

THE BIRDS, OUR FRIENDS. BY E. J. CHANSLER.

SOME ADDITIONS TO THE INDIANA BIRD LIST, WITH OTHER NOTES. BY A. W. BUTLER.

The reports upon the migration of birds for the past year have not all been received; consequently the notes which I had hoped to report at this time will not all be given. What I have to say will be quite short. The facts, though few, are interesting and of much importance to Indiana ornithology. These include the addition of two species to the list of the birds of the State; also notes upon other species which are of rare occurrence or in other ways worthy of attention at this time.

Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus (Bonap.) Yellow-headed Blackbird.

Reported by Mr. C. A. Tallman from Cook County, Ill. It was first seen May 9, 1896, when two were noted; next observed May 16, and became common the same day. He found them nesting in a swamp about seven miles west of Morgan Park, and also at Mud Lake, on the Illinois and Indiana line. Their breeding habits are very similar to those of the Red-winged Blackbird.

Ammodramus henslowii (Aud.) Henslow's Sparrow.

Not common in Cook County, Ill. The first one the past spring was seen April 19; next noted April 25, when it was as numerous as it became; breeds. (C. A. Tallman).

Arenaria interpres (Linn.) Turnstone.

May 23, 1896, Mr. Eliot Blackwelder and Mr. C. A. Tallman, of Chicago, noted two Turnstones at Wolf Lake, in Indiana. They were in company with a miscellaneous flock of small Sandpipers. They were again seen June 9. I am informed upon the same authority that Mr. F. M. Woodruff has taken specimens of this species in Cook County, Ill.

Dendroica discolor (Vieill.) Prairie Warbler.

Mr. J. E. Beesley mounted a female that was taken at English Lake, Ind., June 14, 1896. It is now in the collection of the State Museum in the State House, Indianapolis.

Ampelis garrulus Linn. Bohemian Waxwing.

I am informed by Mr. J. E. Beesley that one spring, about forty years ago, he took nineteen Bohemian Waxwings in one day near Indianapolis. They were all in one flock, and were flying forward and backward over the river, catching insects, after the manner of Flycatchers.

Protonotaria citrea (Bodd.) Prothonotary Warbler.

Mr. Beesley informs me that some years ago he obtained a pair of these warblers on the farm formerly owned by Judge Terhune, three or four miles from Lebanon, Ind.

Buteo borealis harlani (Aud.). Harlan's Hawk.

This hawk is also known by the names Black Hawk and Black Warrior. There is a specimen of this rare species in the possession of Mr. R. B. Williams, who mounted it, at Lebanon, Ind. The bird was obtained in Perry Township, Boone County, Ind., in September, 1887. It was shot and its wing broken by Mr. W. H. Moler. He brought it alive to the present owner. The following are the measurements taken from the mounted specimen: Length, $24\frac{3}{4}$ in.; wing, $16\frac{1}{2}$ in.; tail, $9\frac{1}{2}$ in.; culmen, $1\frac{1}{4}$ in.; tarsus, $2\frac{3}{8}$ in.; bare tarsus, $1\frac{3}{8}$ in.; middle toe, $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.; claw, $\frac{7}{8}$ in. This is the first record of its occurrence in the State. It had previously been taken in Illinois, where Mr. C. K. Worthen shot one of a pair on the Mississippi River, near Warsaw, Hancock County, in March, 1879. There is in my collection a specimen taken several years ago in Cumberland County, Ill., and presented to me by Mr. W. S. Everhart, of Toledo, Ill.

Fregata aquila (Linn.). Man-o'-War Bird.

The past fall I had the pleasure of seeing in the office of Mr. J. E. Beesley, at Lebanon, Ind., a fine specimen of a young male of this bird. He informed me he received the specimen in the flesh July 15, 1896, from Mr. W. I. Patterson, Shelbyville, Ind. It was killed the day before he received it (July 14), near that city. The following are the measurements taken from the mounted specimen: Length, 3 feet; wing, 2 feet; tail, 16 in.; depth of fork, 7 in.; culmen, $4\frac{1}{4}$ in. This is a bird of the tropical and subtropical seas. Its occurrence with us is wholly accidental. This is its first record for our State, although Mr. Robert Ridgway has previously reported it from Ohio. (Man. N. A. Birds, 1887, p. 83.)

Numenius longirostris Wils. Long-billed Curlew.

A mounted specimen of this bird was seen in the possession of Mr. Fletcher M. Noe, of Indianapolis, Ind., the past summer. He told me it was taken by Herman Eckert in a swamp near Jasper, Dubois County, Ind., April 2, 1896. The mounted specimen showed the following measurements: Length, 21 in.; bill, $5\frac{1}{2}$ in.; wing, 10 in.; tail, 4 in.; tarsus, $2\frac{3}{4}$ in.

Ardea herodias (Linn.). Little Blue Heron.

Reported by Mr. E. J. Chansler from Bicknell, Knox County, April 18, 1896. He says they are not uncommon in that vicinity in summer, though he does not think they are now so numerous as they were before they began to drain the ponds and swamps.

Falco peregrinus anatum (Bonap.) Duck Hawk.

In the State Museum in the State House at Indianapolis is a Duck Hawk taken in Boone County, Ind., May 14, 1896. (Beasley).

Anas penelope Linn. Widgeon.

Mr. Ruthven Deane wrote me of the capture of the fourth specimen of the European Widgeon in this State at English Lake in the spring of 1896. This is the eighth record of this species from the interior of the United States. It was killed on the marshes of the English Lake Shooting and Fishing Club by Mr. John E. Earle, of Hinsdale, Ill., March 23d last, and is now in Mr. Earle's possession. (The Auk, Vol. XIII, July, 1896, p. 255).

Ammodramus sandwichensis savanna (Wils.). Savanna Sparrow.

Mr. J. E. Beasley mounted a specimen of this sparrow, a female, which was killed at English Lake, Ind., June 14, 1896. The specimen is now in the collection of the State Museum.

Peucaea aestivalis bachmani (Aud.) Bachman's Sparrow.

September 22, 1896, I found a specimen of this species three miles north of Brookville. It was seen along a rail fence, and tried a part of the time to keep hidden behind a rail. It was very tame and unsuspicious. Often would squat upon the bare ground or in the short grass and remain there motionless for some time. I was within an arm's length of it quite frequently, and saw it very distinctly a number of times, as I followed it along the fence. This is its first record for the White Water Valley, and, indeed, for southeastern Indiana.

BROOKVILLE, IND., Dec. 29, 1896.