

somewhat, as they wheeled and passed rapidly from us to the north, the wind greatly aiding them in escaping further inspection. The sudden change of temperature experienced between this and the preceding day had been quite marked, which was doubtless responsible in a measure for the rather erratic movement of these birds. March 31 was a warm and spring-like day, the maximum temperature in the shade at Glen Ellyn, being 72°. On the morning of April 1 a decided change had taken place, the mercury standing, or having dropped to 30° at 7 A. M., with a strong wind from the south-east then blowing. The appearance of the Turkey Vulture at Chicago and vicinity is of such rare occurrence that records of this kind seem well worth mentioning. During a residence of many years in this section, these are the first positively noticed by the author.

BALD EAGLE. — Another rare transient hereabouts is the Bald Eagle. With seemingly good fortune, I also had the opportunity of meeting with some of these birds later in the same month, or late on the afternoon of April 28. On board the cars again, as I have previously said, the train having but just passed through Melrose Park, or at a point a few miles beyond the western limits of the city, when looking out of the window on my left, a large brown bird was noticed, which evidently had but just arisen from the ground. A Crow was in close pursuit, and, with the fine, white head of the bird showing out with such a decided and pleasing contrast, it was easily distinguished as a fine adult specimen of *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*. Aside from its rarity here, the late date of its appearance in this section also strikes one as being quite unusual. These two occurrences appear worthy of record.—BENJ. T. GAULT, *Glen Ellyn, Ills.*

OBERLIN NOTES.—THE MIGRATIONS.—The migrations have developed some interesting features, largely due to the unusual weather which prevailed during the greater part of March. Snow covered the ground, and cold northerly winds prevailed during the month up to the 28th, when a decidedly warm wave carried the snow away. Slight movements of a few species had occurred late in February. About ten migrating Crows were seen on the 24th. Killdeers were heard on the evening of the 27th, and two Bluebirds came into town on the 29th. Several of the resident species gave evidence of approaching spring during the warm days of late February. Robins, Bronzed Grackles and Meadowlarks braved the cold weather and made their appearance on the 5th, 9th and 15th of March

respectively, but no other movements of any kind occurred during the month until the 27th, when a Mourning Dove formed the vanguard of the first real "wave" of the season of 1896. Killdeers, Bluebirds and Towhees followed the next day, besides migrating individuals of many of the resident species. On the 30th, Phoebe, Rusty Grackle, and Field, Fox, and Vesper Sparrows arrived, followed on April 1 by Cowbird, Marsh Blackbird, Belted Kingfisher, Loggerhead Shrike, Great Blue Heron, Wilson's Snipe, Redhead Duck, Pintail, and Junco. From this on to the middle of May the migrations were a series of waves extending over three or four days, with intervening periods of quiet, these usually lasting for about six days. The last decided movement occurred during the last four days of April, when twenty-two species arrived. Thus it will be seen that almost the whole of the spring migration occurred between March 27 and April 30. Under normal conditions the movement would begin late in February and end the second week in May.

SOME RARE BIRDS.—PINE GROSBEAKS were seen on April 1, in the river bottoms.

CANADIAN WARBLER arrived on April 28, when four males in high color were seen on the College Campus.

ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER.—The second one for the county was taken on April 30. It was a male in full song.

TURKEY VULTURE.—It was with some surprise that I noticed in the A. O. U. Revised Check List that the northern range of the Turkey Vulture is the Ohio Valley, and with no less surprise that the Michigan state list also gives it as "very rare." During six years residence in Oberlin I have always found it as common as any of our large *Falconidae*. One or more are seen nearly every day during the warmer part of the year, while a trip into the country, or a run to Lake Erie will reveal several. Small companies of them are occasionally seen near the lake in spring and autumn. No nests have been found, but the birds certainly breed in the county. At Grinnell, Iowa, a pair nested in a hollow stump year after year, until the stump was destroyed.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT.—Until the present year, but a single individual of this species has been recorded at Oberlin each season. During the first week in July the writer had occasion to make several trips to Lake Erie at a point sixteen miles from Oberlin. No less than six pairs of Chats were seen in the bramble copses near the road, all in full song. There is but one pair in the vicinity of Oberlin this season, as heretofore. It seems very probable that the Chats are more numerous in Lorain County than has been supposed.

HORNED LARK.—On April 8, 1895, a female Horned Lark (*Otocoris alpestris*) was taken in a field near Oberlin. The condition of its ovaries and plumage gave unmistakable evidence that the bird was sitting. A pair taken on March 16, 1896, proved to be *pratricula*. Other specimens in the College Museum also indicate that in northern Ohio the breeding range of *alpestris* and of *pratricula* overlap. No specimens of *pratricula* have yet been taken in December and January, nor early February, which would indicate that its winter range is considerably south of this point. It is unfortunate that the two forms are so nearly alike that they cannot be distinguished with certainty in the field.—LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

THE WORK OF COMMITTEES.

As the nesting season closes and the autumn draws on, we need to remind ourselves that committees on special investigation are waiting for the notes collected during the spring and summer. It is not only the new facts which may have been learned that will be valuable material for these committees, but the notes on usual habits will be just as valuable, and as highly appreciated. The important thing is to send in your notes. Mr. J. E. Dickinson, 1122 S. Winnebago St., Rockford, Ill., will receive notes on Migration; Mr. H. C. Higgins, Cincinnati, N. Y., on Nesting; Mr. Howard P. Mitchell, Mt. Sterling, Wis., on Nestling Down; Mr. Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Pa., on the Flicker; Mr. Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio, on Food and Song; Mr. Stephen J. Adams, Cornish, Me., on Swallows. The greater the mass of notes to be worked over the more accurate will be the final report. Do not allow yourself to delay sending your notes to these committees until they are forgotten, but send at once and so help to bring about a speedy final report.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

If you change your address do not fail to notify the editor at once. Or if you have not been receiving the BULLETIN regularly do not fail to send your full address at once. Several members, whose addresses had been changed without notifying the Editor of the change, have complained that they did not receive the BULLETIN.