

on the side of a hill. I was returning home in the evening, after a day spent in the woods, and in crossing this field I stepped entirely over the nest before the old bird fluttered out and took refuge in a brier clump. The eggs, four in number, were fresh, and are rather heavily marked, the blotches forming a solid wreath around the larger ends of three and a mottled cap on the fourth; the colors being vinaceous-cinnamon, vinaceous, lavender, heliotrope purple, and burnt sienna—the first predominating. Elliptical-ovate in shape, and measure .78x.58, .79x.58, .79x.60, and .78x.57 inch.

The last nest found by me was on July 21, 1903, and like others, was stumbled upon quite accidentally. I was out berry-picking with my nephew and some of his young friends, when one of the party called my attention to a bird he had just flushed at his feet. Seeing it was a Yellow-winged Sparrow, I began a search for its nest, and soon found it quite near to where the boy was standing. It was composed wholly of grass and was placed in a depression five inches deep. It contained four eggs in which embryos were beginning to form. The same description of coloring given for the last will answer for this set, except that the mottled cap is lacking. They are also slightly more pointed than the last. Size: .81x.61, .81x.62, .80x.60, and .78x.61 inch.

Taking the dates into consideration, this bird probably raises but one brood in this part of its range, and its nesting period extends throughout June and July, with care of young sometimes reaching into August.

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### SOME NOTES ON MICHIGAN WARBLERS.

BY J. CLAIRE WOOD.

There is a certain piece of thick woods here covering about twenty acres of ground. Its exact location is Private Claim 49, Ecore township, Wayne county. The more dense portions are free of undergrowth, but in places the forest floor is concealed by the thickest kind of brush tangle. Elm, red oak, maple, beech, butternut, chestnut and sycamore abound in the order named. A luxuriant growth of wild grape vines is a characteristic feature of the butternut section and near the

easterly end is a second growth of paw paw trees while beyond the easterly margin lie low swampy bush lands with openings grown to marsh grass. The woods is long and narrow and divided its entire length by a county drain six feet deep and twenty broad at the top. As no other timber of a similar nature exists in the neighborhood this is a favorite resting place and resort for the woodland migrants.

For the purpose of ascertaining the approximate time of departure and relative abundance of the late warblers I devoted what days I could spare to this woods and worked it so thoroughly that it is doubtful if any species escaped notice. October 23 was the last day I searched this woods, but the warblers were gone except the Myrtle and one Northern Yellow-throat. As, in the question of identification, the greater importance is attached to specimens secured a \* indicates that one or more were taken on the date to which it is prefixed. The numbers exceeding 25 were estimated, but all less than that were counted.

1904	Sept. 25	Sept. 28	Oct. 2	Oct. 6	Oct. 16
Black and White Warbler .....	*1		*1		
Nashville Warbler .....		*1			
Western Parula Warbler .....		*12			
Black-throated Blue Warbler .....	*6		*15	*3	
Myrtle Warbler .....		*6	*24	*6	*125
Bay-breasted Warbler .....	*7	*6	*3		3
Black-poll Warbler .....	*3	*125	*3		*3
Blackburnian Warbler .....	*2				
Black-throated Green Warbler .....	*3	*1	*75		
Connecticut Warbler .....				*1	
Mourning Warbler .....	1			1	
Northern Yellow-throat .....			*3		
American Redstart .....	*2	6	*2		
Oven-bird .....	15	7			
Water-Thrush .....	1				

Two Rose-breasted Grosbeaks\* were noted on the 25th. A few Olive-backed and about 50 Grey-cheeked Thrushes were observed on the 28th. Green-crested Flycatchers\* were last seen on the 2d; also Catbirds, Red-eyed Vireos\* and Scarlet Tanagers.\* The Blue-headed Vireos were common inclusive of the 2d. but only one on the 6th. Last Yellow-billed Cuckoo on latter date.

About three o'clock one foggy morning early in September, 1887, large numbers of the Myrtle Warblers were congregated about the electric light tower at the corner of Woodward and

Adams avenues of this city. There were also smaller numbers at the next tower but, although they appeared to fly against the glass, none were injured. At the other tower, however, the birds kept falling at the rate of about one per minute. I returned at eight o'clock and started to count the dead but soon give it up. It is sufficient to say that there were five or six bushels of them. They were all Myrtles with the exception of one Field Sparrow.

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#### SOME APRIL AND MAY WORK SUGGESTED.

During the season of migration we are so occupied with the movements of the birds northward that we generally forget that there are other sides to bird study. When do the different species of birds begin to build their nests? How long does it take a pair to complete a nest? Are the eggs deposited on successive days? How long is the period of incubation? Do both birds take part in the incubation, or does one sit continuously while the other feeds her, or how is it? How rapidly do the young grow, and when do they leave the nest? When do the feathers first appear, and how are the downs attached to them? Do the birds use the old nest a second time, and if so do they remodel it, clean it, or use it as the young left it? How do the old birds feed the young during the first few days after hatching? These, and a host of other questions can be answered by anybody who can and is willing to give some time to watching nests that may be so placed that they can be seen at close range. Have an eye to your immediate surroundings in addition to specially favored places where you love to go. Prove that the slur often aimed at amateur field work is not applicable in your case at least. Such work needs to be done.