

very loath to abandon his old home. A marsh where several nested was burned over last April without driving them away. Although there were two or three females nesting there at the same time, there was only one male—in fact, there never has been more than one.

**American Goldfinch (*Spinus tristis*).**—In 1901 two rows of sunflower seeds were sown in my orchard. In consequence, that summer I found five inhabited Goldfinches' nests there, and several empty ones that had been used that season, while flocks of Goldfinches were to be seen everywhere. Last year no sunflowers were planted, and the result was that I found only one Goldfinch's nest; nor do I believe that there were any others in the neighborhood.

**Warbling Vireo (*Vireo gilvus*).**—On June 3rd, 1901, I was attracted to the nest of a Warbling Vireo by the singing of its owner, which was at that moment sitting on its eggs. I do not know of any other bird which sings while incubating.

**Golden-winged Warbler (*Helminthopila chrysoptera*).**—Rhinebeck, N. Y., is one of the places which is graced with the presence of this beautiful little bird, which apparently is uncommon except in certain restricted localities. Every year it comes to two small wooded swamps on my place, during the first ten days in May, and remains till about the middle of August. I have only succeeded so far in finding one nest, which was on the ground and contained two young warblers and a young Cowbird. They were all ready to fly, so I could not try to photograph their parents, which were very shy, and would not lead me to the nest for a long time. The nest was built of grape-vine bark, and dead oak leaves, and lined with finer grass, all of a uniform dark brown.

M. S. CROSBY.

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#### MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD INCREASING IN BOULDER, COLO.

It may interest the readers of the Bulletin to learn that the Mountain Bluebird (*Sialia arctica*) is increasing in numbers each year in this locality. This spring they are so numerous as to attract the attention of many people who had apparently never noticed them before, and during heavy snowstorms from March 12 to March 23, they congregated in enormous flocks, dispersing as soon as the snow began to melt away after each storm. I believe the flocking was due partly to the fact that the storms drove many birds from the foothills, partly to the fact that unusually deep snow in the mountains prevented the birds from entering as early as usual, but chiefly to the fact that they were forced to favored localities for food during the storms. Certain large trees were filled with the birds, which seemed to be busily feeding among the burst-

ing buds, and large numbers gathered about the small hummocks in swampy places, where the presence of open water seemed to cause the snow to melt as rapidly as it fell, leaving the hummocks bare.

JUNIUS HENDERSON.

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**Unusual Birds at Oberlin, O.**—During the unusually tardy migration season just closed there have been several notable occurrences at Oberlin. It is not easy to account for these, since some of them are of birds of more southern distribution. Possibly the lateness of the migrations resulted in an unusually strong current of migration when it did begin, and that current carried these southern birds with it north of their usual range.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (*Ereunetes pusillus*).—May 16. Not before noted in spring.

Semipalmated Plover (*Ægialitis semipalmata*).—May 14, 16, 19. Seldom seen in spring.

Sanderling (*Calidris arenaria*).—May 19. Generally not present in spring.

Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*).—May 14. Only one other county record.

Hooded Warbler (*Sylvania mitrata*).—Only one other county record.

Kentucky Warbler (*Geothlypis formosa*).—May 12. The first specimen captured in the county. There have been three other reports of occurrence, but no other captures.

Brewster Warbler (*Helminthophila leucobronchialis*).—See article on another page.

There were some unusual occurrences earlier in the season.

Old-squaw (*Harelda hyemalis*).—March 11 and 12. Oberlin water-works reservoir. A male and female in full breeding plumage.

Canvas-back (*Aythya vallisneria*).—March 13 to 18. A flock of four males and one female were present for six successive days on the water-works reservoir, and apparently spent the night as well as the day on the water.

Loon (*Gavia imber*).—April 17 to 22. A male in full breeding plumage occupied the Oberlin water works reservoir for six successive days. For three days he practiced trying to rise high enough to clear the dwelling houses which nearly surrounded him, loudly calling after each failure. He finally cleared the dwellings, and was last seen heading for lake Erie.

LYNDS JONES.