

by the bird's saliva and fastened to the wood by the same material. Within the nest were four callow young, about half grown. This was on July 20. The nest was about fourteen feet from the ground.

So unique a discovery afforded us rare pleasure. Such experiences far more than compensate one for any incidental discomforts of such a trip.

MANLEY B. TOWNSEND.

Nashua, N. H.

BACHMAN'S SPARROW AT CHICAGO.

Bachman's Sparrow (*Peucaea aestivalis bachmani*) is, like the Chewink, Cardinal, Carolina Wren and several others, a species that is gradually from year to year extending its breeding range northward. The largest jump in this extension, if not in fact, at least in record, is to be chronicled from this neighborhood. The exact locality where it turned up here is "Waller's Park," in the northern part of the village of River Forest, which is described more in detail elsewhere in the "Bulletin." Our post office is Oak Park, that better known suburb of Chicago; hence, when speaking to strangers our place of residence is Oak Park, the better known of the two; but to such somewhat familiar with local conditions, we say River Forest. While looking for warblers and other migrants in this charming spot on May 9th last I suddenly heard a loud, melodious song in the southern part of the park, where there are many larger oaks. It seemed new, and yet it struck a responsive chord in the memory. At first I wanted to dismiss it with the thought, as I had done several years previously in Edwards County, southern Illinois, that it was an unusual loud and melodious Field Sparrow or an unusually musical Chewink singing. Then memory seemed to make an unconsciously stronger effort and I said to myself, that is none other than Bachman's Sparrow. Now for the verifying! Glass in hand I sneaked to the place whence the sound came, and I saw that there were about ten individuals of what were undoubtedly a species of sparrow, but unlike any we have here as migrants or summer residents. They acted as though very much at home and enjoying the place; they were mostly on the grass-covered ground, feeding, but as if moved by an irresistible exuberance of spirit they would in turn, first one, then another, mount up into the lowest branches of the trees and sing their song, then descend again. Nor did they seem wary or afraid, and this gave me an opportunity to watch them at close quarters. They were a chubby sort of a finch, of about the size of the Song Sparrow, with decided reddish brown upper parts and a suffusion of yellowish or buff on the unstreaked underparts. Bill and feet were also pinkish,

if memory serves me right, thus completing the picture of a larger and chubbier and louder edition of the Field Sparrow. There was no mistaking, the incidents and scenes of my first meeting with them four years previously near Browns, Illinois, were too indelibly impressed in the memory. A look at several skins of this species in my collection, when I had come home, added an unnecessary confirmation to the identification.

Thinking that this little batch of *Peucaea* had by the ardor and excitement of migration been carried further north than they had intended, in the companionship of White-throats and others, and would retrace their way south again for a hundred miles or so, to the latitude which, according to latest reports, formed the northern limits of their breeding range in this state, I did not visit the spot the next day. Therefore I was much surprised when on happening that way again on the 12th of May, I found them still in the same place. Later, they seem to have scattered in pairs, two or three of which at least remained in the park, where they had been first seen, as I got glimpses of what seemed to be one of them several times later in May and in June. During the last days of the latter month, two or three were heard singing lustily in a rather open grove across the street from my house, and here, to make the record indisputable, I took one on July 1st. It proved a male, the sexual organs of which showed breeding. Thus it seems that this more or less Carolinian species must now be counted a member of the avifauna of the Chicago area.

G. EIFRIG.

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SONG SPARROW, TIRUSII, AND OWL NOTES.

While on a collecting trip in Virginia, during the middle of July of this year, Mrs. Shufeldt captured a young Song Sparrow (*Melospiza m. melodia*), which apparently had very recently left the nest. I placed it in a comfortable cage until such a time as I could arrange to photograph it. This came about in a few days, during which period the bird fed readily on hard-boiled egg, bread, and water, and a few meal worms. It was remarkable how rapidly it developed and grew, and still more surprising how fond it became of meal worms.

An interesting point appeared with respect to its plumage; for, while this was apparently entirely normal, the *proximal third* of all the tail feathers came out pure white, and that portion of the tail is that way at the present writing. The bird appears almost like another species; and if it be a case of partial albinism, it is a very