

This, then, makes four stations at which breeding birds have been located in the county in one summer, that I know of. I consider this a good showing for a county that is far beyond this bird's regular breeding range.

H. W. WEISGERBER.

OCCURRENCE OF *Elanoides forficatus*, SWALLOW-TAILED KITE
AND *Ictinia mississippiensis*, MISSISSIPPI KITE
IN WAKULLA COUNTY, FLA.

BOTH of these species seem to be regular summer residents in the vicinity of St. Marks. *E. forficatus*, while perhaps more regular has not been observed as numerous as *I. mississippiensis*. Last year a pair of Swallow-tails or "Fork-tail Fishing Hawks," in local parlance, nested in the heavy-timbered hammock adjacent to the river two miles above our village. Both old birds were seen from about May 1st and frequently throughout May and June in the same immediate neighborhood, and on July 21 five birds were seen in rather close company. March 11, 1914, is the earliest date noted for their arrival.

Mississippi Kites have never been noted earlier than May 2 (1914), and the latest date is September 10 (1915). Four were seen in company circling over a river marsh May 27, 1912. On May 10, 1914, seven were in company at a small rain-water pond, darting down to the water's edge from small pine trees—presumably catching frogs. August 14, 1915, three were perched near together, but in separate pine trees in high dry pine woods.

During the past two years my notes show six observations on the Swallow-tailed Kite, with twelve individuals seen, and during the same time there were eleven observations on the Mississippi Kite and twenty-two individuals noted.

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MIGRATION OF THE BAY-BREASTED WARBLER AT
YOUNGSTOWN, OHIO.

On August 11th, 1915, we saw three Bay-breasted Warblers, one of which was a male, apparently in full breeding plumage. The next birds of this species were seen August 23d, and after that they became more numerous, until on September 6th we listed them as common. On September 1st one bird was seen which had a sprinkling of brown feathers on its breast, giving it quite a mottled appearance.

After the sixth of September fewer Bay-breasted Warblers were seen, until on September 18th we listed none at all.

From that time on until October 10th, when the last record was made, these birds were quite scarce, one or two at a time being seen about every third day.

There is so much resemblance between the fall birds of the Bay-breasted and Black-poll Warblers and they are both so numerous that a comparison of migration dates is interesting.

Practically all of these birds seen by the writer up to September 6th were Bay-breasts. Then for about two weeks the two species were about equally well represented.

After September 20th the Bay-breasts were scarce, while the Black-polls were numerous. The last Bay-breast was seen October 10th; the last Blackpoll October 19th, though in some years the Blackpolls stay about ten days later than that.

It is therefore probable that the bulk of the Bay-breasts are gone before the main body of Black-polls appear.

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WAS THIS BIRD FIGHTING VERMIN?

SOME time ago, when out for a stroll, I came across an Indigo Bunting going through maneuvers new to me.

I stopped and watched the bird closely. He was on a small mound, bare of vegetation, and perhaps thirty or forty feet from me. He would pick up a mouthful of dirt, stand erect, drop his mouthful on his body, loosen up his feathers and shake himself. This operation was rapidly repeated for a minute or so. He then flew away.

I examined the mound and found it to be an ant-hill. The material was rather fine and compact, and a few small ants were racing across it.

The thought struck me that perhaps the bird was troubled with vermin, as birds often are, and that he was trying to put ants in among his feathers to devour them. I never had heard of anything of the kind, though I had seen birds and fowls wallow in the dust to eradicate vermin, as I supposed.

My curiosity was aroused. I wrote to the Pennsylvania State Zoölogist about it, but gave no intimation as to what I had mistrusted. In a few days a reply came saying he had no solution of the problem; that he had sent my letter to some authority in Philadelphia or Washington, and that the answer gave no light.

Lately, in perusing a copy of Mumford's "Birds and Nature," I saw an article on "The Wild Turkey," by John James Audubon. The article is not dated, but it is doubtless from the pen of the great ornithologist, who died in 1851.