

seldom remains after mid-October. I observed a straggler on January 13, 1940, very active among brush piles and windfalls near a dense cedar swamp on the West Flat Rock trail.

Blue-headed Vireo. *Vireo solitarius*.—This uncommon summer resident is usually seen among jack pines; I noted it on 5 occasions, in jack pines and in mixed hardwood-hemlock stands. On July 9, 1940, in low bushes among maples and hemlocks on the shore of Rush Lake (nearly a mile from the nearest jack pines), I observed an adult feeding 2 young out of the nest. The fledglings were just beginning to fly and were able to perch on low shrubs.

Eastern Cowbird. *Molothrus ater*.—This bird is a rather common summer resident in the Huron Mountains. B. H. Christy noted young Cowbirds out of the nest, and being fed by a Myrtle Warbler, on July 17, 1941; S. M. Pell again observed a Myrtle Warbler feeding young Cowbirds on August 1, 1941.

Greater Redpoll. *Acanthis flammea rostrata*.—One male which I collected at the Oscar Webster homestead on January 30, 1941, was identified by Pierce Brodtkorb as this subspecies.

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THE VERNACULAR NAME OF THE BALTIMORE ORIOLE

Erroneous statements concerning the vernacular name of the Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) have been printed so often in the last half century that it seems worthwhile to assemble the scattered proofs of their errors. Various of the statements appear in such widely circulated works as Mabel Osgood Wright's "Birdcraft," 1895: 172-173; Neltje Blanchan's "Bird Neighbors," 1897: 212; E. H. Forbush's "Birds of Massachusetts," II, 1927: 444; "Birds of America," edited by T. Gilbert Pearson, 1936, II: 260-261, and Malcolm MacDonald's "Birds of Brewery Creek," 1947: 111.

The statements—sometimes presented as tradition, sometimes as fact—are that George Calvert, the first Lord Baltimore, visited Chesapeake Bay in 1628, saw the bird for the first time, and was so pleased by it that he adopted its colors as his own; that colonists who came to Maryland with Cecil Calvert, the second Lord Baltimore, misnamed the bird "oriole"; and that Linnaeus named the species from skins, and named it Baltimore Oriole because its colors were those of the Calverts.

The errors in those stories are shown by historical and ornithological works as follows: A formal "exemplification," or statement, of the Calvert family coat of arms was issued in England in 1622 (1) and this document, a possession of the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore, shows that the Calvert colors had already been established as "or and Sables"—that is, gold and black. It was not until 1625 that George Calvert became the first Lord Baltimore (2) and not until 1629 that he visited the Chesapeake (3). Cecil Calvert never visited America (4). Thus it is certain that the Baltimore colors were not adopted from the bird, and that Cecil has no part in any tradition.

It is as certainly true, on the other hand, that the bird was named after the Baltimore

colors. Linnaeus, however, was not the first person to so name it. Initially, in the tenth edition of "Systema Naturae," 1758, I: 108, he himself named it *Coracias Galbula*. Only in the twelfth edition, 1766, I: 162, did he rename it *Oriolus Baltimore*. Already 100 years before that, the colonists in America were calling it "the Baltimore bird." Nathaniel Shrigley's "A True Relation of Virginia and Maryland," London, 1669 (5), contains a reference (p. 4) to "the Baltenore bird, being black and yellow"—the name there marred by an "n" for an "m"; the Calverts themselves at that period sometimes spelled their title "Baltemore" (6). John Lawson (7), mentions "the Baltimore-Bird, so called from the Lord Baltimore, Proprietor of all Maryland" (p. 152 of reprint). Likewise, Catesby (8) called it the "Baltimore Bird" and explained: "It is said to have its name from the Lord Baltimore's coat of arms." The "Systema Naturae" indicates, and hence the American Ornithologists' Union (9) considers that it was not from skins but from Catesby's book that Linnaeus included the bird in his classification, and from Catesby that he adopted the species designation *Baltimore*.

As for the "oriole" part of the vernacular name, it was the ornithologists, and not the lay colonists, who made this mistake. To the colonists the bird was simply the "Baltimore bird." Catesby, however, giving the first naturalist's description of it in Latin, termed it an *icterus*, which was the Latin name for the birds that Europeans later came to call orioles. Linnaeus, relying on Catesby's description, in 1758 classified it along with the European birds in *Coracias*, and then in 1766 separated this whole group as *Oriolus*. And down to 1785 *Oriolus Baltimore* stayed strictly a technical name. Only in that year, it seems, was this translated into the English "Baltimore Oriole," by Thomas Pennant (10). And only after that name had become firmly attached were our birds discovered to be only superficially like the "true" orioles of Europe.

To sum up, what can be accurately said about the origin of the name "Baltimore Oriole" is that the designation "Baltimore" became attached, because the bird's colors were those of the Calverts, soon after these proprietors began colonizing Maryland (their first colonists landed in 1634; and Shrigley's "True Relation" shows that in 1669 the name was being used). This designation the ornithologists adopted from the colonists. The ornithologists also for a time regarded the bird as congeneric with the European orioles, and before they changed their view the term "oriole" had become fixed in vernacular usage.

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- (3) Scharf, *tom. cit.*, p. 47.
- (4) The Lords Baltimore and the Maryland Palatinate, Hall, 1902: 41.
- (5) Force's Collection of Historical Tracts, Washington, 1844, Vol. 3, No. 7.
- (6) Cf. Calvert Papers, No. 1: 229, 267.
- (7) "A new voyage to Carolina," London 1714, reprinted as "Lawson's History of North Carolina," Richmond, 1937.
- (8) Natural History of Carolina, London, 1731.
- (9) Check-List, Fourth Edition, 1931: 307.
- (10) Arctic Zoology II: 257.

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BIRDS FEEDING ON EUROPEAN CORN BORER IN NEBRASKA

While surveying and collecting European corn borers in the vicinity of corn borer parasite release points in eastern Nebraska during October and November 1948, the writer noted that considerable numbers of infested corn stalks bore typical woodpecker punctures. The first