

## A Few Migration Notes.

During the early spring months of this year I was engaged in studying the birds of the Verdigris valley in Southern Kansas. And in my work certain points in regard to migration struck my attention. On the first of April and on two or three days previous, I secured specimens of the Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Black-throated Green Warbler and Black and White Warbler. These dates seemed to me to be exceptionally early and on comparing them with the migration notes of other observers in the Mississippi valley I found these facts to be true: first that these birds had arrived there before they had even reached the lower Gulf States in one case, and in all averaged fifteen days earlier: second that by tracing the same birds overland through Texas the dates agreed perfectly, considering the distance intervening, with the dates of a number of observers. It therefore seemed to me that certain birds reached the Verdigris valley by the overland route. These however were few in number as usually several days or even weeks might intervene before the species was again seen <sup>or became common</sup> and these latter dates agreed perfectly with those from Arkansas and other parts of Kansas. The two lines of migration probably converged at the point where the Verdigris River joined the Arkansas in the Territory and from there

were the same as the Verdigris forms  
the natural pathway northward from  
that point on. The great body of birds  
however come without doubt from the  
Mississippi valley.

Class Exercise

Alex Wetmore

College Rhetoric 9:00 A.M.

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