

I recorded my experience with Dickcissel in Wayne county. I have recently corresponded with Mr. James B. Purdy, of Plymouth, and quote that portion of his letter relating to this species which, I believe, completes our knowledge of the bird in the county. Mr. Purdy says: "They made their first appearance here in May, 1891; at least this is the first time I saw them. The three pairs were located in a clover field on the east side of the P. M. R. R. track, where the Plymouth railroad yards now stand. I watched them, located their nests, and collected two sets of eggs—one of four and the other of five fresh eggs—on June 1, 1891. The nests were situated about midway between the ground and clover tops and were hidden from view. Since then I have seen them some years and some years they have diminished rather than increased in numbers." J. CLAIRE WOOD.

ANOTHER PROVIDENT MELANERPES ERYTHROCEPHALUS.—The Red-headed Woodpecker is not an uncommon summer resident in this locality, but does not remain in winter. That he should spend the greater part of a May day laying by a stock of provisions is unusual. On the morning of May 22, 1907, a neighbor, planning to be from home all day, gave her chickens a liberal supply of food. About ten o'clock an observer saw one of these woodpeckers fly several times to the ground among the chickens, then he flew to a fence-post, carrying something in his bill. An examination of the post revealed the nature of his hoard. Inside the loosened bark he had placed bits of bread, corn-meal mush, and kernels of corn. Other onlookers saw the bird many times during the day carry away the chickens' food, and hide it in various places. ALTHEA R. SHERMAN.

Redpoll (*Acanthis linaria*) in Ecorse township, Wayne county, Mich.—An event of the season 1906 was the appearance of this bird in Ecorse township and vicinity, in territory which I have hunted over during the last sixteen years without seeing a single representative of the species. The first seen were a flock of four, October 31, and from that time small flocks of from four to eight were seen on all trips until I ceased to visit the locality in late November. I was in another portion of the township January 11, 1907, and saw a flock of about thirty. They were in a small field of weeds beside a school house in the village of Ford.

The Purple Finch was also unusually common, first appearing September 9, and last seen October 16. J. CLAIRE WOOD.

SOME NOTES ON THE BALD EAGLE IN WINTER NEAR NEW YORK CITY.—In severe winters like the past one the Bald Eagle is a common bird in the Hudson River Valley near New York City. They come down the river upon large ice-floes, and when they reach the north-

ern limit of ferry traffic they fly up-stream again. If there is no ice in the river no eagles are likely to be seen. Ebb tide is also necessary to bring them down. Occasionally they perch upon the cliffs of the Palisades on the New Jersey shore of the river. They have also been reported as flying over the city.

It is interesting to notice the actions of the Herring Gulls, abundant in the river all winter, in the presence of Eagles. They do not mind young Eagles at all, but if an adult bird comes close they scatter to all points of the compass. Probably only old birds attack and rob them, the young not being courageous enough for that. Immature birds predominated this past winter. Of the six or seven seen by the writer on two trips along the Palisades, only one was an adult. February is the month in which they occur in the largest numbers.

GEORGE E. HITZ.

NOTES FROM BERWYN, PA.

*Seiurus motacilla*.—Louisiana Water Thrush. On May 6, 1906, I observed a pair one mile from Berwyn in a rather extensive and well-watered tract of woods, and they gave evidence of a present or future nest. With metallic "chucks," wagging tails and quick dashes back and forth over the creek, they kept me busy catching a focus.

*Chatura pelagica*.—Chimney Swift. On the evening of the 1st of June I took one of these birds out of my office stove, where it had been for several hours, arriving via the short brick chimney and stove-pipe, which has two elbows. I had heard it fluttering in some part of the pipe during the morning and rescued it about 7:30 p. m. After it had been liberated, it returned within ten minutes and was down to the grate by the next morning. It was again heard fluttering in the chimney on the evening of the 3d, but I was so busy that the matter did not reoccur to me until the next evening, when I found it in the grate, exhausted and one eye glued tight shut with soot. I washed it open with lukewarm water and once more tossed it up in the open air; it flew a few yards, but I am afraid it came to the ground beyond the hedge; at any rate I saw it no more. It doubtless had been seeking a place to nest.

*Helodromas solitarius*.—Solitary Sandpiper. A boy showed me a female of this species which he had shot August 8th. He had aimed his rifle at the body of the bird, while it was feeding in the shallow creek, and it had raised its head in time to catch the over-shot bullet in the neck, almost beheading it. The date is very early for this locality.

FRANK L. BURNS.

RING-BILLED GULL.

The Ring-billed Gull has recently been the subject of remark by several observers in Ohio and Michigan. These remarks have taken