

MOURNING WARBLER, *Geothlypis philadelphia*.

A not uncommon migrant. Found in deciduous woods.

MARYLAND YELLOW THROAT, *Geothlypis trichas*.

Common Summer resident along swamps and creeks and in wet woods. It keeps well to the ground and nests in a bush on the ground.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT, *Icteria virens*.

Somewhat rare Summer resident, frequenting the bushes along water. The nest is placed rather low, usually in a little bush. The bird is very shy and I have known it to break its eggs when they had been handled.

AMERICAN RED-START; DWARF ORIOLE, *Setophaga ruticilla*.

A not uncommon Summer resident in the deepest woods. During migrations, the birds often appear in the trees along the streets.

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 NESTING OF THE WOOD AND WILSON'S THRUSHES.

C. S. BUTTERS, HAVERHILL, MASS.

Until this season have always had more or less trouble in finding the nests and eggs of the Wood Thrush. I have this season, however, made a special study of the nesting habits of the Wood Thrush and Wilson's Thrush with very good success.

The Wilson Thrush is quite a common breeder in this locality and I have found something like fifteen sets this year, but have taken but one, which I have in my cabinet. I do not think it necessary to collect twenty-five to thirty sets of a certain species eggs to be able to study them, but believe they can be studied to a certain extent in the field, without disturbing the nest or eggs.

Nearly all of the sets noticed were built near the ground; most of them in a small growth of oak and maple. Some were placed in a dead bush about 12 feet from the ground; others on the ground at the foot of a bush. None of the nests found were over 18 feet from the ground.

The bird, when approached, would quietly slide off the nest and keep out of the way, as long as I was near, returning as soon as I left.

The number of eggs in each, with one exception, was four. The one exceptional set contained three, incubation commenced. The average size of the eggs is .86x62.

The nest before me is a fair sample. It is built of oak leaves, grasses and bark, lined with black rootlets. The outside diameter is 5 1-2 inches by 3 1-2 inches in depth. The inside diameter is 3 inches, with a depth of 1 3-4 inches. It is well put together and looks as if it were built for service.

It is my experience that the Cow Bunting does not deposit its eggs in the nests of the Wilson's Thrush.

Have never been able to find the nest of the Wood Thrush until this season. Passing through a small piece of woods last June, I saw a nest that appeared to be nailed to the trunk of a tree, about 8 feet up. On closer inspection, found nest supported by some small twigs growing from trunk.

I went up to investigate the nest and the birds flew about making quite a fuss. The nest contained four eggs.

The birds acted far different than the Wilson's Thrush, being full of fight and flying to within a few feet of my head and then shooting off in another direction. I had a good chance to observe them.

In the same piece of woods, inside of two hours, I found three more nests of the same species. Were all placed in the same position, against the trunk of a tree, respectively 5, 8 and 12 feet from the ground. Each nest contained four eggs, averaging .99x.74.

The outside of the nest is composed of dried leaves, stems, some pieces of newspaper, and an old snake skin; then comes a thin shell of rotten wood, reaching to the top of the nest. It is then very sparingly lined with fine black roots. The outside measurements are 5 inches in diameter and 2 1-2 inches deep. Inside diameter 3 1-4 inches by 1 3-4 inches in depth. This is a fair sample of all the nests examined.

I find fully as much to study in the nests as in the eggs and think that more interest should be taken in the study of nests, than is at present done.