

Snowy Owls in surrounding territory; so present indications are that this winter will be a most interesting one from an ornithological standpoint, and it will be well to keep sharp eyes open during the coming months for our rare winter visitors.

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### BIRD NOTES FROM MIDDLE WESTERN OHIO.

BY W. F. HENNINGER.

Some of the observations made during 1908 at New Bremen, Ohio, in the region between the Grand and the Loramie Reservoirs, also including some field work at these Reservoirs are of more than local importance and as my pastoral work carries me over approximately 50 square miles they are certainly typical of the entire region.

On February 5th, after a funeral I met a flock of some 20 to 25 Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus*) in company with some Prairie Horned Larks on small knolls in fields covered entirely with slushy snow.

Migration started in briskly on February 28 up till March 11th, then it seemed to be checked till March 24th, the Purple Martin not showing up till April 1st. This continued till April 26th. April 24th bringing the Wood Thrush, and the Baltimore Oriole, April 25th the Scarlet Tanager, the 26th the Yellow Warbler and the American Redstart. Two weeks of rain and cold weather set in with the evening of April 26th. Some of the earlier birds, however, were nesting by this time.

April 27th a fine set of five eggs of *Accipiter cooperi* were taken out of a nest 40 feet up in a pin oak, 3½ miles east of New Bremen in Shelby County. At the same place a small heronry of some 10 to 12 nests of the Great Blue Heron was found with the old ones already on their nests. The same date showed a Bluebird's nest with 2 young and a Killdeer's nest with 4 young just out of the shells. A Blue Jay's nest with six fresh eggs was found on the next day, but the little Field Sparrow did not have its full complement of four eggs till May 12. In spite of the bad weather migrants continued to arrive, the most interesting ones being the Savannah Sparrow on May 6th, and the Cape May Warbler on May 11th. May 14th

proved a record breaker as the list in the June Number of the Wilson Bulletin shows a total record of 133 species seen, this being perhaps the best inland record ever made on a single day. On May 28th a heavily incubated set of four Woodcock's eggs was brought to me, found  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles northwest of town in a damp woods. Farther investigations show that the Woodcock, while certainly not a common bird is far from being threatened with extermination in this region as well as at Tiffin, my former residence. It has been rather common this fall, the last specimen was shot and brought to me on October 27th.

The Summer observations, which were but few as the writer was kept very busy with his professional duties, nevertheless enabled me to find the Coot and Pied-billed Grebe present in some numbers on the Grand Reservoir, and future observations may prove them breeders. Inquiry also showed that two specimens of the Snowy Owl, one of the Barn Owl and one of the White Pelican (mounted in St. Marys) had been taken in former years.

The Fall migration was slow, the birds lingering long, owing to the beautiful weather. On October 1st, quite a flight of Hawks occurred, the Marsh Hawk coming in in great numbers. The same date marked the disappearance of Bewick's Wren, which is rare here and apparently not yet a resident. October 8th brought the last Yellowbilled Cuckoo and Blackthroated Green Warblers. October 23rd a solitary Gadwall was found on the Grand Reservoir, as also a number of waders, Yellow legs, Greater Yellowlegs one Ruddy Turnstone and six American Golden Plovers, quite a record for the state. This record was confirmed when on October 28th I received in the flesh a pair of American Golden Plovers, a pair of Wilson's Snipe, a Baird's Sandpiper, all shot the previous day at the Loramie Reservoir in Shelby County, thus authentically proving that the Golden Plover still crosses Ohio in some numbers during the fall migration. On May 14th, one Kirtland's Warbler was seen, but it could unfortunately not be shot. On the same day a Longbilled Marsh Wren was shot at its nest, a typical specimen and evidently the breeding form, *iliacus* not coming into

the State of Ohio. A specimen of the Short-billed Marsh Wren was caught alive on September 20th in town, the bird being stunned from flying against the large window pane of a barber shop.

The Wood Duck, while fairly rare, was found to breed in several pairs throughout this region. The Prothonotary Warbler was seen on May 14th at the Grand Reservoir but a breeding record could not be established so far. Future observations may have some more surprises in store.

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### OHIO RECORDS.

LYNDS JONES.

In recording the addition of a species to the list of Ohio birds it is in place to call attention to what now appears to be an unmistakable occurrence of a Brant in the state. The new record is:

SURF SCOTER.—*Oidemia perspicillata* (Linn.). This is given as No. 8 in the Hypothetical list of my Catalogue, and should now be placed on page 47 just preceding No. 50. The circumstances of capture are furnished me by Mr. E. J. Arrick, of McConnellsville, Morgan Co., who sent me a skin for identification. Two birds were discovered on the Muskingum river below McConnellsville, and both birds were captured on October 20, by Byron Barnes and Edwin Tannehill. The sex was not determined. This capture confirms suspicions that this species occurs within the state but is generally not recognized among those with somewhat similar plumage.

On page 226 of the same Catalogue *Branta bernicla* is recorded among the hypothetical records because no specimens had been secured, although the species had been reported as observed by Dr. Kirtland. Now that the White-bellied form has been eliminated there is more reason to include the species among Ohio birds, especially since there has been added to the observations two others. That of the writer and Mr. W. L. Dawson, on the Licking Reservoir on May 30, 1902, as re-