLER.—Two, in full song, were discovered by the junior author at Berry Pond, Hancock, July 21, 1919 (alt. 2000 feet). These taken in connection with the specimen found by the senior author on Mt. Greylock, July 15 and 16, 1888, (Auk, VI, 1889, p. 102) make it highly probable that this species breeds in small numbers in Berkshire.¹

P. 121 [15]. ***Compsothlypis americana usneae*** (Brewst.). NORTHERN PARULA WARBLER.—In the summer of 1919 Parula Warblers were seen in the village streets of Stockbridge, apparently breeding in the avenues of Norway Spruces whose pendent branchlets perhaps supplied the place of *Usnea* lichens.

P. 121 [15]. ***Dendroica aestiva aestiva*** (Gmel.). YELLOW WARBLER.—One was seen in Stockbridge on the 1st of October.

P. 121 [15]. ***Dendroica pensylvanica*** (Linn.). CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER.—Seen as late as Sept. 23.

¹ A Golden-winged Warbler, *Vermivora chrysoptera* (Linn.), has been recorded by Mr. C. J. Maynard (Record of Walks and Talks with Nature, III, 1910, p. 123) as observed on a trip to Mt. Greylock, May 28-30, 1910. No definite locality is specified, the bird being listed with others seen "about the villages." Mr. Maynard was accompanied on this trip by five or six pupils, but he does not remember who was responsible for the identification of the Golden-wing. Under these circumstances the record cannot be taken as a valid one for Berkshire County.

P. 122 [16]. **Dendroica magnolia** (Wils.). MAGNOLIA WARBLER.—Within the last decade there appears to have been a distinct encroachment southward and into the river valleys on the part of certain Canadian birds in Berkshire. This species, for example, was found to be generally distributed in South Sandisfield in the summer of 1912, and during the summer of 1919 it was not infrequently met with in Stockbridge, where it was either very rare or altogether unknown twenty years ago.

P. 123 [17]. **Dendroica castanea** (Wils.). BAY-BREASTED WARBLER.—Extend the period of the vernal migration to May 30.

P. 124 [18]. **Dendroica vigorsii** (Aud.). PINE WARBLER.—Add to the records, Lanesborough, Sept. 25, 1900, one male.

P. 124 [18]. **Seiurus motacilla** (Vieill.). LOUISIANA WATER-THRUSH.—When our 'Birds of Berkshire' was published in 1900, there was but one record of the Louisiana Water-Thrush in the County, viz. Sheffield, June 11, 1896, a pair feeding fledged young (Faxon, Auk, XIII, 1896, p. 344). Since that time we have detected it at Richmond Pond, on the boundary line between Pittsfield and Richmond, one male, June 8, 1901 (Auk, XXVI, 1909, p. 311); one singing in Hulbert's Swamp, Lanesborough, June 9, 1901; a pair, July 2, 1909, on Fife Brook, a tributary of the Deerfield River in the town of Florida, at an altitude of 1900 feet, and one at Berry Pond, Hancock (altitude 2000 ft.) on July 5, 1920. Mr. William Brewster also discovered a pair with a nest containing six young at Glendale in Stockbridge, June 28, 1902 (Auk, XXVI, 1909, pp. 310-311).

P. 126 [20]. **Oporornis agilis** (Wils.). CONNECTICUT WARBLER.—Add to the records, Lanesborough, Sept. 30, 1900.

P. 126 [20]. **Wilsonia pusilla** (Wils.). WILSON'S WARBLER.—Extend the autumnal migration dates to Sept. 30.

P. 127 [21]. **Vireosylva gilva gilva** (Vieill.). WARBLING VIREO.—Seen as late as Sept. 24 in Lanesborough, 1900.

P. 128 [22]. **Lanius ludovicianus migrans** Palmer. MIGRANT SHRIKE.—Mr. Gerald H. Thayer reports seeing one in Lanesborough, Aug. 18, 1900 (Auk, XIX, 1902, p. 296), in a hillside pasture above Berkshire Village. This is the first record since Mr. S. G. Tenney's discovery of three nests in Williamstown in 1883 and 1886. The junior author of these 'Notes' saw one in Stockbridge in the month of August.

P. 130 [24]. **Stelgidopteryx serripennis** (Aud.). ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW.—Since the publication of the 'Birds of Berkshire' the Rough-winged Swallow has been reported by Mr. William Brewster from Glendale in the township of Stockbridge, where he found a pair with three full-grown young, July 3, 1906 (Auk, XXIV, 1907, pp. 221-222). The junior author also observed it in the adjoining town of West Stockbridge in the summer of 1919. During a trip to Berkshire, May 28-30, 1910, Mr. C. J. Maynard found a pair nesting in an old Kingfisher's hole near the top of a bank about twenty feet high on the road at the lower end of Pontoosuc Lake, Pittsfield, and Judge Charles F. Jenney saw two near the same place on the 7th of

June, 1911 (Maynard's Record of Walks and Talks with Nature, III, 1910, p. 122, IV, 1911, p. 171).

P. 130 [24]. *Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina* (Cooper). EVENING GROSBEAK.—We have been advised of the occurrence of this bird in Lee and Williamstown (Caroline R. Leake, *Bird-Lore*, XI, 1909, p. 85) during the winter of 1908-09; in South Sandisfield in December, 1913 (F. Walters, *in litt.*); and in Stockbridge in early April, 1916.

P. 131 [25]. *Loxia leucoptera* Gmel. WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL.—This bird is occasionally seen in summer as well as in winter. Mr. Gerald H. Thayer reports that a flock of five or six individuals stayed in Lanesborough as late as the 4th of June, in the year 1900 (*Auk*, XIX, 1902, p. 297), and we found one in full song in the coniferous forest of Mt. Greylock in August, 1911.

P. 133 [27]. *Passerherbulus henslowi henslowi* (Aud.). HENSLOW'S SPARROW.—Add to the list of towns in what we have found this bird breeding, Peru, Cheshire, and Savoy. Mr. R. H. Howe, Jr., has reported it from Williamstown also (*Auk*, XIX, 1902, p. 404).

P. 133 [27]. *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Gmel.). WHITE-THROATED SPARROW.—What was said above concerning the extension of the breeding area of *Dendroica magnolia* southward and into the valleys of Berkshire during the last ten years is equally true of the White-throated Sparrow. It was found generally distributed in South Sandisfield in the summer of 1912, and in the Housatonic Valley towns in the summer of 1917 and 1919. It has been known to summer even to the south of Berkshire, in Litchfield and Winsted, Litchfield Co., Conn. (Woodruff, *Auk*, XXIII, 1906, p. 461; Sage and Bishop, *Birds of Connecticut*, 1913, p. 129)¹

P. 136 [30]. *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (Linn.). BOBOLINK.—Seen as late as Sept. 17 in Stockbridge.

Sturnus vulgaris Linn. STARLING.—The European Starling is now generally distributed, as a permanent resident, through the Housatonic Valley towns. It was introduced into New York City in 1890, and about one hundred were liberated in Springfield, Mass., in 1897 (Morris, *Birds of Springfield and Vicinity*, 1901, p. 42). The Berkshire birds appear to have invaded the County from the South by way of the Housatonic River valley.

P. 138 [32]. *Otocoris alpestris alpestris* (Linn.). HORNED LARK.—A flock is reported to have spent several weeks in Stockbridge village during the winter of 1915-16.

P. 138 [32]. *Otocoris alpestris praticola* Hensh. PRAIRIE HORNED LARK.—Add Stockbridge to the towns in which this bird breeds.

P. 140 [34]. *Empidonax flaviventris* (W. M. & S. F. Baird). YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER.—Spring migration, May 22-June 2 (Lanesborough, 1901).

¹ *Guiraca caerulea* (Linn.). BLUE GROSBEAK. Professor S. F. Clarke tells us that he had four of these birds in his grounds in Williamstown in the month of October. This is the only record for the County of Berkshire.

P. 140 [34]. **Nuttallornis borealis** (Swains.). OLIVE-SIDED FLY-CATCHER.—Seen as late as Sept. 7 at Bash Bish Falls, Mount Washington.

P. 141 [35]. **Myiarchus crinitus** (Linn.). CRESTED FLYCATCHER.—Seen up to Sept. 17 in Stockbridge.

P. 142 [36]. **Sphyrapicus varius varius** (Linn.). YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER.—Add, Ward Pond, Becket, one female, July 12, 1909.

P. 143 [37]. **Coccyzus americanus americanus** (Linn.). YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO.—Arrived in Lanesborough, May 12, 1911; seen up to Sept. 29.

P. 144 [38]. **Cathartes aura septentrionalis** Wied. TURKEY VULTURE.—At least one more Turkey Vulture has been killed in Berkshire County since 1900. In the 'Boston Globe' newspaper of July 15, 1905, there is a notice of one that was shot in Becket "recently" by William A. Schlesinger and presented to the Museum of Natural History in Springfield, Mass., and in 'The Auk' for October, 1905, p. 413, Mr. Robert O. Morris records a young specimen killed by Walter Stanley in Becket on the 8th of June, 1905, and sent to the Museum of Natural History in Springfield.

Possibly both of these records refer to the same bird, although the name of the collector is different in the two cases.

P. 145 [39]. **Astur atricapillus atricapillus** (Wils.). GOSHAWK.—Mr. Gerald H. Thayer (Auk, XIX, 1902, p. 296) reports seeing a large young Goshawk fly past him on the eastern side of Hoosac Mountain, within the limit of Berkshire County, on the 15th of August, 1900. It is doubtful whether, under the circumstances, Mr. Thayer could clearly discriminate between a Goshawk and a large female Cooper's Hawk (*Accipiter cooperi* Bonap.); we therefore reject this as a valid summer record for the former species.

P. 146 [49]. **Buteo platypterus** (Vieill.) BROAD-WINGED HAWK.—The junior author saw one at Ward's Pond, Becket, on the 12th of July, 1909, and discovered a nest containing young in Stockbridge. We also observed it in Lanesborough on the 30th of April, 1911.

P. 147 [41]. **Falco peregrinus anatum** Bonap. DUCK HAWK.—Has been found nesting in Cheshire by Mr. Gerald H. Thayer, and near Bash Bish Falls, Mount Washington by the junior author.

Phasianus torquatus Gmel. RING-NECKED PHEASANT.—This introduced species is now well established in Berkshire County.

P. 149 [43]. **Oxyechus vociferus** (Linn.). KILLDEER.—Add to the records, West Stockbridge, June 22, 1919, a pair with (apparently) one young.

P. 151 [45]. **Bartramia longicauda** (Bechst.). UPLAND PLOVER.—The senior author found this bird in Lanesborough, May 30, 1901. R. H. Howe, Jr. (Auk, XIX, 1902, p. 404) saw seven pairs in Williamstown, June 17-22, 1912, and F. G. and M. C. Blake told him that they saw four on June 19, 1900, and two on June 15, 1901, in Williamstown. The junior author saw one in Lenox, Aug. 9, 1919. The above dates prove conclusively that

the Upland Plover breeds in Berkshire, for it has eggs by May 25 and its young are hatched by June 4, on Martha's Vineyard, according to O. Durfee (*Auk*, XX, 1903, p. 65).

P. 152 [46]. **Porzana carolina** (Linn.). SORA.—Add, Pittsfield, June, 1901.

Herodias egretta (Gmel.). EGRET.—Three were seen by the junior author, August 8, 1919, in the pond (so-called) formed by the Housatonic River at the Lenox railway station. A farmer's boy declared that they had been there two or three weeks. Sole record for the County.

Ixobrychus exilis (Gmel.). LEAST BITTERN.—The Least Bittern is to be added to the list of summer birds of Berkshire. Mr. Schurr has found it in Pittsfield and the junior author of this paper discovered one at the head of the Stockbridge Bowl in August, 1914.

P. 157 [51]. **Larus argentatus** (Pont.). HERRING GULL.—According to a communication to a local newspaper, a flock of Herring Gulls, rare birds in Berkshire, spent several days along the Housatonic River and its flooded meadows in Stockbridge during the winter of 1915-16.

P. 157 [51]. **Podilymbus podiceps** (Linn.). PIED-BILLED GREBE.—This bird breeds also in Stockbridge, and at Lenox Station.

P. 158 [52]. **Colymbus holboelli** (Reinh.). HOLBOELL'S GREBE.—A specimen in the Science building, Springfield, Mass., was taken alive in Otis "a few winters ago," according to R. O. Morris (*Birds of Springfield and Vicinity*, 1901, p. 6). Another was captured alive at Yocum Pond, Becket, Feb. 18, 1904 (R. O. Morris, in litt.). A third was found on March 4th, 1912, in South Sandisfield, by Frank Walters, and given by him to the Museum of the Berkshire Historical and Scientific Society of Pittsfield. The gift was accompanied by the following interesting letter from Mr. Walters which was printed in the 'Berkshire Eagle,' a Pittsfield newspaper, shortly afterwards:—

Mr. H. H. Ballard,
 Pittsfield, Mass.

DEAR SIR:—I am sending you to-day by express a specimen of Holboell's Grebe. About five o'clock on the afternoon of Monday, March 4, I was crossing a bridge over a little brook tributary to Sandy Brook, and a little over a mile north of the Massachusetts-Connecticut state line on the road leading from South Sandisfield, Mass., to Norfolk, Conn., and happening to glance down, I saw about twenty-five feet away a bird sitting on the ice. It allowed me to approach within five or six feet of it and then plunged suddenly into the water. This open stretch of water was on an average only about two feet in width and possibly twenty feet long. It swam to the upper end of this and turning came back to where it had taken to the water. As it came to the surface for air, I dropped my cap over its head and lifted it from the water.

I wish to state, in passing, that this bird used its wings continually while swimming, using them much in the same manner as if in the air. Mr.

Chapman and others have stated that grebes use the feet only in swimming. While the bird was in the water I ran along the edge of the ice and had an excellent opportunity to observe this use of the wings, as the bird was almost at my feet. I found also that they have the heron-like habit of striking directly at a person's eye when captured. Finding that he could not reach my face, he then tried to strike the buttons off my coat.

On reaching home, I identified this bird as Holboell's Grebe and you will find that its measurements indicate it to be fair average size. While the bird is in winter plumage, you will note the many reddish spots on its neck.

After exhibiting it to some people in the vicinity, I returned it to the spot where I found it, twenty-four hours after its capture. That night, however, the thermometer dropped to several degrees below zero, and on March 6 at 2.30 P. M., I went to the brook to see if the bird was still there and found it frozen into the ice and of course dead. I had to get a stick and smash the ice to get the bird out. I think you will agree with me that it is a nice specimen, not having been shot or otherwise injured.

I would be glad to see it added to the collection of birds in the museum of which I understand you are curator.

Mr. Walter's is the seventh specimen of Holboell's Grebe recorded for Berkshire County. All of them were captured either in the winter or early spring.

Carpenteria, Calif.

NOTES ON NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

XI.

BY HARRY C. OBERHOLSER

The following notes on seven North American birds¹ have been made during the course of other investigations, and are here published as of possible interest to other ornithologists. They concern species of the families Charadriidae, Bubonidae, Laniidae, and Vireonidae.

¹ For previous papers in this series, cf. 'The Auk,' XXXIV, April, 1917, pp. 191-196; XXXIV, July, 1917, pp. 321-329; XXXIV, October, 1917, pp. 465-470; XXXV, January, 1918, pp. 62-65; XXXV, April, 1918, pp. 185-187; XXXV, October, 1918, pp. 463-467; XXXVI, January, 1919, pp. 81-85; XXXVI, July, 1919, pp. 406-408; XXXVI, October, 1919, pp. 556-559; XXXVIII, January, 1920, pp.