

Field Notes

A BALTIMORE ORIOLE IN WINTER.

On January 15th, 1913, I observed a male Baltimore Oriole in first year plumage, at the home of H. D. Rymer, a farmer, living near Columbiana, Ohio.

The Oriole first appeared a few days before Christmas, and has been feeding there regularly ever since. While I was observing him, he went from the suet to an orchard, where he was eating apples that remained on the trees. Mr. Rymer informs me that when it first appeared its feathers were ruffled, and it did not seem to be in nearly as good condition as at the present time. I am inclined to think the bird was disabled at migration time and could not leave for its usual winter home with the other migrants. I judge this from the fact that its left wing appeared to be about an inch lower than the right when the bird was perching with the wings folded to his body.—Geo. L. Fordyce, Youngstown, Ohio.

CHRISTMAS TOWHEES NEAR STEUBENVILLE, OHIO.

A flock of fifteen or twenty Towhees, consisting of both males and females, was observed on December 26, 1912, about four miles south of Steubenville, in West Virginia. There was several inches of snow on the ground, temperature about 60, with a bright sun. The Towhees were seen about 11:30 in the morning.

KENYON ROPER.

Steubenville, Ohio.

UNUSUAL RECORDS FOR HURON, OHIO.

Robins, Bluebirds, and Meadowlarks have been seen all during January. Red-winged Blackbirds were seen December 28, also two Snow Buntings, Rusty Blackbirds during December and on January 1 and 5. Two Red-headed Woodpeckers have remained in the region all winter. On January 19 I found a Myrtle Warbler and a White-throated Sparrow with a flock of Tree Sparrows just east of Rye Beach. An Old-squaw Duck was found in the lake on February 2.

II. G. MORSE.

Huron, Ohio.

THE MOCKINGBIRD IN CAMBRIDGE, OHIO.

Two strange birds appeared in our town the evening of September 1st. As Mockingbirds had never before been reported from this locality, we were puzzled, at first sight, to name them. The shape

immediately suggested "Brown Thrasher Family," and when the white banners in wings and tail were spread in flight the identification was perfect. A friend, who was familiar with them, both in the South and in California, verified our "find." They were in and around the lawn for a month. Numbers of Blue Jays were with us at the time, and the Mockers would give the harsh scream of the Blue Jay so perfectly, that unless seeing the bird, we would be unable to distinguish the real from the mimicry. This, aside from the shrill call note, was the only sound we knew them to make. Brown Thrashers are very common in this locality.

MRS. ROBERT T. SCOTT.

SOUTH DAKOTA RECORDS OF SOME EASTERN BIRDS.

The state museum of South Dakota is in an embryonic stage, but it contains a few interesting South Dakota bird skins. A short time ago I went over the collection selecting specimens that promised to be of interest and sent off a number to the U. S. Biological Survey for identification by H. C. Oberholser. Wells W. Cooke, in a recent letter, mentioned some twenty-three as noteworthy extensions of established ranges. The data concerning the records of such western birds has been published in "The Condor." It is here desired to submit that on certain eastern forms whose ranges are extended westward hereby. Specimens from Menno were collected by E. H. Sweet. I am responsible for the remaining.

Hairy Woodpecker (*Dryobates v. villosus*).—Menno, Hutchinson County, Southeast-central S. D., August 2. The supposition has been that the Hairys were of the northern variety.

Alder Flycatcher (*Empidonax traillii alorum*).—Forestburg, Sanborn County, Southeast-central S. D., August 10; Everts, Dewey County, Northwest-central S. D., August 6. The most common small flycatcher of eastern South Dakota.

Savannah Sparrow (*Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*).—Vermilion, Clay County, April? A migrant.

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes g. grammacus*).—Hutchinson County, June 21. A common summer resident.

Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*).—Hutchinson County, May? A rare or accidental migrant.

Winter Wren (*Tannus h. hiemalis*).—Hutchinson County, April 14. A rare migrant.

White-breasted Nuthatch (*Sitta c. carolinensis*).—Menno, Hutchinson County, February 15.

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