

BIRD NOTES FROM THE INDIANA STATE FORESTRY RESERVATION.

BY CHAS. PIPER SMITH.

During the summer of 1903 I was fortunate in being located, for some five weeks, upon the State Forestry Reservation, in the "Knob" region of southern Indiana. Although engaged in making a survey of the plant life of the Reservation, my ears were ever attentive to the bird voices about me, and a list of the various species heard or seen was preserved. Sixty-one species were noted within Reservation limits, as recorded below. No especial care was taken to study the relations of the birds to the trees and their other natural surroundings; but a few general remarks may be based upon a review of the bare list.

It will be noticed that the birds enumerated include forms characteristic of both woodland and open, though the number of woodland species far exceeds the number of kinds loving the field, sky or orchard. The absence of running water, during the summer and fall months, makes impossible the conditions necessary to attract water and swamp-loving forms; hence the scarcity of such in the list. Of the two thousand acres composing the Reservation, possibly eighteen hundred are wooded. Thus it is apparent why the woodland birds exceed in number of species; and it is likewise true that many of these woodland forms lead in regard to number of individuals. Some four hundred feet difference in elevation exists between the lowlands and the tops of the higher knobs, the deep ravines between the knobs forming tempting bird haunts.

Although not intending to give time to my favorite study, the birds and all that concerns them, I was ready to give heed to Mr. Butler's suggestion to look for the Pine Warbler, *Dendroica vigorsii*, and evidence of its nesting there. As far as known to us, this bird has not been definitely reported as a breeder within our State, although there are several localities which have conditions apparently meeting the demands of this pine-loving little warbler. What evidence I was able to glean is contained in the following testimony, but it is, of course, not equal to the best evidence, namely, the collection of a nest with the eggs and the parents.

I first saw the Reservation on the twentieth of July and I began my

list that day. Two days later, while upon the Hollister knob, an unfamiliar bird song diverted my attention from stuffing plants and leaves into my "botany-can," and, forgetting my botanical work for a few moments, I turned aside to seek the singer. The song ceased upon my intrusion, but after a short search, I spied a family of four small dull-colored warblers which seemed not anxious to make my acquaintance. As I had no means of getting one of these into my hand, I was about to pass the group by as too uncertain of identification for recording, when a male Pine Warbler, as easily recognized, joined them and showed himself to be no stranger amongst them. Then resemblances in plumage were noted which removed all doubt on my part as to the identity of the others. Three of the family, in appearance and voice, strongly suggested young of the year, and, before I left them, or rather they left me, I had the pleasure and satisfaction of seeing the supposed female side up to and feed one of the three of juvenile appearance.

Later this song was heard on various occasions, and, on July 21st and August 18th, I had most satisfactory observation of Pine Warblers, both of adult males and their duller-colored followers; but no further evidence was secured as to the breeding of this species there. All my Pine Warbler observations were upon the knob-tops, close to the pine areas. I am anxious to visit the Reservation during some May or June when, I am confident, I could collect more conclusive evidence of the breeding of the Pine Warbler within our State.

As to the other Reservation birds I will limit myself to the mere listing of them, the species recognized being:

1. *Colinus virginianus* (Linn.). Bob-white.
2. *Zenaidura macroura* (Linn.). Mourning Dove.
3. *Cathartes aura* (Linn.). Turkey Vulture.
4. *Falco sparverius* Linn. American Sparrow Hawk.
5. *Megascops asio* (Linn.). Screech Owl.
6. *Coccyzus americanus* (Linn.). Yellow-billed Cuckoo.
7. *Dryobates villosus* (Linn.). Hairy Woodpecker.
8. *Dryobates pubescens medianus* (Swains.). Downy Woodpecker.
9. *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* (Linn.). Red-headed Woodpecker.
10. *Colaptes aratus luteus* Bangs. Northern Flicker.
11. *Antrostomus vociferus* (Wils.). Whip-poor-will.
12. *Chordeiles virginianus* (Gmel.). Nighthawk.

13. *Chatura pelagica* (Linn.). Chimney Swift.
14. *Trochilus colubris* Linn. Ruby-throated Hummingbird.
15. *Tyrannus tyrannus* (Linn.). Kingbird.
16. *Myiarchus crinitus* (Linn.). Crested Flycatcher.
17. *Sayornis phœbe* (Lath.). Phœbe.
18. *Contopus rivens* (Linn.). Wood Pewee.
19. *Empidonax rivescens* (Vieill.). Green-crested Flycatcher.
20. *Cyanocitta cristata* (Linn.). Blue Jay.
21. *Corvus americanus* Aud. American Crow.
22. *Molothrus ater* (Bodd.) Cowbird.
23. *Sturnella magna* (Linn.). Meadowlark.
24. *Icterus galbula* (Linn.). Baltimore Oriole.
25. *Astragalinus tristis* (Linn.). American Goldfinch.
26. *Pooecetes gramineus* (Gmel.). Vesper Sparrow.
27. *Coturniculus sarranarum passerinus* (Wils.). Grasshopper Sparrow.
28. *Chondestes grammacus* (Say). Lark Sparrow.
29. *Spizella socialis* (Wils.). Chipping Sparrow.
30. *Spizella pusilla* (Wils.). Field Sparrow.
31. *Peucaea aestivalis bachmanii* (Aud.). Bachman Sparrow.
32. *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* (Linn.). Towhee.
33. *Cardinalis cardinalis* (Linn.). Cardinal.
34. *Cyanospiza cyanea* (Linn.). Indigo Bunting.
35. *Piranga erythromelas* Vieill. Scarlet Tanager.
36. *Piranga rubra* (Linn.). Rose Tanager.
37. *Progne subis* (Linn.). Purple Martin.
38. *Hirundo erythrogaster* Bodd. Barn Swallow.
39. *Ampelis cedrorum* (Vieill.). Cedar Waxwing.
40. *Lanius ludovicianus* Linn. Loggerhead Shrike.
41. *Vireo olivaceus* (Linn.). Red-eyed Vireo.
42. *Vireo gilvus* (Vieill.). Warbling Vireo.
43. *Mniotilta varia* (Linn.). Black and White Warbler.
44. *Helminthophila pinus* (Linn.). Blue-winged Warbler.
45. *Dendroica vigosii* (Aud.). Pine Warbler.
46. *Seiurus aurocapillus* (Linn.). Oven-bird.
47. *Geothlypis formosa* (Wils.). Kentucky Warbler.
48. *Geothlypis trichas* (Linn.). Maryland Yellow-throat.
49. *Icteria virens* (Linn.). Yellow-breasted Chat.
50. *Wilsonia mitrata* (Gmel.). Hooded Warbler.

51. *Galeoscoptes carolinensis* (Linn.). Catbird.
52. *Troglodytes rufum* (Linn.). Thrasher.
53. *Thryothorus ludovicianus* (Lath.). Carolina Wren.
54. *Thryomanes bewickii* (Aud.). Bewick Wren.
55. *Sitta carolinensis* Lath. White-breasted Nuthatch.
56. *Beolophus bicolor* (Linn.). Tufted Titmouse.
57. *Parus carolinensis* Aud. Carolina Chickadee.
58. *Polioptila caerulea* (Linn.). Blue-gray Gnatcatcher.
59. *Hyllocichla ustulata* (Gmel.). Wood Thrush.
60. *Merula migratoria* (Linn.). American Robin.
61. *Sialia sialis* (Linn.). Bluebird.