

BARN OWL IN DEFIANCE COUNTY, O.—The 29th of September there was brought to my office for identification a beautiful specimen of the Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola* Bonap).

It was caught a few miles east of this city, and is the first owl of this species reported in this region. It was seen by many people, and all were much interested in it as a new bird here.

CHAS. SLOCUM, *Defiance, O.*

EARLY WINTER CONDITIONS IN NORTHERN OHIO.—A cold storm with little snow but much rain, beginning October 21 and lasting four days, resulted in establishing winter conditions in this section. On October 17, during an all-day outing along the lake shore in the vicinity of Cedar Point, easterly, a list of sixty species was recorded, thirty-six of them being transient birds. Among this thirty-six were such usually early migrants as Vesper, Chipping, Field, White-crowned, White-throated, and Swamp Sparrows; Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Sora, Long-billed and Short-billed Marsh Wrens, Blue-headed and Warbling Vireos; Hermit Thrush, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Spotted Sandpiper, Catbird, Tree Swallow; Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, and Cape May Warblers; Redstart, Least Bittern, and others which tarry longer sometimes. The place where these birds were found was peculiarly favorable for weathering such storms as we had experienced up to that time, for cover was good, and food was abundant. Often winter conditions are delayed until late in November, but there is seldom such a list of birds immediately preceding the change. Instead of a gradual lessening of numbers it was a case of sudden disappearance between two days.

LYNDS JONES, *Oberlin, Ohio.*

THE PROTHONOTARY WARBLER AT THE LEWISTON RESERVOIR.—The Lewiston Reservoir is located in Logan County, Ohio, about fifteen miles northwest of Bellefontaine. On the statute books of the State it is known as Indian Lake, but really only a small part of the Lewiston Reservoir is known to hunters and fishermen as Indian Lake. Like the Loramie Reservoir and the St. Mary's or Grand Reservoir, it is located near the summit level of the State, and also like them was constructed as a feeder for the Miami and Erie Canal. The Lewiston Reservoir is the second largest artificial body of water in the State,—the St. Mary's Reservoir being the largest. For the sportsmen of central and western Ohio it has great attraction on account of its fish and water-fowl in season. To the bird-student it is equally attractive because it furnishes ideal nesting places for water-loving and marsh-loving birds, such as Long-billed Marsh Wrens, Red-winged Blackbirds, Florida Gallinules, King Rails, Virginia Rails, Sora Rails, etc., besides furnishing a spring

and fall stopping place for many migrants that nest farther north, such as ducks, coots, loons, snipes, sandpipers, etc.

In looking over "The Birds of Ohio," by Lynds Jones, I noticed the statement that the Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea* Bodd.) "was not found at Lewiston reservoir in spite of the fact that breeding places seemed plentiful." Just when the trip here referred to was made is not stated, but it was certainly made before the publication of the Catalogue in 1903. He further states on the authority of Dr. Wheaton that it is a summer resident in the vicinity of the St. Mary's or Grand Reservoir, and that he himself has found it fairly common at the Licking Reservoir.

W. L. Dawson, in his "The Birds of Ohio," gives its range in Ohio, as a "summer resident in restricted localities, such as the Grand and Licking Reservoirs, and the major streams draining into the Ohio." But he does not mention the Lewiston Reservoir.

During the week from July 30 to August 4, 1906, I found it to be very common in the willows overhanging the edges of the Lewiston Reservoir, especially near Russell Point. Although this was after the nesting season, I think that the Prothonotary Warbler very probably nests there.

Professor Jones states in his Catalogue that there is "some indirect evidence that this species is extending its range northward where conditions are favorable." This may account for its presence at the Lewiston Reservoir in 1906, and its absence at the time referred to above.—G. CLYDE FISHER, *DeFuniak Springs, Florida*.

BOOK REVIEWS.

The Birds of New Jersey. By Witmer Stone. Annual Report of the New Jersey State Museum, 1908 [1909]. Our sister state on the other side of the Delaware has evidently profited by our mistake. Instead of an immensely costly compilation bristling with unauthenticated statements and borrowed facts, illuminated by a number of colored plates to fool and flatter the Pennsylvania farmer; we have here a modest, readable text-book and treatise on the birds of New Jersey, designed particularly for the public schools and libraries, containing well authenticated facts and records, by a recognized authority, and supplemented by eighty-four uncolored plates of birds selected from the best of Wilson, Audubon, Fuertes, and Horsfall.

The chapters on the destruction and protection of our birds, and distribution and migration, are followed by a key for the identification of New Jersey birds and the enumeration, brief description, remarks on the abundance, etc., of 356 species and subspecies. The