

added to the avifauna of Michigan on the strength of this specimen.—BRADSHAW H. SWALES and NORMAN A. WOOD, *U. S. National Museum, University of Michigan*.

The Status of *Amoromyza* Richmond.—In the 'Bulletin of the British Ornithologists' Club,' Vol. 45, April 25, 1925, p. 93, Mr. Gregory M. Mathews, has proposed a generic name *Gummyza*, with *Merops samoensis* Hombron and Jacquinot as type. Though the species *samoensis* appears generically distinct from related forms, cognizance of this was taken by Richmond (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. 53, Aug. 16, 1917, p. 593) when in a discussion of *Gymnomyza* Reichenow, he erected the genus *Amoromyza* with *Merops samoensis* Hombron and Jacquinot as type. *Gummyza* Mathews, 1925, therefore, is a synonym of *Amoromyza* Richmond, 1917.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum*.

The Cape May Warbler at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.—On May 6, 1924, I had the good fortune to see two Cape May Warblers (*Dendroica tigrina*), one in the bright plumage of the adult male, the other a much duller colored individual which was either a female or an immature male, probably the former. My attention was first attracted to the birds by an unfamiliar song, a high pitched, chattering ditty, resembling in its quality of tone the song of the Blackpoll Warbler, but with more variation in tune. The birds were in a cedar tree in bright sunlight, not more than twenty feet away, and I had ample opportunity to study them with binoculars. They appeared to be nervous, quick moving little creatures. The rufous colored ear coverts and the white patches on the wing coverts are conspicuous field marks.

From September, 1922 until September, 1924, with the exception of the summer of 1923, I was in Chapel Hill. During this period I made frequent field excursions and this was the only time that I saw a Cape May Warbler. Apparently this Warbler is an uncommon spring transient, at least in the central part of North Carolina. T. G. Pearson, C. S. Brimley, and H. H. Brimley ('Birds of North Carolina,' 1918.) report the Cape May Warbler as tolerably common at Chapel Hill, April 26 to May 3, 1909. They also state that this Warbler has been taken at Raleigh in the spring in the years 1892, 1909, and 1915, and further note that it has been recorded in spring between April 22 and May 15 from six mountain localities in the western part of the state. They give only two fall records for the state.—KEBLE B. PERINE, *Berkeley, California*.

Some Notes on the Connecticut Warbler (*Oporornis agilis*) from Luce County, Michigan—July 23, 1922 is the first date of my finding *Oporornis agilis*. I was in a piece of ground that was covered by forest fire after the lumberman had cut the timber off. Much of this fire-covered ground has grown up to raspberry, and blackberry bushes, where it did not grow up to brush at once. In some places of course both grow at the

same time, the small berry bushes eventually being crowded out. It was in one of these places where raspberry bushes were commonly found that the first Connecticut Warbler that I saw was located. It was perhaps on the ground when I came near, as it flew on a berry bush, gave a few notes ("peenk"), and disappeared again among the bushes.

In the year 1923, the only one I saw, was on Aug. 18. It was about four rods north of where I found it in 1922.

In the year 1924, the first that I saw, was on Aug. 22, a pair being found about 60 rods due south of the 1922 locality, and in the same type of ground. A single male bird was seen on Sept. 1 and 16.

The white eye-ring, was the chief identification mark between this species and the Mourning Warbler (*Oporornis philadelphia*) which has no eye-ring.—OSCAR M. BRYENS, *McMillan, Luce County, Michigan.*

A Retrograde Movement in the Connecticut Valley.—A retrograde movement in the migration of birds is an infrequent occurrence, difficult to detect and observe. We had an example of one in the Connecticut Valley, April 21, 22, 23, 1925.

Spring came earlier than usual this year and, as a result many of the harbingers and initial flocks of Robins, Blackbirds, Bluebirds, Song and Fox Sparrows passed up the Valley during March. The snow, with the exception of shaded gullies in woodlands, had vanished in Massachusetts as the month came to a close. To all appearances spring had fully set in by mid-April, but winter would not be downed without one more fling! On April 19 and 20 a storm swept across central New England, leaving in its wake a blanket of snow from three to eighteen inches in depth and accompanied by low temperatures. At Woodsville, Vt., and along the northern portions of the Valley fourteen inches of snow was reported.

Such storms bring extreme suffering to the early birds. Many unquestionably die. The majority retreat and we find favorable sheltered spots harboring birds that had passed through our vicinity several weeks previously. With the melting of the snow, which lasts usually but a day or two, the birds about face and resume their northward course.

Early in the morning of April 23, I visited the Island in the Connecticut River at Holyoke. On the way I noted flocks of Robins feeding about several lawns. Approaching the Island my ear caught a babel of bird voices, interspersed with songs, chiefly of the Red-winged Blackbird. For the most part, the birds were in the tree-tops—feeding on the catkins (*Salix fragilis*) and mingled with them were several smaller flocks of Rusty Blackbirds. Cowbirds were unusually numerous. There were very few female Redwings but the flocks of Rusties were evenly divided and some of the males were breaking into subdued song, with notes now and then reminiscent of the Bobolink.

At intervals a flock of from six to eight Redwings would launch out into the air, heading straight up the Valley. While watching one such