

covering the eggs until the full set is laid, so the collector is frequently at his wit's end how to proceed.

Apart from the egg collector, about the only destroyer of their homes is no other than the common black and yellow bumble bee. This insect has a veritable mania for living in holes in trees, and a chickadee nest appears to be the acme of its desires. It seems to like the nesting material and prefers the nest before the eggs are laid, but it will often drive the bird away from an incomplete set, pulling up most of the nesting and leaving the eggs underneath.

Tacoma, Washington.

OBSERVATIONS ON SOME BIRDS FOUND IN SOUTHERN MEXICO

By AUSTIN PAUL SMITH

QUITE the most satisfactory region for study of bird life that I have as yet visited, is the little State of Morelos, situated in southern Mexico. Cuernavaca, the capital, is about fifty miles southwest of Mexico City, but owing to the rough nature of the country traversed the railroad counts seventy odd miles.

Cuernavaca lies at an altitude of 5000 feet, in the Upper Sonoran Zone. The lands surrounding the city are almost entirely under cultivation, supporting various crops, but largely maize. Many kinds of tropical fruits are grown; and no adobe but what boasts an accompanying mango, or avocada. The only uncultivated spots are the barrancas, and rocky knolls. Sometimes these latter harbor abundant growth, in which the tree morning glory is, as a rule, the most arborescent member. The few barrancas to the east of the city are dry, except during the rainy months; several westward, however, contain water at all times—therefore, considerable vegetation and many birds.

Pines come to within six miles of the city limits, thus allowing a transition zone of small extent and mostly consisting of the barrancas where the streams are perennial.

As a beginning, I will name the commonest bird within and near the city. It is the House Finch of the Cuernavaca variety (*Carpodacus mexicanus rhodocolpus*). Thousands roost in the rubber trees growing in the city plaza. During the day these same flocks resort to the cornfields and hedgerows outside of town. Often I pondered on how they found an adequate food supply, as the peon and Indian need to harvest to the last stalk to insure existence. Also among the feathered kind, the House Finch has serious competition, at least during the winter, when seed-eating birds are predominant. The food, tho, of this species is not entirely seed and grain: some birds were examined that showed evidence of exclusive diet of mango buds; and one day I came upon a pair flycatching in clumsy manner. A recent shower had ushered into existence quantities of lace-winged insects that haunted the tree tops, and appearing much like fluffs of cotton when floating in and about the branches, proved easy prey even to such novices.

Two other species of finches were abundant as winter residents: Western Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus strigatus*) and Western Grasshopper Sparrow (*Coturniculus savannarum bimaculatus*). Both were about in numbers until April 15, and stragglers of each species were found ten days after that date. The Grasshopper Sparrow did not sulk in the manner so usual with it in our own country. Certain of his kin there were tho, that believed in persistent retirement, notably *Peucea botterii*. I never have been favored with the acquaintance of the

Botteri Sparrow in the United States; and if, as authorities state, it occurs only in limited numbers over the line, I can surmise the principal reason why this sparrow is noted so rarely. Besides the ground-sparrow ability to hide, they rival the wren at getting in and out of rock-piles and fences. They often attempt to sing, and then is about one's only opportunity to size them up; noting the buffy under parts, and brown-streaked and black-spotted back, which those that read this can comprehend, when I liken it to nothing so much as a well griddled buckwheat cake for color.

The jauntiest dressed sparrow that dwells about Cuernavaca suburbs is a species which I can give no common name to, unless I call it White-chinned Sparrow. Scientifically it is labeled *Aimophila humeralis*. If on the A. O. U. list, it might have gained distinction, but here has to divide honors with many interesting birds. Not listed until the early days of April, the first I ran across was found singing in an able manner. Later on, the brush along the fence rows harbored the majority. Their appearance was not a daily occurrence—a week might pass without the sight of one, tho on the alert to find them at all times. Never gathering in flocks, three or four were as many as I came across at one time. Allowing a close approach they present an elegant form, having much about them to suggest a junco, especially the members of the *J. phænotus* group.

Another sparrow of the same genus dwells in similar locations, but was much shyer, and less frequently observed, *Aimophila rufescens*. When I secured my first specimen, imagination pictured an overgrown Scott Sparrow with Pipilo tendencies. Several miles from town was a secluded and deep barranca, the bottom of which was covered in places by fallen leaves, from trees growing on the rough sides of the barranca. These formed deposits, often knee-deep, that were the special delight of *A. rufescens*. Here they would scratch and delve for worms, that must have occurred numerous, for as a rule appetites were soon appeased and scratching for the pleasure of noise superseded eating. During the latter part of the performance the clickity-clickety note of the bird was uttered. To observe them I had to use great circumspection in approaching, for if alarmed they would seek refuge in the crevices of the rocky sides of the barranca, where it was impossible to dislodge them.

The same barranca harbored a few paltry individuals of *Delatiria henrici brevirostris*, a very large hummingbird with a rose gorget, somewhat resembling the Blue-throated Hummingbird (*Caligena clemenciæ*) of the same territory, but of a little higher altitude. I cannot recall meeting a Blue-throat under 6000 feet, but from that elevation up they could be found in small numbers. A blue Salvia was a favorite flower of this dark giant, and the lure of the plant caused this hummingbird to be very indifferent to human presence at such times. A low, soft pit-pit-pit, slowly uttered, was about their only vocal effort; and this was smothered at times by the heavy hum of the wings. Several species of hummingbirds occurred in numbers in Cuernavaca gardens. Probably the Blue-headed (*Cyanomyia verticalis*) could be classed as most conspicuous, owing to size, and immaculate underparts. Consequently, casual observers might overlook the plain little *Phæoptila sordida* of equal abundance, and generally associated with the Blue-crowned. Lilliputian in size, but with proclivity for fighting that made him master of Hummerland, was the Lucifer (*Calothorax lucifer*). The Devil ought to be proud of his own; scrapping is the Calothorax emblem, and to find a quiet member was the exception. Lucifer Hummingbird was about the city during January and February, but disappeared about March 6. when I imagined they sought higher country.

Besides the various species of hummingbirds always around flowering trees and shrubs, there were usually several orioles about every native's garden. A dozen Wagler Orioles (*Icterus wagleri*) would now and then assemble in a single tree. It is a longer and more slender bird than any of our North American species. Likely enough this is owing to the habit of most of the tropical Icteri of feeding on the minute insects, attracted by nectar of flowers. All examples of *I. wagleri* secured had the bill and most of the head covered by gummy exudations from the flowers they foraged off. Not more than one male bird in five wore the full plumage, and these were considerably shyer than the younger birds. Scott Orioles (*Icterus parisorum*) appear this far south, altho I presume in limited numbers, as I met with but one, an adult male in January. The Hooded Oriole (*Icterus cucullatus cucullatus*) is resident in fair numbers, but in nothing like the abundance of Wagler Oriole. A few *Icterus c. nelsoni* winter here, as several specimens were taken. In the pines and upper barrancas, Bullock (*Icterus bullocki*) was the only Oriole during the winter months: extremely abundant above 6500 feet, frequenting the great rubber trees of about this altitude, in company with the Orange-headed Tanager (*Piranga bidentata*). Keeping, as both did, to the highest portion of the trees, differentiation between the two was difficult. Several Bullock Orioles lost their lives by my mistaking them for Tanagers.

The Tanager just mentioned is a fruit-eater, not alone taking toll of wild fruits, but of cultivated trees as well. Sometimes a flock of twenty or more will settle down upon a peon's garden, and no doubt were it not for the family vigilance few mangoes or sapotas would survive the onslaught by this handsome species. A few Cooper Tanagers (*Piranga rubra cooperi*) added color to the transition zone. The pines sheltered many Hepatic Tanagers (*Piranga hepatica*), none at this time in high plumage.

The Tyrannidæ seems to be the leading bird group in lower Mexico. It is as a family certainly much more in evidence than either finches or warblers, when all life zones are considered. The most barren spot is the home of the Vermilion Flycatcher (*Pyrocephalus rubineus mexicanus*), which frequents, too, the habitation of man. Conditions of life make the native Mexican home a haven for flies, fleas and lice. That is the reason you so often find this exquisite creature perched upon an adobe roof, or near-by pig-sty. They also find the cultivated plots fine hunting ground, particularly during the dry months, when grasshoppers of great size swarm. It is certainly interesting to watch a three-inch grasshopper disposed of by a six-inch Vermilion.

You cannot be in these parts long before you detect a very peculiar bird note, the author of which may perhaps be detected in the nearest tree; for the Beardless Flycatcher (*Camptostoma imberbe*) is of a friendly disposition at times. Impressions of early acquaintance would class him as a Flycatcher, Vireo, or Titmouse, dependent upon his action at the time of your observation. The flycatcher nature is less in evidence than the other two. In many instances have I watched this mite simulate the Vireo's habit of branch inspection, in the same time-careless manner. And again, I might be startled by a titmouse-like note from the brush near at hand, only to discover a chickadee-mimic in *Camptostoma*. Where observed following the Tyrannidæ instincts, it was from the tops of the tallest trees, when it remained very quiet. I found it the premier seed-eater of the family. The birds' notes are somewhat complex; my translation is seetee-tee-tee-tee, often kept up continuously for five minutes.

In the clumps of original vegetation, dotting the cultivated ground, and to which I referred at the beginning of this article, one or two Wright Flycatchers

(*Empidonax wrightii*) usually held forth during my stay. Here too I could find Mexican Crested Flycatchers (*Myiarchus mexicanus*) and Ash-throated Flycatchers (*Myiarchus cinerascens*); also examples of *Myiarchus nuttongi inquietus*. For a quiet Flycatcher I would choose the Fulvous (*Empidonax fulvifrons*). It found a citadel in the rushes that grow along the small irrigating canals. Now for contrast, I am naming a very noisy bird, *Tyrannus crassirostris*, a Kingbird with enormous bill, and pugnacious disposition; enough to make life strenuous for all hawks and ravens within its habitat. *T. crassirostris* prefers watered barrancas, where both it and the Giraud Flycatcher (*Myiozetetes similis superciliosus*) were nesting by the last of April. The Giraud Flycatcher is one of the few prominently marked members of this family, and has an individuality that cannot be forgotten. You need a side view, with crest erect, to judge it right.

Enumerating some of the other Flycatchers I met with, there were the Cassin Kingbird (*Tyrannus vociferans*), found everywhere except in the pine region; Western Kingbird (*T. verticalis*), occasional; *Sayornis nigricans*, the only Phoebe met with; *Myiochanes richardsoni*, favoring willow-thickets; and the Querulous Flycatcher (*Myiarchus lawrencei querulus*), of the pines. This zone is much frequented by the Brown Flycatcher (*Mitrephanes phæocercus*), altho it is equally abundant in Transition. Thruout its habitat, the more open spots are favored; often sharing the field or glen with Hammond Flycatcher (*Empidonax hammondi*), and Western Flycatcher (*E. difficilis*). There was a week in February, when these three species associated in enormous numbers—greater than those of the other feathered creatures combined. *Mitrephanes* is sociable for a Flycatcher. I think they have cast aside that solitary disposition, notorious in the smaller tyrants. Always appearing in pairs or more, they take advantage of a sunlit spot in the forest, when the plumage will strike the eye as dull crimson, rather than brown. The under mandible is very distinct on account of the wax-yellow color.

A peculiar, small member of the present family, confining its operations to the larger trees in the most dense growth of higher barrancas, was identified by Mr. Nelson as *Myiopagis placens* but near *M. jaliscensis* of western Mexico. It bears a concealed yellow crown mark; and among the trees, appears decidedly like a Vireo.

Very few of us contemplate a trip to Mexico, without forming a determination to see the Motmot (*Momotus mexicanus*). The resolve is usually consummated, as the bird is well distributed in the land. Many peculiar traits create for it an interest never dulled by time or distance. Whatever you see when locating the Motmot for the initial time, will never fit itself into any bird family you are versed in. So naturally, identity is achieved thru elimination.

Motmots are quiet birds, notwithstanding their vocal possessions; sounding notes to my ear suggestive of rattling shutters. It was seldom that I found any near the city; but tramp a mile or two out, away from man and habitations, find some miniature arroyo, with a dozen or so scrubby trees grouped about, and you generally find *Momotus mexicanus*. It is a pretty hard proposition to secure an allround inspection of one. Whatever ruse is attempted to gain a front view, it ends in failure. The back of the bird is always the portion of the subject within the range of your eye. Contented be: note the large head; apparent lack of neck; slim body and long tail; and, if you have a near view, the bill with saw-edges—an instrument fitted to perfection for holding the great bugs so numerous in tropical regions. Their food in part is flies, moths, katydids, and stray grasshoppers, and never causes our subject much concern. Deliberate in preparation, his execution is as the lightning. Should one alight breast toward you after a catch, it is but the fraction of a second, ere the position be reversed.

I camped for some weeks during February and March in one of the large barrancas, at an altitude of 6500 feet. This barranca was deep and narrow near the site of my tent, and it would be several hours after the sun rose before it reached this spot.

Arising at daybreak, I would make haste to complete my ablutions, at a nearby pool, so as to avoid the chill that was very noticeable at that hour. Little life was in evidence so early, but one species of bird there was that always preceded me at that pool—the White-eared Hummingbird (*Basilinna leucotis*). Here I would find it bathing or else feeding on the nectar of pink-flowered Begonias, that grew with ferns in profusion thereabouts. How distinct the white superciliary line appeared in the dim light! Often they lit on a fern frond within five feet of me, searching the plant most thoroly while perched thus. Later, as the day advanced, they could be found the length of the barranca, feeding from the lowly Cuphea to the great *Fuchsia arborescens*.

Bell Warblers (*Basileuterus belli*), I found favored the vicinity of that particular pool, where a large quantity of brush debris had accumulated. To attempt to uncover one by beating the brush was always unsuccessful as they act much like a Yellowthroat under the circumstances. However, keeping quiet a few minutes will reassure them, and emerging, they sound their clarion notes: wren-like chips, most barbarously tuned when chasing their own kind; intensely quarrelsome birds, in what I took to be the breeding season; never resorting to high bushes or trees, when under my observation. Duges Warbler (*B. rufifrons dugesi*) looks like a twin brother of the Bell Warbler but is blessed with a quieter nature and more confiding disposition. Rarely found within the zone of *B. belli*, preferring more open situations from 6000 feet altitude down, it was the only common Warbler about the city during the months of my visit.

Several miles out from town, was a most barren piece of ground, that lacked every sort of vegetation, except that within a small depression there grew a forlorn little cedar by the side of a huge rock. Here, a Duges Warbler dwelt contentedly—without kin—in fact all feathered creatures but he, seemed to shun the spot. The bright chestnut-colored head, and clearly defined yellow and white underparts allowed of sure identification.

There was only one place where I met a Yellowthroat (*Geothlypis trichas*, var.?), that spot an irrigated meadow near town. One end was kept very wet, and here the grass grew rank and lush. But I did not secure the bird and the variety remains in doubt. Forms resembling the Yellowthroat, I did obtain there, and found to be Rio Grande Yellowthroats (*Geothlypis poliocephala*). Their numbers were quite limited.

The submerged end of the meadow was grazed upon by cattle, and these in turn, attended by numerous Groove-billed Anis (*Crotophaga sulcirostris*). These Anis spent their time hunting over the animals' hide, and in the long grass, perhaps for ambitionless ticks. I think I might call them the thinnest species in existence! The Ani's movements remind one of long-tailed Grackles, and they have the same manner of spreading the tail.

I do not know if the Morelos sun ever shines on our robin of the north, but it can claim a relative in *Planesticus tristis*, called Gray-breasted Robin in ordinary venacular, I believe. Do tropical conditions account for his superior voice? Anyway they have an advantage over our robin in singing. The song is of a different pitch—finer wrought and better strung. Why this southerner should be named *tristis*—"sad"—I cannot explain. Sing very late in the day it surely does, but the song has no melancholy suggestion. In fact, it is a most pleasant diversion in a

still barranca. How I detested to hear the harsh call notes of the bird, tho, particularly on the occasions when they would mix them with their song. Gray-breasted Robins are active until after whippoorwills and owls stir forth; flocking into the barrancas in the late afternoon, and remaining for the night, and ascending to the pines to feed at daybreak.

There are several bird families in Mexico having no representatives in the United States. One of these groups is the Woodhewer. The only species I have met with is *Picolaptes leucogaster*, inhabitant of the heaviest growth in the barrancas in Morelos. In recalling my first individual, I can see a gigantic brown creeper ascending the trunk of a large tree sheltering my tent. The White-bellied Woodhewer is tolerably abundant in suitable situations within the area treated in this article, altho by reason of their solitary disposition, estimates might show otherwise. Woodhewers were located more than once by the sun playing on the plumage, which is rich brown above, brightest on wings and tail, with blackish crown, spotted buff and white. Altho superficially the bird much resembles a brown creeper in form, its actions and movements are quite different. I cannot recall ever having observed a Woodhewer ascend a tree in the spiral manner, characteristic of *Certhia*; nor have I noted it near the base of a tree. Seldom alighting lower than twenty feet from the ground, a rapid ascent to some favored limb is made; and should the branch happen to be horizontal, they work with as much ease on the under, as on the upper surface. Their long, curved, extremely narrow bill, greatly facilitates search in the particular field of their endeavors—narrow cracks, small knotholes, and the like. The bill is available in any position, be the directing movement vertical or horizontal, or a combination of the two. Their notes are of four or five syllables, of moderate volume, rendered like tree-e-e-e, and uttered just before leaving their position. The nesting was in progress during February, and few females were secured.

Another tropical family represented in that State is that containing the Trogons. I met with a red-billed species, *T. mexicanus*. They are plentiful, but are not conspicuous birds, for all of their brilliant raiment. First suspicion of this species' presence was caused by discovery of bright-colored feathers of peculiar texture, scattered about under such trees and bushes as produce fruits or large seeds. Just a little search and you will find the Mexican Trogon nearby. But I do not mean that it is a stolid, indifferent bird; quite otherwise, and must be approached with caution. They partake in equal quantity of insects and fruits. When feeding, a short note like kee-kay is used; at other times a variety of calls; for instance, a measured cow-cow-cow; and a set of notes in capable mimicry of the Turkey.

A natty attired sparrow about camp was *Buarremon virenticeps*; but let us call him Green-headed Towhee. It is of good size, eight inches or so, but with feet fit for a bird much larger. These feet are the noise-makers, not the weak suggestion of a chirp, always uttered when out of sight. I attempted to gain their confidence, but was never quite successful, even when patience was abundant. The Green-tailed Towhee (*Oreospiza chlorura*) reminds me of *B. virenticeps* so much that I will mention it in connection. Avoiding the timbered regions I found it about the city hedgerows after March 12, and altho the last record for the species in my journal is April 16, I feel sure that I saw it as late as May 1 in the company of Western Vesper Sparrows.

Warblers have many representatives wintering in this section, and some resident species, too, so I will group them, as with the Flycatchers, excepting two species of *Basileuterus* already discussed. The Red-bellied Redstart (*Setophaga*

miniata) was one of the commonest of Transition Zone birds. It might be advertised as a Painted Redstart, with toned-down movements and different note: a clear tzee. A few Painted Redstarts (*S. picta*) were seen in company with the above.

Various warblers were found in flocks composed of many species of insect-eating birds, such as Vireos, Kinglets, Flycatchers, Gnatcatchers and Tanagers. Two species that congregate thus are the Red Warbler (*Ergaticus ruber*) and Red-faced Warbler (*Cardellina rubrifrons*). Both are sprites of lasting beauty. The Red Warbler is deliberate when working, searching the more open parts of the tree; while the Red-faced keeps better hid, and searches in a hurried manner. The number of individuals of the Red Warbler were few when compared with the Red-bellied Redstart, or Red-faced Warbler. The highest parts of trees sheltered, during February, large numbers of Townsend (*Dendroica townsendi*), Audubon (*D. auduboni*), Black-throated Green (*D. virens*), and Hermit (*D. occidentalis*) Warblers. Many of the Hermit Warblers were then in breeding plumage. As soon as the barrancas were left, going toward the town, species like Black-throated Gray Warbler (*D. nigrescens*), Tolmie Warbler (*Geothlypis tolmiei*), and Pileolated Warbler (*Wilsonia pusilla pileolata*) were in evidence. Yellow Warblers (*Dendroica aestiva*) wintered in and about the city. The Lutescent Warbler (*Helminthophila celata lutescens*) was general at all altitudes within our scope.

The Cactus Wren genus (*Heleodytes*) is represented here by the Huitzilac Wren (*H. megalopterus*), found in the Transition Zone. The pattern of plumage is much like that of certain Woodpeckers, and an aptitude for climbing make this similarity still more apparent. In scaling a tree they will climb for five or ten feet, then inspect the surrounding growth, be it moss-covered trunk, branch, or leaf; and after a brief inspection pass on to repeat the movements. Fully-fledged young were secured February 18. These were still being fed by adult birds. Another resident Wren is *Pheugopedius felix grandis*, or Morelos Wren, found most anywhere below the pine region. An ancient lava flow, five miles east of Cuernavaca, that is covered by dense brush, is a very good place to meet with it. They are great singers, like most wrens. Specimens secured vary considerably, and no doubt are near the true *P. felix*. Many Mexican Canyon Wrens (*Catherpes mexicanus mexicanus*) and a very few Mexican Rock Wrens (*Salpinctes obsoletus notius*) were found within the territory covered by this article. House Wrens are referable to *Troglodytes aedon aztecus*, according to Mr. Nelson, after examination of examples of specimens obtained. They were very numerous in the rubble fences of the open country.

The Colaptes of the region is the true *C. cafer*. It and the Yellow-breasted Sapsucker (*Sphyrapicus varius*) were the only Woodpeckers met with. Such Sapsuckers as I shot were in emaciated condition.

Neither Jays nor Titmice came often about my camp. The Jay is *Aphelocoma sieberii*; the Tit, *Baeolophus wollweberi*. When the Jays were in evidence I usually found the Titmice in their wake.

Crepuscular birds were the Texas Night Hawk (*Chordeiles acutipennis texensis*), in the immediate vicinity of the city; and higher up, above 6000 feet, Whip-poor-wills (*Antrostomus vociferus*). One or two Poorwills (*Phalacroptilus nuttallii* var?) were heard.

Why I failed to find pigeons in the mountains is a mystery. The cultivated sections entice large flocks of Mourning Doves (*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*), and lesser numbers of White-winged Doves (*Melopelia leucoptera*). The almost domesticated Mexican Ground Dove (*Chamæpelina passerina pallescens*), with the long-tailed Inca Dove (*Scardafella inca*) are about every dwelling. Unfortun-

ately, all four species are considered game by the inhabitants, and only lack of fire-arms, and poor marksmanship, allow the birds to hold their own.

The most valued cage bird in southern Mexico is *Melanotis caerulescens*, a songster that cannot be excelled; also with great ability as a mimic. It must thrive well in captivity, from the numbers possessed by the people. Personally I never found it in numbers sufficient to call common, only running across them now and then in the heaviest of stream-side growth; the clue to its presence was usually the song.

The Solitaire of this region is *Catharus melpomene clarus*. It is another wonderful singer. I have heard it in a high and narrow barranca, where the tones were confined and producing effects that I wish all readers of this could share with me. It is a shy thrush and keeps to cover much, but can be easily recognized by the bright orange bill and golden brown upperparts.

The Western Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos leucopterus*) is a native. But they can poll nothing like the numbers that they occur in over the United States border. It frequently loses its liberty in order to adorn some rude wooden cage.

Bird catching is an industry not to be scoffed at in Mexico. Many species are trapped. Even the Cedar Waxwing (*Ampelis cedrorum*) must pay tribute during the short time it spends here. Occurring in flocks of a hundred or more, they are easy victims for trappers. Their monetary value is small, owing to inability to live in confinement for more than a few days. I was offered a pair for thirty-five cents, Mexican currency. Already the length of this article precludes reference to the Raptors and water-birds I met with. In closing, however, I do intend to make mention of a real game bird, *Colinus graysoni nigripectus*—a true Bobwhite. Unlike our native kinds they seldom seek brush cover, preferring the open fields, where nothing could be more inconspicuous, the plumage blending perfectly with the brown earth. A hard bird to flush, they will fly but a short distance, then alight, to repeat the tactics again if necessary.

The Bobwhites of the *C. graysoni* group are black-chested birds; in this variety the throat is white with black chin. The natives are not very well acquainted with it; and I found none in captivity. It probably never could be as popular a game bird as our eastern Bobwhite, owing to the difficulty in securing it, together with its moderate numbers.

Acknowledgments are due Mr. E. W. Nelson and Dr. C. W. Richmond, of the United States National Museum, for identifying many of the species named in this article.

Brownsville, Texas.

FROM FIELD AND STUDY

Chestnut-sided Warbler at Sherwood, Mendocino County, California.—While collecting at the above place in the fall of 1908, I secured on September 21st a Chestnut-sided Warbler (*Dendroica pensylvanica*), juvenal male. It was taken in a pine tree in the edge of the redwood forest and was apparently alone, as no other was noticed. The skin is now in the collection of Dr. L. B. Bishop, New Haven, Connecticut, who identified it, and believes it to be the first record for the State.—HENRY W. MARSDEN, *Witch Creek, California*.

An Ancient Murrelet at San Pedro, California.—On January 23, 1908, I went to San Pedro and spent about an hour on the beach looking for dead birds which had been cast up by the recent storm. I walked about a mile toward Long Beach and in this distance I found several Rhinoceros Auklets (*Cerorhinca monocerata*), several Cassin Auklets (*Ptychoramphus aleuticus*), one Sanderling (*Calidris leucophæa*), one Xantus Murrelet (*Brachyramphus hypoleucus*) and