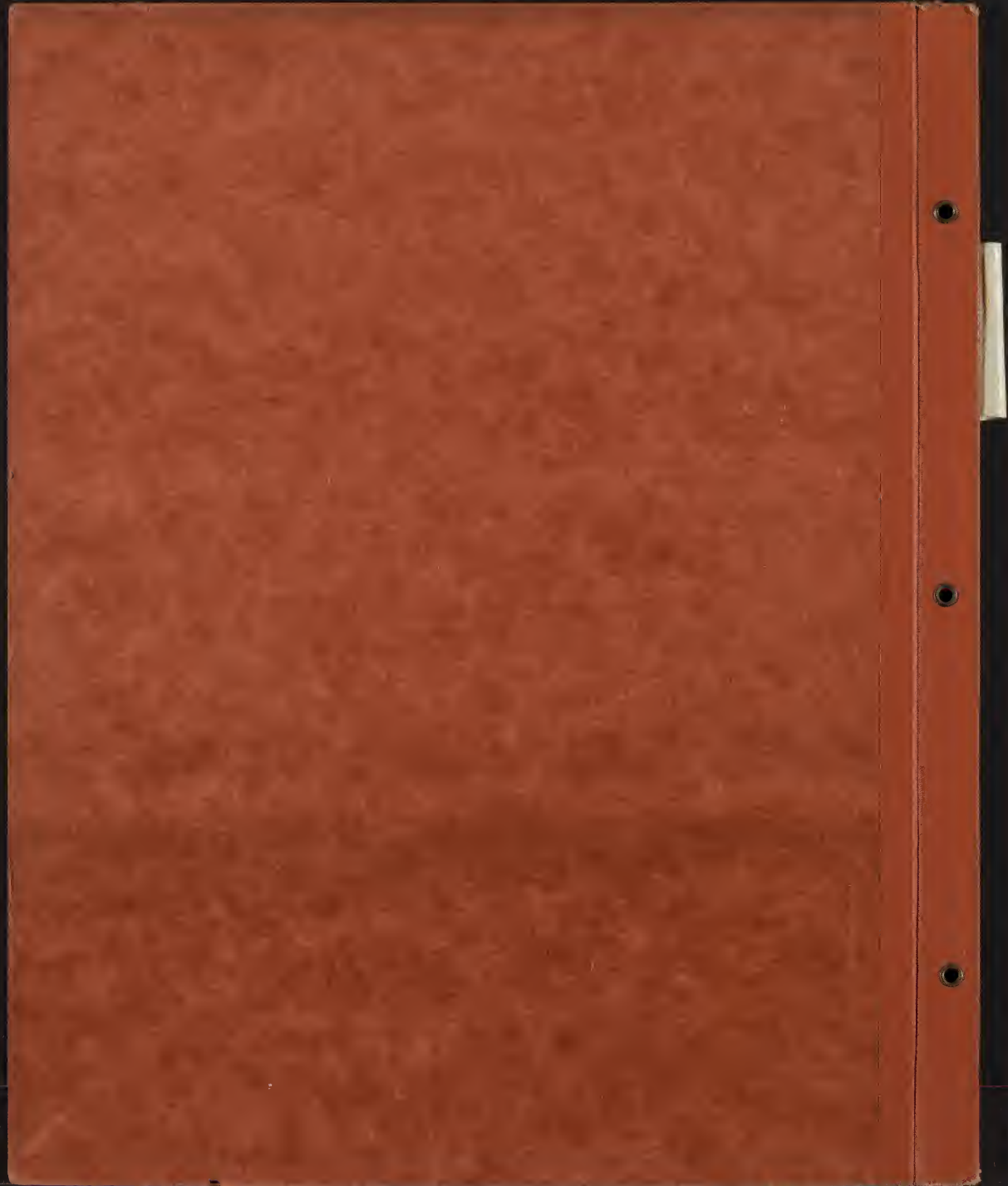


Journal. 1900. (6)
June-Dec.

at
Dec.



Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

June 1

Forenoon sunny & calm, somewhat hazy. After noon
calm & hazy. Ther. 62°-84°

Marginal notes have been checked by
Wm. Brewster in April, 1907.

The Umbagog checked notes I have copied
and inserted into the Umbagog list.

Walter Deane,
May, 1907.

(Field list copied by W. B.)

of the cabin and singing there almost incessantly for
nearly half-an-hour. I cannot recall ever hearing one sing
so freely here before. His voice was as full and his
beak as finished as if he were in the winter woods.

At about seven o'clock this evening a Wood Thrush sang
for several minutes in the woods across the river opposite
Balls Hill.

The Gray-checked Thrush was a large & very dark-colored
bird. I found him in the bushes along the river path
where he flitted on ahead of me keeping to hidden &
at such a distance that I could not get a good view
of him. But when I began walking a low sweeping sound
he stopped and sitting perched on a twig by the side of
the path about six inches above the ground remained
there perfectly motionless until I almost put my hand
on him. Actually I was not more than three or four feet
from him when the shell was finally broken & he flew
away, this time out of sight.

In the afternoon Gilbert & I roused up the line
to Luigi's meadows to get some plants. There Song-billed
Marsh Wrens were singing at these same Refuges & we
heard a fourth as well as two Short-bills in
Luigi's meadows. Botchins appeared to be less numerous

that I could find
a Gray-checked Thrush,
a ♂ Black-poll Warbler
Lincoln's Thrush added
to the rolls just over

North-bound
migrants.
Olive-backed
Thrush in
full song.

Wood Thrush.

Gray-checked
Thrush.

Song &
Short-billed
Marsh Wrens

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

June 1

Forenoon sunny & calm, somewhat hazy. Afternoon cloudy with strong S. W. wind. Evening calm & hazy. Ther. 62°-84°

The only north-bound migrants that I could find at Ball's Hill this morning were a Gray-cheked Thrush, a ♂ Water Thrush in full song and a ♂ Black-poll Warbler also singing. But at evening a Swainson's Thrush added himself to the list by coming into the oaks just west of the cabin and singing there almost unceasingly for nearly half-an-hour. I cannot recall ever hearing one sing so freely here before. His voice was as full and his tone as finished as if he were in the north woods.

North-bound migrants.

Olive-backed Thrush in full song.

At about seven o'clock this evening a Wood Thrush sang for several minutes in the woods across the river opposite Ball's Hill.

Wood Thrush.

The Gray-cheked Thrush was a large & very dark-colored bird. I found him in the bushes along the river path where he flitted on ahead of me keeping so hidden & at such a distance that I could not get a good view of him. But when I began making a low sweeping sound he stopped and sitting perched on a twig by the side of the path about six inches above the ground remained there perfectly motionless until I almost put my hand on him. Actually I was not more than three or four feet from him when the shell was finally broken & he flew away, this time out of sight.

Gray-cheked Thrush.

In the afternoon Gilbert & I roused up the line to Luigi's meadow to get some plants. There Song-billed Nuthatches were singing at Howe Dam Rapids & we heard a number as well as two Short-bills in Luigi's meadow. Both kinds appeared to be less numerous

Song & Short-billed Nuthatches

Concord Mass.

1900

June 1
(no 2.)

than usual but perhaps this was merely because of the cloudy weather & high wind for the bird or eight that we saw were for the most part silent.

Red wings have been positively scarce about Ball's Hill of late but higher up the river we found them in about the usual numbers. They were greatly disturbed & probably with good reason at the presence of three or four Crows which were flying from place to place on the meadows pursued by the excited swarms of Red-wings whose nests they were doubtless seeking.

Most of small birds nests which we have thus far found near Ball's Hill have been robbed of their eggs almost as soon as they were laid. I suspect that the Blue Jays are the culprits for I see them constantly swarming about as if in search of nests. Two came into the tent near the cabin early this morning & apparently inspected a Cat bird's nest with 3 eggs & a Redstart's with 2 but they did not molest either although they alighted for a moment within a foot or two of each. Perhaps they were waiting for the first lot or they may have been conscious of my observation. Both the Cat bird & the Redstart assented or rather fluttered about them with anxious air. I wonder if they really do destroy other birds' eggs to any extent. Something certainly does so here & the Jays themselves seem to suffer as much as any of the other birds. One of their nests which I found at Davis's Hill with the bird sitting was empty two days later & another in the Blackstone woods was raided after the bird had been sitting a week or more.

Ball's Hill.

Bobolinks
scarce.

Red-wings

Blue Jays
robbing(?)
nests of
other birds

Blue Jays
have their
own nests
despoiled

Concord, Mass.

1900

June 1
(No 3)

The most noteworthy incident of the day was
one finding a Coot (Tulcan) in the river. We had
just rounded the bend at the foot of the Holt
when the bird started from the edge of a bed
of half-submerged Canary grass and plunged off
over the water half-swimming, half-flying. As it
passed us within 20 yards I saw its white bill
with absolute distinctness & thus made sure that
it was not a Gallinule. It alighted below us
& when we turned back rose again & flew up
river crossing the meadows to get past us. We
started it a third time just above the head of
the Holt. This time it kept on up river &
was lost to sight behind some bushes near did
we see it again. Some Cadis who called here on
the 30th coming from Concord by canoe, told
us of a "Duck" which started them by "flashing
out of a bed of grass" just ahead of them as
they rounded a bend. Perhaps this bird was
this F. bird. I cannot imagine what it is
doing here at this season. It does in good
plumage with a very black head & neck & it
seemed alert and flew with great vigor after
it got fairly started. Indeed after the first
rise when we no doubt caught it unawares it
kept in open water & was so shy that we
did not again get within very long gunshot.

✓
A Coot
(Fulica)
in the river
at the Holt

The Loons are making an outrageous noise to night.
They began it about dusk when several came down the
hillside past the Cabin squawking long before they reached the water.

Loons
squawking

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900.

June 2

Sunny and cloudy by turns with violent S. W. to W. wind which brought several light showers in the late afternoon. Ther. 68°-82° (76° at 7 P.M.).

The migrations have apparently wholly come to an end. I did not see or hear a single northern bird of any kind to-day and our local breeding species were reduced to their normal summer numbers, for the first time. At Balls Hill they were seen to be less than usual but I will not dwell on this point now as I intend walking a careful census early to-morrow morning if the weather is favorable for general birding. To-day the wind blew the birds open to a sea, but they sang fairly well at home.

Migrations
apparently
over.

The nest-banding goes on nicely but on all as much as ever in the doubt as to what bird or mammal or reptile is causing such bad destruction. This morning the Cat bird's nest in a bitter pine just E. of Gilbert's cabin was empty as was a Redstart's nest still further off in the same direction. At evening the Redstart's nest behind the cabin which had two eggs yesterday seemed to have two living ones out & the ♀ was just beginning a second nest in an oak that grows by Gilbert's door. Still another Redstart's nest in a dense leafy maple at the boat landing had been torn completely out of the fork & was hanging in a bush beneath. I heard the Jays behind the cabin this morning, a Crow Black-bird was flying about at noon and two Red Squirrels paid us a visit in the afternoon. There are also one or two Cuckoos of each species. Which of these creatures is the plunderer? The Blue Jay, I fear.

Nests
despoiled
by Blue
Jays!

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 2
(no 2.)

The Partridge was sitting on the nest on the W. side of Balls Hill Swamp when Gilbert visited it at 11 a. m. yesterday. To-day at 9.30 a. m. he found the eggs hatched and the whole family gone. This nest was found May 11th when it contained its full complement of 9 eggs. At that date they looked fresh but the bird was sitting close. The mate is, I suppose, the ♂ that has been drumming through the Spring on the Stone wall at the E. end of Balls Hill (this station is about 200 yards from the nest on the opposite side of the Swamp). He has been heard here only a few times since May 11th, usually just at evening, the latest occasions being May 29th & 31st. Gilbert brought in all the egg shells from this nest. They were not inspected as is usually the case but some of the smaller ends were inside the larger. I shall preserve them carefully just as they were found.

The Balls Hill
Partridge
hatches her
nine eggs.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

June 3

Cloudy with strong, cool E. wind. Heavy rain in late afternoon & well into the night.

Spent most of the forenoon in the woods on & near Balls Hill digging plants, visiting nests etc. In the bushes by the river I found a large, dark-colored & very tame Gray-checked Thrush. A Canadian Warbler was singing in the thump behind the Hill when a pair usually paired. An ♀ Nashville Warbler was sitting on her nest and a male which I suppose must have been her mate singing in the pines at the opening beyond the thump.

Canada
Warbler.

The Redstart's nest in the oak behind Gilbert's cabin which was begun May 16th and which contained 2 eggs on June 1st looked disheveled last evening and as the bird had evidently deserted it and was beginning a new nest still nearer the cabin I felt sure that the eggs had been destroyed. Gilbert examined it this morning and found it empty. About an hour later I heard a Jay screaming and the next moment saw the bird coming high above the tree tops & evidently from a distance. It headed straight for the oak, alighted in the upper branches, descended once or twice and then with half-closed wings dropped 12 or 15 feet to the nest where it perched for about half-a-minute, bending forward with its head turned on one side and its bill actually within the nest. Evidently, as it seemed to me, it had returned in the hope that another egg might have been laid since it visited yesterday for I can no longer doubt that not only a Jay but this particular Jay plundered the nest yesterday. Finding the nest empty this morning it flew back silently in the direction whence it had come. The Redstart seemed

Blue Jays
raided the
nest of a
Redstart.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 3
(No 2)

much disturbed by its visit and after it had gone she fluttered close about the old nest and over newly entered it after which she went back to the new one and continued her work at it through the remainder of the forenoon.

From what I have seen during the past two weeks I should say that the Jays in the Balls Hill region have destroyed, during this period, practically all the eggs that have been laid by the smaller birds in nests built in trees & bushes within the limits of this region. Their method of hunting for nests is peculiar & interesting. They start out soon after sunrise, usually in pairs but often three or four together, and move through the woods very slowly talking the time incessantly, hopping from twig to twig or sailing on set wings when the distance to be covered is greater than a foot or two, examining every fork or cluster of twigs deliberately & with great care. While thus engaged they seldom descend but they keep up almost incessantly a low, stuttering er-er-er-er which may be heard, of course, at other seasons but which is apparently used much more frequently during their egging rounds than on any other occasions.

After dinner we packed up our things & put both cabins in order & left for Cambridge by the 4.10 train crossing the river & crawling up to the Station in a pouring rain. This ended my spring season at Balls Hill in 1900 although I shall probably return there for a day or two at a time later in the present month.

Balls Hill

Blue Jays
raiding for
birds' nests

We leave
Concord.

E. Waterbury, Mass.

1900.

June 5

Visited the hog back ridge opposite the Arsenal at E. Waterbury this forenoon to get some photographs.

The weather was clear & still and the birds were singing well. I heard Robins, Cat-birds, Yellow Warblers, Redstarts, Maryland Yellow-throats, Song Sparrows, a Wood Pewee, a Yellow-throated Vireo and an Indigo bird.

House Wren's in small numbers were flying to & from their nests in some tall fence pines on the top of the ridge. In one oak I saw a Blue Jay feed its mate precisely in the same way as at Concord a week or two ago, the bird receiving the food crouching, fluttering her wings feebly and making a low chirping sound like a young bird. No nest was visible & I cannot quite understand why the ♀(?) should have been fed when she was not sitting. /

Blue Jay
feeds its mate.

Warbling Vireos were singing in or near Silver Capped Poplars along the streets behind Mr. Ambrose where I used to find them thirty or more years ago.

Watertown & Belmont, Mass.

1900.

June 7

Clear and warm with S. W. wind.

Off photographing most of the forenoon. C. drove me first to Arsenal Ridge where I found the same birds noted on the 5th. We next drove through Bayson Park where nothing of interest was observed (there seemed to be almost no birds there) and thence to the Waverley Waterfall where I heard a Golden-winged & a Redstart Warbler singing.

Dr. Durfee & F. B. Mac Keeble called during my absence. They were on their way to the Fresh Pond Swamp. I saw Durfee on his return in the afternoon. He found (and took) a Great Bittern's nest with 5 incubated eggs in the Glacialist's marsh and an American Bittern's nest with 6 fresh eggs in the marsh between the Field Club & Central R. R. tracks. Long-billed Marsh Wrens were numerous and two nests with eggs (one set containing 6) were found. No Rails were seen. Durfee was told that some boys have been camping for several days in the Maple Swamp hunting Herons for food!

Nests of
Scaup &
big Bittern

Boys Camp
in Maple
Swamp &
hunt Herons
for food!

Belmont, E. Lexington & Haverly.

1900.

June 8

Clear with a fresh S. W. wind. Rather warm.

Starting at 9 a. m. I drove up the Turnpike to Belmont, through Prosper & Wood Steves, past the Belmont Spring & over the hill ~~to~~ the borders of E. Lexington, through Wellington Lane, and back by way of the Millers, Haverly mill ponds & Payson Park.

On the crest of the big ridge in Belmont I spent nearly Prairie two hours scanning the cedar pastures for Prairie Wrenblers Wrenblers nests. The barberry bushes were in bloom and in two apparently of the pastures there used to be among the best places gone from - one that were very old tying-places on Prosper Steves & this old that near the Spring glen on the western end of this haunts. stand - the bushes were as numerous and luxuriant as ever but I found no nests nor did I see or hear any of the birds. Much of this region throughout which they used to breed in such numbers has been burned over this season, however, & all the barberry bushes killed to the ground. It appeared to contain few birds of any kind to-day. I heard a Golden-winged Woodpecker near the tying place and then Hockwills further on which Field Sparrows were common as usual. I saw a Brown Thrasher & heard another singing. Only one Chestnut-sided Warbler was heard, & but one Towhee. The fine pitch pine & cedar woods which begin at the point where the road forks & extend westward to the swamp when I once found a Gray-cant Oriole nest have been also practically ruined partly by fire & partly by the cutting out of many of the trees & most of the undergrowth. In them I could find nothing besides a Wood Pewee & a Black-throated Green Warbler.

Golden wing.

Nashville W.

Belmont, E. Burlington & Waverly.

1900.

June 5
(No 2)

The only place where I found Bobolinks numerous (or indeed at all here at Fresh Pond where I saw one) was on the summit of the hill above the Belmont Spring. Here five notes were heard over a large flock of English sparrows & singing delightfully.

Bobolinks

Wellington Barn presented nothing of interest from another Golden-winged Warbler. This species has evidently increased & spread in the Belmont region within the past fifteen years. It did not seem to occur at any one of the three localities where I have found it this week.

Golden-winged Warbler

A perfect mania for burning brush along roadsides & stone walls seems to have prevailed in the Belmont region this past Spring for the south side of the river. Wellington Barn had been thus despoiled and the Rock Meadows willows along the greater part of the north side of the Conway are blackened and practically dead as the result of a recent fire. They appear to shelter few birds but throughout the whole extent of the meadow itself Red-wings were as abundant as of yore.

Roadsides
despoiled of
their shrubbery

Rock Meadows

Red-wings

Yellow Warblers were also very numerous in many places in this locality as were also Song Sparrows. Strange to say we did not see nor hear a Cat-bird or Rose-breasted Grosbeak during the forenoon. Cuckoos & chiefly Yellow-birds, were fairly numerous. The Barn Swallows have apparently quite deserted the Brown farm at the cross roads (there are now no openings by which they can enter the old barn) and the only Swallow observed during our drive was a White-belly.

Yellow W.

Barn Swallows

My general impression was that few if any birds have increased & very many have decreased within that region during the past fifteen years.

1900

June 8

The following species were noted to-day.

1. Turdus fuscescens, 5 or 6.
2. Murela nigrotoria, 10 or 12.
3. Haerophyes velox rufus 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt. / Variety)
4. Poens atricapillus 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. (Prospect Pt.)
5. Mniotilta varia 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (" ")
6. Henicthopis chrysophaea 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt. & Hill) $\frac{1}{2}$ rupicola ruficeps 1 (near Belmont)
7. " rubicapilla 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt.) Chaetura pelagica 1
8. Dendroica aestiva 15 $\frac{1}{2}$.
9. " pusilla 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt.) Coccyzus americanus 3 $\frac{1}{2}$.
10. " viridis 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (" ") Cy. cy. thersites 1 $\frac{1}{2}$.
11. " vigorsii 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (" ") Buteo lineatus 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Rock m.)
12. Scimus auricapillus 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
13. Geothlypis trichas 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
14. Sotophaga ruticilla 2 $\frac{1}{2}$.
15. Vireo olivaceus 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.
16. " flavifrons 4 $\frac{1}{2}$
17. " gilvus 5 $\frac{1}{2}$.
18. Amphisp. cedrorum (2) (2)
19. Tachycineta bicolor 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
20. Piranga erythronotos 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt. / pond)
21. Sporula pusilla 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt.)
22. Melospiza fasciata 20
23. Pipilo erythrophthalmus 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt.)
24. Cyanospiza cyanea 4 $\frac{1}{2}$.
25. Dolichonyx oryzivorus 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Prospect Pt. / Hill)
26. Molothrus ater (2) (3) (3)
27. Agelaius phoeniceus 20 (Rock meadows)
28. Icterus galbula 5
29. Zonotrichia leucurus (6) (3) (Howland)
30. Coccyzus americanus 1
31. Cyanocitta cristata 1 (Prospect Pt.)
32. Tyrannus tyrannus 5
33. Sayornis phoebe 1
34. Contopus virens 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
35. Colaptes auratus 2
36. Coccyzus americanus 3 $\frac{1}{2}$
37. Cy. cy. thersites 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
38. Buteo lineatus 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ (Rock m.)

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 10

Brilliantly clear with S. W. wind. Cool for the season.

Took the 9 A. M. train to Concord. Drove first to Sleepy Hollow Cemetery to examine a nest of the Red-bellied Nuthatch. It was about 20 ft. above the ground in the dead top of a living gray birch which stands just inside the fence on the left side & within a few feet of the main entrance to the cemetery. The entrance hole was very small and nest being apparently as perfectly round & smooth as if it had been bored with a sharp bit. I could see no pitch although the bark around the hole was smooth & clean. I watched the tree for over ten minutes but no bird came to the nest. When Miss Mary A. White found it on May 30th one of the Nuthatches was talking "wanna" into it at short, regular intervals & apparently feeding young. (Miss White saw the bird enter the hole with this food at least four times & emerge with empty bill). I suppose the brood must have departed for the nest has evidently not been disturbed. I hear that Dr. Reagh has found a Red-bellied Nuthatch's in Needham, Mass., this season. It contained several young & two or three "fresh" (probably infertile) eggs.

Spent the remainder of the forenoon driving through the Estabrook woods & back to town by way of the Bunker farm road. Saw three Indigo Birds perched on telegraph wires singing & a Red-throated Hawk. Heard a Wood Thrush near the Pine Kill.

Sleepy Hollow

Nest of
Red-bellied
Nuthatch

Estabrook
Road

Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14.

I went to Wareham on the afternoon of the 11th to spend a few days with my friend Orlan Bangs. He met me at the station & we drove directly to his country house. On the way over we saw ~~three~~ ^{Ring-necked} Pheasants, a solitary cock and a mixed pair, all in open grassy fields by the roadside. I flushed the larger cock & Bangs the pair. They allowed us to get within a few yards of them in the grass & rising strongly. One bird ran a few feet before flushing. All then took long flights.

Ring-necked Pheasants

On reaching the house I was shown a Robin's nest with seven eggs, built in the top of a brush heap in the barn yard & a fine colony of Barn Swallows nesting in the open cellar under the barn. Three Whippoorwills were flying out one time in the early evening & at least one of them long after of the night.

Robin's nest with 7 eggs in brush heap

Whippoorwills

The 12th was a beautiful day, cloudless with a cool fresh breeze. We started off early and drove to the reservoir which I visited in 1894. On the way we passed a small, muddy pond where six Bald Eagles were in sight at once, four soaring over the open water, two sitting perched on dead trees on the shore. I was also shown a curious wooden tower under the eaves of which a Wood Duck nested a few years ago & which I photographed.

Bald Eagles.

Wood Duck's nest in wooden tower

At the Reservoir I exposed several plates. The place has changed little since my former visit but many of the trees have fallen. Enough remain, however, to furnish nesting places for a large colony of Tree Swallows, as well as several pairs of Flickers & Bluebirds. In the patch pine grove on the west side of this

Tree Swallows

Wareham, Mass.

1900

June 12-14
(no 2)

pretty little pond we heard a Blackburnian Warbler singing. As Mr. Bangs had never met with this species in the Wareham region before he followed up the bird & shot it.

Blackburnian
Warbler

We walked entirely around this Reservoir having a Hermit Thrush & seeing a pair of Olive-sided Flycatchers but finding only one nest, that of a Pine Warbler with 4 badly-incubated eggs. I took a photograph of the tree upon the nest & the branch which supported it had been removed.

Olive-sided
Flycatcher
Nest of
Pine Warbler.

At a similar but smaller reservoir not far off we found a nest of the Worm Warbler built in a patch pine & containing 3 eggs far advanced in incubation. This nest also we took. Several Tree Swallows nests were seen in stubs standing in the water & Green Wood Swallows were from the head of the pond & flew off together.

Nest of
Worm Warbler

We drove home very slowly working the horse most of the way and traversing miles of deeply rutted, sandy roads choked with brush or winding through woods of Hawthorn, fir-beared white pines, Toron or fir Hermit Thrushes were heard singing and as many Deer calling cut-whit. Prairie & Pawnee Warblers hummed everywhere & Pine Warblers were very abundant.

Hermit
Thrushes

We nearly ran over a hen Partridge with her brood of recently-hatched young. It was sunset before we reached the house. In one of the last pieces of woods through which we passed a Cow ~~Wren~~ Pheasant crossed the road ahead of us and squatting in some thin grass within a yard of the tree allowed us to drive by without moving.

Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14.
(no 3)

The 13th was another fine day but exceptionally warm for the Cape. We spent it driving slowly through miles and miles of wood roads, visiting the white pine swamp where Bangs took a nest of the Saw-whet Owl a few years ago, lurking on the sandy beach at the S.W. end of beautiful White Island Pond, where I took some photographs and covered plants of Sabbatia & Coussipia serotina, and one very large in the afternoon passing an interesting old hunting lodge - which I also photographed & which tradition avers was once a favorite resort of Daniel Webster and traversing the bad, now dry and strewed with bleached Union shells, of the large mill pond which so interested me in 1894. A knoll shaded by white pine & rising in about the middle of the old pond was densely carpeted with Corina canadensis.

The most noteworthy bird nest with during the day was a Nashville Warbler which on being singly was C. Wareham said which was quite new to Mr. Bangs' list. Prairie Warblers were heard everywhere but not in such numbers as yesterday. Four or five Hermit Thrushes were seen or heard. I found the fresh tracks of a large Otter on the banks of the stone brook which traverses the old white pine swamp & directly beneath the thick which sheltered Bangs' Saw-whet Owl's nest. Three Eagles & a Red-tailed Hawk were seen. Bangs tells me that Deer are very scarce in this region but slowly increasing by tracks. The country has been burnt over in most places & a stiff undergrowth of oak sprouts has followed the fire.

* In the midst of these tracks lay a dead skunk perfectly fresh and without a stick bleeding when its heart had been taken off. The water from here was really in a ditch. That same large animal, said, was down the Otter hole, plunged into a just before we reached the bank. Bangs saw an Otter hole a few days ago.

nest of
Saw-whet Owl

Hunting
Lodge once
frequented by
Daniel Web-
ster

Nashville
Warbler.

Prairie
Warblers &
Hermit T.
Otter tracks

Eagles.
Red-t. Hawk.
Deer.

Wareham, Mass.

1900

June 12-14
(no 3rd /

The foot-note to "other tracks" on the page just before this was not written at the same time as the rest but on February 18, 1909, just after confirming my recollection of the dead albatross, the rocky coast and the letter "seen a few days before", by questioning Outram Bangs about these things. He remembered them all perfectly. Had it not been so I should not have mentioned them here, even in the sketch on Albatross which I have just sent to "Seaside" for publication. The reason why they were not mentioned originally was probably because I had so much to write about the interesting visit to Wareham in June, 1900.

Other
Signs.

Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14

(No 4)

The 14th was cloudy with drizzling rain at intervals and one really heavy shower just before noon.

We took a wood route to-day driving through Wareham to the westward into a region very generally and in places heavily wooded with white pines. Much the distinctive forest pine had not reached the woods were flourishing & attractive but more often than found about Concord there in the country which we have traversed the past two days. The birds which they attracted were much the same, however & the only species noted which we had not seen before on our drive were the White-throated Sparrow & Chipping Sparrow.

Local 7:
Tanager.
Fish Hawk.

We hunched on the banks of a trout brook with a hillside covered with tall white pines behind us. A little lower down the brook was a meadow deeply carpeted with Sphagnum where Arctostaphylos & some remarkably fine Ladino Slippers were in full bloom and purple fringed orchids thrusting up their numerous leaves.

The afternoon was so dark & threatening that we returned to the house earlier than we had intended.

I have said comparatively little about the birds met with during this drive because I had not noted them in systematic order in the pages to follow the above general narration of my visit.

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14

(no 5)

The numbered species in the following list were met with during my stay; those without numbers & enclosed in brackets have been found on former occasions by Mr. Bangs.

1. *Turdus palmeri*. - Common throughout the pitch pine & oak woods. Five males heard singing on the evening of the 12th and several birds seen on this & the following day. On the evening of the 14th one was singing within hearing of the Bangs' house. These Plymouth County birds do not seem to me to sing as well as do those in western New England.
2. *Mniota migratoria*. - Abundant in the villages & about farm & country houses, but decidedly uncommon in the woods. At least six or seven pairs were breeding on the Bangs' place, where they nest most frequently under sheds & the roofs of piazzas. I first photographed and afterwards took a nest with 7 eggs which was built in the top of a pile of dry, Cyprus brush in the barnyard. Three of the eggs were fresh, three added, & one contained a small chad embryo.
3. *Galoscopus carolinensis*. - Ordinarily common according to Mr. Bangs but only two or three were seen during my stay.
4. *Harporhynchus rufus*. - Apparently not numerous. He heard one singing and saw two or three others. The open scrubby woods on the beach would seem to be admirably adapted to this species.

near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12-14. 5. Scotia aialis. - Common and very generally distributed
(no 6) breeding not only in or near the weiges but throughout the more open portions of the pitch pine & oak woods. Brood of young on wing June 14th.
6. Picus atricapillus. - Common, especially in pitch pine woods.
7. Minioptila varia. - Common in the older oak woods but not seen in the pitch pines or in the younger more healthy oak-grove tracts.
8. Helminthophila rubricapilla. - A ♂ in full song June 13th in oak woods near East Wareham. Mr. Bangs has never before observed this species in Plymouth County although the region seems admirably adapted to its requirements.
9. Comptosia a. usneae. - Abundant and very generally distributed but most common, of course, in swamp woods where the Usnea grows most profusely. We found a nest containing three eggs on the point of hatching on June 12. The nest was in a pitch pine about 10 ft. above the ground. The ♀ was shy & nervous invariably leaving the nest before we were near the tree & returning to it with great caution & circumspection after we had left its immediate vicinity. The ♂ joined her after we had examined the nest.
10. Dendroica aestiva. - Confined to the immediate neighborhood of weiges & collected grounds where it was common.

near Waverham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12-14. 10. Dendroica pennsylvanica. - Common about swamps and
(no 7) also found sparingly in the oak knobs on the Great
Cove.
12. Dendroica blackburnii. - On the morning of June 12 we
found a ♂ in full song in rather open pitch pine woods
on a hillside bordering a swamp in Waverham. As it
was the first bird of the species which has. Songsters
are found in this region in the breeding season he first
& preserved the specimen, which was in fairly high plumage.
Although no ♀ or nest was discovered I think it highly
probable that both were well hidden somewhere in
the top of one of the pines near where the ♂ was
singing.
13. Dendroica virens. - Common in an extensive white pine
swamp bordering a brook and also sparingly
distributed throughout the older pitch pine woods.
14. Dendroica virens. - Abundant throughout the pitch pine
woods even when the trees were small & widely
scattered. On June 12th we found a nest containing
4 eggs on the point of a bush. The nest was
scarcely 12 ft. above the ground near the top of a
small, slender, stunted pitch pine which stood on
a sandy hillside which the fires had almost
completely denuded of vegetation.
15. Dendroica discolor. - The whole Waverham region is
literally swarming with Prairie Warblers this season.
I should say that their numbers have increased

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14 (Dendroica discolor) many fold since my previous visit in
(no 8) I have never seen them so numerous elsewhere. From morning to
night wherever we went their songs were almost constantly
ringing in our ears and often three or four notes were
heard ringing at once. Their favorite haunts were the more
open woods where the larger trees have been thrown by forest fires
and the ground is densely covered by young spruce growth
(almost exclusively of oaks) from two to five or six feet in height
and the extensive tracts of bare oak which border the woods
and roadsides or extend over hundreds of acres on the
open, moss-covered, barren hills but we ^{did not} heard them in
many places where the ground was heavily shaded by old,
densely-growing trees. Throughout this region, according to
Mr. Bangs, the note is invariably found in an oak tapping
only a few feet above the ground.

The typical song here is peculiar; the first three notes are all
on the same key and given slowly in a descending tone; they
are immediately followed by four shorter, more rapidly uttered
notes each of which is on a higher key than the one preceding it.
A few notes, however, long as do our Baltimore Orioles.

16. Sialius auricapillus. - Common & very generally distributed
but less numerous, I should say, than in the region near
Proctor & Concord. ✓

17. Geothlypis trichas. - Very common along water courses &
in brushy swamps. ✓

18. Setophaga ruticilla. - Not common or, at least, only
very locally to being confined to a few heavily
thicketed swamps. ✓

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14
(No 9)

[Sylvanus Canadensis. - Mr. Bangs has found this species in summer in an epheva white pine swamp bordering a cold trout stream. He visited this swamp on the 13th but failed to find any Canadian warblers, I have no doubt they breed there, however, for the swamp is full of sphagnum covered mounds.]

19. Vireo olivaceus. - Common and very generally distributed.

[" rostratus. - Mr. Bangs has found a few pairs. I remember seeing a ♂ singing in a swamp not far from Wareham during my visit in June 1894.]

20. Amphisp. cedrorum. - Common especially in pitch pine woods near the Reservoir where we found one or two nests in 1894.

21. Progne purpurina. - Two small colonies in the village of Wareham.

22. Hirundo erythrogastra. - Very common. A dozen pairs or more were nesting in a barn cellar at the Bangs' when there were also additional nests under the roof of an open shed.

23. Tachycineta bicolor. - A colony of upwards of 100 pairs were breeding in a forest of dead thots in the Reservoir and eight or ten more nests were seen by us in dead trees along the course of the brook below. We saw two occupied nests in one thot tree. Two or three pairs were also breeding in dead houses on poles at the Bangs'.

near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12-14. 24. Piranga erythronas. - On the day of my arrival (June 11th) ✓
(No 10) Mr. Bangs saw a ♂ Piranga in oak woods near his house.
This, if I remember rightly, he told me was only the
second that he had ever met with in Plymouth County;
but on the 14th we heard two males singing ^{on} about
a mile to two westward of Wareham village, the other
a mile or two further on in the same direction.
It is singular that they do not occur more commonly
for the extensive oak woods here admirably suited
to their requirements.
25. Corpodacus purpureus. - Apparently much less numerous ✓
than I found it in 1894. At best on the present
occasion I found only one bird at the Reservoir &
perhaps two more in the village.
26. Spirurus hutchinsii. - Common but not numerous. ✓
27. Poœetes gramineus. - Only one bird noted. In 1894 ✓
they were abundant all over the open country as well
as among thinly-growing pitch pines on burnt lands.
- [Passerculus savanna. - Mr. Bangs finds a few pairs ✓
breeding near the shores of the bay not far from his place.
I did not meet with the species either this year or
in 1894]
28. Sturnella bicolor. - Very common not only about houses ✓
& villages but in open pitch pine woods on burnt lands,
["pusilla. - Met with I think in 1894. Not seen this year] ✓

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12-14 (no 11) 29. Melospiza fasciata. - Very common especially near the villages and along the margins of brush-grown brooks. ✓
30. [Melospiza georgiana. - I heard this Sparrow singing along the Slog Brook in 1894 & Mr. Bangs has since found its nest & eggs there. He did not see it this season.] ✓
30. Pipilo erythrophthalmus. - Abundant everywhere in dry, scrubby woods especially among bear oaks & in oak hardwoods. Less numerous here than in Nantuxon or North's Berried, however. ✓
31. Passer domesticus. - Abundant in the villages. ✓
32. Agelaius phoeniceus. - Found breeding in small numbers about all the fresh water ponds & larger brooks. ✓
- [Sturnella magna. - Mr. Bangs finds this species breeding near the shore at the head of Buzzards Bay but nowhere inland although there are extensive mowing fields which should attract it.] ✓
33. Icterus galbula. - He saw or heard Orioles in places showing the very flock in Nantuxon & East Wareham, Mass. Bangs thinks that about two or three pairs breed regularly in each of these villages. ✓
34. Corvus americanus. - Less numerous than near Cambridge. ✓

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14 35. Cyanocitta cristata. - Very common throughout the woods. ✓
(No 12.)

36. Lycanurus cyaneus. - Mr. Bangs considers King Birds scarce this season but to me they seemed very numerous - certainly much more so than they have been at Wareham the past months. They occur throughout the thin woods on the farm lands as well as in orchards near farm houses. ✓

[Myiarchus cinerascens. - Mr. Bangs took me to two different orchards a mile or two west of Wareham where he has found a pair of these Flycatchers in former breeding houses but the birds were apparently absent this year.] ✓

37. Contopus borealis. - Present in about the same numbers as in 1894. It is an easy matter to find four or five pairs during a drive of six or eight miles in any direction from Wareham. Indeed they are quite as numerous in this region as in any part of northern New England. Their numbers do not vary appreciably in different years. Certain pairs return year after year to the same localities to breed. Their favorite haunts are isolated groves or clusters of rather tall pitch pines on high ground usually not far from a pond or stream for they seem to require the near presence of water. Several pairs resorted to wooded islands in the larger ponds. The birds that we saw this season were for the most part silent & showed little interest in one another. Mr. Bangs thinks they were not breeding. Usually their eggs are laid by June 10 but the season is two weeks late as respects migration this year. ✓

Near Warham, Mass.

1900.

- June 12. 14 38. Contopus virens. - Very common especially in the open
(No 13) groves of pitch pines which are scattered throughout
the forest lands.
39. Empidonax virens. - One heard in an apple orchard
near Warham village on the 14th. In 1894 they were
not uncommon & I took a nest & eggs in pitch pine
woods near the Reservoir.
40. Trochilus colubris. - One in the Bangs' flower garden on
the morning of the 14th.
41. Chaetura pelagica. - Just as numerous as in the
spring about Concord.
42. Antrostomus vociferans. - Abundant. Heard three males
singing all over near the Bangs' house on the evening
of the 11th. They sang all night on this & the following
two nights but on the night of the 14th we did not
hear one perhaps because the weather was cloudy & cool.
43. Chordeiles pictus. - Very numerous in June 1894 when
we started two females from their eggs. This year we
traversed the town grounds but noted only a single
bird which was heard flying near the Reservoir on the 12th.
- [Dryobates villosus. - Mr. Bangs has this species frequently
in common & has found one nest with young near
Warham. I did not meet with it either in 1894 or this year.
44. Dryobates p. n. n. n. - Two or three met with.

near Warham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 45. Colaptes auratus. - Common everywhere. Found two ✓
(no 14) nests which the birds were seen to enter in stubs in
the Reservoir.

46. Ceryle alcyon. - One seen at the Reservoir where ✓
Mr. Bangs found a nest with young a few years since.

47. Coccyzus erythrophthalmus. - Common. ✓

[" americanus. - Mr. Bangs has found this ✓
species on several occasions in the breeding season
but he regards it as much less common than the
Hawk - Bird.]

[Megascops asio. - A brood of young was not with by ✓
Mr. Bangs a few years ago, as he was fishing a canal
stream near Warham.]

[Bubo virginianus. - Mr. Bangs says that this Owl ✓
still occurs in the Warham region but that its
numbers are steadily diminishing.]

[Nyctale acadica. - Visited the old white pine swamp ✓
where Mr. Bangs took the lot of 7 eggs of this Owl several
years ago. The stub, a large, dry trunk of a white pine,
is still standing - or rather leaning out over the clear, rapid
trout stream which flows past its base. The swamp is
fringed in the heart of extensive woods removed from civilization
and with its fine old trees decayed in place is very
wild & beautiful looking piece of forest. I saw a fresh
alter track near the nesting tree to which the Owls have been returned]

Near Warcham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 48. Pandion carolinensis. - Heard one whistling in woods near
(No 15) a pond west of Warcham. ✓

49. Haliaeetus leucorhynchus. - On June 12th we had six
Eagles in sight as we drove over a field on the
bordering a small muddy pond two or three miles S. of
Warcham. The following day we saw them near two of
them at White Head Pond. Two of the total nine
were adult birds. These Eagles visit the Warcham ponds
at this season to feed on Alvips which are still
running up the brooks in fair numbers (a part of which
I had seen in down during this visit). Mr. Bony
doubts if Eagles now breed anywhere near the Cape but
he has been told by one of the old gunners of Warcham
that a nest existed many years ago not far from that
town. He found a nest in the white pine stump this
season which looked fresh and which was as large as
any Eagle's nest that I have ever seen. but the ground
beneath showed us traces of excrement, feathers or other "debris"
and the only bird of prey seen near it was a Red-tailed Hawk.
This nest was in an enormous, living white pine about 50 ft.
above the ground near the top of the tree. ✓

[Circus hudsonius. - Up to within a few years Marsh Hawks ✓
have been common summer residents of the Warcham region
according to Mr. Bony but he has seen none there
this season.]

[Accipiter cooperii. Mr. Bony has found several nests ✓
of this Hawk & considers it a common breeder. It has
killed all his Pigeons & he has seen the remains of many
meadow larks about its nests.]

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 50. Buteo borealis. - This is the common Breeding Buteo ✓
(no 16) of the region. Mr. Bangs has found its nest abundantly.
I saw two or three birds during my stay.

51. Bonasa umbellus. - According to Mr. Bangs the Partridge ✓
although less numerous than formerly (owing to the
very general transformation of its favorite haunts the
large, wooded or brushy trumps into cranberry bogs) is
still common. He saw only one bird during my stay -
a hen accompanied by several chicks in a wood road
near E. Wareham. The old bird came running about
us passing & repassing close to the wheels of our wagon
making the usual "puff-puff" - like whirring & "chirping up"
her feathers. She was deep reddish-brown in general
coloring & her tail appeared to be gray or grayish.

52. Colinus virginianus. - He had five different males ✓
wholly bob-white white during through the scrubby
woods E. of Wareham on the 12th. - shot a larger
bird near the Bangs house on the 14th. Mr. Bangs
tells me they were very numerous in the autumn
of 1898 but that most of them perished during the
following severe winter.

Terrapene carolina. - Mr. Bangs says that this
species was common & generally distributed about
Wareham a few years ago but that it has since
disappeared. He has not seen one this season.

Ring-necked
53. Phasianus, - A few of these Pheasants were
introduced near the Bangs' place two or three years

Near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

Ring-necked

June 12-14 (~~Thompson~~ Phoebe) eggs by Messrs. Minot & Stockton.

(No 17)

They have increased rapidly and over ten or fifteen square miles of country lying at the head of Buzzards Bay are now common. He was from one to three daily during my visit in the morning fields & meadows on the way to the village & every morning & evening a good crowd at intervals of three or four minutes in the fields near the house. When feeding out in the fields the cock bird is a conspicuous object even in eastern tall grass for his ball-shaped plumage catches & reflects the rays of the sun like burnished copper & when his attention is attracted by a passing team he is sure to show himself up & watch it. If approached by a man on foot he retreats & lies closely when it is not easy to discern him in the grass. None of the birds which I stalked lay quite motionless until I was within ten or fifteen feet. They rose strongly springing nearly straight upward to a height of 20 feet or more & then flew off to a distance moving their wings rapidly & steadily for the first 100 yards, after that alternately flapping & beating. I saw only one alight again which he did in an open meadow after having one turn warts & then turning back in a half circle. Bangs says these Phoebes live in the open fields but occasionally alight in woods when flushed. The crowd of the cock is broken & husky & much like that of a young rooster. A ♀ with his young was seen on the Bangs place just before my advent.

near Wareham, Mass.

1900.

June 12-14. 54. Ardea virescens. - One bled at the Reservoir on ✓
(No 18) June 12. Mr. Bangs has found several nests in
wooded wash islands near the head of Buzzards Bay.

For ~~Nycticorax~~ Nycticorax naevius. - The proprietor of a trout pond ✓
near Wareham told me that he killed over fifty
"Scaups" near his pond last year but none have
come here there this.]

[Phalaropus minor. - Mr. Bangs showed me a pair ✓
of downy water wrens near Wareham where he
has often finished Woodcock in July - where he thinks
it breeds - pair or two very well bred].

55. Actitis macularia. - A pair with young on a ✓
lonely flat stream with thin shells & over the
bottom of a large mill pond.

56. Arif. Spizella. - On June 12 we started three ✓
birds (which I think were all deaths in plain
summer plumage) from a long narrow pond formed
by damming a brook to supply water to a nearby
bag below. There were numbers of large dead sticks
in this pond. Some ten or twelve years ago a
Wood Duck nested in a curious tower attached to
a mill near Wareham & in the very middle of
a collection of scattered houses. The nest was
rotted by a Portuguese negro, J. Russell Reed saw
the bird when it was down holes regarding it.
I took a photograph of the tower on June 12.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

Farm.

1900.

June 16

Morning clear, afternoon cloudy; rather cool with light N. wind.

To Concord by 8.34 a. m. train, crossing the river at West Bedford, spending the remainder of the forenoon at Balls Hill, driving to the farm after dinner and walking back through the woods by way of Poplar Rock, the Spring and Davis's Swamp in the late afternoon, strolling to Benson's landing and Pine Park after supper.

At Balls Hill I heard the usual birds in about the usual numbers - Robins, Veeries, Crows, Doves, Redstarts, a Grosbeak, Chestnut-sided Warblers, Song & Swamp Sparrows, a Wood Pewee, King birds, Red wing etc.

Birds noted

at
Balls Hill

A Wood Thrush was in full song during the oaks just behind the cabin at 5 P.M. and two hours later I heard what was doubtless the same bird at Benson's landing. On this second occasion I saw the bird perched on a branch of a large oak at least 40 feet above the ground. Every time he sang he opened his wings and beat them with a rapid, quivering motion closing them again at the end of each bar. He was a fine singer with a strong, clear voice. I have never found a Wood Thrush at Balls Hill before or since during migration.

Wood

Thrush

singing at
the cabin

There were four or five Veeries singing in the immediate neighborhood of Balls Hill including the Blackmore glen & Swamp.

Two Nuthatches were pumping at Benson, one directly opposite the cabin, the other in the south corner of Great meadow.

Nuthatches.

A Grass Finch was singing in Pine Park

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 16
(No 2.)

at intervals through the day.

At the Baxter farm I inspected the Indigo Birds nest in the raspberry bushes near the barn & found that it contained one young bird about 4 days old & one or two infertile eggs.

Nest of
Indigo Bird
at Farm

All the eggs had hatched since my last visit in the Nashville Warbler's nest in the Spring just behind Powell's Hill and the five young, several days old & already showing pin feathers, filled the nest to overflowing.

Nest of
Nashville W.
at Ball's H.

At Pulpit Rock two Black-burnian Warblers were singing and two Partridges drumming, one on the wall when the wood pans gave, the other near the western entrance to brick field. I heard another cock Partridge drumming in the usual place in Davis's Swamp.

Blackburnian
Warblers

Partridges

As I was starting westward on the south side of Pulpit Rock watching a Gray Squirrel I saw a Fox coming down the middle of the run. Trotting slowly in a nearly straight line he had nearly passed me at a distance of about 25 yards when I made a low squeaking sound. He instantly turned towards me & stopped raising his head & listening intently. I squeaked again when he advanced a yard or two & again stopped to listen. This was repeated until he had come to within about ten feet of me. Even then he did not appear to be in although there was nothing between us taller than a Pyrola plant. But his suspicions were evidently aroused and after sniffing the air once or twice he drew back & making a half circle around me gave my waist when he set over forward off at a great pace taking long, light bounds & quickly disappearing among

"Squeaking
up" a
fox.

Conecord, Mass.

1900.

Jan. 16
(No 3)

some deer young ones. As he came down the bank before I attracted his attention he trotted, as I have already said; not as a dog trots but much more lightly yet in a tired, listless-seeming way more nearly like that of a Coyote. When approaching me after I had begun squeaking his gait was a girch, nervous, yet singularly stealthy & noiseless work, the head & tail curved low & in line with the body, the steps carefully regulated to avoid dry twigs or clusters of dead leaves. When he made the final halt and I gave my last squeak his eyes roved rapidly from side to side looking eagerly for some movement on the part of the supposed mouse and I could see the muscles swell in his ears for a moment as he prepared to spring. I could not help feeling a bit nervous at this moment for he was a big fellow and as gaunt & grim looking as a starved wolf. His color was faded and yellowish white, his hair had fallen or worn off in places giving his coat a ragged, mangy appearance. But his worst feature was his close-set, deeply-sunken, shifty eyes which seemed to me to express a mixture of hard shrewdness, unrelenting cruelty and deep blood-guiltiness. They fairly made me shudder as they peered intently at me from beneath a distance yet, strange to say, they did not ever seem to meet mine. Indeed their owner appeared all the while to be looking past or through rather than at me. I must confess to a feeling of deep relief when he finally turned & fled although there was not, of course, the slightest danger of his attacking me. I suppose he mistook me for the stump of a tree

"Squeaking up"
a Fox at
Pulpit Rock.

Concord, Mass.

1900

June 16
(no 4)

The Skunk has been enjoying their annual feast of Skunk's Turtle's eggs and on a large scale even than usual to judge by the number of Skunks I found to-day in the sandy fields & openings near Balls Hill. I had supposed that the Skunk discovers the admirably concealed nest of the Turtle by his sense of smell but something that I observed this afternoon appears to cast doubt on this theory. When I was last at Balls Hill (on June 3) I set out five plants of the orange milkweed in the field near the wood shed, scattering them about in different places and with a trowel digging deep but narrow holes for the long, carrot-like roots. On visiting them to-day I found that all but one had been found and dug up by the Skunk. Neither the plants nor their roots had been eaten or even separated from the loose earth that had been thrown out with them. In each case the Skunk had gone to the very bottom of the excavation which I had previously made and in no instance had he dug other holes in the immediate vicinity. How could he have discovered these small, isolated plants scattered about amidst a tangle of weeds & grass and having found them why did he go to the trouble of digging them up? It seems reasonably certain that in some way he detected that the ground had been recently disturbed (although I had packed it back closely about the plants & had added a light mulch of dry grass to prevent their roots from the sun) & that he suspected a Turtle's nest was concealed there. If this was so he must have either compared my scent with that of a Turtle or not have used his sense of smell at all.

Two Red-shouldered Hawks were soaring & descending on Holden's Hill & Pine Peak this afternoon

Concord, Mass.

1900.

Jan 17

Clear and rather warm.

Left the cabin at 8 a.m. and drove to Concord where I met C., E. R. S., and Mr. Bennett at the "Continent". Starting shortly after 9 a.m. we drove up the Estabrook road to the Lime Kiln where we had tea here & walked to the Boulder Field.

Estabrook
Road.

We then continued on to the end of the road & returned by way of Brewster's Pond. Saw & heard many common birds as well as our Golden-winged warbler.

In the afternoon we visited Fairyland, Walden, Hatten's Bridge, the cold Spring Swamp and Clem Pond Hill. I heard a Great Crested Flycatcher in the Fairyland woods & another on the deep hollow near Mr. Hatten's place on Pond Street Hill as I was driving back to North Hill on evening.

Fairyland &
Walden.
Crested
Flycatcher

Mr. Emerson showed us a large patch of Liriodendron on the crest of the pine clad hill above the pond in Fairyland.

Waltham, Mass.

1900.

June 26

Clear with light S. W. wind; a beautiful fine day.

Visited Sherman's (= Hardy's = Mead's) Pond, Waltham, Sherman's Pond.
This forenoon in company with Hobbs & George Deane and O. A. Bothrop, going by electric cars via Northam & Northam and returning by way of Lexington & Arlington. The object of our trip was to see, photograph and take the nest of a Great Crested Flycatcher which Bothrop found building nearly two weeks ago and which, with his usual generosity, he has insisted on placing in my collection.

This nest was at the extreme western end of the old orchard between the Pond & Poplar Road & within 30 yards of the latter in the hollow branch of an apple tree. The entrance hole was in the end of the branch about 9 feet above the ground and descended about a foot to the nest, which was set upon the edge of the branch.

The total length of the branch was about 7 feet. I took several photographs of the tree before the nest was disturbed and two of them should show the ♀ bird perched on a dead twig just below the hole.

She was sitting when we reached the place at about 10 a.m. Bothrop scratched the bark at the base of the branch where she at once emerged from the hole & flew into a wild cherry tree not far off. Her nest presently appeared but neither bird made any sound until we had spent fully twenty minutes close to the nest. One of them then called two or three times. They were both unusually tame as well as silent. The ♀ returned to the apple tree at the end of the first ten minutes and after perching just below the hole

Nest of
Myiarchus

Waltham, Mass.

1900

June 26
(No 2.)

and having her previous taken as already mentioned she
quietly entered the nest which we were standing within
twenty or forty feet of it. After being started from it a
second time she flitted from tree to tree around us
frequently alighting on the extremity of some low branch
with twenty feet or less showing, evidently rather than
above or on a cavity and maintaining absolute silence. After the
nest of the branch had been found off & the nest & eggs taken
she came into the tree & inspected the remaining part
of the stub which we were sitting on the grass nearly
under it. The eggs were five in number, apparently
nearly fresh and unusually beautiful.

On watching these Flycatchers I noticed, as I have
frequently done before, that their motions which preceded
an ~~move~~, are much more deliberate than those of
any of the other members of the Tyrannidae which
occur in New England. They have a way of alighting
among thickly-growing leaves and peering into them
in much the same manner as a bird, rolling the head
slowly from side to side.

After taking the Flycatcher's nest we rambled about
through the woods on the north end of the pond
visiting the point where I used to have a shooting
stand one thirty years ago. The place has been greatly
changed by the removal of all the small trees &
underbrush & is apparently now much used as a
pic-nic ground. We heard a number of common birds
including a Pine Warbler, Red Start, Veery, Two Yellow-throated
Vireos, Cat-birds, a Lizard etc. Robbleheads were busy
in a meadow outside the woods.

Nest of
Mysicarchus

Sherman's
Pond

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900.

June 27

Clear & hot with strong S. W. wind and
thunder rumbling in the distance in P. M.

Gilbert & I went to Concord by the
early morning train. I spent most of the forenoon
in the woods on the W. Hill farm there. There were
a good many birds singing there - Redstarts, Chestnut-
sided Waxwings, Cat birds, Red-eyed Vireos, Doves etc.
A Quail was whistling in the distance & Pat told
me that Arnold found its nest with 17 eggs, in
his orchard, last week. Pat also says that he
saw on a brood of young Partridge on the
W. Hill farm there a few days ago. I started on
old cock bird there this forenoon.

Quail's nest,
17 eggs

Another piece of interesting news is that
a Deer has been seen twice lately by Pat, over
in the young hemlock grove on Pine Ridge, again
at Davis's Hill. Last Sunday. I found its tracks
in the sandy cart road on Pine Ridge this
afternoon. They looked like those of a three year
old buck. The animal had walked steadily
nearly the entire length of the road where it
passes over the crest of the ridge.

A Deer
at Balls
Davis's Hill

It was as hot as a furnace in the woods
this afternoon but birds were singing quite freely
nevertheless. I heard only the common kinds,
Chestnut-sided, Pine & Black-throated Green Waxwings,
Redstarts, Wilson's Thrushes, a Song Sparrow, a
Grass Finch (in Pine Park), a Towhee, a Wood Pewee
and at least four or five Red-eyes.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

June 27
(No 2)

As I was passing through a wood road behind Ball's Hill I heard a Partridge making the puff-puff-whining cry which the old hen bird utters when suspicious about her young. A little further on I heard the young calling on all sides of me in the dense alder thickets and presently one about as large as a Pigeon walked slowly & deliberately across the path. I cannot imagine what could have disturbed & scattered them as none of my men had been that way.

Partridge
with young

In a note book which I used here last year I find a leaf which evidently has never been copied & on which occurs the following inscription in pencil, doubtless made in the field:

"Young Partridges scattered calling feebly zee-zee-c
Old bird replies with a low cree-cree-cree."

On the same leaf is the following transcript of the song of Coccyzus americanus: "toc-toc-toc-toc-toc-toc (all these notes hard, woody & on the same key) kaw, kaw, kaw. The notes of another individual sounded more like tee-tet-tet-tet-tet-tet-taw, tau, tau"

Notes of
Yellow-bill
Cuckoo.

I crossed the river shortly before sunset and rambled about for upwards of an hour on Arnold's pasture. Birds were singing on every side. There were a Robin, a Veery, a Thrasher with a glorious voice & an unusually varied repertoire, a Towhee (in full song), a Wood Pewee, an Owl bird, a Redstart, a Chestnut-sided Warbler, a Maryland Yellow-throat, a Black & White Creeper, a Song Sparrow & in the distance, 2 or 3 loud whistling Bob-whites.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 27

(no 3)

My walk finally extended itself across the railroad ^{Quail's nest} and up through the lane to Arnold's house where ^{17 eggs} I was shown the Quail's nest. It was just over the wall from the main road, ~~in the side of a~~ ^{in an open ditch} low mound close to an old stump, surrounded by short & apparently dead grass which afforded it practically no shelter; but the nest was so deeply sunk into the side of the mound that the eggs could not be readily seen from above although they were all visible and very conspicuous when in ~~view~~ ^{view} in front of the nest a few feet off. Arnold said that the bird was sitting this forenoon but we found her absent this evening. At first glances the nest & its contents looked all right but on close inspection we were surprised to find that all but three of the eggs had hatched. The shells of all but two had been left in the nest & most of them were arranged in such a way as to look like perfect eggs which several of them had the two lobes hinged on one side and fitting closely together all around the edges of the fracture so that it was necessary to pick them up & examine them closely before one could walk over that they were not whole. The shells of ~~two~~ ^{three} of the eggs which were outside the nest lay directly in front of it, those of the other was to one side & a foot or more distant from the entrance. Arnold says that the hen Quail would allow him to approach within about five feet where she would slip off & run away through the grass. He has heard the cock regularly whistling near the nest. I doubt now if this can be the bird we have heard from the entire. The eggs were crowded together in a very small space.

Leicester, Mass.

1900.

June 28

Forenoon clear and very hot. A thunder storm at noon and another shortly after hours.

Went to Leicester by the forenoon train. & spent the night at Miss Holman's. In the clear morning, the village streets heard Vireo gilvus et parus singing and a little constrivus hassellii. Two Meadow Larks were singing in grassy fields near the house. Flocks of young Orioles were calling everywhere.

In the afternoon we took a short drive passing through woods where mountain larch was blooming in rich profusion. Among some second-growth oak woods on the crest of a hill a Hermit Thrush was in full song but his voice was comparatively weak & thin.

Hermit
Thrush.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 30

Brilliantly clear and pleasantly cool with strong N. W. wind.

I returned from Lancaster yesterday and Walter Deane joined me at the cabin last evening. We drove to the farm this morning and walked back to Hall's Hill through the woods. The strong cool wind seemed to silence the birds and we saw & heard but few. A Black-brown near Purple Rock being perhaps the most interesting.

On the western edge of Davis's Swamp we saw what I at first took to be a half-grown Fox but a moment later decided must be a Raccoon. It started within 20 yards of us and ran off through the swamp sometimes moving at a slow gallop, sometimes at a quick gliding trot. It looked black and gray and for an instant showed plainly a black-ringed tail.

Raccoon

As we were on the way to the West Bedford Station in the afternoon we were shown a birds' nest which the young had only just left. It was admirably concealed among fern tall, dense weeds which were growing along a stone wall and was within three feet of the foot path which leads from the Station down to the meadows and which we have traversed repeatedly the past month. The nest was made wholly of grass which hid a deep hollow that the bird had apparently reached in the earth within a few inches of the wall. Save for the fringe of weeds the field was open & needs cultivation. The E. Swain has whistled for the past two or three weeks in a pasture near Hobbs's Camp fully 400 yards from the nest but late in May we often heard him near

Arcton

Swain's nest

Concord, Mass.

1900.

June 30
(No 2)

The spot where the nest was afterwards built. It contained to-day the shells of 13 recently hatched eggs and one egg that had failed to hatch, but it is said that when Mr. Parker found it a few days ago it held 18 eggs. The shells of most of the eggs which had hatched were connected (i.e. the halves of each were connected) on one side by a strip of umbilical shell which formed a sort of hinge so that the two halves could be easily pressed back in place. I took all the shells and have them now in the collection.

Greenland, N.H.

June 19

As 9

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900
July 12

Clear and very warm with violent S. W. wind which brought a heavy shower at evening.

Took the 8.34 a. m. train to Concord. Spent most of the day observing from wood at the cabin. The strong wind looked thru trees about like seeds & especially silenced the birds. Indeed during the day I heard nothing but a Pine Warbler, a Honey and Yellow-throat, two Red-wings and a Red-eyed vireo. At sunset, just after the Moon had passed and while the heavens were suffused with an exquisite rose amber light, a Robin, a Song Sparrow and two Swamp Sparrows sang, a Veery called, a flock of fully 100 Swallows (mostly House) appeared high in air whirling about in a cluster like a swarm of bees, and two Night Herons, quacking hoarsely came over Balls Hill from the north and sailed down on set wings towards the middle of Great Meadows. Earlier in the day I saw two Nuthatches flying about & occasionally alighting in the meadow opposite the cabin. But boys they have been there constantly of late. The attraction is probably a multitude of young leopard or Pileated Frogs which are noticed all along the canal when we crossed this forenoon.

A pair of Red-eyed vireos accompanied by several young were fluttering about near the cabin in the afternoon. The young kept uttering a wing tree, tree, evidently a call for food.

Birds singing

through day

Birds singing

at sunset.

Flight of

Swallows

at evening

Night Herons

Bitterns

Call notes of

young

Red-eyed

vireos

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.
July 13

Brilliantly clear & pleasantly cool with light
W. wind.

Rose at 5.30 and took a walk of about an hour,
along the wire path to the back gate, up through the
fields to Perkins's pasture and back around the western
side of Ball's Hill swamp. The air was deliciously cool
and fresh and every leaf and blade of grass covered
with drops of water which sparkled like diamonds
in the rays of the sun. Altogether it was a rare
morning even for this season.

Early morning
walk.

The birds were singing almost as freely as in early
June. I noted down on the spot all that I saw or
heard during my walk with the following results.

Birds singing
in early
morning.

Muscula nigrotorvis 2 ♀, Luscinia fuscescens 1 ♀, Galusoptes
caerulescens 2 ♀, Empidonax rufus 2 flying about the
edge of a field, Parus atricapillus heard, Ministrella varia
2 ♀, Dendroica virens 2 ♀, D. pennsylvanica 2 ♀ (long
with complete ending), D. virens 2 ♀, Scolecophagus
auricapillus 3 ♀, Geothlypis trichas 2 ♀, Setophaga ruticilla 1 ♀, Piranga rubra 2 ♀,
Pooecetes gramineus 1 ♀, Spizella socialis 2 seen, Melospiza
fasciata 3 ♀, M. georgiana 2 ♀, Habia ludoviciana 1 ♀ (see
my thesis referred), Vireo olivaceus 2 ♀, V. flavifrons 1 ♀,
Dolichonyx oryzivorus (small flock chattering noisily),
Agelaius phoeniceus 3 ♀ (12), Lonicata cinerea 1, Sturnus galeatus
1 ad ♀ young heard, Corvus americanus 2, Cyanocitta cristata
2, Colaptes auratus 2 ♀, Dryobates p. americanus 1, Lyranus
tyronensis 1, Contopus maini 2 ♀, Chondestes pelagicus heard,
Colinus virginianus 2 ♀ (W. the first shot), Bonasa umbellus
brood of 7 or 8 young 2/3 grown; in all 32 species.
Later in the morning I noted on the West the first shot

Concord, Mass.

1900.

July 13
(No 2)

an Empidonax minimus, a Sayornis phoebe ♀, and a number of Pitcairulidon lunifrons. At evening I saw a Nuthatch and a Green Heron and heard a low bird & some Wood Swallows. These additions carry the list up to 39 species.

The Barn Swallows were at Parker's nesting under the eaves of the barn. Parker put up a chest to support the nests this spring but in spite of it a number of nests full of young fell during the thunder storm of last evening I was told. Parker's box says there were 17 complete & occupied nests yesterday. This morning there were only four or five perfect ones but I counted a dozen in which the birds were sitting although some of them were little more than narrow, semi-circular platforms from which the young or eggs had apparently fallen.

Last evening & this Pudd & Green Frogs have been very noisy but the Toads wholly silent.

White water lilies and pinkish wood an air full bloom all along both edges of the river near the cabin

Belt's Hill

Barn Swallows

Barn Swallows

nesting on
Parker's barn.

Frogs and
Toads

Water lilies
pinkish wood.

Covered, Mass.

1900.

July 23

Clear and hot with light S. W. wind.

Left Joffrey at 7 a. m. and reached Covered at 9 a. m. Peterson met me at the station and drove me to the farm where three about 8 o'clock was singing without any hearing at all. I also heard a Maryland Yellowthroat sing a few times & saw a Chipping in the orchard. There were probably all the birds I noted at the farm.

Birds noted
at Farm.

When I reached Ball's Hill the woods seemed devoid of bird life but as the heat began to abate in the late afternoon Swamp Sparrows & Red-wings sang rather freely. Gilbert tells me that he heard a Robin & a Red-eyed Vireo singing near the cabin this morning. At sunset an immense flock of Swallows collected on Holden's meadow and swept back and forth, at first rather high in view, finally low over the trees. They acted as if they were going to roost in the willows opposite Red Island but I did not actually trace them there. There must have been fully 500 birds in the flock, the majority evidently Barn Swallows with a few Ears & White-bellies.

Birds noted
at Ball's Hill.

Evening flight
Swallows.

Robins were flying about all the afternoon. At evening I heard a solitary Sandpiper calling over the river.

Bittern

At 8.30 P. M. a Fox barked many times in succession across the river.

Fox.

Pat Flannery tells me that Mason Wheeler killed a large Canada Porcupine last week near Botman's Pond. There were two together but one escaped. The one killed was hung up in Davis's store for three days & was seen by many of the Covered people including Herbert Holden.

Canada
Porcupine
killed in
Covered.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 1

Clear with cool n.w. wind.

I came from Joffrey this morning to spend a few days at Balls Hill. Before going there I drove to Angus's mill where I heard a Yellow Warbler in full song and saw one or two others flitting about in the trees over the brook.

Yellow Warbler
in full song.

At Hildreth's Corner thirty or more Martins were circling about their houses. Capt. Dohlin tells me that they have raised a large number of young this season, so many, indeed, "that we all can get inside at night". He thinks that the total number of young & old at present frequenting the two boxes on his place & the box across the street "must be fully 300" but this is probably an exaggeration.

Purple Martin

As I passed the Merwins' a Herring Gull was flying in the clouds in front of the house.

At Balls Hill I heard in full song a Solitary Tanager, a Song Sparrow and three or four Swamp Sparrows.

Birds singing
near Balls Hill.

Later in the afternoon a Red-breasted Grosbeak, apparently an adult, sang ten or a dozen times at short intervals. Its voice was almost as loud & rich as in the breeding season but the song was much shorter & less varied. When I heard it I afterwards saw two young Grosbeaks.

Grosbeak in
nearly full
song.

A good many Swallows & Doves were coming about at evening and the chink, chink of Noddies came from the meadows opposite the cabin.

Birds noted
at evening

Red-wings were also flying about in small flocks but I heard none singing. The Quail also seem to have become silent since my last visit.

Concord, Massachusetts.

Balls Hill

1900.

August 2

Beautifully clear and deliciously cool with long intervals of dead calm alternating with lighter ones of moderate W. wind.

Spent most of the day in the woods at Balls Hill or across the river near the new boat house. Pledin arrived by the 5.30 P. M. train and we at once started on a walk skirting the Holden meadow to Davis Hill and returning by way of Pine Ridge & Pine Park.

The evening was calm and beautiful with a few delicate ribbon-like, rose-tinted clouds floating low in the west. The Holden meadow was full of wild flowers.

We saw a swarm of Red-wings - upwards of 100 - crossing the river at Post Island. A Bittern loomed and sang up stream. Swallows & Swifts were scattered about wherever one chose to look. The chirp of Prothonotaria came from the wettest meadows.

The following birds were heard singing to-day: - Birds heard
Ministrel's vireo, the warbling vireo were long given their evening singing.

Scissor crossbills, the teacher long given over at evening

Vireo olivaceus, two birds in noisy full song for an hour after sunset.

Melospiza fasciata, two birds in full song at 4 P. M. another at sunset.

" Geothlypis, two singing at sunset

Habia ludoviciana, several singing near cabin for an hour after sunset & at intervals through day. Song in turns mostly full

Agelaius phoeniceus, adult ♂ in full song at sunset

Sayornis phoebe, adult singing fairly well in P. M.

Catoptes virens, one singing fairly & well at sunset.

Colinus virginianus, one song up (to 500 ft) for an hour after sunset.

A Water Thrush sang the day near the cabin.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

August 3

Clear and cool with strong N. E. wind.

Spent most of the forenoon on the boat Bedford Stone
superintending the men who were putting the finishing
touches on the new boat house. A Phoebe was hanging
about it again to-day being a little more and there.

Stone boat
house nearly
finished

In the afternoon went into the swamp behind Ball's
Hill to see a quantity of Virginia chain fern which
Purdie had found there this morning. It was mixed
in with cinnamon fern in most places. Purdie also
found it in two Davis's Swamps. Aspidium undulatum
occurs plentifully in both these swamps.

We took another walk over before - to & across
the Bowditch meadow which was as dry as an upland
field. The grass has been cut on this as well as most
of the low meadows by mowing machines. The second
crop has already started & the meadow was as green
as a lawn & very beautiful in the light of the
afternoon. Two Song-Bird Marsh Wrens were singing
in the wet fringe of hedge & wild rice along the
main bank and troops of Red-wings were coming in
to roost. One was seen to bathe or a Green Heron
passed over the Great Meadow on its way to its
feeding grounds. I saw three Green Herons flying together
this forenoon.

Grass on
Great Meadow
cut by
mowing ma-
chines
Marsh Wrens
Red-wings
flying to their
roosts.

Besides the Marsh Wren & Phoebe I heard singing
to-day a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, two Swamp
Sparrows, a Grosbeak, a Red-wing, a Wood Pewee (fully)
or Lizard. There was also a Black-bellied Cuckoo coming.

The Grosbeak sang freely & well through the forenoon. On
following it up I was surprised to find that it was apparently
a female. The head wings tail & back were plain faded brown; the
under parts were dusky. It may have been a young ♂.

Rose b. Grosbeak,
apparently ♀,
sings freely.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 4

Brimingly clear with light N. E. to W. wind. Morning & evening very cool; middle of day rather warm.

Spent the entire day near the cabin or across the river on the new boat house. After supper Purdin & I walked along the river path to Pine Park.

Here I first came out on half past six this morning a pair of big Snapping Turtles were having a desperate fight near the middle of the river. The struggle lasted for minutes or more and the ripples caused by it covered the whole river from shore to shore.

Snapping
Turtles
fighting

At 7 a.m., Pat called us out of the cabin to see two Great Blue Herons which had just alighted on together in the top of a maple on the West Bedford shore. They remained there for nearly ten minutes busily preening their broad wings and holding them extended & motionless after the manner of Baldpates or plopping them slowly. They finally took flight and rose high over the meadows where they were joined by a third bird of the same species, all three soaring in circles like Eagles & slowly drifting off to the S. W.

Great Blue
Herons

I saw during the day a ♂ Scudder Tanager (in full breeding plumage apparently), a family party of five Yellow Warblers, two Bluebirds, a Green Heron & a number of commoner birds.

Scarlet Tanager
in red plumage

I heard singing a Song-bird Mash town, a Maryland Yellow. Warbler (flies long over at evening), a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, two Swamp Sparrows, & a Phoebe.

Birds heard
singing.

The Devil across the river whistled his white all day long.

The only Batrachians heard were on the Green Frog.

The Cuckoo (Coccyzus erythrophthalmus) are in noisy full cry near the cabin.

Frogs. 54
Tree Cuckoo.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 5

Brightly clear morning, clouds gathering in late afternoon. Light variable winds mostly easterly with long intervals of calm. Morning & evening cool; middle of day warm.

Parkin and I were out from 7.30 to 11 a.m. spending most of this period in the woods on Holden's Hill. There were lots of small birds there, mostly Wobblers and Red-eyed Vireos with a few Chickadees, a Tanager with young, a downy woodpecker, two Flies & some Jays.

Morning
walk

The majority of the Wobblers were Black & White Carpenter and Christmas-kind but there were at least two Blackburnians, one a young in first plumage apparently, the other an old ♀. Probably the Blackburnians were local birds although it is possible they had come down from further north.

The Tanager was still in red plumage but it had a patch of yellow feathers on each side of the breast which looked like security around feathers of the autumnal dress. It was suspicious about a young bird which was near at hand and flitted close about us calling chup and creating the feathers of the crown into a brown crest. The young Tanager uttered at first, regular intervals a querulous, punctuating call which at a distance sounded like tee-e, near at hand like cheery or teeer-e and which was very like the hunger call of a young Woodcock (Habia) only more guttural (or perhaps I should say nasal) in quality. We did not see a lone Wren Tanager or all.

Tanager
with young

Most of the birds just mentioned were collected together in mixed flocks a mixed flock. The Red-eyed Vireos sang freely & well and one of the Chickadees whistled flit-flit many times.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 5
(No 2)

In the afternoon we roved up river to the Buttrick's
 to get the two fishing camps, in which Purdie & I returned
 without having had in the day. The river has changed
 greatly in aspect within the past two or three years owing
 to weaves and extension of the beds of wild rice (Zizania)
 which now fringes the banks almost everywhere above
 above this & the lower bridge and at the Holt & Barrett's
 two farms cross and down beds hundreds of feet in length.
 Bobolinks & Red-wings were collected in large numbers in
 the large beds apparently feeding on the grain of the rice.
 They rose, as we advanced, from both sides of the river
 and sailed about us in swarms chirping a coo in variety.
 We heard singing during this trip ^{a Catbird} Black & White Crows,
 a Yellow Warbler, at least a dozen Song Sparrows, an Indigo Bird
 and a Red-winged Blackbird. I also heard a Sumner
 Yellowlegs in the distance and a Virginia Rail calling
kil-kil in a bed of wild rice. Two Stone-billed and
 one Long-billed Wood Wren were singing near the river banks.
 A start of Red-tailed Hawk scolded across the stream
 at the Holt's. We saw a Meadow Lark over Holt's landing

Trip up the
River.

Wild Rice

Bobolinks

Red-wings

Birds singing

Va. Rail

Marsh Wren

Red-tailed

Hawk.

Upland

Plover.

Just before breakfast this morning I walked to Holden's
 meadows where I heard the call of the Upland Plover.
 The sound was distant at first but presently came
 nearer when I discerned two of the birds flying in
 company at a great height, circling over the meadows.
 They are the first I have noted in this locality for
 many years but there I am not often here in August.
 I also heard a Red-tail in full song & saw the bird
 a fine old war.

Some nights at about 8 o'clock a Screech Owl whistles
 a number of times across the river.

Screech Owl.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 5
(No 3)

Hubert Holden, who came at the cabin this morning, tells me that the Porcupine which Mason Wheeler killed this month (of joints entry under date July 23rd) was in a field of English grass near the edge of Fifty Acre Meadows. Wheeler was driving a mowing machine at the time (about 2 o'clock) and seeing the grass violently agitated just ahead of his horse stopped them and alighting found and killed the poor animal which was doing its best to escape. Wheeler told Holden that a farmer in Colchester killed a Porcupine in that town about thirty years ago but that none have been seen since. The story that Wheeler found two together & that one of them escaped is, according to both Holden & Davis, without foundation.

Holden further said that Quail are more numerous about Concord this season than they have been for many years. He has heard them whistling in many places east of the town especially along the Virginia road & about Deer Meadows.

Further notes
on the
Porcupine
killed near
Barnstable
Pond.

Quail
abundant
this year.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

August 6

Clear and oppressively hot with light S. W. wind. A slight shower at evening.

Spent the entire day at the cabin where I saw few birds and none of any special interest. At evening walked to the Bount Woods, Bobolinks Red-wings and Swallows were passing almost continuously on their way to roost. I counted seventy Bobolinks in a few minutes and thirty House Swallows in one flock.

Evening walk

The only birds heard singing to-day were a Song-Spinner Bird singing and a House-billed Marsh Wren, two Black & White Crows, a Maryland Yellow-Throat (flycatcher song over at evening), a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, a Swamp Sparrow, a Flicker (shouted over at evening) and a several heard at frequent intervals in the forenoon.

During my evening walk I saw two Bitterns flying across the woods one following closely in the wake of the other. One or both called oek-oek-oek at frequent intervals.

Bitterns

The ditch which we dug last autumn across the meadow opposite the cabin is a favorite resort for many interesting animals. It is alive with frogs & fish & there abound Bitterns, Green Herons, and numerous Snakes chiefly Water Snakes & hick adders which lie at length or loosely coiled on the banks & allow us to brush past them within a foot or two.

Boat canal
dug in
1899.

But I find that if we stop the boat to look at them more closely they usually glide or roll off the bank into the water & at once dive beneath the surface. Sandpeeps also frequent the muddy flats along this ditch.

Water Snakes.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

August 7

Cloudy with light E. wind and showers at short intervals through the day & with the night wetting deep with the drought-parched earth.

Spent most of the day at or near the cabin superintending the work of the men. In the forenoon went to the woods beyond the Barrett Meadows with Peterson to cut some chestnuts for rain water conductors.

Birds appeared to be scarce. I heard a Great Horned Owl and saw a Black Duck flying over the meadows. Black Duck and a water Thrush in the throat in front of the Water Thrush cabin.

The only birds heard singing were two Black & White Crows, two Yellow Warblers (apparently young - at least their songs were weak & broken), a Red-eyed Vireo, a Song Sparrow, a Wood Pewee (singing the note, without undulating note) and a Flicker (flashing several times in succession). For the first time during the hot week we heard one Indigo Bunting heard whistling.

Last evening at about 8 o'clock a Screech Owl worked for fifteen minutes or more across the river.

Taking advantage of the rain to-day we burned several large brush piles that have accumulated on the meadows. At evening I was poking among the remains of one of them when, to my surprise, I uncovered a small snake (Storeria dekayi) which was lying directly under a mass of glowing & internally hot coals. As it wriggled off into the grass I had a good view of it & became convinced that it had been in no way injured.

Probably it sought the ember bed for its grateful warmth. Last days a young Rattlesnake seen from under this brush heap when subjected to.

Birds singing

Indigo Bunting

Screech Owl

Burning brush

A De Kay's Snake in embers of fire

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900.

August 8

Cloudy with occasional light showers. Heavy rain all through last night. Rather sultry with light S.W. wind.

Spent the forenoon near the cabin. In the afternoon walked to Pine Ridge & the Mount Windows. After supper strolled around behind Balls Hill.

The woods appeared to contain but few birds. I heard a Goshawk calling, Jays screaming and Vireos calling at evening when a number of Robins were also assembling, to roost apparently, in the pines behind Balls Hill. Across the river, when I went for a short time just after dinner, I saw two Oven birds and heard a Grosbeak. Swallows and Doves were numerous all day over the woods. Later in the afternoon I saw two Great Blue Herons flying over the Mount Windows.

The only birds heard singing were a Song Sparrow, a Flicker & a Lark.

Woodland
birds scarce.

Swallow Swifts
numerous

Gr. B. Herons.

Birds singing

Concord, Mass.

Bittern

1900.
August 9

Clear and very warm with light N.W. wind.

Spent most of the forenoon near the cabin and on the
Beane's meadow where they were now working on a new
roadway. Birds were silent & apparently scarce.

In the afternoon Gilbert rode me up river to
Concord where I took the train for Jaffrey.

At the head of the "Holt" we passed within 20 yards
of a Bittern which was standing erect & motionless on
the bank. The grass had been recently cut & removed
and there was absolutely nothing left that could afford
the bird the least concealment. His neck was stretched up
to its full length, his bill pointing straight upward.
He turned his head from side to side every few seconds
but made no other motion. In spite of his large size
& conspicuous position his coloring matched his general
surroundings so admirably that we nearly passed without
seeing him. After we had got some 200 yards above him
he flew over the river & alighted under some weeds.

Bittern

Just above Red Bridge we saw five or six Cowbirds
on the ground in a pasture among some crosses. Whenever
one of the latter animals started on ahead of the rest the
Cowbirds would jump themselves on each side close to
its lowered nose and were especially on guard ahead
of it.

Cowbirds

Concord, Mass.

1900.

List of birds met with, chiefly at or near Ball's Mill :-

Aug. 1-9

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. <u>Sialia hirta</u> | 32. <u>Cyanospiza cyanea</u> | |
| 2. <u>Murela nigricans</u> | 33. <u>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</u> | 63 <u>Anas obscura</u> |
| 3. <u>Zonotrichia querula</u> | 34. <u>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</u> | |
| 4. <u>Coturnicops notatus</u> | 35. <u>Melospiza alba</u> | |
| 5. <u>Cistothorus palustris</u> | 36. <u>Junco hyemalis</u> | |
| 6. " <u>flavus</u> | 37. <u>Icterus galbula</u> | |
| 7. <u>Sitta carolinensis</u> | 38. <u>Agelaius phoeniceus</u> | |
| 8. <u>Passer atricapillus</u> | 39. <u>Sturnella magna</u> | |
| 9. <u>Mniotilta varia</u> | 40. <u>Corvus americanus</u> | |
| 10. <u>Dumetia carolinensis</u> | 41. <u>Cyanocitta cristata</u> | |
| 11. " <u>peninsularis</u> | 42. <u>Chauleutes pelagicus</u> | |
| 12. " <u>blackburniae</u> (2, Aug. 5 th) | 43. <u>Fulvica caerulea</u> | |
| 13. <u>Sialia arctica</u> | 44. <u>Ceryle alcyon</u> | |
| 14. " <u>nonnata</u> | 45. <u>Ceryle alcyon</u> | |
| 15. <u>Cathartes aura</u> | 46. <u>Tyrannus tyrannus</u> | |
| 16. <u>Streptopelia risoria</u> | 47. <u>Sagittarius phalaena</u> | |
| 17. <u>Vireo olivaceus</u> | 48. <u>Colaptes auratus</u> | |
| 18. " <u>flavifrons</u> | 49. <u>Colaptes auratus</u> | |
| 19. " <u>solitarius</u> (B.H. 1 st Aug. 1 st) | 50. <u>Dryobates p. nelsonii</u> | |
| 20. " <u>gilvus</u> | 51. <u>Megascops asio</u> | |
| 21. <u>Ampelis cedrorum</u> | 52. <u>Buteo borealis</u> | |
| 22. <u>Progne subis</u> | 53. <u>Bonasa umbellus</u> | |
| 23. <u>Pterodroma externa</u> | 54. <u>Colinus virginianus</u> | |
| 24. <u>Hirundo erythrogastra</u> | 55. <u>Ardea herodias</u> | |
| 25. <u>Cotile riparia</u> | 56. " <u>americanus</u> | |
| 26. <u>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</u> | 57. <u>Botaurus lentiginosus</u> | |
| 27. <u>Sturnus vulgaris</u> | 58. <u>Rallus virginianus</u> | |
| 28. <u>Melospiza melodia</u> | 59. <u>Zonotrichia leucophrys</u> | |
| 29. " <u>garganica</u> | 60. <u>Rhyacophilus solitarius</u> | |
| 30. <u>Sturnella forsteri</u> | 61. <u>Bartramia longicauda</u> | |
| 31. <u>Habia melanocephala</u> | 62. <u>Circus hudsonius</u> | |

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 16
(No 2)

In the afternoon I drove to the farm and
walked back through the woods. At Pulpit Rock where
I spent nearly an hour taking out some plants I saw
a large mixed flock of Woodpeckers which were moving slowly
through the tree tops making a continuous chirping noise.
Having my glass I was unable to identify any of them
except a Carpenter, a Red-eye and several Chickadees.

Pulpit Rock
woods.

Large mixed
flock.

In the woods behind Parsons' on the western end
of Davis's Swamp I had an interesting one for this
region novel experience with a brood of Partridges. There
were five young nearly full grown and their mother.
I came suddenly upon them at a place where the
ground was heavily shaded by large oaks & pines and
about wholly free from underbrush or lowly vegetation of
any kind. To my surprise not one of them attempted
to fly nor did they show much fear of me. At first
they merely walked slowly on about of me some 15 yards
in advance eating & pecking their tails & uttering low
chirping calls. Sometimes they scattered about but most
of the time they kept well together & were then over
I could have killed two or three of them at one shot.

Unusual
behavior of
a brood of
Partridges

I followed them for upwards of 100 yards when they
emerged from the old woods & entered a thicket
of young pines where the ground was smooth &
covered with bright green moss. Here they increased
their pace & I went until I had to turn to keep
them in sight. Finally they outran me & disappeared
without flying. The sun was shining brightly on the
timber but the ground & foliage were very wet ~~and~~ perhaps
the birds' feathers were, also. The old hen uttered a little
but did not utter any other sounds.

Concord, Mass.

1900.

August 16

Forenoon cloudy with heavy showers following an
anxiety in quick succession. The latter, at about noon, a
downpour of unusual violence. Afternoon clear with rather
stuffy air.

Left Joffrey at 7 a. m. and reached Concord at 9.
Gilbert & Peterson were in at the Station. He drove to the
Hayes's Conding where Gilbert had left the bills open
cases. I paddled it down to Wood's Hill stopping with
an umbrella raised as a shelter when the rain came to
heavily for comfort.

At the foot of the Hill I saw a Bittern standing
on the high grassy bank. It discovered me a moment
later and at once started off at a rather rapid but
very clumsy run, tripping over slight obstacles & falling over
or twice. On looking down below which gives along a view
from it entered them, as I supposed, to hide but when
I passed them I saw it standing erect & still on the
other side. I paddled in near it when it had signified
at the same time raising its head & pointing up its bill.
When within six or eight yards I raised my paddle
& the Bittern flew. It was with difficulty & after
going a few yards flung against the wire fence coming
to the ground but immediately rising again &
flying about 20 yards very slowly & feebly and at
length alighting on the edge of a field of corn into
which it ran quickly. Its plumage was drabbed &
blackened which, I think, accounted for its halting flight.
During the absence of the bird I heard two short billed
marsh terns in full song. A Song Sparrow, a Swamp
Sparrow and a Cuckoo each sang once.
There was a brown thrush at the cabin.

Peculiar
behavior of
a Bittern.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

August 17

Clear with several light dashes of rain & a heavy
thunder storm passing to the westward early in the
afternoon. Evening calm & brilliancy clear.

Spent the entire day near the cabin where I
saw only a few common birds such as Black & White Crows,
Red-eyes etc. One of the latter was singing freely well
at sunrise. At evening I heard full songs from two
different Maryland Yellow-Throats.

Birds scarce

Singing.

The evening flight of Bobolinks was something unprecedented. Evening
I saw fully 200 in one flock and at least 100 more
in several broader flocks. All passed the cabin shortly
before sunset heading westward and keeping on one of
lights towards the middle of the Great Meadows, where I
suppose they go to roost in the tall grass. Their
musical pink, pink was a pleasant sound suggestion
of wilderness meadows. There were a few Red wings
flying with most of the flocks.

Evening
flight of
Bobolinks

Around the Great Meadows at twilight came a
perfect herd of night hawks. I counted 17 in light
air over. They were scattered widely and flying
to & from in every direction crossing & crossing each
others lines of flight & evidently feeding. As is the
almost invariable rule at this season they were
absolutely silent.

Big migration
of night hawks

My walk this evening was first to the Bennett
meadows, north to Pine Ridge, & back across Balls Hill
swamp. The meadows were wreathed in heavy fog
just before the afterglow faded in the west.

Evening
walk.

Last evening a Screech Owl worked across the
river. I heard one calling to-night near the cabin.

Screech Owl.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900

August 27

Clear, hot & very sultry with little or no wind.

Left Jopony at 7 a. m. & for the last time this summer. Reached Concord at 9 a. m. Met Gilbert at Littel's stable. He had driven down "Lydia", the horse I have been using this summer. We kept on to the farm & took their supper.

I spent most of the day near the cabin. There seemed Small birds to be a good many birds about. On the way down from Concord I saw flocks of Robins & Chipping, several Bluebirds & Kingbirds, a pair of 8 Owls & two Phoebe. Near the cabin I saw another Owl also an adult ♂ and heard a Red-eye whistling. In the early afternoon a Mourning Dove sang for a bit time in succession giving the short, rising spring notes. There was also a Wood Pewee singing well. At evening as I was walking over Pine Ridge an Owl hid her light in air & uttered its flight song with full vigor. I also heard two Cat birds & two Wilson's Thrushes talking and saw a number of Robins assembling to roost in the pines behind Balls Hill.

Over the windows just before sunset I heard Mockers talking but they were much less numerous apparently than during my last visit here. I also saw a flock of a dozen Martins pass, flying scattered, & heard some Swallows. There were no Red wings.

Martins
migrating?

Concord, Mass

1900.

August 28

Morning cloudy & calm; afternoon clear with light S. wind.
Cooler than yesterday but sultry.

Spent the entire day working on the new cabin. A Black & White Cuckoo & a Wood Pewee were the only birds heard singing. There was a Water Thrush near the cabin and a Kingfisher calling over the river. At sunset a few Redstarts passed flying up river. Gilbert found the skeleton of a Partridge that had evidently been killed by a Fox in the woods behind Bass's Hill.

Chestnut
Cabin building

Kingfisher

During my last visit to the cabin (August 16-17) I saw 7 frogs were still croaking. I hear no Bats now. At evening & through the entire night we have a good chorus of Tree Toads almost as full as that at Cambridge at this season.

Frogs

Tree toads

" 29

Morning cloudy & sultry with a short but brisk shower. Afternoon sunny & warm.

Visited the farm in the forenoon and set out a number of plants on Pulpit Rock. Heard a few warblers chirping in the woods but failed to identify any of them. In Benson's pasture just below the barn a Pine Warbler was singing lustily (for some mysterious reason this spite the attempts for from the woods is devoted to by Pine Warblers at all seasons, while they are here). There were also swarms of Bluebirds & Chipping in this pasture.

Returned to Cambridge by electric car in P.M. As I was crossing a field near the W. Bedford Station I flushed a solitary Quail from a bed of tall weeds.

Jaffrey, New Hampshire

1900.

July & Aug

I went to Jaffrey on July 20th and remained there most of the time until August 27th visiting Concord, Mass., however, on several occasions on one (August 1-9) running away eight days.

At Jaffrey I stayed at the Skelton's, a large humble boarding house very pleasantly situated with a fine view of meadowland and attractive woods and fields close at hand. The woods were much like those at Peterboro but beeches and balsams were much more numerous, especially the former which often made up the principal part of the tree growth.

The drives were particularly attractive with long stretches of smooth, hard & comparatively level road heavily shaded by fine old trees and bordered by belts of luxuriant ferns or thickets of bushes.

A succession of slight illnesses and neural returns of my chronic larynx prevented me from working much but with Walter Deane I did a good deal. A copy of the list of birds which we made will be inserted after these more general observations. It contains pretty much all of interest that resulted from our combined observations and shows how nearly the bird fauna approximates to that of the Peterboro region as represented by the lists in my journal for 1898 and 1899.

Aside from the brief & condensed statements contained in the field list I made a few notes which have worth recording here. Before mentioning them I will insert a list of the birds which we have found here this season but did not detect in Peterboro in 1898 or 1899. They are as follows: *Wilsonia canadensis* one family, *Dendroica cerulea*, several; *Ammodramus*, several, one at Mr. Sumner's; *Catherpes mexicanus*, common, *Antrostomus vociferans*, common;

Jaffrey, New Hampshire.

1900.

July & August
(No 2) *Sphyrapicus varius*, one (W. Dean); *Buteo lineatus*, a pair with
young; *Lanius l. migrans*, one seen by Mr. & Mrs. Emerson near their
house in August.

Turdus pallasi. - Hermits have been very common here this
season. At least three and I think four different
birds sang within hearing of our house through July and
I often heard as many as six or seven during a drive
of a few miles. Ordinarily they sang afternoon & were
fully in the early morning and late evening but during
the latter part of July one of the birds near the house
sang almost continuously through the entire day, even when
the weather was clear & warm but usually only when it
was cloudy. At evening after finishing singing they
regularly called to one another from all parts of the
woods keeping it up for several minutes and giving the
chuck, the night call (used in migration) and the fluting
cry in succession.

The singing period came to an end rather abruptly and
very completely & generally early in August. After this
although we heard the birds occasionally we did not on
a single occasion I believe hear one of them utter
a note of any kind.

Vireo olivaceus. - A Red-eye which sang habitually in an
apple orchard near the house interpolated at short intervals
among the normal notes of its song a perfect imitation
of the "three deep" cry of *Geothlypis trichas* as well as, less
frequently, a fairly good reproduction of the Bluebird's
wheeler. Abbot Thayer tells me that there are occasionally
five or six Red eyes on Memorial which imitate *Geothlypis trichas*

Jaffrey, N. H.

1900
July 1-31

List of birds observed in Jaffrey in July by William Brewster and Walter Deane. All birds observed with a few exceptions were at altitudes varying from 1000 to 1200 feet elevation. A few observed near the Mountain House on Mt. Monadnock, feet elevation, are so recorded.

1 = in flight; * = in full song; (X) in weak song; 0 with number inside = in a flock:—

Ardea virescens 10†

Bonasa umbellus 13^{ad}+10^{yg}

Buteo lineatus 2' 7' 10* 26* 27* 30*

latissimus 7'

Coereba erythrophthalma 6* 12^{seen} 22* 24* 29* 31*

Ceryle alcyon 10' 18'

Dryobates villosus 3' 28^{calling}

p. medianus 3' 9' 10⁵ 23⁸

Sphyrapicus varius 9^{♀ ad.}
 W. D.

Geophloeus pileatus 5^{ad} 8^{ad} 9^{ad} 26^{ad} 30^{ad} seen at Mountain House by W. D.

Colaptes a. luteus 6* 8' 9' 11' 12' 20* 22* 26' 30*

Antrostomus vociferus 2* 6* 7* 8* 9* 10* 12* 15* 17* 18* 19* 20*

Chordeiles virginianus 5* 6* 7' 9' 13* 15* 23* 24' 29*

Trochilus colubris 13' 23' 30'

Chaetura pelagica 2 3 4 5 6¹ 7³ 8⁶ 9⁶ 10¹² 11¹⁰ 12⁵ 13⁵ 14¹² 15¹² 16¹⁰ 17¹⁰
18¹² 19⁶ 20¹² 21⁴⁺⁷ 22 23 24¹⁰ 25¹⁰ 26⁵ 27⁴ 28⁶ 29⁵ 30⁶ 31⁴

Tyrannus tyrannus 6² 7' 8³ 9² 10⁵ 11² 12³ 13⁴ 14³ 15³ 16³ 17⁴ 18³ 19³ 20⁷ 21³
22 23⁵ 24⁵ 25² 26² 27⁴ 28⁵ 29³ 30⁶

Lagotis phaebe 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 8* 9' 10* 12* 13' 14' 15' 16* 17' 20' 24' 28^{ad. v. im.}

Contopus virens 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* 13* 15* 17* 18* 19* 22* 26* 27* 28* ^{full spring song}

Empidonax minimus 2* 3* 4* 5* 6* 7* ^{full spring song} 9³ 10* 11* 12* 13' 20' 22'
23' 27' 31²

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

July 1-31
(2)

Cyanocitta cristata 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂]

20[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Cornus americana 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂]

Dolichonyx oryzivorus 6 ♂ + 5 ♀♀ 10 14[♂] 17[♂] 20[♂] 22[♂] 29[♂]

Agelaius phoeniceus 10[♂]

Carpodacus purpureus 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂]

Passer domesticus 5[♂] 10[♂] 13[♂] 17[♂] 20[♂] 23[♂] 25[♂]

Astragalinus tristis 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂]

19[♂] 20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Poocetes gramineus 5[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 19[♂] 27[♂] 30[♂]

Ammodramus s. savasina 27[♂] Dr. S. Emery's ridge of Monadnock, W.B.

Zonotrichia albicollis 2[♂] 18[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] W. D. saw near Dr. S. Emery's ridge of Monadnock, W.B. * Jaffrey * 2. Jaffrey.

Spizella socialis 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂]

19[♂] 20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Spizella pusilla 3[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 19[♂] 20[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 25[♂] 28[♂]

Junco hyemalis 30[♂] near the pond, W.B.

Melospiza fasciata 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂]

19[♂] 20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Pipilo erythrophthalmus 8[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 13[♂] 17[♂] 19[♂] 20[♂] 22[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] Mc. House on Mt. Monadnock, W.B.

Zamelodia ludoviciana 13 W.D. saw near Dr. S. Emery's ridge of Monadnock, W.B. also saw the pond. The 13 was seen near Dr. S. Emery's ridge of Monadnock, W.B. 22[♂] 29[♂]

Cyanospiza cyanea 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂]

20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂]

Piranga erythromelas 3[♂] 6[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 13[♂] 15[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 30[♂] Mc. House, Mt. Monadnock, W.B.

Petrochelidon lunifrons 6[♂] 8[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 17[♂] 21[♂] 25[♂] 29[♂]

Chelidon erythrogaster 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂]

20[♂] 21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Tachycineta bicolor 17 W. D. saw near Dr. S. Emery's ridge of Monadnock, W.B. 20[♂]

Ampelis cedrorum 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 9[♂] 13[♂] 18[♂] 20[♂] 23[♂] 27[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] Mc. House, Mt. Monadnock, W.B.

Vireo olivaceus 2[♂] 3[♂] 4[♂] 5[♂] 6[♂] 7[♂] 8[♂] 9[♂] 10[♂] 11[♂] 12[♂] 13[♂] 14[♂] 15[♂] 16[♂] 17[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂] 20[♂]

21[♂] 22[♂] 23[♂] 24[♂] 25[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 28[♂] 29[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Vireo solitarius 9[♂] 18[♂] 19[♂] 26[♂] 27[♂] 30[♂] 31[♂]

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

July 1-31 Mniotilta varia 2^x 3^x 4^x 5^x 6^x 28' 29'

(3) Helminthophila rubricapilla 6^x 10^x 11^x

Comptothlypis americana usneae 19^x

Dendroica caerulescens 3^x 7^x 11^x 19'

" coronata 5^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x ^{seen} 11' 12^x 16^x 17^x 18^x 19^x 20^x
21^x 22^x 25^x 26^x 28^x

" maculosa 9^x 10^x 18^x 30^x ^{Mr. House, Monadnock, N.H.}

" penylvanica 2^x 3^x 4^x 5^x 6^x 8^x 10^x 11^x 13^x

" blackburniae 2^x 3^x 4^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x 10^x 19'

" viens 2^x 3^x 4^x 5^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x 10^x 11^x 12^x 13^x 14^x 15^x 16^x
18^x 19^x 20^x 21^x 22^x 23^x 24^x 26^x 27^x 28^x 30^x

Seiurus aurocapillus 2^x 3^x 4^x 5^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x 10^x 11^x 12^x 13^x 17^x 18^x 19^x
20^x 21^x 22^x

Geothlypis trichas 2^x 3^x 4^x 5^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x 10^x 11^x 12^x 13^x 14^x 15^x 17^x
19^x 20^x 22^x 29²

Melospiza canadensis 7^x ^{W.B.} 19 ^{♂ ad.} ^{W.B.}

Setophaga ruticilla 6^x 14^x

Galeoscoptes carolinensis 2^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x 10^x 13^x 14^x 15^x 19^x
20^x 22^x 24' 27' 28^x 29^x

Harporhynchus rufus 8' 29'

Sitta carolinensis 2^x 3^x 6^x 9^x 12^x 14^x 15^x 16^x 18^x 19^x 21^x 22^x 24^x
26^x 28^x

" canadensis 2^x 3^x 6^x 10^x 18' 19'

Parus atricapillus 2^x 3^x 6^x 7^x 9^x 10^x 11^x 12^x 13^x 15^x 18^x 22^x 31^x * = phoebe note.

Regulus satrapa 3^x 10^x 27' 31²

Turdus mustelinus 2^x 6^x 9^x 10^x

" ustulatus swainsonii 30^x ^{behind barn at Mr. House, Mr. Monadnock, N.H.}

" fuscescens 2^x 6^x 7^x ⁴¹ ^{canis} 9^x 10^x 13^x 19^x 20^x

" a. pallasii 2^x 3^x 4^x 5^x 6^x 7^x 8^x 9^x 10^x 11^x 12^x 13^x 15^x 16^x 17^x 18^x

19^x ^{4 at one time} ^{Shattuck's birds W. House} 20^x 21^x 22^x 23^x 24^x 25^x 26^x 27^x 28^x 29^x

30^x (2 = Shattuck's) 31²

Gaffrey, N.H.

1900

July 1-31

Merula migratoria 2 3 4 5 6² 7³ 8³ 9¹ 10¹⁰ 11⁶ 12⁽¹⁰⁾ 13²⁺⁵ 14⁶

(4)

15¹⁰ 16⁸ 17⁽¹⁰⁾ 18³ 19³ 20³ 21³ 22³ 23⁶ 24⁶ 25³ 26² 27⁵ 28⁶ 29⁵ 30¹ 2+5 same as
10-11-12
13-14-15
16-17-18-19-20

31¹ same as

Sialia sialis 6¹⁺²_{3 4 7} 7' 8' 9' 11² 12² 15' 16' 20² 24² 25² 26² 27'

Total - 68 species.

Copied from my journal, Walter Deane.

Jan. 23, 1900.

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

Aug. 1-27 List of birds observed in Jaffrey in August by William Brewster and Walter Deane under the same conditions as in July.

- Totanus solitarius 1¹ Jaffrey 9¹ Jaffrey 21⁽²⁾ ^{by Mrs. Jaffrey} ^{Thumside Pond}
- Circus hudsonius 13 ^{Bad Shattuck's}
- Buteo lineatus 3¹ ^{for 8 hrs.} 9¹ 11² 12¹ 13¹ 14¹ 17¹
- " latissimus 21² ^{seen}
- Syrnium nebulosum 25¹ ^{shooting at 11.30 P.M. in woods near the house, W.B.} 27¹ ^{hunting north of the house at 12.30 A.M. by W.B. & W.D.}
- Coccyzus erythrophthalmus 3² 13¹ 14² 15¹ 20¹ 21¹ 22¹ 24¹
- Ceryle alcyon 21² ^{Thumside Pond}
- Ceophloeus pileatus 21¹
- Chordeiles virginianus 9¹ 10¹ 14¹ 17⁽³⁾ 18⁽²⁾ 20¹ 21⁽²⁾ 22⁽³⁾ 26⁽³⁾ 26⁽³⁾ ²
- Chaetura pelagica 1² 3¹ 10¹ 11¹ 12¹ 13¹ 14¹ 16¹ 17¹ 18⁽²⁾ 19¹ 21¹ 23⁵ 24³ 26¹
- Trochilus colubris 18¹ 19¹ 20¹
- Tyrannus tyrannus 1¹ 9² 11² 14¹ 15¹ 16² 17² 18² 21¹
- Tayornis phoebe 2¹ 11¹ ^{sunrise} 14¹ 20¹ 22¹ ^{W.B.}
- Cortopus virens 11⁽²⁾ 12⁽³⁾ 13⁽²⁾ 21¹ 26⁽²⁾
- Cyanocitta cristata 2² 11⁽²⁾ 14⁽²⁾ 15⁽²⁾ 16⁽²⁾ 17⁽²⁾ 18⁽²⁾ 21⁽²⁾ 22⁽²⁾ 23⁽³⁾ 24⁽²⁾
- Cornus americanus 14⁽²⁾ 15⁽²⁾ 16⁽³⁾ 17⁽²⁾ 18⁽²⁾ 19⁽²⁾ 20⁽²⁾ 21⁽²⁾ 22⁽²⁾ 23⁽²⁾ 24⁽²⁾ 27⁽²⁾
- Dolichonyx oryzivorus 11¹ 20¹
- Carpodacus purpureus 23¹ ^{calling}
- Passer domesticus 18¹ 23⁽³⁾
- Astragalinus tristis 1¹ 2¹ 11⁽²⁾ 14⁽²⁾ 15¹ 16² 17⁽²⁾ 19⁽²⁾ 20⁽²⁾ 21¹ 22² 23¹
- Spizella socialis 10⁽²⁾ 11⁽²⁾ 12⁽²⁾ 13⁽²⁾ 15⁽²⁾ 17⁽²⁾ 20¹
- " pusilla 13¹ ^{full song once} 15¹ 20⁽²⁾ ^{sang four times weakly}
- Melospiza fasciata 1¹ 2¹ 14¹ 18¹ 21¹
- Cyanospiza cyanea 2¹ 9¹ 11¹ ^{full song twice at sunrise} ^{W.B.}
- Progne subis 13¹ ^{W.B.}
- Petrochelidon lunifrons 26¹
- Colaptes auratus luteus 21¹

Jaffrey, N.H.

1900

- Aug. 1-27
(2) Chelidon erythrogaster 2² 11' 13² 14¹² 15³ 16² 17' 18⁶ 20² 21² 22² 23⁵ 24⁶ 25⁶
Ampelis cedrorum 12² 17⁶ 19⁴ 21²⁰
Lanius l. migrans 18 + 20' seen by Dr. E. D. Emerson on his place and accurately described to W.B. Seen perched very near.
Vireo olivaceus 1² 2¹ 9² 11² 12² 13² 14¹ 17² 20¹ 21¹ 23⁶ 25⁶ 26⁶ 27⁶
" solitarius 13¹ ^{young on tree} 15¹ 18¹ 19¹
Mniotilta varia 12⁶
Dendroica coronata 9'
" maculosa 21' ^{1 im.} W.B.
" virens 14' 15' ^{band of yg.} 18' 26'
Sciurus aurocapillus 15² 21²
" noveboracensis 13' 15'
Geothlypis trichas 1' 14⁶ 21' 24⁶
Wilsonia canadensis 13' ^{♂ ad. feeding} ^{band of yg.}
Sitta carolinensis 11' 13' 18¹ 20¹ 23' 24^{1 seen}
Parus atricapillus 14² 16' 17¹ 18⁵ 20⁶ 21² 22² 25²
Regulus satrapa 21' ^{1 im.} W.B.
Turdus a. pallasi 1¹ 13' 19' ^{1 im.}
Merula migratoria 1² 2² 9' 11' 13² 14⁶ 15² 16² 17² 18² 19¹ ^{2 im.} 20⁴ 21² 22⁵
23⁴ 24² 25¹ 26² ^{2 im.}

Sialia sialis 21' ^{calling}

Total, 46 Species

Six of these species were not observed in July: Totanus solitarius, Circus hudsonius, Syrnium nebulosum, Progne subis, Lanius migrans and Sciurus noveboracensis. This gives a total of 74 species for July and August. The English Sparrow seems to be confined in small numbers to the centre of Jaffrey + E. Jaffrey, in the main. They are extending north-west from Jaffrey centre for I have seen them on the hillside near the burying ground in the road about 1/3 of the way to Shattuck's from Cutler's Hotel.

Copied from my journal Walter Deane, Nov. 23, 1900.

Bethel to Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 2

Clear & hot with S. wind.

Left Boston yesterday with the Stones by 9 a.m. train and spent the night at the Springs at Bethel.

Started for the Lake at 10.30 this forenoon in a double-tracked four carriage with a pair of horses. Drove to Poplar Tavern and stopped at several places to take photographs that we did not reach Lakeside until nearly dark.

Saw a good many birds - large flocks of Chipping Larks of which were accompanied by Bobolinks (of the Eastern species of which we saw some), a few Robins, a Phoebe, two Kingbirds, three or four Flickers, a Kingfisher, several small flocks of Cedar birds etc.

Common birds along roadside

As we were passing through Grafton Notch a ♀ Duck Hawk appeared nearly over us flying in circles at a considerable height like a Nighthawk but with even more ease & grace keeping up this manner of flight until she faded out of sight in the distance. Through the glass I could see the tendency to bowing on the under parts for the bird was an adult.

✓
Duck Hawk
seen in Grafton Notch

The foliage along the entire route was as dense & green as in midsummer the only bits of autumn color that we saw were confined to maple branches that had turned their leaves prematurely.

In Grafton south of the Notch we saw a truly remarkable flock of Blue Jays for it contained fully fifty birds. As we approached they flew from some apple trees by the roadside across a field into the woods passing over the open ground in a compact flock behind which, however, lingered a few Throats.

✓
Flock of 50 Blue Jays
in Grafton.

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 3

Cloudless but breezy; very warm. A light thunder storm at 8 P.M.

Started up the Lake at 8.00 a.m. on the horse boat in two of the Pleasants. As we neared Pine Point we could see a flock of 7 Shorelarks lining shore in front of the head of the boat crew. They flew over a common Coot & were closely followed by an Osprey, a Kingfisher & a Spotted Sandpiper.

On landing I found the woods about the camp abun- with small birds but I was too busy to look them over thoroughly and recognized only a few among which was a Redstart, an Oven Bird, & a Winter Wren, the first of which was singing freely.

At evening, just before sunset, four night hawks passed over the Point flying high & dashing about after insects.

Arrive at
Pine Point

Small birds
on the Point.

Redstart [✓] singing
freely.

Night hawks

" 4

Millionably clear & cooler with fresh N. to N.W. winds.

Spent most of the day fishing on the Lake. While there engaged some four Terns (apparently S. hirundo) flying together along the shore of the bay between Moose Point & the Outlet.

In the afternoon we passed through Beaman's Pond where we counted 2 Blue Ducks & 4 Wood Ducks and saw two Ospreys.

There were a great many shore birds on the Point again to-day & among them I recognized Yellow Warbler & Black-throated Blue Warblers, Oven birds & a Water Thrush.

Boats last night & this there was a rather heavy flight of swash winged

Common(?)
Terns

Ducks &
Eagles

Small birds
on the Point

Heavy mig.
of Warblers etc

Megalloway River.

1900.

Sept. 5

Clear & warm with strong S. W. wind.

At noon the Stems, George Tomson and I started on a trip up the Megalloway with Jim as guide taking the Camp boat & the two horse driving course. In one of the Cutters I took the greater part of the way to the lower Steamer Landing at North-western Boatmen. Saw a few Kingfishers, a solitary Whistler, two Eagles and a few small birds among which were a number of Blue Jays.

As we were waiting for the team which had been engaged to take us to Fred Flint when we were to spend the night a Brown Grouse flew past us up the river and we had driven some half a mile along the road towards Flint when we started an enormous flock of tern birds from a grain stubble. They flew into a large tattered Coughy meadow where they completely covered us with a black fall. A moment later they began returning to the stubble in detachments, beating down to the ground on set wings and soon fairly blacking it over a considerable space. There could scarcely have been less than 300 birds in the flock & I should be inclined to put the number even higher. No doubt the Grouse represented the combined colonies which had had been bred about the lake last summer. There would be comparatively little food there now and they get rich pickings on the grain stubbles of the fertile Megalloway farms.

Trip up the
Megalloway to
Fred Flint

Whistlers &
Eagles

Large flock
of Brown
Grouse

Megalloway River

1900.

Sept. 6

Cloudy most of the day with thin showers but bright showers on in the early morning, the other two late in the afternoon.

Return down
Megalloway to
Pine Point.

We left Fines at 7.30 a.m. and down to the upper landing when we landed the canoe and started down stream. As there was a strong head wind and as we landed frequently to take photographs we made rather slow progress spending the whole day on the river and not reaching camp until twilight was beginning to fall.

It was an interesting day with fine cloud effects especially at sunset. There were many birds, too, of the smaller kinds I saw or heard Brown Creeper, Chickadee, Nuthatch, Yellow-rumped and Black-throated Green Warblers, a Canada Flycatcher in full song (he sang at those regular intervals as long as we were within hearing), Cedar Bird, Blue Jays, Flickers (2), a few Robins, several Song Sparrows etc.

Small birds

Canada Warbler
in full song

Of the larger birds we saw a Cooper's Hawk, 2 Sharp-shinned Hawks, 2 Marsh Hawks, a Pigeon Hawk, an Osprey, several Eagles, five or six Great Blue Herons, a Wood Duck, two Hooded Mergansers, several or eight Whistlers and a number of Loons.

Hawks.

Eagles.

Herons.

Ducks.

The Pigeon Hawk appeared as we were eating lunch on a beautiful reach of river at the base of Diamond Peak and for several minutes soared in circles high overhead moving with infinite ease & grace.

Pigeon Hawk

As we emerged from Moll's Cove we heard Greater Yellowlegs whistling & on reaching the Outlet saw a flock of 14 of these birds flying low over the meadows. A Beetle-headed Plover was also calling in the distance.

Winter Yellow-
leg.

Beetle-headed
Plover

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 7

Precipitely clear with cool breezy air and light N. to
N. W. wind.

To Moss Point at evening with George Forrester.
I placed him near the end of the Point and chose for
myself a station further along the shore to the westward.
As twilight was falling between 30 & 40 Black Ducks came
into the marsh in small flocks & singly. None of them
passed within range of us but George fired a number of
shots and killed one bird. Several Great Blue Herons
came over the marsh but the reports of George's gun quickly
drove them away. As it was getting dark I heard
Snipe scripping and one bird alighted near me with
a loud rattling of wings as it shot down from above.

Evening at
Moss Point

Black Ducks

Great Blue
Herons

Wilson's
Snipe

Loake Umbagog

1900.

Sept. 8

Sunny but very hazy; warm with fresh S. W. wind.

Walked to Opposis Point with the Stewes in P. M. There was little bird or animal life in the woods along the path. Indeed I can recall seeing only a Red Squirrel and hearing the chirp of a few Warblers. The Squirrels are much less numerous than they were formerly & I find that many are constantly short or leaping during my absence from the track.

Pine Point
Small birds
scarcely day.

George & I went to Moose Point at evening. He took his former station which I chose a new one along the shore to the westward. I had scarce settled myself comfortably in the canoe which was drawn up on the shore when a Snipe appeared on the high bank within ten or a few yards of me. After looking at me steadily for a moment it began feeding among from place to place by short quick runs like a Sandpiper, at times walking more slowly, after trying especially to probe in the hard-packed sandy bank it began picking up small objects with the tip of its bill precisely as a Sandpiper would do. Finally it discovered a worm on a very wet surface and having it fairly drew it out with one vigorous tug and ate one swallow of it. Then it stalked off into the tall grass on the marsh but quickly returned and came even nearer to me than at first going on a fair view for the bank was nearly bare and the daylight still shone. Shortly after this it waded off along the bank behind me. As twilight was fading into night I heard it scrape a dozen times or more in quick succession. The sound came from the bank that each time & there can be no question that the bird uttered it when on the ground, a thing new to my experience

Evening at
Moose Point
Wilson's
Snipe

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 8
(No 2)

The call was answered by that of another Snipe one in the marsh and presently both birds rose and, as I could tell by their cries, joined one another in the air & flew off together. A few minutes later one of them returned and alighted upon me making the usual loud rattle of wings as it descended, or, to be more precise, as it checked its speed at the end of the descent.

The flight of Ducks was much less to night than last night, only about 20 or 25 appearing. Of these there were Hooded Mergansers and one or a broad Duck, all the others being Black Ducks. All of the last named came from the eastward. It was interesting to see them reassemble the ground before alighting. Most of the flocks would fly over or around the eastern marsh from two to four times, at first at a height beyond shot gun range, then lower, finally only 40 or 20 feet above the grass. It is this habit of theirs which gives us our shots at Moose Point for if they were wise enough to come over the marsh at a safe height and then descend into the middle portions they would be in little or no danger. Some of the flocks and many of the single birds have apparently learned this and of those which circle the marsh the majority ^{now} avoid the high banks along the shores of the Lake when we hunt ourselves. As they come back & forth over the wide expanse they see alternately ^{appear} ~~appear~~ ^{and disappear} ~~and disappear~~ in strong relief against the afterglow in the western sky ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{lost} ~~to~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~light~~ ^{light} for a moment against some dark cloud or the black mountain masses beyond the Mylesbury River valley. After satisfying themselves that no danger lurks in the marsh they descend on set wings making a rushing sound.

Evening at
Moose Point
Wilson's ✓
Snipe

Hooded Merganser
Wood Duck
Black Ducks ✓

Loake Umbagog.

Evening at
Moose Point.
Black Ducks

1900.
Sept. 8
(no 3)

like that of wind in pines and a succession of loud
splashes as their heavy bodies strike the water. After
alighting they frequently thrash the water with their wings
and for minutes at a time the marsh fairly rings
with their loud quacking of the ducks and the wherry,
asthmatic calls of the ducks.

Other characteristic sounds of the Moose Point marsh at
evening are the rasping scrape of Snipe, the nasal
peevish haric or aink of the Blunt Bream, the
squealing of Wood Ducks, & the clear lively whistling of wings
made by all these waterfowl & when the air is still
and often audible hundreds of yards away. Then in
the background as it were nearly always rises an incessant
intermittent the solemn hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo, hoo of the
Great Horned Owl. Altogether the marsh is an alluring
place at which to spend an hour or two of a calm
September evening.

Sounds of
the marshes
at evening

Lake Umbagog

1900.
Sept. 9

Clear and cool with N. W. wind.

For the past week I have heard numerous Warblers and a few Thrushes migrating at various hours of the night but there has been no really great rush during this period. On the Point there are nearly always a few Warblers spending the day but their numbers have diminished steadily ever since we came and on no occasion have I found more than a few species and a dozen or two individuals. Altogether the warbler birds have been a disappointment to me for this season.

The fascination of watching the winging birds at Moon Point drew the Straws & me there again this evening. As it was Sunday & "close town" I did not take my gun. Only about 20 Ducks, all A. Otter, came in. There were also a few Herring and a night hawk & we heard several songs. Earlier in the day the Straws saw five Bald Eagles, one an old bird down in company on the marshes.

Migrating
Warblers &
Thrushes
scarce at
Pine Point
this autumn.

Evening at
Moose Point

Black Ducks

Five Eagles
soaring together

Loake Umbagog

1900.

Sept. 14

Sunny, the sky half filled with cloud masses driving rapidly before the violent, gusty N. W. wind. A superb harvest. Warm at midday, cool in the early morning & at evening. There has been no change in the foliage as yet save with the birches about the camp many of whose leaves have withered & fallen. The maples however as yet as in midsummer.

The Stearns and I left camp at 9 A. M. crossed the lake and started down the Andersons cove. Opposite Bernard's Pond we found Mr. Dutton beating the woods for snipe. As I was watching him I discovered from camp woods which I took at first for Sumner Yellow-legs feeding on a piece of bare mud on the edge of the river. Dutton soon saw them too & approaching fired several shots killing three of them. Before this slaughter was completed and while the frightened birds were dashing back & forth over the flats I recognized them as Red Breasted Snipe, a species new to my Umbagog list. On landing and examining the three that Mr. Dutton had killed I found that they were all typical griseus and all young birds. They were in curiously colored being neither in the brown-backed, red-breasted summer plumage nor in the gray and white winter dress but having the brown of the upper & the red of the lower parts overlaid or clouded with grayish through which the richer colors showed indistinctly as through a veil. I think I have seen this plumage before in specimens shot late in September or early in October. It is apparently a transition state between the summer & winter plumage.

Beside the Red-breasted Snipe Dutton flushed a number of Wilson's Snipe which we were watching him. He & Harry Russell who was with him had also killed a Carolina Rail and two brown Yellow-legs.

Down the
Andersons cove

Red-breasted
Snipe

Wilson's
Snipe
Carolina Rail
brown Yellow-legs

Loake Umbagog

1900.

Sept. 14
(No 2.)

Continuing on down the river we landed near to take some photographs and then entered Sweets Meadow. The water was very low but we found two Black Ducks and four Hooded Mergansers near the head of the creek, that wound through the bare mud flats. One of the Mergansers returned later & flew past us several times.

We all lunch here sitting on a rubber blanket spread on a hillock in the marsh. Afterwards, as we were taking some photographs of the pond a Kingfisher hovered near us and plunging into the water struck a fish so large that after a brief struggle he was obliged to let it go being quite unable apparently to hoist it above the surface. I cannot recall ever being this happen before!

In the afternoon we went to Curtis Meadows. The water was so very low here that we could not find the canvas beach beyond the wooded point near the lone floating island but the place was alive with large birds. There were three Black Ducks, four Wood Ducks and two Hooded Mergansers swimming near the point just mentioned, a Great Blue Heron standing on the shore, and an immense Brown Eagle & a Brown Marsh Hawk flying over the marsh. The Eagle came within shot before he saw us.

As we were taking some photographs two Great Horned Owls began hooting in the woods to the westward keeping it up for after an hour's winter although it was early in the afternoon (about 3.30) and the sun shined bright & hot at the time. One birds hoot was regularly the typical hoo, hoo-hoo, hoo, hoo; the other with equal regularity hooted hoo, hoo-hoo-hoo, hoo-hoo-hoo, hoo. The hooting of the second form regularly followed that of the first in quick succession; then there was a pause of several seconds before the first bird hooted again. I do not recall ever hearing these Owls hoot in broad daylight in the north before but it has happened at least once in my experience in the South - at Charleston years ago!

Sweets
Meadows.

Hooded
Mergansers.

Kingfisher
strikes a
fish too
large to
capture

Curtis
Meadows.

Black Ducks
Wood "
Hooded Mergansers
G. B. Heron
Eagle &
Marsh Hawk

Great Horned
Owls hoot-
ing in bright
sunlight.

Loake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 14

(no 3)

We had finished photographing and were about to leave the pond when a Blue-winged Teal dived past me about on a level with my head & so near that I instinctively flung at it with my paddle. It alighted in the water about 50 yards off and swimming to the shore climbed to the top of a mud heap where it sat during the sun. I had a Reflex Camera with me and putting in a plate holder I paddled to a point opposite the bird and allowed the camera to drift down towards it with the wind opposing both plates (both afterwards turned out to be light - flunk & worthless) when I thought I was within good range. My best chance came a moment later, however, when the bird started one of its humors by my near approach began walking slowly along the smooth muddy shore with head & neck erect. Before it flew I was literally within two feet of it.

A tame
Blue wing
Teal.

Nothing of special interest happened on our way back to camp. The wind had fallen to a light breeze and the water they was filled with masses of dark clouds. Muskrats are thin along furrows across the dark water, Great Blue Herons flapped lazily ~~and~~ the broad meadows, now & then a Duck whistled close past us ~~and~~ we heard the scarp of a wandering Sings. Altogether it was an interesting day - quite the most so of any that we have had here thus far this season.

Return to
Camp at
evening.
Herons, Ducks
& Sings in
Outlet marshes.

Lake Umbagog.

1900

Sept. 15

Clear and calm with flying clouds & "mass'locks" gathering in the west in evening.

We started down the lake this morning hoping the corker there & entering water of the cove. At the head of Glassy Cove we saw a Snow Fox. He was evidently engaged in hunting mice. Stealing slowly along the edge of a patch of tall grass his head & tail curved very low he would stop very soon & then raise his head as if to listen, and then jumping vigorously upward & forward descend into the midst of the grass and almost immediately spring back & out again. Sometimes he did this three or four times in quick succession. He did not see him catch any thing & it looked as if he was merely taking these plunges on the chance of alighting on a mouse but probably he first bites first knowing either by scent or hearing that an was really there. He presently avoided us and bounded off into the woods.

Along the shores beyond we saw nothing but a few Sheldrakes. Reaching the head of the Lake Cove at about noon we landed there and afterwards took a number of photographs, one of a fine Bank's Pine which measured 44 inches around the trunk a foot above the ground & which we estimated to be about 65 ft high. This was the largest specimen I could find. There were altogether perhaps 20 trees of about 20 feet in height and very many little ones. They grew not only along the lake shore but were back into the old "Springs" where they intermingled with white & red spruce, white pine, Carabos, Balsams, Birches, Apples & other trees common to this region.

In these rather open woods I heard a good many small birds but nothing of peculiar interest. We called at Middle Island on the way back & Mr. Dutton very kindly loaned us to camp in his Steam yacht

Trip down the Lake.

A Fox seen in Glassy Cove.

Sheldrakes.

Bank's Pine in Tyler Cove.

Small birds
Metallus
Island

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 15
(No 2)

There were many small birds in the woods on the Point this morning than I have seen there at any one time since the first few days of our stay this season. I looked thru one carefully with the glass and listed the following. Larus atricivis, one; Parus atricapillus, several; Troglodytes hiemalis, (2); Minutilla varia, (2); Dendroica virens, 1; D. cerulea, (3 2 2); Spinus auricapillus, 1; S. noveboracensis, 1; Spinus pinus, heard flying one; Habia melanocephala, ♀; Agelaius cristatus, (4); Colaptes auratus, 1 x; Actitis macularia, 1. A loon was swimming off the Point & Kingfishers, Egrets, Herons & Sandpeeps seen flying over the water.

Heavy flight
of small birds

Species noted
on Pine Point.

Loon, Egrets,
Herons, Sandpeeps

At about 10.30 P.M. an Owl hid rose over the woods behind the camp and gave the warbling part of the flight song with much rustling & vigor but omitting the whine notes. The night was warm, calm and dark the flight being obscured by clouds at the time.

Flight song
of Owl Bird
given with
full vigor

Loake Umbagog.

1900.

Sept. 16

Cloudy with light easterly wind & intervals of dead calm. Several
bush thrushes on wingfall.

In the woods near the end of the Point I identified this morning
1 Turdus alicola, 4 Parus atricapillus, 2 Regulus satrapa, 2 Empidonax hammondi,
1 Sialia canadensis, 1 Geothlypis trichas, (12) Amphisp. cedrorum, 1
Coturn. americanus.

Small birds

on Pine Point

Off the mouth of our boat can and close to the rocky shore
of the Point a Pied-billed Grebe was floating idly on the
water at about 9 a.m. I paddled out to within about 30 yards
of it when it flew, rising with some difficulty & going directly
out into the lake for about 200 yds. when it alighted again.
It was a young bird with double stripes on the chest & neck.
It is unusual to find this Grebe in deep water off a rocky shore
& equally unusual for it to take wing when approached.

Pied-billed

Grebe


Later in the afternoon the stars & I in two canoes paddled to
Wahki's Point bar where we found 2 Black Ducks and a Great Horn
Owl and heard a Pileated Woodpecker.

Black Ducks,

Heron, &

Pileated Wood,

Goosander

(As we were approaching near Point a flock of 14 Goosanders
came in from the lake & alighted close to the shore. He sat
motionless in the canoes for some time watching them. After burning
about a half in the shallow water they landed and stood in
a long row on the mud facing us. Their position while thus
engaged was nearly vertical ~~or rather more~~ but when they walked about as
they did freely and ~~not~~  not imperceptibly for such heavy birds
they carried their bodies nearly horizontal. When we paddled
in towards them they flew directly from the mud wing
as easily as from the water. About a week ago I saw four
& yesterday two young Goosanders that were still in the flappers
stage and would fly.

Loake Umbagog.

1908.

Sept. 21

Early morning cloudy, most of day clear & very warm. Heavy thunder storm at 4 P. M. followed by a succession of showers through the evening.

The steamer towed us to Lakeside on the evening of the 19th and to Reader's Bend in the Cambridge River the next morning. As we entered the mouth of the river we saw a Whistler & several Hensons. Later in the day 5 Winter Wren-like songbirds came flying past. There were many small birds chirping & calling in the woods near our anchorage but the rain kept us from going far from the boat. Jim started 2 Wilson's Snipe at the mouth of the brook.

Early this morning we saw an immense flock of Geese (at least 150), a flock of 23 Ducks which I took for Sarus, a flock of 16 Ring-necked Pheasants which alighted on a mud flat not far from the boat after whirling & circling over the marshes for many minutes. There were also Kingfishers, Starbills, Ptarm, Rusty Grackles, Hensons and then or four Black Ducks flying about.

At 8 a. m. we started up Cambridge River in two boats. The clouds were beginning to break as we left the upper landing and the sun was soon out & the woods flooded with light. I have never seen the exquisite little river more beautiful than it was for the week or five hours. Then the sky clouded over again & we just escaped the first thunder storm by hurrying to Jim's camp as it was heavy down on us from across the lake.

In going up the river about half way to the Falls. The water was very low, the growth of tall grasses unusually rank & fine. The banks were simply covered with dense tracks.

The woods were simply alive with small birds. I saw on land

We close the camp at Pine Point and go to Reader's Brook, Upton, in the house-boat.

Big flock of Geese. Wilson's Snipe. Pectoral S.

Small birds, Hensons, Ducks

Trip up Cambridge River.

Small birds abundant.

Lake Umbagog

1900.
Sept. 21
(No. 2)

very many Chickadees, at least a dozen Golden-cree Kinglets, a
Winter Wren, 3 Brown creepers, 1 Crowder & 1 Winter-browned Nuthatch,
a number of Thrashers among which I recognized only one, a
D. Titmouse, Robins, Blue Jays, 2 Hudsonian Chickadees, 2 well
Downy Woodpeckers, 2 Partridges, 2 Pitters, a Great Blue Heron,
a Wilson's Snipe & a Black Duck. I thought to say not a single
Kingfisher was met with.

The Snipe was standing on a sandy bank sparsely
covered with short green grass. He was evidently searching for
and very near to them he closed his eyes & took a brief nap.
I firmly judged that to witness less than eight feet of him & I
exposed them plates at him. He paid little attention to
us at first but as we were returning from the third trip
to the shelter of a bank when I changed my plate holders
he suddenly took alarm, flew across the river, rose up
under a shaking bank & spurred them. After this he
kept well ahead of us flying, skimming under overhanging
boulders & tufts of grass & finally taking a long flight out
of some light through the woods. While I was photographing
him he spurred once for a moment, but most of the
time stood in much the same attitude as a sandpiper.

Trip up
Cambridge R.
Small birds
seen there.

Partridges, Heron
Snipe, Ducks

Wilson's
Snipe

Loake Umbagog.

1900.

September
2 to 25

1. *Sialia sialis* - 2⁽¹⁾ ^{Bethel Falls} 21⁽¹⁾ ^{New Bethel} 23⁽¹⁾ ^{Bethel} 25⁽¹⁾ ^{nd.}
2. *Mermis migratoria* - 2⁽¹⁾ ^{s.t.b.} 14³ ^{P.P.} 19¹ 20⁽²⁾ 21⁶ 22⁶ 23² 24¹ ^{Bethel}
3. *Turdus pallasi* - 10¹ ^{P.P.}
4. *" alcedo* - 15⁽²⁾ 16¹ ^{Pain Point}
5. *Parus atricapillus* - 5 7 2 8⁽¹⁾ 12⁽²⁾ 13⁽²⁾ 14⁽²⁾ 15⁴ 16⁴ 18⁽²⁾ 19⁶ 20⁽¹⁾ 21²⁰ 25⁽¹⁾ ^{C.R. Bethel}
6. *" hudsonicus* - 5¹ ^{Bethel} 21² ^{Hand} ^{C.R.}
7. *Sitta carolinensis* - 13¹ 18¹ 21¹ 24¹ ^{Pain Point} ^{C.R.}
8. *" canadensis* - 3¹ 4¹ 7¹ 10¹ 16¹ 18¹ 19¹ 21¹ ^{P.P.} ^{C.R.}
9. *Regulus satrapa* - 5-2 16⁽²⁾ 18⁽²⁾ 19⁽²⁾ 21¹⁵ ^{Pain Point} ^{C.R.}
10. *Certhia f. americana* - 6¹ 21³ 24¹ ^{C.R.}
11. *Troglodytes hiemalis* - 3¹ 4² 7¹ 10¹ 13¹ 15² 18¹ 19¹ 21¹ ^{Pain Point} ^{C.R.}
12. *Anthus pensilvanicus* - 10⁽²⁾ 15¹ 20⁽²⁾ 24⁽¹⁾ ^{Bethel}
13. *Parusetta varia*
14. *Dendroica coronata* 3 ^{3rd nest} 4 ^{4 do.} 7 ^{7 do.} 14 ^{14 do.} 18 ^{18 do.} 20 ^{20 do.} 21 ^{21 do.} 23² 24¹ 25⁽¹⁾ ^{Bethel} (see song 12, 14, 15 times at Bethel)
15. *" maculosa* - 15¹ 19¹
16. *" virens* - 6⁽²⁾ 18⁽²⁾ ^{2nd}
17. *" castanea* - 19¹ ^{P.P.}
18. *" striata* - 19¹ 21¹ ^{P.P.} ^{C.R.}
19. *" p. hypochrysea* - 23¹ ^{Bethel} ^{1st nest at cross bridge in pond Capt. & Kelly & daughter.}
20. *Contopus thlypis a. usura* - 7¹ 18¹ 19¹ ^{Pain Point}
21. *Helminthophila rubicapilla* 6⁽²⁾
22. *Sciurus amoenus* - 3¹ 4² 5¹ 15¹ 19¹ ^{P.P.} ^{P.P.} ^{1st nest (10.30 P.M.)}
23. *" novboracensis* - 4¹ 15¹ 16¹ ^{P.P.} ^{P.P.}
24. *Geothlypis trichas* - 16² 18² 21¹ ^{P.P.} ^{C.R.}
25. *Sylvania canadensis* - 6¹ ^{1st nest at Bethel; 1st nest at Bethel; 1st nest at Bethel.}
26. *Sitophaga hiemalis* - 3¹ 4² 6¹ ^{Pain Point}
27. *Dendroica carolinensis* - 3¹ 4¹ 7¹ 10⁽²⁾ 15⁽²⁾ 19⁽²⁾
28. *Vireo olivaceus* - 5¹ 10¹ ^{P.P.}
29. *" solitarius* - 19¹ ^{P.P.}
30. *" philadelphicus* - 19¹ ^{P.P.} ^{in mixed flock}
31. *Empidonax cedrorum* - 2⁽¹⁾ 3⁽¹⁾ 4¹ 5¹ 6¹ 14¹ 16⁽¹⁾ 22¹ ^{P.P.} ^{P.P.} ^{1st nest}

Loake Umbagog.

1900.

- September
2 - 25
32. ✓ *Hirundo erythrogastra* 3 hd. 4 hd.
33. ✓ *Petrochelidon lunifrons* 4 hd.
Bottle
near bridge
Cambridge, Mass.
34. ✓ *Tachycineta bicolor* 20⁽³⁾
35. ✓ *Corpodacus purpureus* 6.P. 4pp. Plain P.P.
4 hd. 15' 19' 20 hd. 21 hd.
36. ✓ *Doxia c. minor* 3 hd. 4 hd.
37. ✓ *Spinus tristis* 4 hd. 14 hd. 23 hd.
P.P. P.P. Bottle
38. ✓ " *pinus* 4 hd. 9 hd. 15 hd.
39. ✓ *Zonotrichia albicollis* 3 hd. 7pp. Plain
15' 20 hd. 21 4
40. ✓ " *circocephala* 23⁽³⁾ 25' 1/2 (Full song a dozen or more times all during day)
Dr. Carriage Hill, Bottle
41. ✓ *Spizella socialis* 2⁽³⁾ 23⁽³⁾ 24⁽³⁾
Bottle - Bottle
42. ✓ *Poocetes gramineus* 24⁽²⁾
Bottle
43. ✓ *Junco hyemalis* 24⁽²⁾
Bottle
44. ✓ *Melospiza fasciata* 2² 3² 5² 6' 20² 21² 24²
Bottle
45. ✓ " *lincolni* 18'
46. ✓ " *georgiana* 14' 21'
C.R.
47. ✓ *Habia ludovicianus* 15-8 am
P.P.
48. ✓ *Cyanospiza cyanea* near Lake House.
21'
49. ✓ *Scotiocephalus corallinus* 16' 20⁽²⁾ 21⁽²⁾
near Plain C.R.
50. ✓ *Luscoptes p. annus* 5⁽³⁾ 21⁽²⁾
5000 ft. Cambridge C.R.
51. ✓ *Corvus americanus* 2⁶ 3¹⁰ 4² 5⁴ 6¹⁰ 14' 16' 20²⁰ 21⁽²⁾ 23, 24, 25
P.P. Cambridge River Bottle
52. ✓ *Cyanocitta cristata* 2⁽²⁾ 5⁽²⁾ 6⁴ 8 hd. 9² 10⁽²⁾ 13' 14⁽²⁾ 15⁴ 19² 20² 21² 23, 24, 25
Grafton P.P. Bottle
53. ✓ *Graminus Graminus* 2 2
Newry Bottle
54. ✓ *Sagorinus phoebe* 2' 24'
55. ✓ *Ardea alyon* 2' 3² 4⁵ 5⁴ 6⁸ 7² 9² 10³ 13' 14¹⁰ 15⁴ 16¹ 17⁴ 18⁽²⁾ 19⁽²⁾ 20⁽²⁾
C.R.
56. ✓ *Chordeiles virginianus* 3⁽²⁾ 6⁽²⁾ 8' 9' 21'
Fair Point Lake House
57. ✓ *Colaptes auratus* 2⁴ 6⁽²⁾ 15⁴ 19⁴ 20⁽²⁾ 21⁴ 22⁶
P.P. P.P. L-13
58. ✓ *Coccyzus philatus* 16⁴
Mud Bank
59. ✓ *Dryobates villosus* 5² 6² 9¹ 15 hd. 19 hd.
60. ✓ " *p. melanurus* 9' 21² 23'
Bottle
61. ✓ *Tales peregrinus* 2² ad
Grafton Mass.
62. ✓ " *calumbarius* 6' 9'
Mud Bank

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

September

2-25.

63. ✓ *Accipiter cooperii* 6♂ ad. Megalloway River -
 64. ✓ " *velox* 6♂ 15' 19'
 65. ✓ " *atrirostris* 10♂ juv chasing Kingfisher across boat on or near Pine Point.
 66. ✓ *Buteo borealis* 14' im.
 67. ✓ *Haliaeetus leuccephalus*, 3 im 4th im. 5-2 6-2 9-5 ad 10-12' 13-2nd. 14-2' 15-17' ind.
 68. ✓ *Pandion carolinensis* 3-4-5-6-9-10-12-14-15'
 69. ✓ *Aeris hudsonius*. 5- from 6 ad. 14' from
 70. ✓ *Buteo virginianus*. 7- 6- 7- 8- 10- ^{near the Outlet} ^{cutis m.}
 71. ✓ *Bonasa a. togata* - 13 juv. N. Starry 16 juv B. 21⁽³⁾
 72. ✓ *Gallinago delicata* 7-2 8-2 9-14 20-2 21'
 73. ✓ *Sturnus melanurus* 4- 6- (9) c 7 ad. 8- 9- ^{cutis m.}
 74. ✓ " *flavipes* 14 ^{2 juv} (heavy brood)
 75. ✓ *Myiarchus cinerascens* 6-2 14-3 20-21'
 76. ✓ *Chondestes ~~americanus~~* 6'
 77. ✓ *Actitis macularia* 3- 6- 10- 18- 19-
 78. ✓ *Agelaius phoeniceus* 10⁽²⁾
 79. ✓ *Fringilla maculata* 29 ^{cutis} ^{C.R.} ^{29. male, 21. female} 21⁽¹²⁾
 80. ✓ " *minutilla* 10-
 81. ✓ *Macronyx gregalis* - 14⁽¹⁾ ^{Outlet Marshes 1/2 to 1/3 S. entrance to Howard's Pond. Heavy broods. 30-40 eggs. 10-12 young. 10-12 young birds. See also *Cypripus gregalis* 10-12 young birds.}
 82. ✓ *Porzana carolina* 14 ^{2 juv 1 Sept} ^{Outlet Marshes} ^{Mon. P. C.R.}
 83. ✓ *Botaurus lentiginosus* 8- 21²
 84. ✓ *Ardea herodias* 6⁽³⁾ 7⁽²⁾ 8-8 9-5 10-⁽⁵⁾ 12⁽²⁾ 13-14³ 15-16³ 17-18² 19² 20² 21³ 22²
 85. ✓ *Anas obtusa* 4-2 6-2 ^{Mon. P. at w.} ^{7-40 8-30 9-20 10-⁽³⁾ 14-⁽³⁾ 16-⁽²⁾ 18-⁽³⁾ 21-⁽³⁾} ^{C.R.}
 86. ✓ *Act. sponsa* 4⁽⁴⁾ 6- 8 ad 14⁽⁴⁾
 87. ✓ *Tringa chrysias* 14'
 88. ✓ *Mergus americanus* ^{Outlet R. Mon. P. Sweet Cutis Marshes.}
 89. ✓ *Lophodytes cucullatus* 6⁽²⁾ 8⁽³⁾ 14⁽³⁾
 90. ✓ *Claytonia americana* 5- 6⁽²⁾ 16⁽²⁾ ^{C.R.} 20-
 91. ✓ *Bonasa a. simithalensis* 6' juv 15⁽⁶⁾
 92. ✓ *Sterna harrisi* ? 4⁽⁴⁾ 18⁽²⁾ (Identified by light only; possibly *S. parvirostris*)

Lake Umbagog.

1900.

- September 93 ✓ Ureaster cinereus 6' ⁸⁷ 9' 10' ⁸⁷ 13' 15' ⁸⁷ 17' ⁸⁷ 19'
- 2-25- 94. ✓ Podilymbus podiceps 16' ⁸⁷ ⁸⁷ a very tame bird swimming in deep water off Pine Point.

Covecord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

October 2

Morning cloudy; afternoon brilliantly clear with S. wind.

Took 1.47 P.M. train for Covecord where I expect to pass most of the remainder of this month. There was almost no autumn coloring between Cambridge & Lexington and the deciduous trees standing on high ground presented a sad appearance the foliage being withered as if scorched by fire. Some of the oak woods were uniformly of a pale grayish brown color. This is the effect of the drought which in the winter here I have seen known.

I settle at the Cabin.

Beyond Lexington there was some brilliant coloring in the maple hedges & I saw some of the withered trees. The Ball's Hill woods were the most brilliantly colored of all and both of the oaks as had not turned were perfectly green & fresh. I cannot understand this.

As we were walking down to the river from the Mrs. Bedford Station we saw a Red-shouldered Hawk & two juncos. A flock of Titmice were flying over the meadow & alighting for a moment on the muddy margin of our boat canal.

After crossing the river I took a walk to the Bennett meadow & later crossed the bridge behind the hill, seeing an Oven Bird, a Water Thrush, three Woodcock, Killdeer, a Partridge & a Blue-winged Teal. The last Blue-winged Teal was flying rapidly up river over the Kame Dome Rapid. I also saw a Black-billed Cuckoo.

Black-billed Cuckoo

" 3

Cloudy, calm, mild.

Birds appeared to be scarce to-day. Gilbert saw a Black-Black-billed Cuckoo & heard a Lizard call behind Ball's Hill.

Black-billed Cuckoo
Snail

At 11.30 P.M. I heard Duells thrashing the water near the Cabin Duells in the river at night.

Duells
in the river at night

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

October 4

Early morning foggy, forenoon cloudy, after noon clear & warm with light S.W. wind.

When I awoke at daybreak the woods about the cabin were shrouded in dense fog. I could hear Crows cawing, Jays screaming, Robins calling, a Cat bird screeching and a Screech Owl whining. Presently a bird, which I took at first to be the Cat-bird, began singing in loud tones very near my window uttering a prolonged melody of chattering, strutting & whistling notes among which I soon recognized a familiar rendering of the Spring Song as well as the call note of Bicknell's Thrush. The next moment the bird appeared in an oak within a few yards & I identified him positively as T. a. bicknelli, a small, dark specimen.

He flitted about among the oaks near me for ten or fifteen minutes frequently hopping & still more frequently leaning himself on the bines of a frozen grape which he usually took on wing, flying directly at the bunches, surveying a berry which he was for an instant on beating wings and then delightfully to swallow it. Later in the day Gilbert & I saw him at or near this grape vine many times.

The Cat bird also appeared repeatedly at the grape vine and several Robins joined him and shared his feast.

The Rusty Blackbirds have established a roost this autumn in the bottom bushes opposite Nurse's Landing. I heard them leave the roost this evening at about ten o'clock when the fog was at its thickest. Judging by the clamor they made as they passed the cabin there must have been over 100 birds in the flock. They returned to the roost this evening in small parties between sunset & dark a few birds arriving here or there before sunset.

Birds about the cabin at daybreak. Bicknell's Thrush sings sotto voce.

Cat bird eating small wild grapes. A roost of Rusty Black birds.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

October 5

Early morning foggy. A brisk shower at 8 a.m. Remainder of day clear, nearly calm & oppressively warm.

There were a number of birds about the cabin this morning. First I saw a Gray-checked Thrush, certainly ~~not~~ the same that was here yesterday but a large, Tame alcivis. He called over or twice as he flitted about among the bushes.

Gray-checked Thrush.

Next I heard a Tanager calling simply chip (without the chew). He was in the tall vine wreaths over the canoe landing but he presently descended to a vine covered with straggling bunches of large purple wild grapes which he began eating rolling them somewhat awkwardly in his bill to remove the skins and then swallowing the gummy pulp. He was an old male with jet black wings & tail & plain autumn plumage in which I could detect no trace of red. One of his wings drooped lower than the other as if it had been hurt in some way but he flew freely & vigorously.

Scarlet Tanager eating large wild grapes.

Of less interesting birds I saw or heard in the woods & thickets along the South side of Ball's Hill not far from the cabin a Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, Bell's Woodpecker, Swamp Sparrows, Song Sparrows & Robins. I also twice heard other birds passing overhead as well as Rusty Blackbird & Titlarks. A Flicker & a Downy called in the distance.

Commoner birds.

Later in the afternoon I heard a Song Sparrow sing freely & a Swamp Sparrow vigorously & well.

After I had finished writing my journal last night a Screech Owl paid us a visit & walked drowsily many times apparently in view of the owls in front of the door. The screeches of the Screech Owl were all cancellable. This bird was probably not so far away yet his screeches did not sound as loud as when he was working on the other side of the river cabin in the morning.

Screech Owl ✓

Concord, Mass.

1900.

October 6

Cloudy with cold E. wind which brought fine drizzling rain after dark this evening.

The only birds noted near the cabin to-day were two Kinglets, a Black-poll and a Chickadee's Thrush, the last seen by Gilbert. In Holden's woods several jays were seen in the afternoon. A quail beating the bushes with a pointed dog find five or six shots and I saw him flush and kill one snipe.

At the farm when I spent the forenoon I found a Cat bird and a Flicker and saw a number of Crows. The road near the school house was swarming with birds mostly Chipping with a flock of eight Bluebirds which were eating the fruit of the smooth berries and at least one Grass Finch. There a patch of woods behind Bennett's a flock of 12 or 15 Juncos rose as I drove past & I saw others in other places, perhaps 20 in all.

At about six o'clock this evening as I was driving I heard a Golden Plover whistle from a night train. It was evidently flying and apparently on a course with light and towards the eastward. I cannot recall seeing this species in Concord for more than thirty years. If I remember rightly D. C. Fernald shot one & perhaps saw a few others at Haverhill the first year (1867) the family occupied their farm there.

Balls Hill:

Birds noted
at the Farm.

Golden Plover
heard at
Balls Hill

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill

1900.

October 7

Cloudy with fine, drizzling rain - scarce more than a "scotch mist" but enough to make the trees drip, & to keep the grass & woods well soaked.

In forenoon walked to Davis's Hill, in afternoon to the Bradlee & Holden's Hill woods. Saw a good many small birds - Chickadees, Kinglets (Troglodytes), Crows (2), Cat Birds (2), a Towhee, several Black-birds, Song Sparrows, a Swamp Sparrow, numbers of Blue Jays, & etc. Partridge (Columbigus).

A Partridge was seen early in the afternoon behind Balls Hill and between 3 & 4 P. M. I started four others all from the tops of trees deciduous trees in the woods.

One flew from a poplar (grandidentata) and all three of the others from clusters of trees of which poplars formed a part.

This leads me to think that the birds may have been engaged in "breeding". They all started from a height of 40 to 60 feet. None of the poplars here as yet had their leaves.

A Kingfisher spent the day along the Balls Hill shore. It was pleasant to hear his familiar rattling sound through the mist-blown air. He was very shy.

Red Squirrels are numerous this autumn in my woods; Chipmunks fairly so. I see about the usual number of Gray Squirrels. The asp of acorns & chestnuts is rather abundant but not especially so.

Tree Toads still chirp nightly about the cabin but they are less numerous now than when we arrived a week ago.

Partridges
"breeding" (?)
poplars

Kingfisher.

Red and
Gray Squirrels

Tree Toads

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

October 9

The rain storm which began at about seven o'clock last evening continued through the night and the whole of to-day gradually increasing in violence with (to-day) a strong N.E. wind.

As I spent most of the day in or near the cabin my opportunities for observing birds were limited.

In the forenoon two adult Herring Gulls appeared over the river and flew back & forth low down many times evidently scanning the water closely in search of food. The Kingfisher was also present again. We heard Greater Yellowlegs whistling at intervals and I saw two descend from a great height & alight in the meadows. There was also a Noddy (the first I have seen this autumn) flying from place to place.

Herring Gulls

Kingfisher

Wm. Yellowlegs

Bittern

Late in the afternoon several shots were fired near the middle of the Great Meadows.

The woods round nearly barren of bird life. I saw two Black-bird warblers and heard a Golden-crowned Kinglet when a Chickadee came to feed on the nest in front of our door, the first time this has happened since one arrived. Just before dark I started a Partridge in the down, being thickets at the east end of Ball's Hill. I do not see them as frequently as usual this autumn in the neighborhood of the cabin and they seem to have wholly neglected the first grape vine which they visited so freely last year although it is loaded with fruit this season.

Small birds

Partridge

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

October 10

Cloudy with violent N.E. wind. Frequent showers in a.m. and steady & rather heavy rain through the evening.

A Parula Warbler appeared in front of the cabin this morning in company with Chickadees. It was apparently a young ♂ and was very tame. This is a late date.

Usnea
Warbler

I went to Boston on noon. As I was walking to the West Bedford Station through Parker's field I came upon a rather large flock of Chipping Sparrows accompanied by eight Bluebirds.

To Boston

" 11

Blue Sky covered half the heavens at sunrise and the sun broke clear at evening but most of the day was cloudy and there were a dozen or more heavy showers. The wind was strong from the N.W. and pitilessly cold in the early evening.

Returned to Concord by the early morning train. As we were getting our things into the boat a Phoebe began singing over my new boat house. He kept it up almost without pause for nearly ten minutes and his voice was as full & strong & his notes as finished as at the height of the low season. It was delightful to hear him singing thus with the cold N.W. wind roaring through the tree tops & the sky overcast by gloomy clouds.

Phoebe in
full song.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill

1900.

October 12

Cloudless most of the day and very warm with light W. wind. Some in the afternoon a fall color and clouds overspread the sky. Still later there was a breath of E. wind.

At about half-past six this morning I went to the landing and looked off over the river & the meadows beyond. The air was beautifully clear & deliciously soft & warm. A meadow lark & a downy woodpecker were singing across the river, Bluebirds were calling overhead. I could hear Rusty Blackbirds in the distance.

Purdie, who spent the night with me, walked to the farm in the forenoon. He saw three Winter-bellied Nuthatches in the old orchard and a large mixed flock in the brush from road near the school house contained a dozen or more Winter-throated Sparrows and about 8 Nuthatches. There were also some Juncos & Sparrows of 20 Myrtle Warblers.

Purdie saw two pairs of Bluebirds frequent the act of copulation after which they flitted through an apple orchard examining all the holes & crevices in the trees as if looking for nesting places just as they do in early spring.

As I was paddling up river this afternoon I saw a Hawk perched on a stake near the head of Beans Dam Rapid. He sat very erect and was long & slim in shape with a very long tail. I thought of a Red Hawk at once but although the bird allowed me to approach within less than 20 yards I could not make out its coloring as the light came from beyond it. When it flew it crossed the Beans meadow & plunged into the woods beyond. Its flight was gliding & rather swift with occasional flapping & soaring. I landed & followed it slowly it again from a tree on the edge of the woods west of Hadden's Hill. This time it was some 20 feet from me & I had a good view of its back & tail as it went off. It was ^{about} certainly a young ~~Red~~ hawk, or ~~of~~ I think. Its ~~spotted~~ plumage & light grayish upper tail coverts were conspicuous.

Early morn.

Meadow lark

Small birds
seen at the
farm.

✓
Bluebirds
copulating

✓
An oddly
colored

Red Shore
Hawk

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

October 13

Sunny, calm & warm up to nearly noon. Afternoon cloudy with strong S. wind.

While paddling down river this forenoon I saw a Hawk alight on a stake from which, near the top, fluttered a white cotton flag as large as a towel. The stake was on the meadow opposite Hobbs's Camp & on the edge of the river. The bird was so tame that I paddled to within less than 15 yards before it flew. It was evidently the same Hawk which I saw yesterday & took to be a Gos hawk but I had it in a better light to-day and made certain that it was a Red-shouldered Hawk in most respects though the wings & upper parts being spotted profusely & coarsely with white & the upper tail coverts very light gray. The under parts were white with narrow sharp streaks of dark brown. It looked very like the Sparrow I shot when I was a boy in the Penn Swamp, Cambridge, & which years afterwards was destroyed by water.

Red-should'd
Hawk

A Cat bird was running in the bushes near the landing at Davis's Hill. I saw two Savanna Sparrows in Hooper's meadow.

Cat bird

1900.

October 14

Spent with John Hooper to-day. He tells me that in this town he took last year a nest & 3 eggs of Dendroica catenifrons. The nest was in mountain laurel. He finds several nests of Melospiza pinusylvanica very common. They are found in chestnuts, usually, & rather low down. Polioptila borealis breeds commonly also but is less numerous than M. lincolnii. Dendroica striata is a very common breeder & I saw several Leicester-town nests.

Hooper has a fine Golden Eagle which was taken down at Andover Main. He also showed me a nest & 2 eggs of Picoides americanus which he collected at N. Pond, Maine in 1898. The nest closely resembles mine the strips being those of a dove red sparrow & very rough or fuzzy inside.

Golden Eagle

" 15 - While driving about Leicester to-day I saw several flocks of Nuthatches, a large flock of Robins, a flock of about 12 Cedar birds, a Winter Wren, a Grass Finch, many Junco & White-throated Sparrows, Song Sparrows etc.

Small birds

" 16 At about noon to-day with the sun ~~was~~ shining brightly we were driving through oak woods where a Barred Owl flew from a tree over the road & alighted a little further in being greatly startled as we went by we were tired of being out here.

Barred Owl
active at noon in bright sun.

During this drive I also saw a Sapsucker & many common birds. Near the house Meadow Larks were in noisy fall song this evening. At noon I saw an Osprey hovering over the Madras River which at this point is no larger than the Assabet at Concord.

Meadow Larks in fall song.
Fish Hawk

Saw another Grass Finch this evening.

Concord, Mass.

Balls Hill.

1900.

October 21

Clear and warm with strong S.W. wind.

For the past three days I have been very busily engaged reupholstering some work at or near the cabin & have had little opportunity to be much of the woods. This morning, however, I drove to the farm with Roland Hayward and walked back through the woods. The weather was delightful but we saw almost no birds excepting a flock of juncos, two Kinglets, a Downy Woodpecker, & a few Crows & Jays.

Small Birds

As we were driving through the wooded road beyond Benois we passed a Partridge which was standing next & still on the top stone of an old wall. We flushed three others at the south end of Davis's Hill & one of them ran slowly ahead of us for several yards before rising.

Partridges

" 22.

Cloudless, calm, very warm for the season (therm 72° at noon)

Two Hermit Thrushes spent yesterday & to-day in the thickets at the E. end of Balls Hill. They hopped along and pecked like Robins and I saw them eating junco berries. They were very tame. During both days they were silent but last evening and this I heard them chinking continuously & exactly for five minutes or more just as I used to see Joffrey last July after they had finished their evening singing.

Hermit Thrushes

Early this afternoon two Red-billed Gulls were slowly down passed the cabin flying close to the opposite shore. One looked a third larger than the other. Raymond Emerson shot one of these Gulls near the Bridge last month and shot at two missed another off Birch Island yesterday morning. He also saw five Wood Ducks in the Assabet near the hummocks a few days ago.

Red-billed Gull

Wood Ducks

Concord, Mass.

Bald's Hill

1900.

October 23

Clear & very warm with S.W. wind. Therm. 52°, 77°, 67°

A Hermit Heron, 4 Chickadees, 4 Golden-crowned Kinglets,
a White-throated Sparrow, 2 Black-poll Warblers, and a Downy Woodpecker
visited the cabin to-day. I also heard Robins, Bluebirds, ~~Titmice~~,
and Rusty Blackbirds calling as they flew over or near the Hill.

The Hermit sang for fifteen or twenty minutes at intervals in
the early morning but in tones so low & husky that his notes were
scarcely recognizable. He also chattered and gave the wicker call.
During the forenoon he repeatedly visited and hopped about over
a patch of fresh-dry earth which the men had spread on one
of the paths. Although I watched him for some time I did
not see him flick up his tail. I have often supposed
that this restriction is seldom if ever indulged in excepting
when the bird is conscious that he is observed and is also
either highly alarmed or somewhat suspicious.

Small birds

seen near

the cabin

Hermit

Thrush.

Concord, Mass.

Ball's Hill.

1900.

November 4

During the past ten days I have made no entry in this journal although I have been living all the while at Ball's Hill and spending much of my time in the woods. But the sum of each days observation has been so slight as not to seem worth recording save by the brief entries in the field list. I cannot remember a season when birds of all kinds have been so scarce. None of the regular "winter visitors" have as yet appeared & of the regular late autumn migrants there have been very few. There have been about no Ducks & only an occasional Hawk, which I have heard only two or three times (the woods have been too dry for them). Partridges have been painfully scarce but it is said that there are a good many Quail although I have seen none. Several large flocks of Juncos were about during the last week of October but most of the other small birds have been scarce. Chickadees have been about wanting. I do not see more than from a pair daily & rarely more than two or three together.

I spent to-day at the farm and there were, comparatively speaking, a good many small birds there. I saw two Winter-birded Nuthatches, a Goldfinch, a flock of 30 House Sallows (flying S. W. past the house) & a flock of 16 Purple Finches (flying over the orchard), a Song Sparrow was chirping near the house & I heard a Kinglet & a Cuckoo in the woods. A solitary Goldfinch was feeding among some tall weeds in the garden. Jays were keeping & a Downy Woodpecker against a dry branch.

An enormous flock of Crows passed southward high up at about 10 a.m. They flew past in a continuous stream upwards of a mile in length. I counted them roughly & made 320 birds. A smaller flock passed an hour later.

Birds of all kinds scarce. - no winter birds. Light migration. Ducks, Hawks & Song very scarce. Also Partridges. Quail

Small birds scarce at the Farm.

migratory flight of Crows.

1900.

Dec. 3-31

I came to Bethel on the 3rd and have spent the month there excepting one week (22nd to 29th) when I returned to Cambridge for the Christmas holidays.

At the time of my arrival there was nearly a foot of snow which had fallen about a week previously and was so thoroughly crustled as to bear one's weight in most places in the open fields.

The second snow fall of the season and the only one for the present month (excepting two or three trifling squalls or flurries of an inch or less) began on the evening of the 4th and lasted through the following night and the greater part of the next day (5th) about eighteen inches of fine, dry snow falling on this occasion. It drifted but little as it came and save in the usual exposed places it clung to the branches of the trees looking down those of the valleys to a degree which I have seldom seen equalled elsewhere & which I was told is unusual here.

Following this storm we had a week or more of severe weather the thermometer dropping to 10° below zero on several occasions at Dr. Shing's and once, it is said, to 22° below at the Grand Junction R. R. Station, which is probably 200 feet below the level of our house and in still cold weather usually shows a temperature 8° or 10° degrees lower.

The last twelve days of the month were comparatively mild the mercury rising to 40° at midday on several occasions and on one or two running above the freezing point during the winter night as well. The snow settled rapidly during this period and at the close of the month was reduced to but little more than a foot which was covered with a thin, icy crust.

There were only two or three windy days during the month and the sun shone brightly from a clear sky most of the time.

1900.

Dec. 3-31

Excepting on the occasion of the snow storm I spent from one to three or four hours of every day out of doors. During the first two weeks my daily walks were usually taken in the afternoon up a wood road which starts in from the main road a hundred yards or so to the westward of our house and extends to the southward for a distance (it is said) of three or four miles, passing for the first half mile or so through thickets of alders and densely-growing coppice of gray birches covering level and rather low and swampy ground, then ascending by a succession of moderately steep pitches to the crest (or perhaps shoulder) of a ridge clothed with an copse forest of mixed balsams, hemlocks, red pines and arbutus interspersed with a good many soft pine firs and a few hard wood trees among which the cone and yellow birches perhaps predominate. For a distance of one two hundred yards along this ridge the road runs nearly straight between through a growth of vigorous young balsams thirty or forty feet or higher whose branches in most places meet ~~at~~ interlace over the roadway forming arched vistas of singular beauty.

1900.

December. The weather during December has been very mild. During but five days, the 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th & 16th, did the mercury fall below the freezing point. 10° on the 10th was the lowest recorded, while a maximum of 58° was reached on the 24th. On every day except the 10th, 12th, 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th & 27th, the mercury rose to 35° or more, while on the 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 7th, 13th, 19th, 20th, 23rd, 24th, 25th & 31st, a record of 45° or more was reached. An average minimum of 30° and maximum of 40° will give an idea of the mild character of the weather. These observations refer to the time between daylight and dark. While no records of the night temperature were made, the nights were, with but few exceptions, mild.

Very light snow, rapidly disappearing, fell on the 4th, 11th, 15th, 16th & 23th. Rain fell on the 4th, 23th, 30th & 31st. All the rest of the month was clear or cloudy, while on the 14 days the sun shone brightly from its rising to its setting. These days were, 1 - 2 - 3 - 6 - 10 - 12 - 14 - 17 - 18 - 20 - 22 - 27 - 29 - 30. There was a fog on the night of the 24th followed by freezing, and the next morning, Christmas day, under a bright, clear sky, every tree glistened with diamonds, formed of the frozen drops.

A strong S.E. gale blew on the 4th, and on the 10th there was a sharp N.W. wind, but with those exceptions there have

1900.

December. been either calm days or light breezes, the prevailing direction of the wind being west, veering to northwest or southwest.

The chief interest attaching to the December birds ^{Water fowl} at ^{Fresh Pond} about Cambridge centers in the water fowl at Fresh Pond and in the somewhat unusual number of Northern Shrikes present in our neighborhood. Most of the notes and observations on which the record is based were furnished me by Mr. Walter Deane, I having been absent (at Bethel, Maine) during the month with the exception of Christmas week which I spent at home. Fresh Pond continued open until the 16th when it became covered with a thin sheet of ice. This persisted through the remainder of the month but a lane of open water appeared soon after the 16th off the end of Hemlock Point and gradually extended to the opposite (northern) shore finally attaining a width of at least 200 yards. This combination of conditions - extensive tracts of ice sufficiently firm for the birds to rest and sleep on and plenty of open water for them to swim and bathe in - attracted the water fowl in somewhat unusual variety and wholly unprecedented numbers.

Mr. Deane kept them under fairly close observation visiting the Pond nearly every pleasant morning; I was there

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond.

1900.

December. on the 23rd, 24th and 26th, and several other observers besides Mr. Deane and myself made more or less frequent visits.

(3). The full list of species noted is as follows:- One Mallard, large numbers of Black Ducks, a few Scaup Ducks and Golden-eyes, one good-sized flock of Ruddy Ducks, several Black-backed Gulls and multitudes of Herring Gulls.

The Mallard, a fine old drake, was seen as early as October 19 (by Mr. O.A. Lothrop) and as late as December 26 (by Mr. W. Deane). During most of the latter month he was present almost daily. His striking coloring made him conspicuous among the Black Ducks (with which he constantly associated), at a distance of half-a-mile or more, and when, as often happened, he was seen standing on the ice not far from shore the coral red coloring of his legs was especially noticeable. The Black Ducks were constantly present. Their numbers varied somewhat from day to day but usually there were at least one hundred and often more (the highest count, made on the 5th, was 252) swimming or floating asleep in detached groups over a large part of the Pond. They were evidently quite at their ease paying no attention whatever to the carriages passing along the park driveway and often chasing one another about in sport while at times they made the air ring with their loud quacking. After the Pond skimmed

Mallard
drake.

Black Ducks

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond

December. over they spent much of their time on the ice stretched out
(4). in long lines along the edge of the piece of open water.

When the light was good one could easily distinguish the red-
legged from the brown-legged birds, by the aid of a glass.

On December 6th, Mr. Deane noted six Scaups which he / Lesser Scaups
thinks were affinis. They came flying in from the south and,
after describing a wide curve over the "bedded" Herring Gulls
and Black Ducks, dropped into the water facing him, "their
white under parts flashing in the sunlight". On the 24th I
saw a flock a six Whistlers rise from the western side of the
Pond and fly off in the direction of Charles River.

The Ruddy Ducks attracted especial attention and interest / Ruddy
during their prolonged visit. They were first noted on Novem- Ducks
ber 17th (by Mr. Lothrop). From this date up to December 14th,
when they were last seen (by Mr. Deane), they were invariably
present whenever the Pond was visited, both in the morning
and afternoon, excepting on December 12th when, at 3 P.M.,
Mr. Deane failed to find any trace of them. Their numbers,
strange to say, varied more or less from day to day as well
as from week to week. On November 17th the flock consisted
of fifteen birds. On the 22nd and 26th I counted them with
the greatest care and fully satisfied myself that on each
occasion there were seventeen, besides a Lesser Scaup Duck

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond.
Ruddy
Ducks

1900.



December. which was keeping them company at that time. After this date
(5). Mr. Deane's counts, made at frequent intervals, gave fourteen,
fifteen or sixteen daily up to December 8th when but five
were seen, though on the preceding day Mr. G. M. Allen had noted
fifteen. On December 10th there were still only five but on
the 14th Mr. Deane counted six. Had the ^{number} flock invariably de-
creased it would be natural to assume that the missing birds
either migrated southward, a few at a time, or were shot
while away from the Pond; as the case stands the most reason-
able explanation seems to be that certain members of the flock
had other resorts where they spent a portion of their time,
and that on the night of the 8th all but six birds departed
for the south, the remainder following on the night of the
14th when the particular part of the Pond which they had fre-
quented froze over.


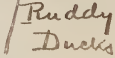
This was Cambridge Nook and here they were invariably
seen during their entire stay; either in a close bunch not
far from shore (often within 100 yards) with heads buried a-
their
mong scapular feathers, sleeping, or scattered about over an
area of half an acre or more, moving restlessly from place to
place and diving incessantly for food. They swam exceedingly
fast with bodies so deeply immersed that scarce more than the
feathers of the back, with the head and neck, were exposed.
Their tails were carried at various angles, sometimes in line

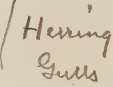
Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Water fowl
at
Fish Pond

1900.

December. with the body , ordinarily raised a little above it ,

(3). occasionally conspicuously elevated , and at least  Ruddy Ducks half opened. They were expert and graceful divers disappearing with one abrupt, vigorous, forward spring, like Mergansers and cleaving the water so deftly as to scarce ruffle its surface.

Of all the birds which frequented the Pond the Herring  Gulls were the most numerous, conspicuous and attractive. Their numbers generally rose far into the hundreds and on December 23rd Mr. Deane estimated that fully 1000 were present while on the 25th he actually counted 1375. They usually began assembling at about 8 A.M. or a little later, arriving in flocks of from six or eight to fifty or sixty birds each. Most of them came from the direction of Lynn or Revere (i.e. from the north-east or east) but a good many, evidently, from Charles River Basin (i.e. from the south or south-east). As they neared the shore they ceased flapping and glided with infinite ease and grace on motionless wings, down a long, gentle decline towards the middle of the Pond where, after wheeling once or twice, they alighted among the comrades who had preceded them. During the height of the flight they often came in a steady stream for minutes at a time. The incoming movement ordinarily ceased wholly at 11 A.M. or a little later.

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

Water fowl
at
Fresh Pond
Herring
Gulls

December. If the day was cold and windy comparatively ^{few} would appear, and
(7). if a strong wind arose after a large number had assembled they would at once begin leaving singly or in small flocks. But when the weather continued calm and mild most of them would linger for hours swimming about or sleeping, while two or three hundred would often remain until late in the afternoon. Those which stayed late departed all together or in two or three detachments, and invariably before sunset. Leaving the water as if at a given signal, one hundred or more together at the same instant, they would fly straight down into Cambridge Nook rising steadily but at a slight angle as they advanced. On coming over the land they would cease flapping and begin soaring in circles mounting higher and higher and gradually drifting off before the light evening air until lost to sight in the dim distance. It was a beautiful - nay an imposing sight, that of the return flight of the cloud of great snow-white birds to their home, the ocean.

Northern Shrikes have been exceptionally numerous. One ^{Shrikes} has frequented our garden, two have been seen regularly at Fresh Pond, two others at Lower Mystic Pond, one at Arlington Heights, one at Waverley and one at the Botanic Garden. There can be little or no doubt that all these were different birds.

1900

December.

Masters Eustis and Kidder have found a large number of Srikes (8). grasshoppers and caterpillars impaled on sharp buds of low shrubs by the Lower Mystic Pond; they have also found in the Maple Swamp two whole Meadow Mice (Microtus pensylvanicus) in the forks of branches of the Shad and Button Bushes besides the head of another Mouse of the same species, also in a fork. Both of the whole mice were mounted by Frazar in the exact position in which they were found and both were photographed by Gilbert while one of the specimens was afterwards given to me by Master Kidder and is now in the Museum.

Cedar Birds have been present most of the month in small numbers. Mr. Deane saw a flock of fourteen in the garden on the 21st. They have also been seen in Hubbard Park and at Payson Park, Belmont. Cedar Birds

Two Kingfishers have been noted, one by Mr. George C. Deane at Fresh Pond on the 1st, the other by Mr. Hoffmann at Mystic Pond on the 2nd. Three Meadow Larks were observed by Mr. G. C. Deane at Fresh Pond on the 1st. Kingfishers

A Pigeon Hawk has apparently spent the entire month at Fresh Pond for it was noted there on the 8th, 19th, 24th and 30th. Mr. Deane who, on two occasions, had a clear view of it in a good light, tells me that it was an adult male with deep blue upper parts. I saw it only once (the 24th) and then, Pigeon Hawk

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. flying, at a considerable distance. It frequented the hemlock grove most of the time.

Red-headed Woodpecker

A Red-headed Woodpecker has frequented the woods by Lower Mystic Pond during the fall and winter for at least a month and a half. It was seen by Masters Ted Kidder and Richard Eustis on October 31, November 3, 24, 25, 29, December 9, 16. locality
The exact [^] is the grove at the further end of the plateau that stretches behind the cemetery in Arlington. I saw the bird on the 9th of December. It was an immature bird, the head beginning to show signs of red. Richard thinks he saw two birds on November 3, and he feels positive that he saw two on November 24.

Mr. G. C. Deane saw a flock of 12 Juncos in Arlington on *Juncos* December and on December 31 Dr. Charles W. Townsend saw a Song Sparrow in the Back Bay Fens. Not a single Red-breasted Nuthatch was reported by members of the Nuttall Club or others and the only instances recorded of the appearance of Red Crossbills were one on the 25th at Belmont by Mr. Ralph Hoffmann and one on the 26th at the Arnold Arboretum by Mr. H. W. Wright. Mr. Hoffmann on the 25th, at Fresh Pond, saw 30 Tree Sparrows and 14 Song Sparrows, and in Belmont besides the commoner birds, two Purple Finches, four White-breasted Nuthatches and ten Golden-crowned Kinglets.

Mr. H. W. Wright saw in the Arnold Arboretum on the 26th,

1900.

December. 12 - 15 Quail, 16 Goldfinches, 6 Tree Sparrows, 7 Myrtle Warblers, 2 Song Sparrows and other commoner species.

Herring Gulls and Whistlers with an occasional Black-backed Gull have appeared off Harvard Bridge as usual, while Chickadees, Crows, Jays, Flickers, Downy Woodpeckers and Brown Creepers have been present in greater or less numbers during the month. These with the ever-present English Sparrow make up the list.

December Garden Birds.

The birds seen in or flying over the garden during the month are as follows:-

1. Regulus satrapa.

Twice on the 23th, Mr. Deane saw a pair flitting about in front of his window in the Museum.

2. Parus atricapillus.

Chickadees have been present through the month in small numbers. The largest flock, one of six individuals, was seen on the 17th. Though a lump of suet was hung in the crab apple tree early in the month it was visited but three times, once on the 26th, the 28th and the 29th, each time by a single bird. The mild weather of December has not interfered with their ordinary supply of food.

1900.

December. 3. *Certhia americana fusca.*

(11). One was seen in the lindens on the 23rd.

4. *Lanius borealis.*

On the 18th a Northern Shrike appeared in one of the lindens and for fifteen minutes sang loud and clear. Half an hour later he sang for ten minutes in the same place. Mr. Deane says that there was much music in the song which resembled in many ways that of a Catbird and a Robin. On the 21st he saw a Shrike chase, catch, kill, impale and eat an English Sparrow. Twice after, on the 24th and 29th, the Shrike was singing in the lindens, and on the 31st he was seen chasing an English Sparrow. Mr. Deane made some some peculiarly interesting observations on this Shrike which haunted our garden and I insert them here in his own words: 7

1900.

Dec. 21. " To-day in Mr. William Brewster's garden I witnessed the
(12). catching, putting into the forks of branches, the impaling
 and eating of an English Sparrow by a Northern Shrike (Lanius
 borealis). It was a remarkable and never-to-be-forgotten
 sight. I was sitting at my window in the Museum at about
 twenty-five minutes after twelve. The sky was cloudy, there
 was no breeze, the mercury was 39°, and the air was chilly.
 Suddenly I saw a Shrike, doubtless the same bird that I saw
 and heard sing on December 18th, alight in the cluster of li-
 lacs now bare of leaves between me and the house and but a
 few rods away. I called Gilbert, Mr. Brewster's assistant, who
 was in the adjoining room and he saw with me everything that
 I shall relate. The Shrike in a few seconds darted through
 the lilacs in hot pursuit of an English Sparrow. He overtook
 and pounced on his prey just outside the lilacs within full
 sight of us, by the path that leads past the pond. The Spar-
 row, however, escaped and, darting along the edge of shrub-
 bery directly towards us, sank into the bushes by the path
 running by my front window. The Shrike following plunged into
 the bushes also but soon appeared above the clump without the
 Sparrow, but all animation, his tail in active motion. Im-
 mediately the Sparrow darted from beneath the bush over the
 board walk in front of the Museum. The Shrike darted after
 it like lightning, and we hastened to the window in the entry,

1900.

December. just in time to see that the Shrike had caught his quarry on
(13). the open ground directly in front of the door. A few well
directed raps despatched the Sparrow, and then we hastened
out of the building to see the sequel. The Shrike seizing
the dead bird in his bill flew over the center of the garden,
alighting in one of the trees by the pond about thirty yards
off. As we cautiously advanced in that direction, our bird,
with the Sparrow hanging from his bill, started off and flew
to the north end of the garden and then, circling about, flew
low down directly over our heads as we stood in the path by
the pond, and alighted in the lilacs some eight or ten feet up,
on the east side of and near the path in which we were. We
stood by the Parkman's apple tree, twenty yards from the bird
and with my glass every movement was depicted with absolute
clearness.

Close by where the bird was standing was a fork made by
two small branches. The Shrike deftly swung the Sparrow into
the fork, and pulling hard for three or four times, secured
it. The bird did not assist the operation by flapping its
wings. This we noticed carefully. Every movement was plain-
ly seen. Then the Butcher Bird, a fitting name surely, began
plucking the feathers from the bird but after four or five
pecks. the Sparrow, not being securely enough fastened, was

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. dislodged and fell to the ground. The Shrike following picked (14). it up in his bill and flew to another branch but a few feet from the one used before, and then selecting another crotch fastened his prey again. After pulling out a few more feathers he appeared dissatisfied with the situation, and again taking the bird in his bill flew to a neighboring branch in full view of us and just twenty yards away. There selecting a short, thorn-like branch, the Shrike gave us an exhibition of the entire process of impaling. This small stem I examined later. It was about an inch long and the size of an ordinary slate pencil and had a rather blunt end. The Shrike stood on the branch just below this thorn which inclined away from him, the branch itself standing at an angle of about 45 degrees with the ground. Then holding the Sparrow tightly by the neck he threw the body up several times, until he got it on to the end of the thorn. Then bracing with his feet, extending his neck and pulling backwards, he tugged and tugged jerking and jerking with all his might, until he had pulled the Sparrow on to the thorn down to the very branch. the end of the thorn entering the bird's breast. Neither on this occasion nor that of fastening the bird in the fork did I notice any movement of the birds wings. I watched this whole operation through my glass every motion and every marking of the



Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. bird being as clearly defined as if I had him in my hands.

(15). About fifteen minutes had now been consumed since we had seen the Shrike in the beginning.

The bird now stripped off more feathers and then began tearing off and swallowing bits of red, raw, warm flesh. He had secured his bird strongly this time, for during all the pulling and tugging that the poor Sparrow received it remained firm on its peg. This dish of English meat seemed to agree well with our Shrike for he attacked it with renewed zest. and ere long the bloody head with the skin entirely off the top of the skull fell to the ground beneath. For twenty minutes we watched the Shrike eating the bird.

^{At intervals}
Whenever he pulled off a ~~rather larger~~ bit of flesh ~~than usual~~, he flew off with it, exactly after the fashion of a Chickadee when it breaks off a piece of suet. Twice I saw the Shrike swallow the bit after alighting on a branch near us, once on the big apple tree by the lilacs, and once on the English Hawthorn but thirteen yards from us. What he did on other occasions, for he flew off at least six times, and why he acted so I do not know. The natural supposition would be that he stored these bits of flesh, as we know the Chickadees do with the suet, but it seems impossible that he should ever again make use of such small morsels which were never larger

1900.

December. than two-thirds the size of an ordinary pea. for they would
(16). soon dry up into minute particles.

Once the Shrike, returning from one of these flights which were never more than two minutes long, and generally under a minute, perched on the top of the elm in the driveway, and gave vent to a series of cat-like whines doubtless expressive of satisfaction after his dainty meal. Once the near approach of a Gray Squirrel frightened him off for a minute. At last ten minutes having elapsed after one of his flights we decided that he had finished his meal, and we visited more closely the spot. One wing of the Sparrow was stripped bare to the bone. I intended to examine the bird later to see just how much was gone, but two hours afterwards on visiting the spot we found that the Shrike had removed the remains of his feast to another locality. We found nothing but the head of the bird on the ground beneath.

Whether the Shrike used his feet at all when attacking the Sparrow we were unable to say. Once when the bird was in the lilacs and just before he put the Sparrow in the second crotch I saw him lay the bird on a branch and hold him there a short time with one foot, loosening his hold on him with his bill entirely.

During all this period and till late in the afternoon

Cambridge, Massachusetts.

1900.

December. the English Sparrows were conspicuous by their entire absence.
(17). About four o'clock a flock of about twenty-five whirled rapidly over the garden and a minute or two later the Shrike dashed by. I saw the Shrike once more, and shortly after a flock of about a dozen Sparrows perched in the top of the big apple tree, appearing much excited and keeping a very sharp lookout. They flew off soon and the increasing twilight shut out anything more from view.

1900.

December. 5. *Ampelis cedrorum*.

(18). A flock of 14 appeared on the 21st and spent some time feeding on the berries of the Highbush Cranberry (*Viburnum opulus*).

6. *Passer domesticus*.

English Sparrows have been present through the month but their numbers have been very irregular. For some days in succession none were seen at all, and then a flock of 20 or 30 would appear and fly about the garden feeding as usual.

7. *Dryobates pubescens medianus*.

Two were seen occasionally by Mrs. Brewster, feeding on the suet over the driveway.

8. *Corvus americanus*.

Occasionally a Crow flew over the garden or alighted in one of the lindens.

9. *Colaptes auratus luteus*.

On December 1, 4, 5, 17, 18 we saw a Flicker. On the 5th and 18th one was feeding on Parkman's apples.

