

*Turdus
mustelinus*

SB-97.41A (6)

Lurdus mustelinus. B. F. = Barret form.

mustelinus

1889

May 17^{1/2} 1889 15^{2/3} 19^{1/2} 17^{1/2} 29^{1/2} 1890.
 June 3^{2/3} 1889 12^{1/2} 13^{1/2} 14^{1/2} 1890
 July 20^{1/2} 1890 17^{1/2} 19^{1/2} 32^{1/2} Concord 1893.

May

8^{1/2} 14^{2/3} 15^{2/3} 20^{2/3} 28^{1/2} 31^{1/2} Concord 1892

"

12^{1/2} (Gyn Hall) 14^{1/2} (Clyde manny) 16^{1/2} (Catalpa road) [17^{1/2} 18^{1/2}] 25^{1/2} 31^{1/2} by roadside Concord 1893.

"

17^{1/2} 12^{1/2} 13^{1/2} 15^{1/2} 16^{1/2} 1894
 A. (M. Davis)

1896

"

6^{1/2} (H. Rank) 8^{1/2} 1895

1897

"

Concord 12^{1/2} 13^{1/2} 14^{1/2} 1899.
 11^{1/2} 20^{1/2} 1898
 Concord 11^{1/2} 1892 24^{1/2} 1898
 1898 9^{1/2} 11^{1/2} 12^{1/2} 13^{1/2} 24^{1/2} 25^{1/2} 1899.

June

Concord.
 26^{1/2} 27^{1/2} 28^{1/2} 30^{1/2} 1893

July.

5^{1/2} 7^{1/2} 8^{1/2} 11^{1/2} 12^{2/3} 16^{2/3} 20^{2/3} 21^{2/3} 23^{1/2} 25^{2/3} 30^{1/2} Concord 1892.

August

C. M. Corp. 20^{1/2} 21^{1/2} 22^{1/2} 23^{1/2} 24^{1/2} 25^{1/2} 26^{1/2} 27^{1/2} 28^{1/2} 29^{1/2} 30^{1/2} 1896

Nov

18^{1/2} 19^{1/2} 20^{1/2} 21^{1/2} 22^{1/2} 23^{1/2} 24^{1/2} 25^{1/2} 26^{1/2} 27^{1/2} 28^{1/2} 29^{1/2} 30^{1/2} 1897

Turdus mustelinus

1890 Mass.

- May 19 Waltham & Lincoln - Heard two ♂♂ in Waltham & two in Lincoln.
" 30, 31 Concord to Saxonville - During a three days trip up and down the Sudbury River Absence from
June 1 Sudbury River from Concord to Saxonville and return I did not Sudbury River
hear or see a single Wood Thrush although the weather was fine region
the entire time

1896

June-Aug Cambridge - About the middle of June Mr. Faxon returning to
" found two Wood Thrushes established & singing freely on
Oxford Street one in the Museum grounds (usually in the trees near
the western end of the building), the other near the corner of Oxford
& Highland Streets, often in the Botelholders' place. He heard
them almost daily up to about the middle of July when
they became silent but the bird was the Museum song a
little on the morning of August 2nd during a rain storm.
I do not recall hearing of any Wood Thrushes passing the
Summer in Cambridge for upwards of 20 years before this.

Rocksbury Co. In the vicinity of Mr. Graylock Hermit Thrushes
were very scarce last season & this. On the mountain itself
especially about Wether's farm the Wood Thrushes which formerly
prevailed to 1895 were not found there at all had ~~been~~
~~was~~ apparently taken the place of the Hermit & during
that season & this were really common there. This I learn
from Foxon who thinks that these two species must
in some way enter into competition with one another
so that they cannot get along together.

1897.

Nov. 18 Wellesley Hills "I am just in from a walk the woods near by, when I
found a Wood Thrush. For aught that I could see, it was in good Loate Hay
condition - no sign of lameness & could fly well" (B. Loring letter Nov. 18, 1897) in autumn

Turdus mustelinus.

1892. Mass.

July 16. Concord.- Twilight was falling when I heard Wood Thrushes sing- Wood-
(NO.4) ing and one of the Wood Thrushes sang for fourteen minutes, after Thrushes.
the first Whippoorwill began. The last song of the Wood Thrush
was heard at precisely 8.01 when it was nearly dark.

July 20. Concord.- The concert of Wood Thrushes was simply the finest Concert
that I ever listened to. There were three of them close about of Wood
me at one time and they fairly made the woods ring. With this Thrushes.
species as with the Hermit there is much individual variation in
quality of voice and variety and ease of execution and as it
happened all three of the birds in Clark's woods this evening
were particularly good performers while one was preeminently
fine. On the other hand a bird singing in the hemlocks on the
opposite (eastern) side of the adjoining swamp had a voice so
effectually "veiled" that I was actually unaware of his presence
until I came nearly under the tree in which he was sitting. In-
deed the odd medley of low, wheezy gasps, catarrhal squeaks and
clucks, and thin, feeble whistles, not one note of which was
either musical or pleasing, was wholly inaudible at a distance
of fifty yards. It was ^{not a case of} not a sotto voce singing. On the contrary
the poor bird was evidently exerting himself to the utmost as if
striving to outdo his rivals in the woods across the swamp. Was
he conscious of the lamentable failure or, like ^{certain} human singers
equally devoid of musical ability, did he delude himself with the

Turdus mustelinus.

1892. Mass.

July 20. Concord. - belief that he was really producing melodious sounds? Concert
(NO. I - It occurred to me that possibly he might be deaf and like deaf of Wood
2-8-33) mutes of our own species incapable alike of appreciating or cor- Thrushes.
recting the painful discords of his voice. Certainly the case
was one of the most extreme of its kind that has ever come under
my notice. Clark's woods evidently form about the centre of
distribution of a colony of Wood Thrushes larger than I have
hitherto found in any part of Middlesex County. I heard in all
to-night no less than seven singers and there ^{are} to my certain
knowledge nearly as many more to the east of the Estabrook road.
Indeed I have little doubt that upwards of twenty could be heard
within this region in a single evening by a rapid walker who was
familiar with the ground.

July 20 Concord. - The air was cool and there was no wind. I could hear Wood
Wood Thrushes in every direction and now and then a Tanager or Thrushes.
Cat bird. All these species were singing at 7.45 when the first
Whippoorwill began and one of the Wood Thrushes continued just
twelve minutes later closing the concert of day birds at 7.57.

July 21. Concord. - In Clarke's woods the concert of Wood Thrushes was even
finer than last night's for on this occasion there were four
birds singing at once. There was also a Tanager in full song
but nothing else. The singing season is evidently fast drawing
to a close.

Turdus mustelinus.

1892. Mass.

July 21. Concord.- In the hemlocks across the brook the Thrush with the Wood "veiled" voice was again striving to make the most of his "one Thrushes talent".

In all we heard before reaching the road just nine Wood Thrushes.

July 25. Concord.- I had begun to fear that the Wood Thrushes were going to disappoint me when (at 7.30) the two which, up to this time had been apparently merely rehearsing, burst suddenly into full song. In a moment others took up the strain until five were singing at once. My companion, inexperienced in such matters, insisted that there were at least a dozen, a delusion natural enough under the circumstances for these birds, as is their habit at such times, kept flitting, restlessly from place to place so that in the course of a moment or two their notes did actually come from at least a dozen different points. The effect was impressive beyond my powers of description. I have heard nothing to equal it before even in these woods for not only were the singers more numerous this evening than on previous occasions but at the height of the concert they literally had the whole field to themselves not a single note of any other species of bird being heard for the space of ten minutes or more.

July 30. Concord.- As we neared the crest of the ridge some of the higher

Turdus mustelinus.

1892. Mass.

July 30. Concord. - notes of the Wood Thrush became audible, but there Wood
proved to be only one of these birds singing in the valley below Thrushes.
when we reached it at 7.30 and sat down under the hemlocks on
the edge of the swamp.

Later two others joined in and before 7.30 a fourth
one
but [^] was afar off and none of them sang steadily or with spirit.

Massachusetts.

Turdus mustelinus

1892.

July 8 Concord. A Wood Thrush was singing in them and I sat down to listen. Presently he came into a tree nearly over me and then a second bird began singing behind me while a few moments later a third struck up on my right. I have not heard such a concert from these Thrushes for years and I think never before in Mass. How they made the woods ring and echo with their solemn chords. The bell-like notes quivered and trembled on the still air and showered down from the pine foliage like rain drops when the wind shakes the trees. It was most impressive and thrilled me as deeply as has ever the music of a cathedral choir. Now & then a bird would stop singing and utter a sharp challenging wut-wit-wit-wit-wit, or give a low rolling call very like that of our Tree Toad.

Turdus mustelinus.

Concord, Mass.
May 14 1893.

May 16

At Wyndona Pool a Wood Thrush was singing steadily in the dripping woods. There were also Black-throated Green & Chestnut-sided Nuthatches, Field Sparrows, Thrushes, &c. Two male Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were quarreling for the exclusive possession of a blossoming cherry tree near Mr. Watson's and there was a third male at the Bullricks'.

Wood Thrush
singing in
the rain

at
Concord
just
before
the rain

Concord, Mass. to
Cambridge, Mass.
May 24 - 1893

The position of the Wood Thrush's nest was remarkable. It was built in the fork of a small, beautifully-foliaged elder on the side of the road not more than 15 ft. from the road bed itself and quite outside the maple swamp where I have heard the male Thrush singing this spring. The elder was ~~not~~ a solitary bush that ~~grew~~ grew on a grassy flat in the full blaze of the sun. The nest was so conspicuous that no one could possibly pass along the road without seeing it. The female Thrush was sitting; her back was below the ~~edge~~ edge of the nest and her bill and tail alone showing, both pointing upwards at an angle of about 45°. I did not disturb her so do not know what the nest contained.

Wood Thrush
nest in
unusual
place.

My dear Mr Brewster -
2 -

Jefferson Highlands, N.H.
May 26, 1902

Yesterday morning at 5 o'clock, N.H.
 May 25, I heard a Wood Thrush 2 -
 singing in our wood border at
 our home here on the side of
 Boy Mt: within four miles of the
 base of the Presidential Range 6
 on the North-west side - I have
 never heard his voice here before
 — had not expected to hear it -
 Is this considerably above his
 usual northern limit in the State? 7
 He retired by successive flights
 down the wooded slope toward the
 valley of Israel's River, singing from
 each perch, and his voice was at
 East Cost - I caught one glimpse of
 him - one of his flights -
 This may be of interest to you
 as a record -
 Yours truly yours,
 Homer W. Bright -

Jefferson Highlands, N.H.

July 17, 1902 -

My dear Mr. Brewster:

Thank you for your
very kind reply of June 6
- which you speak of the
Cape May warbler - the Public
Garden - the Wood Thrush
- New Hampshire - Vermont -

I am most glad to be
able to inform you now that
the Wood Thrush which I heard
at our road under -
the early morning of May 20 -
- which I had supposed
had disappeared has been

2-
Crisp with at least two other
notes on the Eastern slope of
Bay Mountain, that is the slope
on the back side of the mountain
as viewed from the White
settlement of Jefferson Highlands.

I just heard the song again
upon ascending the mountain June 27
when I moved down somewhat
upon the back side. On the
29th, two days later, I listened for
an hour to one singing a half-
mile distance from the former
location. On July 4, I heard
one answering another - song
at the former location -
then passed to the other point
and heard the ~~other~~ one sing

3-

there as before on June 29.

On the 11th of July I again
heard three sing.

So there is a little colony
of at least three pairs in the
woodland of the mountain.
They are from a half to a
whole mile away from the
nearest houses at the two points
of location, back in the woods
away from all roads and paths.
Yet the song sometimes reaches
the summit of the mountain
— sometimes over the path
I walk, if one has an open
ear. I have seen one but
one. As soon as I continue to
advance, the bird retreats. This

has been ^{to} my experience every
time. Directly I hear the song
some distance off, — I have
not seen the bird fly either,
for I have not got near enough
for that. Once I had a good
momentary look upon the breast —
as one stood perching upon a log
— then a slight glimpse of the back
as it flew —

I am inclined to think
this may be the first season
of the Wood Thrush nest here,
inasmuch as much open woods for
two or three years for all songs
I have never heard its song
before during my seasons stay
here, — this year he made

5
his annual Brown, as many
other species of the deeper woods
I find do, by singing at the
wood border or in the open before
pulling back for a second —

These wood thrushes are
located at elevations of 1800
or 2000 ft. The elevation of the
summit of the little mountain
is 2270 ft.

As to his associate, it is
the Olive-backed Thrush whose
voice is always joined with his.
The Hermit Thrush lives on the
front of the mountain, several
pairs, — reaches up almost
to the summit, but is never

Sound ⁶ - the back side, -
his voice has never once been
heard together with the sound
Thrush's. The Olive-backed Thrush
does not dwell - the face of
the mountain except about the
summit - is distributed - the
back side, where is the sound
Thrush. Once I have heard the
Tanager's voice joined with the
sound Thrush - the Olive-backed
Thrush is at an elevation probably
of 1800 to 1900 ft.

The other songs which
inter with the sound Thrush,
and it is true of both locations
of the sound Thrush, are those of
the Blue-breasted Greenback, the

Scarlet Tanager, the Cedar Creeper,
 Blackburnian, Parula, Black-
 throated Green, Black-throated
 Blue Warblers, ^{Redstart, Cowbird,} the Wood Pewee
 — the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher;
 others incidentally —

Pardon my extended account
 which may be not entirely
 interest to you, — which it
 has been my pleasure to me
 to furnish — the advent of the
 wood thrush is attended with
 so much pleasure to me —

Yours truly,

Warren W. Lough —

Willoughby Lake,
Vermont
1896

Larchus mustelinus

I spent the last half of
June at Willoughby Lake, Vt.
where, much to my surprise, I

found Wood Thrushes singing
every day in company with
Wilson's. hermits, and olive-
backs. Yellow-bellied fly-
catchers on the same level
and within a few rods of
them too. I often heard all
four thrushes singing at the
same time. There were four
or five males *L. mustelinus*
singing, and only five or
six *L. a. pallasi* that I
heard.

Yours sincerely,

Francis H. Allen.

Letter Aug. 1, 1896.

(Mr. W. Foxon found only one Wood Thrush at
Willoughby Lake in 1895. In 1895 & 1896 he found that
it had invaded much of the territory formerly occupied by *L. pallasi*
on Mt. Graylock Mass. & in 1896 found it for the first time at (Hudgins))

Hyllocichla mustelina.

July 1, 1900.

then she does not stay long & we did not even see the male. Has

the any connection with facts?

Sincerely,
Edith M. J. Brewster

Dear Mr. Brewster

God turn
deceases another" my sister
is fond of quoting when we
have done one thing for her
& she wants to ask another
favor. In the same way
you have been so kind to
me that I am going to ask some
more questions. Remembering

What you said about the
strong probability of hearing
of hearing hermit thrushes at
Mickendon early this month,
I am planning to go there on
Friday with my friend Mrs.
Brooker. As we only expect
to be there over one night, we
want to spend our time in
the most likely places, & I cannot
remember in which direction from
the town you told me to go. And
do you know if there is a hotel
there. This would make us more

independent than visiting.

Yesterday I had some fine
times watching young bird
families. I told you about the
wood thrush nest near here. The
mother sits on her nest while the
children feed her with worms
on the end of a long pole. At
first she would eat some kinds
herself & feed some kinds to her
children. These last two days they
are so big they thrust their heads
out in front & on each side of
her & joggle the worms down
themselves. Then we watched

a prairie warbler's nest + saw
the parents feeding the young +
then saw the little one (there was
only one + one egg) take its first
flight. Last of all we watched
a humming bird's nest. It was
too high up to see inside, but we
saw the mother bird come three
times in the course of the hour we
were there + plunge her long bill into
the nest, so there must have been
birds there. To judge from these three
families, the larger the bird, the more
care it gives its young. One of the
parent thrushes was almost always
on or near the nest, the prairie
warblers not quite so much, + the
hummingbird at long intervals, ✓

Turdus mustelinus.

Peterborough, New Hampshire.

1898. One in mixed spruce and hemlock woods on the shores of
July 5 Cunningham Pond, Aug. 2nd. It acted as if it had young fol-
to lowing us about and uttering the sharp challenge cry inces-
Aug. 15. santly. Nevertheless it may have been a migrant for I visited
the place many times afterward without finding the bird again!

cord, Mass.
Con

Singing morning and evening

1899. The Wood Thrush heard this morning near the cabin had
May 12. worked his way northward as far as Davis's Hill where he was
singing steadily (in the evening). He had a wiry, broken
song of inferior quality.

Yesterday's birds were all gone this morning and a small
May 14. flight of newcomers had taken their places. Early in the
morning a Wood Thrush sang for half-an-hour or more very near
the cabin. It was not the bird heard on the 12th but a deep,
rich-voiced singer.

Birds of Toronto, Canada,
by James H. Fleming.
Part II. Land Birds.
Auk, xx, 1907, 7. 86.

284. *Hylocichla mustelina*. WOOD THRUSH.—Regular migrant, May 4 to 20; I can find only one fall record, a female taken September 7, 1891; rare summer resident, breeds (May 4, 1890; June 3, 1894; June 22, 1895).

The Wood Thrush in Maine.—On September 6, 1884, I shot a young male Wood Thrush (*Turdus mustelinus*) at Saco, Maine. This is, I believe, the first recorded instance of its capture along the coast north of Massachusetts, and the only one for Maine.—JOSEPH L. GOODALE, Cambridge, Mass. *Auk*, 2, April, 1885, p. 215.

Saco,
200, Maine

Turdus mustelinus.

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1085. *Maine Birds*. By Everett Smith. *Ibid.*, p. 248.—Note on *Turdus mustelinus*. *For. & Stream*. XLIV

Birds of Hillsboro Co. N. H. June 27, '92
Arthur M. Farmer, Amoskeag, N. H.

Wood Thrush, very common. At times
the only sign of bird life we would have
would be the song of this species.

O. & O Vol. 17, Sept. 1892 p. 136

Hillsboro Co., N. H.

1892

Thrush, April 14.

First Arrivals, C. O. Tracy, Taftsville, Vt.

O. & O. VIII, Sept. 1883, p. 71

Notes from Taftsville, Vt.
by C. O. Tracy.

Wood Thrush (*Hyalocichla mustelina*), two birds, [May 10th]
Noted by me the past season for the first
time at this place.

O. & O. X, Jan. 1885, p. 10.

80. *Hyalocichla mustelina*. WOOD THRUSH.—In 1899, I heard the song and alarm note of this species several times, in the damp maple woods at the base. Once I saw the bird near enough to recognize it, but did not secure it. I think there were at least two pairs nesting there that year, but in 1900 I could find no trace of them, nor have they been observed in Stowe Valley by Mrs. Straw, so they are probably irregular in their occurrence there.¹

¹That their occurrence in northern Vermont is not unusual is evidenced by a record from Willoughby Lake, by F. H. Allen (St. Johnsbury, 'Caledonian,' Sept. 11, 1896; quoted by Faxon and Hoffman in 'Birds of Berkshire Co., Mass.,' p. 10).

The Wood Thrush in Newbury, Vermont.—Newbury, Orange County, Vermont, is on the west bank of the Connecticut River, Newbury village being about 5 miles south of Wells River, which also is a part of the town of Newbury. From the meadows along the river, the land rises to a high bluff on which the village is situated, then still higher to the top of Mt. Pulaski, which is nearly a thousand feet above the sea. The house where I am spending the summer is among a growth of tall pines, spruces, oaks, birches, etc., at the foot of Pulaski slope. Before 7 A. M. July 4, 1910, many birds were singing about the house, among them the Hermit and Wilson's Thrush and White-throated Sparrow, when to my surprise I heard the Wood Thrush, which I had never heard in Vermont before. He sang four times; a day or so later, I saw a Wood Thrush.—ANNA E. COBB, Providence, R. I.

Ann. 27, Oct-1910 p. 461

Wood Thrush at Newbury, Vt.—I have spent my summers since 1905, from June to October, in the town of Newbury, Vt., on the Connecticut River, five miles south of Wells River, and twenty summers previous at Lake Willoughby, Vt. Before 1910 I had never identified a Wood Thrush at Newbury, though the Wilson and Hermit Thrushes were quite common. During the summer of 1910 two Wood Thrushes were identified in the same part of the town where the other thrushes were found.

This year, 1911, there is a noticeable increase of Wood Thrushes. I have seen them in both localities and should say they were from 6 to 8 birds singing where last year only two were identified.

In the late afternoon, of July 1 there was a fine concert by the Wood, Wilson, and Hermit Thrushes in one locality, with a specially fine performance by the Wood Thrush.—ANNA E. COBB, Newbury, Vt.

Ann. 28, Oct-1911 p. 489

Mass. (Concord)

Turdus mustelinus

1886 Occurrence near house.

May 5 Under the Eilacs on the west side of the House and within fifty feet of the house I found a Hood Thrush hopping about this morning. It did not see me (I was looking out of a small window) and I watched it for some time. Its hop was quicker, more bounding than that of the Robin. It scattered the dry leaves about by tossing them sideways with a nervous, petulant jerk of its bill. It was doubtless a migrant bound further north.

"It. A ♂ in full song in one orchard at Morris.

MASS. (Middlesex Co.)

Turdus mustelinus

1887 Late occurrence in autumn

Oct. 4 H. W. Henshaw while shooting in my company at Grantville to-day killed a Hood Thrush in a deep, wooded hollow - just such a place as would be a good breeding ground. The bird was a ♀, apparently adult, and was mouthing about the head. It was in company with several Robins.

Mass. (near Concord).

1887

May 6³⁰ - 9³⁰ - 11² - 16⁴ - 21¹⁰ - 26⁵

June 4¹

July 5¹ - 8¹

Turdus mustelinus * = singing.

1887

Oct. 4. One shot at Grantville by H. W. Henshaw. It was mouthing about head & neck. Found in dense damp woods in company with Robins.

Turdus mustelinus

Birds of Bristol County, Mass.
F. W. Andros.

Turdus mustelinus Gmel., Wood Thrush.
Summer Resident, common. Breeds.

O. & O. XII, Sept. 1887 p. 141

1888

Wood Thrush

S. W. Denton.

May 6. shot one first seen this year
" 25 from the 10th to the 20th I saw a good
many of these birds but now they are not so
abundant.

Bds. Obs. near Graylock Mt. Berkshire
Co. Mass. June 23-July 16. W. Faxon

74. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH.—Common at lower levels and extending high up in the beech forest at the head of the Hopper. Also found sparingly at other points on the mountains. Noted on the Graylock carriage road near the three-mile board, altitude, 2400 feet (?).

Auk, VI, April, 1889, p. 106

Bds. Obs. near Sheffield, Berkshire
Co., Mass. June 17-26, '88. W. Faxon

72. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH.—Common.

Auk, VI, Jan., 1889, p. 46

Notes on the Summer Birds of Berkshire County,
Massachusetts.

Hylocichla mustelina. One pair found about the meadow in the Hoosac Swamp in Williamstown among some alders, and others were heard singing on the side of Mt. Greylock at 2800 feet elevation.

Reginald Heber Howe, Jr. Longwood, Mass.

Auk, XIX, Oct., 1902, p. 405.

One at W. Townsend in *Kalmia latifolia* swamp. Two at Ashby
in swampy maple woods bordering a brook in a deep ravine.
One of the latter singing on the 28th & 29th.

Turdus mustelinus

Occurrence in autumn

Cambridge, Mass.
Sept. 16, 1882

I shot a Wood Thrush in the "maple
swamp" to-day. It was a young bird in
full moult and very ragged plumage. It was
tame, silent and alone. The skin is in
my cabinet - I have never ^{before} heard of the
decrease of the species here in autumn.

40. *Turdus mustelinus* - June 16, E. Mass. 1885.
Princeton & No. Ryeland, Mass. June 18-1885.
3 *mustelinus* - One from Colver W. Haven.
Mass. (Winchendon)

Mr. Bailey has taken two or three sets of
eggs he tells me. I did not find the bird.
Turdus mustelinus.

Mr. Sam Henshaw reports, on
Sept. 21, 1884, that a Wood
Thrush was heard singing in
the latter part of June and in
July by some of the associates
of the Mass. Comp. & Oil.
It was heard near the
Lanes.

Connecticut, June, 1893.

Turdus mustelinus

June 4⁶ Fairfield
" 6² 7² 8⁶ 10² 13⁴ Saybrook
" 21⁵ 23¹ 27¹ 30² 31² Andover

Several less numerous and generally distributed than I had expected to find them. Clark says that they have been very common, scarce about English, this season. Several nests found, all in Kalmia bushes. These contained four, five, six, seven to eight young. It is to be feared however, as a rule there are no more birds than there are holes to hold & their voices, indeed, they are so loud, so full & so loud when the Kalmia is in

Arrivals of Mig'y Birds, Spring-1886,
Central Park, N. Y. City. A. G. Paine, Jr.
May 5, *Turdus mustelinus*, (755). Wood Thrush.

O. & O. XI, July. 1886. p. 109

Notes on the Spring Migration of Birds in the
Northern Adirondacks [Lixton], New York [1901].
May 5 to 10 -
Wood Thrush. Tolerably common.

W. A. Steadling, B. O. S. 1886.

Am. Orn. July. 1886. p. 109.

Descriptions of First Plumage of Certain North Am. Bbs. Wm. Brewster.

1. *Turdus mustelinus*.

First plumage: female. Generally similar to adult, but with the feathers of crown streaked centrally with buff; "rusty-yellow triangular spots at the ends of the wing-coverts and a decided brownish-yellow wash on the breast." From a specimen in my collection, shot by Mr. W. D. Scott at Coalburgh, West Virginia, July 25, 1872. This bird is perhaps a little past the first stage of plumage, most of the feathers of the upper parts being those of the autumnal dress.

Bull. N. O. C. 3, Jan., 1878, p. 17.

General Notes.

Melanism in a Caged Wood Thrush.—A melanistic specimen of *Turdus mustelinus* (American Museum, No. 57,507, New York, June 20, 1892, presented by W. Warren Brown) differs from normal specimens of this species as follows: Two primaries, one entire secondary and a part of the outer web of three others of the right wing, and one primary of the left wing, are dull grayish; the auriculars are black, lightly tipped with fulvous; half the feathers of the chin are wholly black; the throat is normal, the sides of the neck are slightly blacker than is usual, the exposed portion of the feathers of the breast, flanks, under wing-coverts, and crissum are black with narrow tips or borders of tawny which on the breast are reduced to the minimum.

The bird-dealer from whom Mr. Brown purchased this specimen told him it was one of a nest of four he procured in June, 1891, and the following December or January they all changed to the same color as the example just described. There are a number of recorded instances of black Robins,* but so far as I am aware melanism has not before been noticed in the Wood Thrush.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City*.

*Deane, Bull. N. O. C., I, 1876, p. 24; Coues, *ibid.*, III, 1878, p. 48; Barrows, Auk, I, 1884, p. 90; II, 1885, p. 303; Faxon, *ibid.*, III, 1886, p. 284.

Auk 9, July, 1892. p. 303-4.

Williamstown Mass.

June 26, 1883.

Alarm-note a sharp, challenging whit-ti-te,
whit-te-tu or, sometimes wha-ha-ha the
latter having some resemblance to the clat
of a lamb in the Hopper woods

The Singing of Birds. E. P. Bicknell.

Turdus mustelinus. WOOD THRUSH.

This most admirable song-bird is in voice from its arrival, in late April or early May, until about the middle of August. But towards the end of July singing becomes less universal with members of the species, and soon after has come to be inconstant and confined to the earlier and later hours of the day. Songs are usually to be heard through the first week of August, and sometimes for a week later (August 6-15), when singing somewhat abruptly ceases, seven or eight weeks before the final departure of the species.*

After the cessation of singing these Thrushes become shy and inactive, affecting the most retired parts of the woods, and only the careful observer will discover that they have not disappeared. Even their call-notes almost have been discontinued, and when heard are so low in tone and so brief as almost to seem as if accidentally uttered. Before their departure, however, though they do not again sing, voice is partially regained; and in October, even so late as the middle, or rarely last of the month, their call-notes may sometimes be heard uttered with the same vehemence as in the spring.

The suspension of song by this bird during two months preceding its departure can be accounted for, according to the probabilities earlier adduced, by physiological activities antagonistic to song operating during that time. In late August adults are covered with growing feathers and without fat. In mid-September some, at least, show a nearly perfected plumage, with areas of fat beginning to accumulate; and individuals may be found almost a month later with the renewal of plumage still incomplete; such, perhaps, are birds of the year. It would appear from these facts that the impulse to song is first interrupted by the moult, and further suppressed by the supervening adipose condition.

Auk, I, April, 1884, p. 128-129.

*An exceptionally late date for song is August 23, 1883. On that day I for some minutes listened to the singing of a Wood Thrush which was of a very unusual character. Though all the notes of the normal song were given, they were so faintly uttered and separated by such distinct pauses, as to make it seem probable that they resulted from the first trial of a young bird.

June 8th I found a nest of the Wilson Thrush containing one egg with a very thin shell. I took it, and left in its place the egg that still remained in the nest found June 5th, that nest having been deserted after I took the two eggs. I visited this new nest nearly every day for four weeks and saw the female bird on the nest every time, but found no more eggs. I saw but one bird in all this time, and at last I found the nest empty and deserted. fence at some distance in front of me. I saw at once that it was a new species to me, and my first impulse was "to shoot it on the spot," but noticing it to be feeding upon passing insects and not likely to fly far away very soon, I decided to watch its movements for a time before attempting to secure it. It would sit upon a twig for only a few moments, jerking its tail in a very nervous manner and uttering a sad, querulous note which suggested the idea that it must be a bird lost from its fellows, stopping now and then in its lamentations to dart out excitedly and seize some passing insect. After watching it some time I secured it, and to my delight I found I had a specimen of the Black-crested Flycatcher—that strange bird of which Dr. Coues writes so interestingly in his "Birds of the Colorado Valley," and in connection with which he speaks so touchingly of one of the common, yet sorrowful, occurrences of border life. It is not strange that the

or three inches of the ground, sometimes attached to a stub or brier, and occasionally in high grass near a cart-path. They were constructed of dead leaves (principally beech leaves) and grape-vine bark. The eggs were "light-blue, green-tinted," and about the size of the Bluebird's eggs.

O. & O. VII. Nov. 1832. p. 170-171

428. Thrushes. [By Chas. Edw. Prior.] *Ibid.*, p. 170, 171.—Nesting of Wilson's and Wood Thrushes. *O. & O. Vol. VII*

Am. John N. Clark, Saybrook, Conn.

The Brown Thrasher, the Wood Thrush, and the Blue Jay all draw from the same unknown source the lining for their nests, certainly not for its softness, though such a bed might be comfortable and airy in a hot day, yet I believe they always use the same material regardless of season or weather.

141.

Curious Set of Eggs of the Wood Thrush.

A very singular set of eggs of the Wood Thrush (*Hyllocichla mustelina*) may be thus described:

No. 1 measures 1.13x.84, and is of the normal color.

No. 2 is 1.09x.83, and is also of the usual color.

No. 3 is .87x.62, and is of the same color as the two preceding eggs.

No. 4 is .88x.62 and is of a peculiar drab greenish color.

They were found at Milton, Mass., on June 26, 1883, and the parent bird was seen. It will be noticed that the first two eggs are larger than the usual size for this bird, (which is from 1.00x.75 to 1.08x.70,) while the other two are "runts." The greenish-drab one is different in color from any eggs of this species that the present writer has seen. O. & O. XI. May, 1886. p. 67.

WOOD THRUSH. May 27, I found a nest of the Wood Thrush, (*Hyllocichla mustelina*.) containing six eggs, three of them Cowbirds. The nest was perhaps four feet from the ground in a little stub of a tree, and only a few rods from where I have found a nest of the same species for two years preceding. I approached to within a few feet of the bird before she flew, and eyed her for some minutes with much satisfaction. After leaving the nest she flew at me fiercely, and her cry of "whit-a whit" was so loud and animated as her wings fanned my face, that it will long remain fresh in my memory. I have never found any bird so brave in the defense of its nest as the Wood Thrush, and I know of no bird that can more forcibly express its indignation at an intrusion.

O. & O. IX. Aug. 1881. p. 101.
 Notes from Forest City, Conn.
 by Chas. Edward Prior

John N. Clark -- Saybrook, Conn.

There is a sort of uniformity about most species in the numbers of completed sets, and variation is an exception, and in view of my last five year's experience I should consider five or even four in a Kingbird's nest an exception instead of usual. A completed set of Wood Thrush, (*Hyllocichla mustelina*) is sure to number four, yet I once found five, and probably as often three would prevail. In the case of the Catbird, (*Galeoscoptes carolinensis*) how undoes four complete her set. An excess only once been presented to me, when on May the 17th last, I found a nest containing five; and three eggs is as equally rare.

O. & O. XII. Oct. 1887. p. 174

Birds of the Adirondack Region. C. H. Merriam.

1. *Hyllocichla mustelina* (Gmel.) Baird. WOOD THRUSH.—Rare. Have found it along the borders of Brown's Tract, in eastern Lewis Co., but only stragglers occur here at all. It breeds about Lake George (Dr. A. K. Fisher).

Bull. N. O. C. 6, Oct. 1881, p. 226

1. Wood Thrush. Common. Found in the woods and underbrush. Perched on some tree or bush the male pours forth his beautiful notes which make the woods ring. The nest of this species is placed in a small bush or on the ground, and is composed of dried grass and pine needles loosely put together, but quite bulky. The eggs, four in number, are of a light blue color and usually measure 7-8 in. by 5-8 in.

O. & O. XV, June, 1890, p. 81

My note on Wood Thrush's nest containing eggs of the scrobbled are note on the latter by W. J. Warwick

(O. & O. VIII, Feb. 1883, p. 15.)

WOOD THRUSH.—Is not four an unusually large set of Wood Thrush? During the past season I have found in all thirty-seven nests, and do not remember to have observed more than three, either eggs or young birds, in any nest. Also, what is the farthest Southern limit that the Wilson's Thrush breeds? I have not been able to find any nest in Chester County as yet.—

W. S. McDermond, West Chester, Pa.

The Number of Eggs in a Set. O

BY F. L. BURNS, BERWYN, PENN.

Having read from time to time in the O. and O. the opinion of many collectors on this subject, I venture to give my limited experience in this line. I commenced collecting in 1885, and for a time was "cheated" out of many sets, especially of our most common birds, by waiting for the female to lay the number of eggs "bird doctors" stated they did lay. In the mean time the eggs would hatch, or be so hard set as to be worthless. Many young collectors complain of this, and now some take the eggs as soon as found, complete set or not, claiming that this is the only sure way.

For instance, the Wood Thrush, (*Tylocochitta mustelina*) lays three more often than four eggs, and I have yet to find a set of five; and yet most writers claim the usual set to be four or five eggs.

Of forty eggs and young of this species found by me the past season, I find to be divided in sets as follows:

Sets of 2.....	2
" " 3.....	8
" " 4.....	3

In all eggs incubation had commenced, in many cases advanced.

The first set was taken May 30th, the last set July 4th, but the majority were taken during the first week in June.

O & O. XII, Oct. 1887 p. 170

98. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH.—Common. Regarding the material composing the nest, Dr. Coues says: "As is well known, the nest of this species is saddled on the bough of a bush, shrub, or low tree, and has mud in its composition" ('Birds of the Northwest,' p. 2). In 'Avifauna Columbiana,' p. 34, he contradicts this statement, and speaks as follows: "The nest, placed in a bush or sapling, differs from that of the Robin in having no mud in its composition." As far as the writer's experience goes, and it accords with that of other collectors here, the nest of the Wood Thrush *does* contain considerable mud. The number of eggs found in a nest is usually four, and the nest is placed in a small sapling or tree, from four to twenty feet from the ground.

Aug, V, Jan, 1888, p. 25

Birds of Chester County, Penn. Cyrus B. Meesal, Erceldoune, Pa.

194. *Turdus mustelinus* (Gmel.). Wood Thrush. Summer resident; common. Arrives last week in April. Nidificates by the third week in May; eggs, three to five. Departs the last of October.

O. & O. XIV, Sept. 1889 p. 130

In the summer of last year I found a nest which I have never been able to identify, as no bird was near. It was in New Castle Co., Del., and was placed in the centre of a clump of hazel bushes, growing in a swamp, so that I had to wade at least fifty yards before reaching it. It resembled a Wood Thrush's nest, being built of mud, but was an inch deeper than any nest of that kind I ever saw. The diameter was about the same. It was placed about two feet above the water and contained four eggs, much like a runt Catbird's egg, and of a dark blue color, with a slight greenish cast. The latter is hardly distinguishable when placed beside a Catbird's egg. Now can any reader of O. and O. tell me what bird it belongs to? It was not a case of a Catbird laying in an old nest, for I had been through that same

thicket several times before, and would have seen it. If any one can cite an instance of a Catbird building a mud nest, that may solve the question, and the slight differences in size, shape and color might be passed over as accidental.

O. & O. VIII, Nov. 1883, p. 87-88
Charles D. Gibson, Reservoir, Pennsylvania.

Number of Eggs in a Set.

BY C. S. BRIMLEY, RALEIGH, N. C.

Seeing this subject discussed in the August O. AND O. by Mr. Hoxie, I give some experiences of my own on the subject, as being possibly of some interest.

First, as to the number of eggs varying with the habitat, I find that several species in this locality lay less than the usual number, as follows:

Wood Thrush (*Tijloicichla mustelina*), usual number four; at least one-third of the incubated sets in this locality consist of three only,

and in 1886 I found a complete set of only two (incubated), but in this case the eggs were much larger than usual. Abundant.

Ornith. O. XII. Oct. 1887. p. 166.

Nesting Dates, 1888, Raleigh, N. C.
C. S. Brimley.

May 8. Wood Thrush set of 4, 7 feet in dog-wood.

O. & O. XIV. Nov. 1889 p. 165

Wood Thrush. Standard set, four. Variation, four to five. Per cent of variation about 30.

No. Eggs in Set. O. & O. Vol. 18, Aug. 1893 p. 119

Wood Thrush. Standard set, four; variation, three to four, not four to five, as I said in my previous article.

May 16. Wood Thrush: set of four; nine feet in hickory.

O. & O. XVI, Jun, 1891, p. 10

Nests in which Cowbird eggs have been found. O. C. Poling

18. *Turdus mustelinus*. I found a nest of this Thrush in Missouri containing one egg of the Cowbird and three of the Thrush within a few feet of a Vireo's nest which also contained a Cowbird's egg. Otho C. Poling.
Quincy, Illinois.

O. & O. XIV, Sept. 1889 p. 134

The Wood Thrush.

120

ORNITH

From the time that our great statesman and ex-president, Thomas Jefferson, who "followed this bird for miles without ever but once getting a good view of it," and who, "for twenty years, interested the young sportsmen of his neighborhood to shoot him one," down to the present date of advanced ornithology and oology, much has been said and written in regard to this favorite bird.

His beautiful song and habits and their nests and eggs have been so often described, that it seems almost impossible to say anything further in regard to this bird which would be interesting, especially to the older students of ornithology and oology; and yet I feel it my duty to make one correction in regard to the material of which its nest is composed, for the benefit of the younger students and more especially for some of the older ones, who study more from books than from Nature.

Davie, in his second edition of "Nests and Eggs of North American Birds," says that its nest is "composed of leaves and grasses, with a layer of mud;" and in his third edition, the same author says: "On the outside, it is composed of leaves, grasses, and

stems of weeds, which are gathered when wet and become solid and firm, and between these are tracings of mud."

Now, in all the years of my careful observations, I have never been able to find a single nest of the Wood Thrush which contained any mud except where small patches of it had adhered to the decayed vegetation used in its construction, seemingly more by accident than intention. My correction therefore is this, that the solid part of the Wood Thrush's nest, usually called mud, is composed of very old decayed vegetation and old rotten wood pulp. I do not make these statements to in any way injure Mr. Davie's valuable works, for I prize them highly, and I think it would be proper here to state that various other publications have made the same mistake; and if any ornithologist who seems to differ with me on this subject will carefully examine the nest of the Wood Thrush, I feel sure that he will agree with me that no mud is intentionally used in its construction.

James B. Purdy.

Plymouth, Michigan.

O. & O. Vol. 18, Aug. 1893 p. 119

Detroit, Mich. 1891 Notes.
B. H. Swales,

May 31. Wood Thrush; set of four fresh eggs. This Thrush is a most exquisite songster, particularly in rainy weather, when his clear, ringing notes seem to be far sweeter.

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

A Pleasant Hour.

Geo. L. Toppman.

A little further along another nest greeted our eyes. This time it was that of the Wood Thrush (*Turdus mustelinus*) and contained four fresh eggs. It was built in the crotch of a small sapling about twelve feet from the ground. The spectacle of myself, a firm grasp on the sapling with one hand, the nest in the other, and all the while trying to place it in my wife's outstretched hands, would, no doubt, have proved quite laughable to an onlooker; however, there was no one to look, and to us it was all very sober earnest. On again reaching the ground I followed the old bird, who kept constantly flitting from one tree or bush to another, to make sure of my identification.

O. & O. XIV, Nov. 1889 p. 166

WOOD THRUSHES, (*Hylocichla mustelina*.)
The creek timbers all about here are full of them, and the Cow-bird, (*Molothrus ater*.) seems to find this nest particularly convenient, for almost every other nest has this parasitic egg among the rightful owner's, and in some instances two and more. My friend, Dr. Matthews, a great lover of Oology, now in Kansas, and myself found a nest in the Vermillion river timber, near Pontiac, containing three of the Blue Thrushes and three (each differently marked) Cow-bird's eggs. The color, contrast and the nicety with which they had been placed in the nest, half to half, was strikingly wonderful. *A. H. Mumdt.*

Notes, Fairburg, Ill.
O. & O. VIII, Feb. 1883, p. 7

Notes-Eggs of Thrushes & Thrashers,
H. G. Parker.

Wood Thrush (*Hylocichla mustelina*). Deep greenish blue eggs, easily distinguished from the Robin's, which are larger. Four eggs generally constitute a set, though the writer has taken one set of five in which one was a runt. Very often also, only three are laid. This bird is sometimes made the foster parent of the Cow-bird's young, and two instances are remembered where the foreign egg was taken with the Thrushes eggs in a nest. In one case one egg of the Cowbird and one of the Thrush was found, and in the other three eggs of the Cowbird and two of the Thrush.

Eggs of this species show comparatively little variation, but some examples are rounded and some of the elongated form; and the differing degrees of intensity of blue are perceptible to a close observer. An extra large sized specimen measures 1.11 x .83; but this is quite phenomenal however, as the usual size is about 1.00 x .75.

O. & O. XII, May, 1887 p. 69

**Obs. on Summer Birds of Mountain
Fors. Pickens Co, S. C. L. M. Loomis.**

75. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH.—As the mountain region is approached, the Wood Thrush becomes more and more prominent, the cool hollows shaded by large oaks and other deciduous trees affording congenial residence. In the mountains, I found them most numerous from the mid-elevations upwards, but I think the local environment, more than the altitude, occasioned their abundance. So common were they that several performers were often heard at a time in a narrow area—even in the heat of midday. First young shot June 13.

Auk, VII. April, 1890. p. 130.

**Western North Carolina Birds, Jack-
son Co. May '88, W. & J. Jeffries.**

May 24 we drove to Franklin; the day was hot but beautifully clear. *Turdus mustelinus*, nowhere rare, became abundant as we ascended; several nests were taken on the very edge of the road in plain sight of every passer by.

Auk, 6, April, 1889, p. 121

**Summer Birds of Buncombe County,
N. Carolina. John S. Cairns.**

Turdus mustelinus. WOOD THRUSH. Summer visitor; common. Arrives early in April. Nests usually the 1st or 2d week in May. Range about 5,000 feet up.

O. & O. XIV. Feb. 1889 p. 23

**Birds of Western North Carolina.
William Brewster.**

99. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH.—Abundant, and generally distributed, ranging from the lowest valleys to at least 4500 feet, on the mountain sides, and breeding everywhere, but most numerous in thickets of rhododendrons near streams. Two nests, each containing four fresh eggs, were found at Highlands; one, May 27, in a cornel (*Cornus florida*); the other, May 28, in a rhododendron (*Rhododendron maximum*).

Auk, 3, April, 1886. p. 178

Charleston, S. C.

Turdus mustelinus

1884.

Charleston, South Carolina

- Apr. 10. Saw the first, a single bird, silent, hopping about on the ground on burnt pine land near the edge of a swampy piece of woods.
- " 15 One singing softly in the "hummock". It was raining at the time.
- " 23 Heard several males singing in "galls" along brooks in pine land.
- " 28 Shot two one James, Island in oak scrub.
- " 29 Saw several " " " " " "
- May 5 A male singing in gall.
- " 8 Heard several singing in galls.

Loomis, on South Carolina Birds,

51. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH. ('NIGHTINGALE.')—Common, but singularly shuns some portions of the locality. In the neighborhood of the hotel it was the leading voice in the daily concert. Rather shy.

Auk, 8, Oct. 1891, p. 333

Summary Obs. on Birds Gulf Coast
Florida. W. E. D. Scott.

Turdus mustelinus. WOOD THRUSH.—A rather rare spring and fall (?) migrant on the Gulf coast of Florida. I have found them in the vicinity of Tarpon Springs in early April on two occasions. Mr. Atkins found them rather common at Key West on April 29, 1887, and saw the last ones on May 3, 1888.

Auk, VII, April, 1890, p. 119.

Birds Observed at Coosada, Alabama
N. C. Brown

2. *Turdus mustelinus*, Gm. WOOD THRUSH.—Arrived April 13 in full song. They were never very common, inhabited only swampy thickets and hard-wood groves, and were extremely shy.

Bull. N. O. C. 3, Oct., 1878, p. 169

Birds of Bayou Sara, La., Observed
April 1-23; by C. W. Beckham

However, the Wood Thrush, which is very common, makes an agreeable substitute, coming about the dwellings with the fearless confidence of the Chipping Sparrow, and by his unexpected sociability atoning for the Catbird's shortcomings in this respect. They were first seen on April 4.

Auk, 4, Oct. 1887, p. 301

Birds of Houston, Texas, and Vicinity - H. Nehrling

2. *Turdus mustelinus*, Gmel. WOOD THRUSH.—Arrives from the North early in October when the aromatic berries of the *Magnolia grandiflora* are ripe, on which they eagerly feed. On account of this food the flesh is very delicate and large numbers are killed by pot hunters, who call them "Grassets." In the winter months they appear not to be common and inhabit swampy thickets and bottom woods.

Bull. N. O. C. 7, Jan, 1882, p. 6

Birds of Carroll County, Ind.
B. W. Evermann.

198. *Turdus mustelinus*. WOOD THRUSH.—An abundant and delightful summer resident. May 3, 1883; April 28, 1884; April 23, 1885. Full sets of eggs June 17, 1882; May 24, 1883.

Auk, VI, Jan., 1889, p. 29.

WOOD THRUSH, (*Hylocichla mustelina*.) St. Louis, Mo. The first seen was on April 19, when two were found at old stands singing a few strains, when it began to rain. April 22, two were in full song. April 29, they were still quiet and scarce. May 1, they arc exercising every morning now, and by the 16th had become conspicuous and diligent songsters. Manhattan, Kans., First, May 1; Litch, Ill. First April 5; Grand View, Ia., First, April 28, three seen; Jefferson, Wis., First one was seen on May 10, and by the 12th there had been a decided increase and many were heard and six or eight seen; the bulk of the birds has not yet arrived. May 17, marked the height of the migration, and by the 21st, they had settled down to Summer numbers. Mitchell, Ia., First, May 9; Hastings, Minn., First, May 6, three singing. O. & O. X. Sept. 1885, p. 129

Miss. Acad. Sci. 1893
Chipping - 1893
Prof. W. M. Cooper
Woodhead, Minn.

A Note on the Wood Thrush.—It seems worthy of mention, that on examining a large series of Wood Thrushes (*Turdus mustelinus*) taken throughout their range, the majority of specimens from west of the Appalachian Highlands and the St. Lawrence Valley average much smaller in measurements (bill, culmen .56 in. and depth .18, tarsus 1.08, and wing 4.22), than those from east of the Highlands (bill, culmen, .63+ and depth .21+, tarsus 1.15, and wing 4.31). Typical western birds having been secured not uncommonly in the East, and vice versa, does not allow, however, the establishment of a western subspecies.—
REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., Longwood, Mass.

THE COMMON NAMES OF AMERICAN BIRDS.

BY ERNEST INGERSOLL.

The Thrush family—here regarded in its broadest sense, for the sake of convenience—does not present a wide range of vernacular synonyms except in respect to two or three species, nor are these difficult of explanation.

The word *Thrush* is very old, appearing in substantially the same shape—the *u* sound having superseded an older *y* or *ö*—in the Icelandic and Anglo-Saxon languages. I believe that the origin of the word was a reference to the throat, or in other words to the singing powers of this family, whose voice is probably their most notable trait; and this view is strengthened when it is remembered that the old German word *drozzá* coming from the same root as our English *throat* gives *drossel* in modern German as the word for “throat,” “throttle,” and also for “thrush.” Under *Thrasher* I shall adduce a further argument. From the earliest times, then, the Thrushes have been considered preëminently the song-birds of the world.

Taking up the list in regular order, the first to present itself is *Turdus mustelinus*. Its common names are: *Wood Thrush*, *Wood Robin*, *Swamp Robin*, *Swamp Angel* (Adirondacks), *Bogtrot* (South Carolina), *Alondra del Monte* (Mexico). All of these evidently refer to its habitual forest-resort and its Thrush- or Robin-like (for frequently these words are confused) character. The terms *Song Thrush* and *Grive des Bois Flûte* (Canada) point to the striking music of this bird, the French literally meaning “the flute-voiced Thrush of the woods.” Referring to the color of the plumage are the book-names *Tawny Thrush* (Pennant, Latham) and *Merle tanné* (D’Orbigny). As for *Grasset* (Texas), I cannot explain it.

Bull. N. O. C. 8, April 1880, pp. 72-73.

1789. *A Hard Time of It.* By A. H. G. *Ibid.*, Aug. 8, p. 43.—An item about *Turdus mustelinus*. *For. & Stream*, Vol. 39

608. *Der Walddrossel.* (*Turdus mustelinus* Gmelin.—*Wood Thrush*.) Von H. Nehrling, Sonntagsblatt der N. Y. Staats Zeitung, 20 Jan. 1884.—Biography of the species.

38. *Facts and Fancies in Organic Life.* By B. Horsford. *Ibid.*, Vol. VI, pp. 7, 40.—Chiefly noteworthy as containing (p. 40) an attempt to represent the songs of “our Wood Thrushes” by means of the musical scale. *Fam. Sci. & Fanc. Jour.*

132. *The Food-habits of Thrushes.* By S. A. Forbes. *American Entomologist*, New Ser., I, pp. 12, 13.—Abstract of observations made upon this family, published in detail in *Trans. Illinois State Hort. Soc.*, Vol. XIII, 1879, pp. 120-172.

1645. *The Bird of Solitude*. By Olive Thorne Miller. 'The Atlantic Monthly,' Vol. LIII, No. 320, June, 1884, pp. 753-758.—A popular account of the characteristics of *Turdus mustelinus* and *T. a. pallasii*. Reprinted in 'Bird Ways,' Boston, 1885, pp. 13-29.

440. *The Wood-thrushes (Hyllocichla) of New Brunswick*. By M. Chamberlain. *Ibid.*, pp. 185-187. [Also published in the "Canadian Sportsman and Naturalist," III, Jan., 1883, pp. 201-203.] *Q. & C. Vol. V11*

91. *The food of our Thrushes*. Editorial [G. B. Grinnell]. *Ibid.*, XIV, p. 244.—Review and abstract of Prof. S. A. Forbes's very important paper on this subject in "Trans. Ill. State Hort. Soc.," Vol. XIII. *For. & Stream*

525. *The Wood-thrushes (Hyllocichla) of New Brunswick*. By M. Chamberlain. St. John, N. B. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 201-203.—(Previously published in the 'Ornithologist and Oologist,' VII, pp. 185-187.)

Can. Sport. & Naturalist

211. *The Music of Nature. Our Wood Thrushes*. By B. Horsford. *Ibid.*, XVIII, No. 17, p. 326, May 25, 1882.—Description of the birds and their songs, with an attempt to indicate their notes by use of the musical scale.

For. & Stream

ORNITHOLOGIST

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OÖLOGIST.

\$1.00 per
Annum.

JOSEPH M. WADE, Editor and Publisher.
Established, March, 1875.

Single Copy
10 Cents.

VOL. VII.

BOSTON, DECEMBER 15, 1882.

No. 24.

The Wood-thrushes (*Hylocichla*) of New Brunswick.

This Province can lay claim to but three members of this sub-genus of the *Turdidae*, the Tawny, also called "Wilson's Thrush," and "Veery," the Olive-backed and the Hermit, for the Wood Thrush does not come so far north on the Atlantic seaboard, rarely occurring beyond Massachusetts and never reaching the northern limit of the Alleghanian faunal area, while its gray-cheeked congener, though probably passing through the country *en-route* to its breeding ground in the far North, has not as yet been taken within our boundaries. The Hermit and the Olive-backed are abundant throughout the Province and the Tawny is much too common to be called rare. They usually reach the vicinity of St. John during the first half of May, the Hermit arriving first, followed within a few days by the Tawny and in some two weeks by the Olive-backed. They leave here about the middle of September. These species have a general appearance when in the field so similar that none but experts can distinguish them, though, upon a close examination, the characteristics of each are found to be marked with sufficient distinctness to leave no doubt of their identification. In the field all three have the same outline from beak to tail, the same russet coloring above the same dull white breasts, more or less spotted; but lay examples of each side by side and it will prove that the Tawny was correctly named, for his russet plumes have a reddish tint in marked contrast with the greenish shade

of the Olive-backed, while the Hermit is distinguished by his tawny tail which changes to olive above the rump. But the actions of these birds are more nearly identical than either form or color, for whether seen hopping along the ground or perched upon a tree, feeding or flying, it is impossible to detect any difference in them.

Much has been written about these same manners that is not warranted by what is observed of them during their visit to this country. While here they appear neither timid nor shy, and I doubt if they ever yield to such plebeian weaknesses. These birds are patricians, the premier genus of the arian aristocracy on Mr. Ridgway's roll, and true to the instincts and traditions of "the first families" are modest and retiring, and prefer the calm repose of the forest to the glare and bustle of the field and roadside. They are courageous and composed under excitement, but never quarrelsome, and are happy without being noisy. In short, they display the good breeding and refined manners of the thoroughbreds that they are. They cannot be called gregarious but they are not solitary—Hermit Thrush is a positive misnomer. They do not commingle as socially as do the species of some other families; indeed, they never appear as companions, yet it is not unusual to find a number of the same species frequenting one grove. I have seen as many as thirty Hermits within an area of a hundred yards square. In nidification our three species exhibit a marked difference; the nests are differently constructed and placed in different situations. Their eggs also differ in shape, size and

color, and their songs differ—differ in tone, compass, volume, theme and duration.

The Tawny and the Hermit always build on the ground in this country, and though their nests and its location are quite similar yet they are not identical; both nests are loosely and roughly put together, but Veery's is the most compact and the neatest. They are usually placed in an indentation, either natural or formed by the birds, and screened by an overhanging branch, but while the Veery prefers a dry knoll in a damp spot, within a wood, the Hermit usually selects the margin of a grove or a patch of trees in a dry and partially overgrown open; neither build in a dense thicket of trees or shrubbery. Under the nests is placed a cushion or platform composed of dried grass or moss. The nest proper is built of dried grass and small twigs, unmixed with mud, and is lined with fine grass; sometimes fine fibrous roots and vines are added to the lining.

The Olive-backed builds in a tree, and, like all tree-builders, makes a substantial structure. It is usually placed in the crotch of a limb some six or eight feet from the ground, generally in a moist place, and occasionally in a really wet swamp. In a specimen of this nest before me coarse grass is the predominating material in the external parts, but in the walls twigs of spruce, bits of lichens and dried leaves are mixed with the grass and all are woven into a solid mass, very firm and strong. The lining is formed by a layer of fine grass interwoven with pieces of a black, vine-like root, all neatly laid; over these, at the bottom, is a layer of skeleton leaves. The measurements are: Depth, inside, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches; width at mouth, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches; outside the diameter is irregular, varying from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to 5 inches. Mr. J. W. Banks tells me that of some fifty nests of the Olive-backed Thrush that he has examined all were lined with skeleton leaves; but Mr. Harold Gilbert found one in 1878 that was lined with moose hair. This nest was built in a gar-

den, in the suburbs of St. John, within twenty feet of the house and but an arm's-length from one of the main walks. The moose hair was furnished by a tame animal kept on the grounds. The three species usually lay four eggs, but it is Mr. Banks' opinion that in extremely wet or cold seasons three more frequently complete the clutch. So eminent and excellent an authority as Dr. Coues gives four and five as the number of eggs, but we have never seen more than four in any nest obtained in this country.

The Tawny and the Hermit lay immaculate eggs of a greenish-blue color, but the eggs of the Hermit are much the paler and are also the longer and more pear-shaped. The eggs of the Olive-backed are of a bright greenish-blue ground color, not so dark as the Veery's, and irregularly marked with purplish-brown spots. In some examples these spots are so large and numerous they almost entirely hide the ground color. The average measurements of the eggs are: Tawny, $.86 \times .67$; Olive-backed, $.92 \times .69$; Hermit, $.89 \times .64$. Few of our country-people are acquainted with the appearance of these birds but are familiar with their songs which they attribute to one species called by them the "Swamp Robin;" for as in their appearance so in their song, there is to some degree a superficial resemblance; all have peculiar metallic voices and sing somewhat similar melodies. Their songs resemble each other much more than they resemble that of any other species. The Tawny ranks first in classification but the Hermit takes precedence as a vocalist. His song is the grandest; it is the finest musical composition and displays the most artistic execution, as well as the greatest compass and power of voice.

One is surprised to find so little about the songs of these Thrushes in the writings of the older ornithologists. Wilson says the Tawny has "no song" and calls the Hermit "a silent bird." Audubon never heard the song of the Hermit, and Nuttall

does it but scanty justice. To my ear it is by far the finest song we hear in these Northern woods, and fully deserves the seemingly exaggerated title of "glorious," given it by some modern writers. The Winter Wren is his nearest rival and he startles the listener into admiration by the perfect torrent of sweet harmonies, of brilliant passages and marvellously executed trills, he hurls upon the stillness of the forest solitude in which he delights to roam: but, beautiful and joyous as his song is, in comparison with the song of the Hermit Thrush it sounds mechanical, and more like an air from a music box. The music of the Hermit never startles you: it is in such perfect harmony with the surroundings it is often passed by unnoticed, but it steals upon the sense of an appreciative listener like the quiet beauty of the sunset. Very few persons have heard him at his best. To accomplish this you must steal up close to his forest sanctuary when the day is done, and listen to the vesper hymn that flows so gently out upon the hushed air of the gathering twilight. You must be very close to the singer or you will lose the sweetest and most tender and pathetic passages, so low are they rendered—in the merest whispers. I cannot, however, agree with Mr. Burroughs that he is more of an evening than a morning songster, for I have often observed that the birds in any given locality will sing more frequently and for a longer period in the morning than in the evening. I prefer to hear him in the evening, for there is a difference; the song in the morning is more sprightly—a musician would say "has greater brilliancy of expression"—and lacks the extreme tenderness of the evening song, yet both have much the same notes and the same "hymn-like serenity." The birds frequently render their matinal hymns in concert and the dwellers in a grove will burst out together in one full chorus, forming a grander *Te Deum*—more thrilling—than is voiced by surpliced choir

within cathedral walls. On one occasion an Indian hunter after listening to one of these choruses for a time said to me, "That makes me feel queer." It was no slight influence moved this red-skinned stoic of the forest to such a speech. The song of the Olive-backed ranks second in composition but he has the sweetest and most mellow voice of the three. The Veery displays the least musical ability yet his simple strain is exceedingly pleasant to the ear and his beautiful voice exhibits most strongly that peculiar resonant metallic tone which is characteristic of the genus.

I have not attempted to represent these songs by words or notes, for all such experiments as I have seen, appear to me to be failures. Neither the words of Dr. Brewer or Mr. Samuels, nor the syllables used by Mr. Ridgway or Mr. Gentry convey to my mind the idea of the songs of the birds that is impressed on my memory; and after a patient rehearsal of the notes of Mr. Horsford's score on piano, violin and flute I fail to recognize the melodies he has attempted to write. Perhaps Mr. Horsford will say that, as I do not live in "a white pine country," I can know nothing about these Thrushes, and I certainly do not if his article in *Forest and Stream** is to be taken as evidence of what is correct. Besides their songs the three species have call notes and two or three minor notes, used chiefly when a mated pair are together. The alarm note of the Olive-backed, which Mr. Minot thinks sounds like "whit," and which he calls "the ordinary note" of the bird, is seldom used except the bird has a nest near the intruder. I think the sound would be better represented by "kwut" very abruptly and quickly uttered, with a peculiar emphatic intonation. But the songs and notes of all birds must be heard to be understood and appreciated.—*M. Chamberlain, St. John, N. B.*

*Prof. Horsford's writings on our Thrushes first appeared in "Familiar Science" published by us. We also engraved the music. Other of our articles appeared in *Forest and Stream* as original.

The Family Turdidæ in Orleans County, N.Y.

The family *Turdidæ* or Thrush family is, comparatively, very well represented in Orleans County.

The thrush family in North America comprises twenty-six well-defined species and sub-species.

Of this number, fifteen are confined to the west and south-west, and one is confined to Greenland; leaving but ten of possible occurrence in Eastern United States.

Out of this possible ten seven are known to occur in Orleans County.

Mentioning these in the order of their classification (A.O.U. nomenclature) we have, first, the Catbird (*Galeoscoptes carolinensis*). This well-known bird is one of our most common summer residents from the first week in May, the time of its arrival from the south, until the last of September. The Catbird breeds abundantly, building its nest of sticks, twigs, rootlets and leaves in a bush, low tree, or a cluster of vines, generally in a thicket or wooded place. The eggs are generally four or five in number, and the young birds are hatched about June 8-15. The Catbird is seldom seen outside of its forest home, but there it is abundant.

Next in order we have the Brown Thrasher (*Harporhynchus rufus*) which, however, is of very rare occurrence here. Why this is so is not known. It seems to be quite common elsewhere throughout the eastern United States but in this particular section of Western New York it certainly is quite rare. However, a specimen is occasionally seen, and a friend of the writer, who resides just over the line into Genesee County, secured a nest with eggs from the thickets of Tonawanda Swamp. The song of this bird has been the remark of many writers for its variety and beauty, and I fear Orleans ornithologists will have to rely wholly upon their words.

The Wood Thrush (*Turdus mustelinus*) is a very common bird of our woodland in summer. Its beautiful flute-like notes are heard in this locality, for the first time, about May 10th, although I have recorded the arrival of *mustelinus* as early as April 21st (1888). It leaves for the south early in September. It breeds commonly, building its nest about the 20th of May and usually laying four eggs, though quite often only three. In this locality the Wood Thrush is quite often imposed upon by the Cowbird. The nest is as a rule in the top of a

sapling and is composed to a goodly extent of leaves, although twigs, roots and grasses as well are in its make-up. The name "Flute-bird," derived from the striking resemblance of its notes to that instrument, is also given to this bird.

Wilson's Thrush (*Turdus fuscescens*) arrives and departs at about the same time as the Wood Thrush, and like that bird is a resident of the forest and thicket. It is not, however, as plentiful as the Wood Thrush. Its nest is usually on the ground at the base of a sapling, although frequently it is placed a few feet from the ground, and may contain three or four eggs.

The Olive-backed Thrush (*Turdus ustulatus swainsoni*), next in order, differs from the thrushes already spoken of in that it is not a summer resident in Orleans County, but a migrant.

Wintering south of us and spending the summer and breeding north of the United States, it passes us on its way to and from its breeding grounds respectively, during the spring and fall. Its occurrence is rather rare, and as it keeps for the most part to the tree tops and does not tarry long during its migrations, it is seldom seen. An uncommon incident in connection with this bird in this county is the fact that it has been known to breed here. Contrary to the rule of its breeding far to the north, Frank H. Lattin, of Gaines, on each of the dates, June 2, 1880, and June 1, 1881, found a nest of this bird. Both of these nests were in small saplings, one four feet from the ground, the other ten. The first nest contained four eggs while the second contained three eggs with one of the Cowbird. The breeding of this bird in Orleans County certainly proves a remarkably southern extension of its breeding habitat. The Olive-backed Thrush is a sub-species of the Russet-backed Thrush of the Pacific coast region.

The Hermit Thrush (*Turdus aonalaschkei pallasi*), far-famed and noted for its wonderful and soul-stirring powers of song when in its summer home, is considered a variety of the Pacific coast species known as the Dwarf Hermit Thrush. Like the preceding species it occurs in this county only as a migrant, and is the most boreal of all the thrushes. During the first or second week in April it may be seen on the ground in our forests on its way north, and does not seem at all shy, and will allow one to approach within a very few feet. Again in October it passes us on its return trip. It is quite rare.

fuscescens

Turdus fuscescens.

fuscescens.

1889

May 10[±] - 14[±] - 16[±] - 17[±] - 30[±] - 1889. 3[±] May - 9[±] July - 13[±] May - 15[±] - 16[±] - 17[±] - 18[±] - 19[±] - 21[±] - 23[±] - 24[±] - 26[±] - 27[±] - 28[±] - 30[±] - 31[±] Concord 1892

June

July

Aug

May

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June

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July

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Aug.

"

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Sept.

Oct.

May

"

Co. May 6A. 6A. B. 3. 1889. 3[±] May - 9[±] July - 13[±] May - 15[±] - 16[±] - 17[±] - 18[±] - 19[±] - 21[±] - 23[±] - 24[±] - 26[±] - 27[±] - 28[±] - 30[±] - 31[±] Concord 1892

6A. 6A. 7A. 8A. 9A. 10A. 11A. 12A. 13A. 14A. 15A. 16A. 17A. 18A. 19A. 20A. 21A. 22A. 23A. 24A. 25A. 26A. 27A. 28A. 29A. 30A. 31A. Concord 1892

7[±] - 1889. 6 (Hudson) 1890

20[±] May - 22[±] May - 28[±] - 31[±] May 1889.

30[±] - 31[±] 1890 16[±] - 17[±] - 15[±] - 17[±] - 23[±] - 24[±] 1891

10[±] 11[±] 12[±] 13[±] 14[±] 15[±] 16[±] 17[±] 18[±] 19[±] 20[±] 21[±] 22[±] 23[±] 24[±] 25[±] 26[±] 27[±] 28[±] 29[±] 30[±] 31[±] Concord 1892

11[±] 12[±] 13[±] 14[±] 15[±] 16[±] 17[±] 18[±] 19[±] 20[±] 21[±] 22[±] 23[±] 24[±] 25[±] 26[±] 27[±] 28[±] 29[±] 30[±] Concord 1893

4[±] 10[±] 11[±] 12[±] 13[±] 14[±] 19[±] 20[±] 21[±] 26[±] 27[±] 28[±] Concord 1894

3[±] 6[±] 12[±] 23[±] 1895 7[±] 8[±] 9[±] 10[±] 11[±] 12[±] 13[±] 14[±] 15[±] 16[±] 17[±] 18[±] 19[±] 20[±] 21[±] 22[±] 23[±] 24[±] 25[±] 26[±] 27[±] 28[±] 29[±] 30[±] 1895

1[±] 2[±] 3[±] 6[±] 7[±] 8[±] 12[±] 15[±] 16[±] 17[±] 18[±] 19[±] 20[±] 21[±] 22[±] 23[±] Concord 1892

3[±] 5[±] 6[±] 7[±] 12[±] 13[±] 14[±] 16[±] 18[±] 19[±] 22[±] 23[±] 28[±] Concord 1893

8[±] 25[±] 1[±] 9[±] 31[±] 1[±] 11[±]

21[±] Concord 1892 9 (Cove Pond) - 14 (Cove H) - 20[±] (Cove H) 21[±] - 31 (Cove H) Concord 1893

12[±] 94 24[±] 28[±] 1897

6[±] 7[±] 1890. 9 (Cove H) Concord 1893.

5[±] (about but not present. A very tame bird) - 1889

2[±] 3[±] 4[±] 6[±] 9[±] 10[±] 11[±] 12[±] 13[±] 14[±] 15[±] 16[±] 17[±] 18[±] 19[±] 20[±] 21[±] 22[±] 23[±] 24[±] 25[±] 27[±] 30[±] Concord 1891

22[±] 23[±] 24[±] 25[±] Our garden, Cambridge - W. Deane. 1891.

Turdus fuscescens.

1889 Mass.

May 10 Cambridge. - Three or four in the Maple Swamp calling phew but, Silence on as is usually the case on their first arrival, not singing first arrival.

" 16 About the same number in the Maple Swamp as on the 10th and all similarity silent,

" 14 Waltham. - About six in the Warren Woods, not some singing although the day was warm and showery at times and most other birds in full song.

" 29 Haverhill. - They have apparently deserted the entire region on and to the west of the Coolidge farm for I Desertion of within saw or heard one there to-day. The Arund woods an old where they used to breed so haunt! so numerously are absolutely unchanged.

June 4 These Thrushes have not wholly deserted the Arund woods. There was a ♂ singing there this afternoon - in the old spot in the swamp where the ferns grow.

" 14 Cambridge. - Two singing and one calling at the same time in In Fresh P. the Pond Swamp. They are also breeding in Swamps the Maple Swamp this year. The song was very fine this evening. It is the most flute-like of any bird voice I know. Torrey who was with me spoke of its marked Song. spiritual quality which I recognize also.

July 7 A ♂ at Pond Swamp sang twice as twilight was deepening into Decline of night. It is evident that the singing season is nearly over. Singing

Oct. 5 Waltham. - One shot by Fayon but not preserved. The Ente actum wing measured 2.7/10 inches, the tail 2.4/10. date No. 7. found them in numbers up to about Sept. 5 between which date and the above none were seen

Cambridge 12 Dec.

Dear Brewster:

I should have returned these before. Many thanks. It looks very much as if the "Big Grouse" was the King Rail.

The Veery I mentioned yesterday was shot Oct 5, 1889. I find by reference to my journal that it was in company with a Gray-check. No wonder I shot it. I remember it was a very tawny bird. Sorry it was not preserved. If I remember rightly I spoiled ^{it} attempt-
ing to skin it myself. On Sept. 23 of this year Hoffmann & I heard the call-note and had a momentary look at a Thrush which we are almost sure was a Veery, but it disappeared before we

could kill it.

I am on the track of a
November Oriole seen
in Bedford!

Yours truly
W. Faxon

Massachusetts.

Turdus fuscescens.

1899.

June 22 Concord Along the borders of these woods the Wilson's Thrushes were singing in the twilight as we passed, about one bill to every two or three hundred yards. We must have heard a dozen or more in all.

Turdus fuscescens.

Concord, Mass.

A fine singer.

1898. Even the Wilson's Thrushes were nearly silent this evening.
June 4. Last night they sang very freely and finely in the rain.
(The rain stopped at sunset to-day and the sky cleared in the N.W. but the strong N.E. wind still holds). Like the Hermit Thrushes they vary greatly in individual proficiency. One that I listened to last evening had an exceptionally clear, pure voice and his execution was without a flaw. I have never heard a better singer.

June 21. Without question the Wilson's Thrushes furnish the finest as well as the most copious music of any of the birds which breed in this immediate region. As twilight was falling this evening they made the woods fairly ring with their clear, flute-like voices. They are almost as numerous in the pine woods on the tops and sides of the hills as in the swamps. There is less inequality and variability in the songs of different individuals than is the case with the Hermit and Wood Thrushes but yet there are some birds whose voices are finer and clearer and whose notes are more varied and intricate than those of the common run.

I do not remember to have noted before that the Wilson's Thrush, like so many other birds, has favorite singing perches to which it resorts day after day. This, at least, is true of a bird which is breeding somewhere near the east end of

Turdus fuscescens.

Concord, Mass.

1898. Ball's Hill and which sings every evening in the large red
June 21. oak on the edge of Holden's meadow sitting invariably not on-
(No.2). ly on the same branch but actually on the same twig and always
facing towards the north-west.

1899. Singing 17 days after first
arrival.
May 19. Wilson's Thrushes began singing to-day. I heard the
first at 9 A.M. on the side of Ball's Hill. Gilbert heard
another near the cabin about the middle of the afternoon. At
evening there was protracted and general singing all around
the hill and in the blueberry swamp behind it, at least five
or six birds taking part. All of them seemed to be in excel-
lent form. Why is it that this species remains silent so
long after its arrival? I saw the first this season on May
2nd and by the 10th they were abundant. Living, as I do here,
in the very midst of their favorite haunts I should have
known it had there been any singing before to-day. They have
called a little at morning and evening and uttered the bleat-
ing note but not once have I heard the song before this morn-
ing. Seventeen days is a longer period of silence than usual,
however.

Newfoundland.

Hylocichla fuscescens fuscescens. WILSON'S THRUSH.— Though it is not my desire to question the ruling of the American Ornithologists' Union, yet the long sought opportunity to hear the bird inhabiting Newfoundland has at last been gratified, and I am more strongly convinced than ever that my *fuliginosa* is distinct. Its darker coloring leads one at sight to confuse it with the Olive-back, and I had to shoot the bird in one case to be positive of my identification. Its call note *phew* has what seems to me quite a different quality, and its song, if my birds were not peculiar, instead of being an uninterrupted performance is divided into three distinct parts, and unlike any Veery song I have ever heard in New England. I listened to several birds singing near the mouth of Harry's Brook, and I believe the difference would be noted by any one familiar with the stereotyped song.— R. HEBER HOWE, JR., *Thoreau Museum, Concord, Mass.*

Arch. xxx. Jan. 1913. p. 116.

Birds of Upper St. John,
Batchelder.

2. *Turdus fuscescens* Steph. WILSON'S THRUSH. — Rare at Grand Falls. On June 16 a nest with four fresh eggs was found on top of a stump. Not met with at Fort Fairfield. Mr. McLeod says that it appears at Houlton by May 15, and by the 10th of June becomes common. Breeds.

Bull. N. O. C. 7, April, 1882, p. 103

Newfoundland Notes. A Trip up the
Humber River, Aug. 10 - Sept. 24, 1899.

49. *Turdus fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH. — One seen September 14.

Louis H. Porter, New York City.

Auk, XVII, Jan., 1900, p. 73.

Summer Birds of the Cobalt Mining Region,^{73.}
Nipissing District, Ontario.
by Frederick C. Hubel. Auk, x x 1 v, Jan. 1907, p. 52

73. *Turdus fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH. — Several single individuals observed.

Birds of Toronto, Canada,
by James H. Fleming.
Part II. Land Birds.
Auk, x x 1 v, Jan. 1907, p. 86.

285. *Hylocichla fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH. — Abundant migrant, April 13 to May 16, and September 13 to 26; common resident, May 16 to August 31; breeds (May 29 to June 26).

Larus fuscus

1896

Penobscot Bay, Maine.

July 11

Little Deer Island.. One heard distinctly calling phere in a
thicket of alders & young birches near the N. E. extremity of the
island

Bds. Obs. at Franconia and Bethlehem
N.H. July-August, 1874. J.A. Allen

47. *Turdus fuscescens*. Seen a few times near Franconia village.

Auk, V. April, 1888. p.156

Bird's Obs. at Bridgewater, N.H.
July 12-Sept. 4, 1838. F.H. Allen

Turdus fuscescens.—Quite common.

Auk, VI. Jan., 1889. p.77

Bds. Obs. in Franconia, N.H. June 11-21
'86, and June 4-Aug. 1, '87. W. Faxon

82. *Turdus fuscescens*. VEERY.—Very common.

Auk, V. April, 1888. p.153

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A.P. Chadbourne

1. The intervalle woods and thickets along the Androscoggin River,
where *T. fuscescens* is abundant, *T. u. pallasi* less so.

Auk, 4, April 1887. p.103

Bird's Obsvd. near Holderness, N.H.
June 4-12, '85, and 4-11, '86. W. Faxon

62. *Turdus fuscescens*. VEERY.—Common.

Auk, V. April, 1888. p.151

2 Wolfeboro, N. H. June. 13-1889.
Turdus fusces. One calling in pine woods.

Bacony Point, Wagon, N.H.

Bacony Point, Wagon, N.H.

1884

Card
1900

1887

Card

7/1
To 12.25

81. *Hyalocichla fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH.—Common in the valley; I heard them most often in the alders along the streams, but they also occupy the maple woods at the base of the mountain, in company with the Olive-backs and the Wood Thrushes.

1887
 May 8² - 10³ - 11³ - 12⁶ - 13⁶ - 16⁴ - 17¹⁰ - 21¹ - 23¹⁰ - 25⁴ - 26⁶
 June 2⁶ - 4⁶ - 6² - 7⁶ - 17⁸
 July 7⁶ - 10⁸ - 15² - 21⁶
 Aug. 15^{1 colony} - 17³

Turdus fuscescens. * singing # nest's eggs. † heard singing at night
 Mass. (Winchendon)

1887

June 24² - 25³ - 26³ 1887
 " 12² - 13¹ - 14² - 15² - 17² 1888

Exclusively in swamps; not common. A new but empty & evidently deserted nest found in June '88.

Turdus fuscescens.

Winchendon, Mass. June, 1888.
~~Turdus fuscescens~~ 12² - 13² - 14² - 15⁶ - 17² ✓
 E. Mass. 1885.
 41. " *fuscescens*, - June 12, 16, & July 1, 17
 Princeton & No. Rutland, Mass. June 12, 1888
 2. *Turdus fuscescens*. - two on lake

1888

Wilson's Thrush

S. W. Denton.

May 6. Spotted the first one seen this year
 " 11. Saw 3 or 4 & nest 2.
 " 13. Saw a nest 1 ♀.
 " 16. Saw 2 at least on Lincoln's Hill this evening.

Scarcity of Thrushes.

Concord, Mass.

May 22 1893.

The Wilson's Thrushes appeared at about the usual time and in fair numbers.

Journal.

Birds of Bristol County, Mass.
F. W. Andros.

Turdus fuscescens Steph., Wilson's Thrush.
Summer resident, common. Breeds.

O. & O. XII, Sept. 1887 p. 141

Bds. Obs. near Sheffield, Berkshire
Co., Mass. June 17-26, '88. W. Faxon

73. *Turdus fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH.—Common. A few observed well up towards the summit of the Dome.

Auk, VI, Jan., 1889, p. 46

Birds Known to Pass Breeding Season
nr. Winchendon, Mass. Wm. Brewster

79. *Turdus fuscescens*.

Auk, V, Oct., 1888. p. 389

Bds. Obs. near Graylock Mt. Berkshire
Co. Mass. June 28-July 16. W. Faxon

75. *Turdus fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH.—Common in the lower, cleared portions of the country, and observed at least as high as 2000 feet from the sea-level on the cleared portions of the mountain sides.

Auk, VI, April, 1889. p. 106

W. Middlesex Co. Mass.

June 25-30, 1889.

Turdus fuscescens ?

Ashby, Ashburnham (Worcester Co.). Rather common in low grounds, usually maple swamps; several about the base of Mt. Watatic. In full song during our stay.

Turdus fuscescens.

Concord, Mass.

1899. About the usual number breeding at Ball's Hill. Found
June. two nests, both in dry situations; one among oak leaves at
 the base of a bunch of oaks on the side of the hill near its
 foot and only a few yards from the river path, the other in
 the side of a sandy embankment near the path to Davis's Hill.
 The former nest contained three eggs on May 28th and three
 young apparently only a few hours old on the 12th of June.

Birds observed in Naval Hospital
Grounds, Brooklyn, G. H. Coues

15. *Turdus fuscescens*. TAWNY THRUSH.— Very common.

Bull. N. O. C. 4, Jan., 1879, p. 31

Arrivals of Mig'y Birds, Spring-1886.
Central Park, N. Y. City. A. G. Paine, Jr.

May 11, *Turdus fuscescens*, (756). Wilson's
Thrush.

O. & O. XI, Aug. 1886, p. 125

Birds of the Adirondack Region.
C. H. Merriam.

2. *Hylodichla fuscescens* (Steph.) Baird. WILSON'S THRUSH.—Com-
mon in certain localities, where it breeds.

Bull. N. O. C. 8, Oct, 1891, p. 226

Notes on the Spring Migration of Birds in the
Northern Adirondacks [Adirondack], New York [1901]
April 20 to 25.

Wilson Thrush. Tolerably common.

S. A. M. Spring, Adirondack, N. Y.

Am. Ornith. Monographs, No. 1, p. 10.

Descriptions of First Plumage of Certain North Am. Bbs. Wm. Brewster.

4. *Turdus fuscescens*.

First plumage: female. Above bright reddish-buff, deepest on back and rump; feathers of pileum, nape, back, and wing-coverts margined with dark brown, confining the lighter color to somewhat indefinitely defined central drop-shaped spots. Lores and line from lower mandible along sides of throat, dark sooty-brown; throat, sides, and abdomen pale brownish-yellow with indistinct transverse bands of brown; breast deep buff, each feather edged broadly with dull sooty-brown; anal region dirty white. In my collection, taken in Cambridge, Mass., July 23, 1874.

Bull. N.O.C. 3, Jan., 1878. p. 18.

The Singing of Birds. E. P. Bicknell.

Turdus fuscescens. WILSON'S THRUSH.

Contrary to what we find to be true of most of our summer birds, the Wilson's Thrush seems often to remain silent for some days after its arrival in the spring; although this is not invariably the case.

Though it comes to us but little later than the Wood Thrush, its song in some years may not be heard until two weeks after that of the latter bird; and yet we lose it fully a month earlier. With the Wilson's Thrush singing continues regularly through the month of June and into the early part of July, but after this time is not commonly heard, and soon has entirely ceased. For several years dates of final songs have been entered in my books between July 10 and 15; though a single song may sometimes be heard later in the month. July 21, 22, and 26 are the latest dates that I have recorded. Often in the first, or even second week of July, though singing is so soon to cease, the vocal impulse seems to be at its height, and our thick swamps and low woods sound with the continually reiterated songs of numbers of these fine-voiced Thrushes. These birds are so much oftener heard than seen that after they have become silent they are not often observed; but not until the end of September have they all left us.

By the end of August the plumage has been renewed and the birds are very fat. But specimens may be taken at this time, and, indeed, through September, showing a slight activity of feather-growth.

Auk, I, April, 1834, p. 129.

Turdus fuscus

Notes

Williamstown, Mass.
Jan 26, 1883.

Notes a whistled phew, a querulous pee
and occasionally pee ee in a whining, cat. like
tone; then psce, psce like Cedar Bird.
(Notes taken in the woods in the "Hoopm.")

Mass. (Concord)

Turdus fuscus ✓

1886

June 20

As the evening twilight deepened several
of these *Turdus* inhabiting the swampy woods
along the Assabet River began uttering their
calls, occasionally singing, and nervously
flying from place to place, crossing and
recrossing the stream, and working their
way upward among the branches of tall
isolated trees until they sang their final
evening songs from the topmost branches
whenever they could be the light in the
western sky. They uttered frequently a

Nest.

Turdus fuscescens

Grand Hall
June 19th 1884

A nest in my upland oak woods West
Lauder Pond.
Hatched the 9th was sitting on three young of
about eight days growth. She allowed me to pass
within about eight feet of her before rising
which she did when our back was turned.
She made my little demonstration, merely
uttering a few notes of mild concern and then
disappeared. The nest was placed directly on
the ground among dry leaves not surrounded or
sustained by any surrounding objects. The

Turdus fuscescens

Nesting in apple tree.

Cambridge, Mass.
June, 17, 1883

On the lane that skirts the old
pine swamp Purdie and I found a
Wilson's Thrush's nest in a remarkable
place. It was built on a horizontal
branch of an apple tree about fifteen
feet above the ground. The bird was
sitting and after being driven off
returned and hopped through the leaves
within a yard or two of P.'s head
uttering his characteristic phrase. The
identification was positive. The nest

contained three eggs. Its construction was normal but with perhaps rather more outer framework than usual. The tree was an isolated one, on dry ground and overhanging the road. The male was hanging in the thicket on the opposite (swamp) side of the path.

June 18. We found another nest in Lexington kinohary place. It was on a horizontal branch of a maple; height about the feet. No egg but birds calling anxiously near. I did of course not pointer but nest could have belonged to no other bird.

Concord, Mass.
June 19th 1898

Nest.

Turdus. fulvicaudus

A nest in dry, upland oak woods West Saucy Pond. Hatched the ♀ who was sitting on three forms of about eight days growth. She allowed me to pass within about eight feet of her before taking flight. She did when our back was turned. She made very little demonstration, merely uttering a few notes of mild concern and three vital leading. The nest was placed directly on the ground among and covered not surrounded or sustained by any surrounding sprouts. The

23

MAY 23 1887

A nest with three eggs. ♀ flew off in silence when I was ten yards away.
Nest on dry hillside among young oaks built between the stems of two sprouts, elevated nearly a foot above surrounding surface.

Turdus fuscescens.

Mass. (Concord)

Turdus fuscescens

Nest.

JUN 2 1887

A nest found May 23 with three eggs hatched four to-day. The ♀ on the 23rd ran some ten to fifteen yds. ahead. To-day she allowed me to approach within six feet before flying off when she began to call & the ♂ appeared. The nest was prettily placed between the stems of several sprouts and well camouflaged up on all sides by drifted leaves.

Note from Pittsfield Mass

J. J. Rigney.

I had not proceeded far when I saw a small bird fly from a small stump directly in my path. I hastened forward and found a nest new to me containing three small blue eggs, about the size of the common Bluebird, excepting the color was a deep blue green. I knew I had a prize, and sat down to watch for the Thrush to return—for such it was—to observe her, but she did not appear. I took the nest and eggs and found the latter very much incubated, and had to use my large drill to blow them, and then with much difficulty, making a larger hole than I wished. The nest was sunk into the



hollow stump more than the sketch shows.

After that I found a Wilson Thrush with three eggs upon the ground beneath the shadow of a blackberry bush—such a nest and bird as I found at Rockville, Ct. These were also badly gone and I could not blow them. Both nests are in my possession.

VILLI 030

C. & G. V. 111. Aug. 1883 p. 62-63

Spotted Eggs of Wilson's Thrush.

I have recently received a remarkable set of eggs of the Wilson's Thrush (*Hylocichla fuscescens*). They were taken June 2, 1888, in Franklin County, Maine. The parent bird was shot, and fully identified. The eggs, which are four in number, are of the usual color, but they are all distinctly speckled with russet. One of the eggs is marked much more heavily than the others, but on all of them the specks are easily seen. The largest of the markings measure .03 x .03. The eggs themselves measure .82 x .65; .82 x .66; .83 x .66; .82 x .67.
O & O. XIV. Apr. 1889 p. 60 J. P. N.

WILSON'S THRUSH (*Turdus fuscescens*), except the Robin, the most abundant thrush of this locality. Although found plentifully in nearly all situations, its favorite haunts are low, swampy woods. The past Summer a pair of these Thrushes built their nest and reared their young within fifty yards of my home. The site which they selected for their nest was by the roadside under an elm tree, among the rank, growing male ferns. They seemed to be an unusually social pair, and came about the house searching for food, showing no signs of fear. Teams were constantly passing within eight feet of their nest. Of twelve sets which I collected this Summer, seven contained four, four three, and one two eggs each. The set containing but two eggs was taken July 26th and would undoubtedly have contained one or two more had I left the nest undisturbed. The earliest set was taken May 30th. Six sets measure as follows: Set of four collected May 30th, 92×66, 90×65, 88×65, 88×65; set of four collected June 5th, 88×65, 87×65, 86×65, 85×65; set of four collected June 5th, 89×68, 88×67, 88×66, 92×65; set of three collected June 13th, 85×68, 84×67, 85×68; set of three collected June 20th, 84×70, 87×69, 84×69; set of three collected June 28th, 80×60, 76×62, 80×60. The set taken June 28th was, I think, the third litter laid by that pair of birds, which will account for the small size of the eggs. The eggs are oval but vary somewhat in shape; their color is bluish-green, a little darker than those of the Bluebird, and lighter than those of the Catbird. The nest is placed on or near the ground, but usually in a low bush within a few inches of the ground, and is composed of leaves, dried grass and weeds, lined with fine roots, strips of bark, and often hair. There is but little variation in the nests which I have examined in this locality.—*C. O. Tracy, Taftsville, Vt.*

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WILSON'S THRUSH, WITH SPOTTED EGGS AND NESTING ON A TREE.— In a collection of nests and eggs received from Vermont this season was the nest of this species built upon a horizontal limb of a tree, fifteen feet from the ground, and containing four spotted eggs. This is the only instance I have ever known either of the nest being much above the ground or of the eggs being other than immaculate. But I find it is not without precedent. Mr. George O. Welch several years since found a nest of this Thrush in Lynn at a height of twenty-five feet above the ground, and Mr. Allen has recorded (*Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist.*, XVII, 48) an instance of its having spotted eggs. This case combines both. The nest is large and bulky, was saddled over quite a large limb, the impress of which is shown in the base. The ground-color of one egg is unusually deep, as deep as that of a Catbird, but of a different shade. The spots are of a bright golden-brown, in one egg very strongly marked, in the other three not so much so. The parent was sent with the nest, and before I received it its identity had been carefully verified by that veteran ornithologist, Charles S. Paine, Esq., of Randolph, Vt.—*T. M. Brewer, Boston, Mass.*

Bull. N.O.C. 3, Oct., 1878, p. 193.

Nesting of Wilson's Thrush in Western Pennsylvania.

Wilson's Thrush (*Tylotichla fuscescens*) has heretofore been considered to be a transient visitor in Pennsylvania, breeding but very rarely, and then chiefly in mountainous districts. Within the last two years, however, I have had the good fortune to discover that in this section of the state there are localities where, strange as it may seem, the species is a common breeder, so that the records of its nesting as given in the May and June (1890) numbers of the O. & O. by Messrs. Koch, Norris, and Surber, however exceptional they may be for the localities mentioned, cannot be held to indicate the uniform rarity of the bird as a summer resident throughout the entire state, for quite the contrary is true.

On May 15, 1889, I boarded the train bound for Leasurville, Butler County. When, late the same afternoon, I stepped off at the lonely way-station of Monroe, a single glance at my surroundings convinced me that I was in a locality especially rich in bird-life, and, as subsequent events proved, my judgment formed then was correct. And as I trudged up the hill, tired and dinnerless, and carrying a heavy valise and shotgun, with the prospect of a three-miles' walk in the hot sun over a hilly, dusty road before arriving at my destination, I was cheered by the song of a bird I had never heard before, but in the flute-like quality of whose notes I recognized its affinity with the Wood Thrush. I did not see the bird at the time, and pursuit was obviously out of the question, but I instantly decided that it must be Wilson's Thrush. Thereafter, during my stay, while wandering amid the eternal gloom of the trackless, hemlock forest and the swampy thicket, I constantly heard the same song, which may be expressed by the syllables 'hee-aw-er-aw-er-aw-er-aw-er-aw-er-aw-er', beginning loud and clear, but gradually dying away toward the end,—a far-away, weird song, with a wild ring to it savoring of untouched nature and the primeval forest. The acoustic quality of the notes was such that they always seemed to come from a distance, but though I rightly suspected that this was not really the case the birds always eluded my observation while singing, and it was not until June 11th that my perseverance was at last rewarded by seeing the bird in the act, and thus proving finally that my suspicions, as to the author of the songs being Wilson's Thrush, were correct.

Editor of O. & O.:

Allow me to add an instance of the breeding of Wilson's Thrush in Pennsylvania, to the report of Messrs. Norris and Koch in May O. & O. I have a set of three eggs of this bird taken June 10, 1885, in Delaware County, Pa. Thad. Surber.

White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

O. & O., Vol. 17, 1890, p. 96

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APRIL 1891.]

AND O9 p.130

Previously, however, on May 27th, I had taken the nest of the species. On the day in question, which by the way was rainy and disagreeable, I was accompanied by Mr. James Myers, one of the local hunters and woodsmen, who proposed that we should go to a nest which he had found a few days before. After a walk of about a mile, interrupted, however, by an exciting adventure with a Blue Yellow-backed Warbler, we came to a high woods with a thick undergrowth of laurel and huckleberry, where the bird was presently flushed from her nest on the ground. I gave one glance at the nest, another at the bird, exclaimed "Wilson's Thrush!" and in a twinkling fired and killed her. Returning to the nest, I found it to contain three eggs, of exactly the same shade of bluish-green as those of the Wood Thrush. They were, of course, smaller, and, upon blowing, proved to be slightly incubated. The nest was not sunken in the ground, but placed on a mound of leaves, thus escaping the damp; it was surrounded and canopied over with huckleberry bushes. Leaves, strips of bark and weed stalks entered into its composition, with broken leaves as lining. Measurements showed it to be five inches in external diameter by four and a half inches in external depth, with a cavity two and three-quarter inches by two and three-quarter inches.

I may add as a significant fact that I have never as yet found this species in Beaver County, either as a summer resident or as a migrant, although the other species of the genus native to the Eastern United States are abundant in their season.

W. E. Clyde Todd.

Beaver, Beaver Co., Pa.

O. & O., XVI, April-1891, p. 57-51.

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

Detroit, Mich. 1891 Notes,
B. H. Swales,

May 27. Wilson's Thrush, three eggs,

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

Detroit, Mich. 1891 Notes,
B. H. Swales,

June 8. Wood and I went out to Highland Park. Took a set of four spotted eggs of the Wilson's Thrush,

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

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; breed here as commonly as the Wood Thrush.

Birds of Chester County, Penn.
Cyrus B. Ressel, Ercildoun, Pa.

195. *Turdus fuscescens* (Steph.). Wilson's Thrush. Summer resident; rare; in migration common. Arrives second week in May. Nidificates by the last of the month; eggs, four. Departs by October.

O. & O. XIV, Sept. 1889 p. 130

Lake Forest, Ill. - W. C. Pratt.

Last June I found a set of Wilson's Thrush containing three eggs of the thrush and seven Cowbird's eggs. The nest was on a limb projecting over the sidewalk in a part of the town most frequented.

O. & O. XV, May, 1890, p. 70.

Birds Breeding in Marshall Co. Ill.

No. 756. Wilson's Thrush (*Turdus fuscescens*). Very rare. On May 30, 1889, I found a single egg of this species in the nest of a Summer Yellowbird. There is no doubt as to the identity of the egg. It is the only egg ever found in the county that I know of, although I have seen the birds here in the breeding season.

June 15, August, 1890. B. H. C.

Birds of Kalamazoo County, Mich.
Dr. Morris Gibbs.

2. [2.] *Hyltichia fuscescens* (Steph.) Baird. Wilson's Thrush; Veery.—One of the last of the family to make its appearance. Arrives from May 1 to 10. A few remain to breed. Occasionally lay five eggs; usually four.

O. & O. X, Jan. 1885, p. 6.

Detroit, Mich. 1891 Notes.
B. H. Swales,

May 24.

Wilson's Thrush; took a set of four eggs and one of the Cowbird. The Veery does not breed here as commonly as the Wood Thrush.

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

Detroit, Mich. 1891 Notes.
B. H. Swales,

May 27. Wilson's Thrush, three eggs,

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

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B. H. Swales,

June 8. Wood and I went out to Highland Park. Took a set of four spotted eggs of the Wilson's Thrush,

O. & O. Vol. 18, July, 1893 p. 100

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Editor of O. & O.:

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White Sulphur Springs, W. Va.

O. & O. Vol. 17, Dec. 1890, p. 98

Nesting of Wilson's Thrush in Pennsylvania.

To most of the readers of the O. & O., supposing that they are New Englanders, the Wilson's Thrush (*Turdus fuscescens*) is in all probability one of the most common birds breeding in their locality.

But this is not so in Pennsylvania, for although the bird is a transient visitor in this State it seldom remains to breed.

On the 26th of July, 1889, while on a picnic at Lloydsville, Cambria Co., Pa., and not having anything to do, I wandered up the mountain to pick whortleberries. Just as I reached the summit, a bird of the thrush family started up in front of me, and quickly disappeared in the brush-wood. On going to the spot she had left I found a nest and three eggs. Not deeming identification complete I marked the spot, and on returning about half an hour later I again flushed the bird, getting a better view of her; her tawny color, together with the position and composition of the nest, furnishing identification. As I did not expect to be in the locality again I took the set, though probably incomplete, together with the nest.

The latter was placed a few inches above the level of the ground, presumably on the remains of an old decayed stump; but whatever it was, it was so covered with decayed leaves that it was difficult to tell what the original foundation had been.

The nest was composed of dried grass, rootlets, dead leaves and a shred-like bark, probably that of the grape-vine. There was no lining whatever, except that in the inside the rootlets predominated slightly.

The eggs, as mentioned before, were three

in number, of the usual light greenish-blue color. They measure: .93 x .69; .88 x .67; .89 x .69, and were perfectly fresh, probably being the second set of the season.

Lloyd's station is situated on the side of a spur of the Alleghany mountains, and, according to the Pennsylvania State Geological Survey report, of Blair Co., is 2,180 feet above tide, the nest being at least 150 feet higher, on the summit of the hill, making the altitude of the nest at least 2,300 feet above tide. This altitude was in all probability chosen by the bird to make up for the difference in latitude between this and its regular breeding localities.

On another trip, several miles east of this, I noticed a pair of Juncos (*Juncos hyemalis*) apparently making "much ado about nothing," but on closer investigation I discovered a young bird lying on the ground, dead. This has no connection with the Wilson's Thrush, but it may be interesting to know that the Junco, although on the high mountains, breeds as far south as latitude 41° 20'.

Fred O. Koch.

Philadelphia, Pa.

[To the above instance of Wilson's Thrush breeding in Pennsylvania, may be added that of a set of four eggs taken May 28, 1887, in Montgomery County, Pa., and now in my cabinet.—J. P. N.]

O. & O., XV, May, 1890 p 74-75

Notes—Eggs of Thrushes & Thrashers. H. G. Parker.

Wilson's Thrush (*Hyllocichla fuscescens*). Eggs universally four, blue, unspotted. In shade they seem to be darker than eggs of the Hermit Thrush, and this darker blue is constant in comparing a series of each. The size is apparently the same, and a faded set of small Cabbird's eggs look somewhat like those of Wilson's Thrush.

The nest of this bird is essentially different from that of the Wood Thrush, inasmuch as it is loosely constructed, and contains no mud, and is placed on the ground or near it. It breeds in Pennsylvania and Ohio sparingly, and finds its most congenial haunts in New England and to the Northward.

O. & O., XII, May, 1887 p. 69

432. *Wilson's Thrush (Turdus fuscescens)*. By C. O. Tracy. *Ibid.* p. 174.—Nesting habits, and measurements of 6 sets of eggs. *O. & O.*, Vol. VII.

Singular nesting site of Wilson's Thrush.—It has long been a problem as to what use could be made of the old tin cans that fruits and vegetables have been preserved in, but it is now partially solved by a pair of Wilson's Thrushes choosing one to place its nest in. My two sons in passing through a piece of woods where this species is quite common, boy-like, kicked an old can lying on the ground when, to their astonishment, they made the discovery that it contained a nest and three eggs of the above species. The can rested on its side, the birds going in through a small hole in the cover (the entire end not having been cut). The nest was very wet and the eggs were added, evidently having been deserted, owing to the heavy rains in early June. Unfortunately one egg was broken and the other two badly damaged, but the nest is perfect and the materials are typical of this species.—H. B. Burjev, *South Orange, N. J.*
Auk, 3, Oct., 1886, p. 4

Summer Birds of Buncombe County, N. Carolina. John S. Cairns.

Turdus fuscescens. Wilson's Thrush. Summer visitor; common above 3,500 feet. Nests early in May.

O. & O., XIV, Feb., 1889 p. 23

Birds of Western North Carolina.
William Brewster.

100. *Turdus fuscescens*. WILSON'S THRUSH. — Abundant over the elevated plateau about Highlands, and scarcely less numerous on the Black Mountains, ranging in both localities from about 3500 to 5000 feet. Like the Wood Thrush this species haunted, by preference, rhododendron thickets along streams, and in many of these tangled retreats it was far more numerous than I have ever seen it at the North. Its call-notes were louder, sharper, and more penetrating than those of our New England bird. The song, also, was clearer, more varied, and altogether finer.

On the Black Mountains Wilson's Thrushes abounded in the dense evergreen forest of spruces and balsams at, and for a little distance above, 5000 feet. Two specimens which I shot here are somewhat larger than New England examples, and decidedly browner. Mr. Boynton has repeatedly found the nest of this species at Highlands, usually in the top of a fallen tree, sometimes on a mound surrounded by water or spring ground.

Ann. 8, April, 1886. p.178

Common Names of American Birds. Ingersoll.

For *Turdus fuscescens*, size and color are indicated in *Tawny Thrush*, *Little Thrush* (Latham), and *Merle grivette* (Canada — literally "Little-Thrush-Blackbird"); *Wilson's Thrush* discloses its first adequate biographer; *Veery* (New England) and *Yorrick* (Thoreau's Writings) refer to its pleasing note, which they copy.

Bull. N. O. C. 8, April, 1888, 173.

aliciae

Turdus aliciae

1895. Mass.

May 13th & 14th Cambridge. A ♂ spent both days in our garden. He doubtless came the night of the 12th as I saw him first early the next morning. The weather was very warm on the 12th but that night it became much cooler and the 13th & 14th were cold raw days the therm. falling to 40° at night.

This bird was unquestionably true *aliciae* & an exceptionally large specimen at that. Indeed he looked nearly as big as a Robin.

He was suspicious or prudent rather than shy behaving quite at his ease so long as I kept beyond a distance of about 30 yds. but never allowing me to get much nearer. Some men at work in the garden drove him to & fro repeatedly but he did not once pass beyond our bordering fence but merely doubled back when he reached them. He spent the midday hours in dense shrubbery (Waves, Spruces etc.) but at morning & evening ventured freely out into the open to feed hopping about on the ground on the turf & garden walls or flower beds. His gait was a slow, sedate but nevertheless bounding hop or succession of hops much less smooth and graceful than those of the Robin. When he picked up anything he did it with peculiar abruptness striking at it with apparently quite unnecessary violence & energy. In fact while on the ground he appeared awkward & ill at ease as if he were not used to it. In the trees or bushes, however, all his attitudes were easy & graceful and a expression of that dignity & repose of manner is characteristic of all the *Hylocichla*. He was not at all nervous or restless so long as I kept my distance.

In the morning of the 13th he sang at frequent intervals for an hour or more, usually *otio ooo* but occasionally with nearly the normal loudness & vigor. At other times he would call at short intervals so loudly that I could hear him distinctly, as I sat in my study with the windows closed. Both song & call (the very phrase) were identical in every way with those of the Dickcissel throat as we hear the latter in the White Mountains in the Indian season.

Notes on the
behavior of a
bird in
our garden

General Notes.

Notes on Cape Breton Summer Birds.
Francis H. Allen.

Gray-checked Thrush (*Turdus aliciae* or *T. a. bicknelli*?) (Migrant?)

Ank XII, Jan, 1895 p. 90

Birds N.E. coast Labrador
H. B. Bigelow
Turdus aliciae

Ank. XII,
1902 p. 30.

See Turdus a. swainsoni

Birds of Toronto, Canada,
by James H. Fleming.
Part II. Land Birds.
Arch. xiv, Jan, 1907, p. 86.

286. *Hylocichla aliciae*. GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.—Regular migrant,
rare in spring, May 21 to 27 (May 15 to 29, 1906); not uncommon in fall,
September 10 to October 18.

REMARKS ON FIVE MAINE BIRDS.—It appears that no formal announcement of the occurrence of the Gray-cheeked Thrush (*Hylocichla aliciae*) in the State of Maine has ever been made, though the course the bird is known to pursue in its migrations renders such an announcement of slight importance. It may be stated, however, for the benefit of compilers, that this Thrush is a regular, not very common, spring and fall migrant in southern Maine, reaching Portland in spring about the middle of May, and in autumn about September 20.

N. C. Brown, Portland, Me.

Birds of Maine, July, 1892, p. 189.

Birds of Dead River Region, Me. F. H. C.

1. *Hylocichla aliciae*, (Grey-cheeked Thrush). Two specimens of this species were secured in June, 1883. They may have been common, but could not be distinguished from the Olive-backed Thrush unless taken in hand. Some ornithologists decline to recognize this species as distinct from *H. ustulata swainsoni*, the writer considering it a debatable question. Both specimens alluded to above were taken along the alder fringed banks of the Carribossett river, and were evidently migrating in company with others of same species or the Olive-backed variety.

O. & O. XI, Aug. 1886, p. 114

Turdus aliciae.

Nantucket, Mass.

1878. Near Eel Point I killed one on the edge of the salt
Sept. 28. marsh. It rose from the grass like a Sparrow and I shot it
flying. On our return shot another within a few hundred yards
of where I discovered the first. This one I saw rise and a-
light again and going to the spot I actually stepped over it
as it lay hidden in the short grass.

89. *Turdus aliciae*. - Sept. 28² - 30¹ E. Mass. 1885.

Mass. (near Concord).

1887
May 22¹ - 23³ (2 shot)

Turdus aliciae

Mass. (near Cambridge).

1887

Oct 5¹

Turdus aliciae

Concord, Mass.

In full song.

1899. A very large bird in nearly full song at 8 A.M. near the
May 20. cabin. Song indistinguishable from that of Bicknell's Thrush,
so far as I can perceive.

May 21. The Gray-checked Thrush alighted on our door step and
then hopped off along the foot path that leads to the cook
room.

Birds of the Adirondack Region.
O. H. Merriam.

3. *Hylocichla aliciae*, Baird. GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.—Occurs during the migrations. I have taken it as late as June 1, but am not sure that it breeds.

Bull. N. O. C., 6, Oct, 1881, p. 226

*Notes on the birds of Madison County, New York,
with especial reference to Embury's recent list.*

By William R. Mason.

36. *Hylocichla alicae*. GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.—Given only in the hypothetical list. Mr. Miller states that it is not an uncommon migrant at Peterboro.

Bull. XX, July, 1903, p. 266.

Turdus aliciae. GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.

To this species almost the same remarks apply as to the last-mentioned, except that it appears disposed to tarry a little longer in the spring; consequently its song may sometimes be heard a few days later. It is occasionally in song with us through the first week of June,—that is, I have heard it up to June 4.

I am well satisfied that the songs of the Gray-cheeked and Olive-backed Thrushes are not alike; in fact that they are as distinct from one another as from the songs of the other small Thrushes.

During recent seasons particular attention was paid to the songs of these birds, and a clear difference between the songs of individuals of each proved to be constant, so far as limited observation went. As a result of my experience with these birds, I have little hesitation in characterizing the song of the Gray-cheeked Thrush as weaker than that of the Olive-backed, entirely dissimilar in tone, and with a somewhat different disposition of the notes. Instead of musically outbursting, it is singularly subdued, and has a far-away and rather ventriloquial sound. It seems more the expression of some distant emotion revived in memory than of a suddenly felt present emotion which the song of the Olive-backed Thrush suggests.

The song of the latter bird is louder, more spontaneous and lyrical. Almost the first note is the loudest and most liquid, after which the melody becomes rapidly fainter, seeming to dissolve upon the air like the spent vibrations of a stringed instrument. The song of the Gray-cheeked Thrush commences low and reaches its loudest, and I think its highest, part a little beyond half its continuance. It is throughout much fainter and of less forcible delivery than the song of the Olive-backed species.

Auk, I, April, 1884, p. 130-131.

Notes- Eggs of Thrushes & Thrashers.
H. G. Parker.

Gray-checked Thrush (*Hylocichla aliciae*). A bird breeding quite commonly in northern portions of the country, but as authentic eggs are seldom seen in private collections, it is enough to say in this connection that they are a deep shade of green marked with russet-brown spots and are about the same size as eggs of *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*.

O. & O. XII, May, 1887 p. 69

290. *Turdus aliciae*. Gray-checked Thrush. Common migrant. Found in company with the next and more common. A few remain during the summer to breed. Know of two nests being found near Minneapolis in 1886. Nested near the ground like a Wilson's Thrush, but the eggs were finely sprinkled with black or very dark brown.

O. & O. 15, Sept. 1890, p. 137

Common Names of American Birds - Ingersoll.

The first name of *Turdus aliciae*, *Alice's Thrush*, is complimentary to Miss Alice Kennicott; the second, Gray-checked, is, of course, a color-mark.

Bull. N. O. C. 8, April, 1898, p. 73.

Lick nelli

Turdus a.bicknelli.

Mt. Moosilauke, N.H.

1894. As we stood on the ridge of the mountain (we drove up, June 16. reaching the summit at about 9 A.M.) listening to the Bicknell's Thrushes we heard in the distance below an Olive-backed Thrush singing and still more faintly the song of a Hermit Thrush. Thus all three birds were within hearing at once but nevertheless the range of the Bicknell's is unquestionably much higher than that of the other two. At its lower limits it overlaps by several hundred feet probably the upper limits of the vertical distribution of *T. swainsonii*.

Turdus a.bicknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.


1894. A hot, sultry day. We started up the mountain (Mt. June 18. Moosilauke) at 7.30 A.M., Faxon (W.) walking, Batchelder and I in the wagon. At an elevation of about 3500 ft. we began to hear Bicknell's Thrushes and I got out and joined Faxon in searching for their nests in a very favorable place where there were dense thickets of young firs forming an undergrowth to a wood of spruces and firs, 35 to 40 ft. in height.. Two birds were singing here and we started two others which we took to be females but we could find nothing but two old nests both evidently those of some kind of Thrushes and both built in small firs. We finally became discouraged and started up the road turning into the woods wherever we heard a Bicknell's Thrush singing, and looking awhile for its nest, always vainly. The birds were very numerous and usually very tame. Indeed we might have shot eight or ten of them had we wished.

Turdus a.bicknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.

Nest and eggs.

1894. At about 11 A.M. we started down the ridge (we, F.W. June 22. Batchelder, W.Faxon and I). Near the point where the road leaves it and descends to the cold spring (we were on the top of Mt. Moosilauke) I had found, on the 16th, a newly finished but empty nest which there seemed every reason for believing to be that of Bicknell's Thrush as two birds of that subspecies, a male and female apparently, were seen near it. The male was singing steadily; the female flitted about among the ^{trees} squawking and showing evident concern when we approached the nest.

When we reached the place to-day the birds were silent and invisible but as soon as we came within sight of the nest (it was some 30 yards from the road near the middle of the belt of trees) we at once, to our great delight, saw the head and tail of the sitting female projecting above its rim. Through our glasses we could make out her head markings distinctly at a distance of about 20 yards. We then cautiously advanced to within ten yards and looked again long and steadily. The bird sat almost perfectly motionless her tail pointing slightly upward, her head raised rather high with the right cheek turned towards us () regarding us steadily with her large, liquid eye which she occasionally winked abruptly. We could see that the space around the eye was

Turdus a. bicknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.

Nest and eggs.

1894. wholly dark and free from buffy but there appeared to be one
June 22. small buffy spot well behind the eye on the auriculars. Again
(No.2). we advanced to a small dead stub which as we afterwards ascer-
tained by actual measurement was just nine feet from the tree
in which the nest was placed. Although the nest was nine feet
above the
ground the slope of the mountain side was so steep that our
faces were now just level with the sitting bird. As no foli-
age or twigs intervened we could study her through our glasses
quite as critically as if we had held her in our hands and we
satisfied ourselves beyond the remotest shadow of doubt that
she was a true Bicknell's Thrush. After we had looked as long
as we cared to I stepped down beneath her and reaching up
tapped the twigs about the nest with the muzzle of my collect-
ing pistol. Even this failed to start her and it was not un-
til I shook the tree gently that she finally left the nest.
She flew first to a dead tree some ten yards off, gave her
plumage a shake and then disappeared among the dense evergreens.
For several minutes we did not see her again but at length
she appeared above and behind us taking short flights from
branch to branch, approaching us closely when we remained mo-
tionless, retreating when we stirred. During most of this
time she kept perfectly silent but twice or thrice she uttered
a succession of low, anxious calls. One of these was the

Turdus a.bicknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.

Nest and eggs.

1894. characteristic squawk, another a soft pin or peenk so very
June 22. like that of T.swainsonii that we could not detect much dif-
(No.3). ference. Neither Faxon or I have ever heard this note before
to-day but Faxon heard it just before we left the road and
told me that he feared there was an Olive-back in the thicket.
Our bird was making it when I finally shot her but she proved
to be a Bicknell's Thrush nevertheless. On dissecting her
afterwards I found that she had laid all her eggs, although
the set comprised but three. One was perfectly fresh, another
had the yelk slightly streaked with blood, in the third an
embryo had already begun to form. This would indicate that
the bird began sitting as soon as the first egg was laid - a
necessary precaution, doubtless, on this cold, exposed moun-
tain summit.

The nest was built in a balsam about four feet from
the top and nine feet above the ground on a short horizontal
branch five inches out from the main stem. It was in no way
concealed and could be seen from a distance of several rods on
every side. We neither saw nor heard anything of the male
bird during this second visit. On the 16th he was singing a-
bout 20 yards from the nest, The woods were composed wholly
of balsams with a mixture of yellow birches. Along the upper
edge of the belt where the wind has an unobstructed sweep over

Turdus a.bicknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.

Nest and eggs.

1894. the crest of the ridge the trees were stunted and matted to-
June 22. gether but those about the nest were twelve to fifteen feet
(No.4). in height and of nearly normal habit although if, as is pos-
sible, they were of considerable age, they were of course much
dwarfed. We could find no spruces in these woods. They do
not appear, indeed, until several hundred feet lower down.
Later in the day - after lunching at the cold spring where we
were assailed by swarms of hungry black flies - Faxon and I
walked down the mountain to Merrill's, stopping for an hour
or more at the place where we saw four Bicknell's Thrushes on
the 18th, and searching long and carefully for their nests
among the dense thickets of young balsams which form an under-
growth to a rather open woods of comparatively large (30 to
40 ft. in height) spruces and balsams. We heard one Bicknell's
Thrush singing and another calling among the balsams but we
found only one old nest, the third which we have seen here.
All three were in balsam saplings, the lowest only two feet,
the highest about seven feet, above the ground on the lateral
branches close to the main stems. In the woods where I took
the nest with eggs we found an old nest, evidently a Thrush's
and doubtless a Bicknell's Thrush's, near the end of a hori-
zontal branch about three feet from the ground and five feet
from the trunk of the tree. The branch extended out into an

Turdus a. picknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.

Nest and eggs.

1894. open space and no one could have passed it without seeing the
June 22. nest.

(No.5). On the 18th Bicknell's Thrushes were singing or calling
everywhere during the entire time we were on the upper part of
the mountain. To-day they were strangely silent. We heard
only two or three singing and not more than five or six call-
ing. The usual call resembles at a distance the poop of Chor-
deiles; near the phew of the Veery. One bird on the 18th
clucked exactly like a Hermit Thrush.

Turdus a. bicknelli.

Breezy Point, Warren, N.H.

Nest.

1894. W.Faxon and I started up the mountain (Mt. Moosilauke) June 26. this morning, reaching the summit at about 10 A.M. Faxon went down the slope while I kept along the ridge above the spring. I found a Thrush's nest unquestionably belonging to T. bicknelli in a low spreading balsam near the crest of the ridge. It was scarce two feet above the ground on a short lateral branch close against the main stem which curved out directly over it ~~and~~ shielding it very effectually from the weather. Although evidently a new nest it was dismantled the lining having been lately pulled out by something. It was largely composed of green moss and in every way closely resembled the nest with eggs that I took on the 22nd.

July 1.

(W.Faxon spent last night on the top of Mt. Moosilauke). He had a most interesting time but brought no birds nor eggs of any kind. The Bicknell's Thrushes sang finely all over the upper parts of the mountain last evening. Their concert was at its height at 8 P.M. and the last bird was heard at 8.20.

Turdus a. bicknelli.

1894. New Hampshire.

June 16. Mt. Moosilauke.

As we stood on the ridge of the mountain listening to the Bicknell's Thrushes we heard in the distance below an Olive-backed Thrush singing and still more faintly the song of a Hermit Thrush. Thus all three birds were in hearing at once but nevertheless the range of the Bicknell's is unquestionably much higher than that of the other two. At its lower limits it overlaps by several hundred feet probably the upper limits of the vertical distribution of T. Swainsoni.

New Hampshire

June 18, Breezy Point, Warren.

At an elevation of about 3500 feet we began to hear Bicknell's Thrushes and I got out and joined Faxon in searching for their nests in a very favorable place where there were dense thickets of young firs forming an undergrowth to a woods of spruces and firs 35 to 40 feet in height. Two birds were singing here and we started two others which we took to be females but we could find nothing but two old nests both evidently those of some kind of Thrushes and both built in small firs. We finally became discouraged and started up the road turning into the woods wherever we heard a Bicknell's Thrush singing and looking awhile for its nest, always vainly. The birds were very numerous and usually very tame. Indeed we might have shot eight or ten of them had we wished.

Turdus a. bicknelli.

1894. New Hampshire

June 22. Breezy Point, Warren.

Near the point where the road leaves the ridge and descends to the cold spring I had found on the 16th, a newly finished but empty nest which there seemed every reason for believing to be that of Bicknell's Thrush as two birds of this subspecies, a male and female apparently, were seen near it. The male was singing steadily; the female flitted about among the trees squawking and showing evident concern when we approached the nest.

When we reached the place to-day the birds were silent and invisible but as soon as we came in sight of the nest (it was some 30 yards from the road near the middle of the belt of trees) we at once, to our great delight, saw the head and tail of the sitting female projecting above its rim. Through our glasses we could make out her head markings distinctly at a distance of about 20 yards. We then cautiously advanced to within ten yards and looked again long and steadily. The bird sat almost perfectly motionless her tail pointing slightly upward, her head raised rather high with the right cheek turned towards us, () regarding us steadily with her large, liquid eye which she occasionally winked abruptly. We could see that the space around the eye was wholly dark and free from buffy but there appeared to be one small buffy spot well behind the eye on the auriculars. Again we advanced to a small dead stub which as we afterwards ascertained by actual measurement was just nine feet from the tree in which the nest was placed. Although the

Turdus a. bicknelli.

1894. New Hampshire.

June 23. Breezy Point, Warren.

nest was nine feet above the ground the slope of the mountain side was so steep that our faces were now just level with the sitting bird. As no foliage or twigs intervened we could study her through our glasses quite as critically as if we had held her in our hands and we satisfied ourselves beyond the remotest shadow of doubt that she was a Bicknell's Thrush. After we had looked as long as we cared to I stepped down beneath her and reaching up tapped the twigs about the nest with the muzzle of my collecting pistol. Even this failed to start her and it was not until I shook the tree gently that she finally left the nest. She flew first to a dead tree some ten yards off, gave her plumage a shake and then disappeared among the dense evergreens. For several minutes we did not see her again but at length she appeared above and behind us taking short flights from branch to branch, approaching us closely when we remained perfectly motionless, retreating when we stirred. During most of this time she kept perfectly silent but twice or thrice she uttered a succession of low anxious calls. One of these was the characteristic squawk, another a soft pip or peenk so very like that of T. swainsonii that we could not detect much difference. Neither Faxon nor I have ever heard this note before to-day but Faxon heard it just before we left the road and told me that he feared that there was an Olive-back in the thicket. Our bird was making it when I finally shot her but she proved to be a Bicknell's

Turdus a. bicknelli.

1894. New Hampshire.

June 22. Breezy Point, Warren.

Thrush nevertheless. On dissecting her afterwards I found that she had laid all her eggs although the set comprised but three. One was perfectly fresh, another had the yolk slightly streaked with blood, in the third an embryo had already begun to form. This would indicate that the bird began sitting as soon as the first egg was laid-- a necessary precaution, doubtless on this cold, exposed mountain summit.

The nest was built in a balsam about four feet from the top and nine feet above the ground on a short horizontal branch five inches out from the main stem. It was in no way concealed and could be seen from a distance of several rods on every side. We neither saw nor heard anything of the male bird during this second visit. On the 16th he was singing about 20 yards from the nest. The woods were composed wholly of balsams with a mixture of yellow birches.

Along the upper edge of the belt where the wind has an unobstructed sweep over the crest of the ridge the trees were stunted and matted together, but those about the nest were twelve to fifteen feet in height and of nearly normal habit although if, as is possible, they were of considerable age, they were of course very much dwarfed. We could find no spruces in these woods they do not appear, indeed, until several hundred feet lower down. Later in the day--after luncheon at the cold spring where we were attacked

Turdus a. bicknelli.

1894. New Hampshire.

June 22. Breezy Point, Warren.

by swarms of hungry black flies-- Faxon and I walked down the mountain to Merrill's, stopping for an hour or more at the place where we saw four Bicknell's Thrushes on the 18th. and searching long and carefully for their nests among the dense thickets of young balsams which form an undergrowth to a rather open woods of comparatively large (30 to 40 feet in height) spruces and balsams. We heard one Bicknell's Thrush singing and another calling among the balsams, but we found only one old nest, the third which we have seen here. All three were in balsam saplings, (the lowest only two feet, the highest about seven feet, above the ground) on the lateral branches close to the main stems. In the woods where I took the nest with eggs we found an old nest, evidently a Thrush's, near the end of a horizontal branch about three feet from the ground and five feet from the trunk of the tree. The branch extended out into an open space and no one could have passed it without seeing the nest.

On the 18th Bicknell's Thrushes were singing or calling everywhere during the entire time we were on the upper part of the mountain. To-day they were strangely silent. We heard only two or three singing and not more than five or six calling. The usual call resembled at a distance the paan of Chordeiles; near the phew of the Veery. One bird on the 18th clucked exactly like a Hermit Thrush

Turdus aliciae bicknelli.

1895. New Hampshire.

June 5. Breezy Point-Warren.

At 8.20 P.M. evening cloudy, the mountains enveloped in clouds to their bases and invisible—the wind light from the east—the Faxons and I were walking slowly up the road leading from Baker's River high bridge to the hotel when we heard the song of a Bicknell's Thrush. At first we supposed the bird to be in the woods on our left (to the south.) and about 100 yds off but 15 seconds later the song came with startling distinctness from nearly overhead. Another quarter minute passed and the bird sang a third time in the distance towards the north. We became now convinced that all three songs were given on wing and that the bird was flying (probably high up) directly towards Mt. Moosilanke. It must have been migrating at the time and could not have come more than 20 or 30 miles as it had had barely half-an-hour of darkness. Was it one of the Moosilanke colony on its way to the breeding ground? There was something particularly weird and thrilling in the incisive, wing song coming suddenly to our ears from the gloomy mist enshrouded sky that overhung the dark silent *spruce* forest. Although the song was normal in form there was something in its quality which convinced us all that the bird was flying.

Turdus abies Richardsoni

On the 26th & 27th I caught
the Song-cuckoo Thrush
singing freely. The song
was precisely like what
I heard from the bird
on Mt. Graylock. When
singing, the notes were ac-
companied by a slight
tremor of the wings. The
singing birds (two) were
not shot, but they were
scanned at very near
range & looked small—
probably Richardsoni

John Hart
17.5.1900

Birds of Toronto, Canada,
by James A. Fleming.
Part II. Sand Bird, Hypothetical List.
Arch., x x 1/2, Jan., 1907, p. 98.

32. *Hyllocichla aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—Mr. Ridgway has recognized one bird from Toronto, and two from Hamilton as intermediate in size between this form and *aliciae*, but near *bicknelli* in color.

Bicknell's Thrush on Mt. Ktaadn, Maine.— On June 22 and 23, 1897, I made a short visit to Mt. Ktaadn, Maine, partly for the purpose of ornithological observation. On the 22d I heard three Bicknell's Thrushes (*Turdus alicia bicknelli*) singing along the Southwest Slide, and on the 23d I heard the same three and two more besides, one pretty well up the

Slide and the other on the Table Land at an altitude of a few hundred feet lower than the top of the highest peak (5,215 feet). Unfortunately I was unable to obtain a specimen, but a familiarity with the song of this bird acquired in the White Mountains and during the migrations, leaves no doubt whatever in my own mind of the identification. This subspecies has never been reported from Maine, I believe, though it is included in the 'hypothetical' list in Mr. Ora W. Knight's recent list of Maine birds. The only other birds noted on the mountain which I did not also find in the lowlands about there were *Dendroica striata*, which were common along the Slide, and *Dendragapus canadensis*, one female of which I observed on the Slide. Ktaadn affords but little cover for birds, the upper three thousand feet being for the most part very steep and rocky, giving no chance for trees. The trees along the Slide are almost entirely deciduous, and no coniferous woods were to be seen at any height except those in the great South Basin on the northeast side of the mountain, about 2300 feet below the highest summit or about 3000 feet above sea-level. It is quite possible that these Basin woods may have contained some more northern forms, but I was unable to visit them. Some one should go there in the breeding season. The Basin is best visited from the east side. The scrub fir on the Table Land harbored *Turdus alicia bicknelli* and *Zonotrichia albicollis*, and doubtless *Junco hyemalis* too, but it is too low to make very good cover.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Mass.*

1884

Distribution on the mountain - habits on another peak

July 11-12 Explored the mountain much more thoroughly than in 1882 and learned much regarding these Thrushes. Found them from a point on the carriage road about midway between the 3rd & 4th mile posts (approximately 2900 ft.) to a point midway between the 5th and 6th posts (approximately 4350 feet). The latter point was at least 300 feet above where I found them first in 1882. It was in an extensive tract of stunted firs & spruces (*A. nigra*) none of which were over 6 ft. in height. There were a few bushes (*B. lutea*) mixed with them and the growth was so matted as to be well nigh impenetrable. The point of their greatest abundance was about opposite the Half-way House where they probably outnumbered all other species except *B. stricklandi*. For the growth was higher, the spruces

Bds. Obs. in Franconia, N.H. June 11-21 '86, and June 4-Aug. 1, '87. W. Faxon

83. *Turdus aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—Common on Mt. Lafayette, about the Eagle Lakes; also heard on Mt. Cannon.

Auk, V. April, 1888. p.153

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A.P. Chadbourne

4. From 3500 feet to the limit of stunted firs and spruces, *T. a. bicknelli* is the most abundant of the *Thrus* *Res.*

Auk, 4, April 1887. p.108

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A.P. Chadbourne

44. *Turdus aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—Found from an altitude of 3000 feet to the limit of stunted spruces about four feet high, 4340 feet in Tuckerman's Ravine being the highest point at which it was noted. In the neighborhood of our camp in the Great Gulf (3140 feet) it was less plenty than *T. ustulatus swainsonii*, though not to any great extent; but at 4100 feet in Tuckerman's Ravine it outnumbered it nearly three to one. Bicknell's Thrush was most abundant, however, in the woods opposite the Half-way House and for about half a mile below it. A young bird in full first plumage was taken on July 12, 1884.

Auk, 4, April 1887. p.107

1884

Habits - for notes on distribution see other card.

July 11-12

Had abundant opportunities for studying the habits of this Thrush about forty specimens being seen and heard. As a rule they were especially shy keeping in the sheltered thickets of Spruce or Pine and flying upon the first sight or sound, of our approach. They usually kept low down, flitting close over the ground and alighting only two or three feet above it. He found it utterly useless to pursue them ~~into~~ one of our seven specimens being secured in that way. The only hope lay in searching overlogs, near the spot where our heels had been heard, and patiently awaiting its return. "Squeaking" worked well in several cases, but failed in the majority. Indeed on several half an hour or more with some individuals used after all, failed to get even a sight at them. They would usually about our place of concealment calling incessantly, much of the time without gun, however, but utterly always, unobtainable. Never seen at all it was often only for an instant the bird alighting on some dead branch and instantly taking wing again. Only two exceptions to this

Situated swarming on the upper slopes of Moosilauke between about 3500 ft. and the upper limits of stunted trees (Balsam & Paper Birch) growth which extended practically to the summit. Below 3500 ft. they were not numerous but a few pairs were breeding in rather heavy spruce forest as low (probably) as 2700 or 2800 ft. They are wary, restless birds very noisy at all hours of the day about June 20, after that date silent & retiring except in the early morning & late evening. The ♂ sings much on exposed perches such as the topmost branch of a dead tree, the top of a stub, or the top of a Balsam, the song is exceedingly like that of *T. procerus* in tone but it is more broken & at first drops & finally rises at the very end. There are three calls: Swice, swice-e, swice-e-e. A phew like that of *T. procerus*, a squeak much like a night-hawk's & a pit or peck very like that of *T. naumanni*. The last is rare. He also saw a bird chuck repeatedly exactly like a Kinglet. Foxon has heard (on Graylock) this chuck given as a prelude to the song. (over)

1884

heard, in the first instance a bird
fitted fast and alighted on a low branch
of a light yard, looking at us with
an air of unconcern. For more than a
minute it remained in the tree, hopping
twice from twig to twig. He was
to shoot with heavy charges &
I was putting in my cartridges &
reloading & just as I shot it
I got another. This occurred in
the woods. The bird was picked up
in the meadow of J. Hallen.
I did not shoot it at the first &
it is possible that it was killed
by an arrow. I shot the same specimen
about a minute later. The other instance
I saw the same place where
I saw from the ground & alighted on
a branch sitting on a branch &
I saw plenty of them. They
I had seen deliberately they
I will think he ~~was~~ close to that
which is very, very close to that
I noticed it on the spot as follows:
Te-e, ee, te-te-de! a high-
pitched 'yelp', and a bark, and quick
retreat. The note is most common when it
is flushed & it is supposed to be a
warning to the flock of presence. I had
seen a pair of them in a tree & was able to
shoot one. A young bird was
seen. It is certainly in its early
stage. The same tone as the adult bird in

When one enters the thicket, shaggy
groves of balsams mixed with equally
despised cedar bushes he hears these thrushes
chirping & squawking on every side. At first
the noise made by his slow & difficult
progress seems to rouse & excite them but
as he advances they nearest him become
as silent as the tomb. Every now & then
he sees a bird perched on the topmost twig
of a dead or living balsam chirping but long
before he get within possible gun range
the bird ceases & plunges down into the
matted branches. On the 26th of August I
spent fully two hours chasing these thrushes
without getting a single shot. I did not
even see a bird although I heard a number.
On June 18th it was quite different.
The Chickadee thrushes sang through the whole
day, in pairs a great many and could
have easily killed half a dozen or more
with collecting pistols. One pair alighted
in a place directly under them for
several minutes. He fast upon of them
seemed to take much notice of us.
We concluded from this & other things
that they were at the time absorbed
by anxious emotions as to quite
forget their usual expressio caution

Bicknell's Thrush in Franconia Notch, N. H. — Last summer (1912) a friend and myself found a thriving colony of Bicknell's Thrush (*Hylocichla alicia bicknelli*) on Mt. Pemigewasset, New Hampshire, at an elevation of 3,300 ft. On June 29, 1913, we found them at Lonesome Lake, 2800 ft., which is on top of one of the spurs of Cannon. We noted six singing males and saw one bird singing at a range of ten feet. The Olive-back was also present. We did not see them here last year. They were near the path in a mixed growth of fir, balsam, and spruce, yellow and black birch, rock maple and mountain ash.— ALICE COREY, Plainfield, N. J.

~~1913~~ Oct. 19th. D. 589, 570.

Bicknell's Thrush Breeding in Vermont.—Now that *Turdus aliciae bicknelli* has been reported as a summer resident on Mount Graylock, Massachusetts, as well as in the Catskills and the White Mountains, it may not be amiss for me to enter a somewhat tardy record of its presence in the Green Mountains. In July, 1885, I passed four days (14th to 17th) on Mount Mansfield, and found Bicknell's Thrushes abundant in the evergreens about the hotel. From the piazza, one evening, I heard six singing at once, and during the day their calls were so persistent as to become almost a nuisance. After my return to Boston the clerk of the hotel sent me a young bird in the flesh, and the specimen is now in Mr. Brewster's collection.—BRADFORD TORREY, *Melrose Highlands, Massachusetts.*

Auk, VI. April, 1889. p. 194.

82. *Hylocichla aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—This is the commonest and most characteristic species at the summit of the mountain. It is really abundant in the extensive tracts of stunted firs and spruces surrounding the northern peak ('The Nose') and its range extends down into the upper edge of the tall timber—to about 3000 feet altitude—where it overlaps the range of the Olive-back.

During the seven trips that I made to the summit, I was constantly on the alert for a sight of the birds, and although I frequently heard them all about me, so shy were they that I saw them probably less than a dozen times. The glimpses I had of them were either at long range, or cut short by the sudden departure of the bird into the dense cover of the evergreens, so that close study of their habits was impossible.

This was in marked contrast to the experience of Mr. Bradford Torrey, who visited the mountain in 1835. He says they were "never out of hearing and seldom long out of sight, even from the door step."¹ His visit, however, was at the time the young were leaving the nest, while I was there during the period of incubation, which may account for the difference in their familiarity. His surmise, based on the testimony of a friend, that the birds had left the mountain the following year would seem to be disproved by my experience. It is very improbable that a species so well established would entirely desert a favorable locality for no apparent cause; it seems more likely that his friend for some reason had overlooked them.

They sing at any time of day, though most frequently toward evening. The song is quite unlike any of the other thrush songs, resembling the Veery's somewhat in form, though not in quality of tone, which is like that of a fine, high-pitched reed. It is not so loud, or so clear as either the Olive-back's or the Veery's, and unlike the former, does not change its pitch perceptibly. The syllables *wet-á-wet-á-wet-cht-cht-wet*, whistled through the closed teeth, will give a faint conception of its character. The opening notes, *wee-a*, repeated two or three times, are smooth and flowing, and are followed by two staccato notes; the closing note resembles the opening ones, and is without special emphasis. The last three notes taken together form the characteristic portion of the song, and are frequently given by themselves without the prelude.

I am aware that the above description of the song differs in some respects from that given by Mr. Brewster, but it is not at all remarkable that the birds of another colony should sing a somewhat-different song. The call note, which is frequently uttered, sometimes from a lofty perch, though usually in the thicket, is a rather harsh *cheep*. I did not hear the Veery note, *phew*, spoken of by Mr. Brewster.

¹ The Foot-Path Way, p. 95, 1896.

90 *Turdus bicknelli* Oct. 5 (1888) E. Mass. 1885.

**Bds. Obs. near Graylock Mt. Berkshire
Co. Mass. June 28-July 13. W. Faxon**

76. *Turdus aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.— On the third of July I visited the summit of Graylock, for the first time under favorable conditions of weather. I had barely reached the top when the chant of Bicknell's Thrush was heard issuing from the thick growth of spruces, firs, and mountain ashes that skirt the clearing. The singer was perched upon one of the larger spruces, perhaps twenty feet from the ground. As I approached nearer he darted into the dense undergrowth of hobble-bushes and mountain maples. He proved to be so shy that it was not until my second subsequent visit to the mountain top (July 6) that I succeeded in shooting him. I therefore had ample opportunity to hear the song at short distance, for the bird was not chary of song when well concealed by intervening tree-trunks and foliage. The song is very much like that of Wilson's Thrush in quality of tone, but quite different in form. In neither regard does it bear any close resemblance to the song of Swainson's Thrush. It is introduced by two or three low clucks only to be heard at a short distance, which seem to the listener to be involuntary, mechanical sounds, like those that precede the song of the Whip-poor-will. The bird was shot while singing. The alarm or call-note of this species resembles the Veery's, although distinguishable. It is entirely different from the abrupt whistle of the Olive-back. All of the *Hylocichlae* are as readily distinguished by their call-notes as by their proper songs. What I take to be the equivalent note of the Hermit Thrush is not the low *chuck* commonly heard while the bird is on its migration, but a peculiar sound which always suggests to me a Finch rather than a Thrush. The Bicknell's Thrush on Graylock remained in the same place to my knowledge for four days in early July, in constant song. I do not doubt, therefore, that its nest was near by. The condition of its testes, moreover, denoted a breeding bird. I failed to find a nest, however, nor did I see or hear another specimen although I visited the summit of Graylock on five subsequent days and carefully explored the other high points of the range.

Auk, VI. April, 1889, p. 106

April, XII. Oct., 1895, pp. 392-3
Turdus aliciae bicknelli and *Otocoris alpestris praticola* as Summer Residents of Berkshire County, Mass.—In 1889 (Auk, VI, 106) I recorded the capture of Bicknell's Thrush on the summit of Mt. Graylock in early

July, 1888, under circumstances which led me to believe that the bird bred there. This year I passed the night of June 29-30 on the top of Graylock and was again greeted, both in the evening and in the morning, by the beautiful song of this Thrush,—the song so admirably characterized by Mr. John Burroughs in 'Riverby,' pp. 47, 49. A hasty search for the nest in the midst of a drenching rain on the morning of the 30th proved unavailing; but the anxiety manifested by the bird when I invaded his domain confirmed my belief that this Thrush breeds on Graylock.

Walter Faxon, Cambridge Mass.

Notes on the Summer Birds of Berkshire County,
- Massachusetts.

Hylocichla aliciae bicknelli. One heard calling on the summit of Mt.
Greylock on the 18th.

Rufus H. H. Heber House, p. Longwood, Mass.
vol. XIX, Oct., 1902, p. 405.

THIRD ADDENDUM TO THE PRELIMINARY LIST
OF BIRDS ASCERTAINED TO OCCUR IN THE
ADIRONDACK REGION, NORTHEASTERN NEW
YORK.*

BY C. HART MERRIAM, M. D.

206. *Turdus aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—In my cabinet is a specimen of this recently described Thrush which I shot in Lewis County, near the western border of the Adirondacks, May 24, 1878. It is a male of the preceding year and its scapulars still show several (four on one side and one on the other) of the light tear-shaped spots so characteristic of immaturity in this group of Thrushes. Following are its measurements:—

No. 1873 (Mus. C. H. M.) ♂ one year old, Lewis County, New York, May 24, 1878. Length, 174 mm. (6.85 in.); extent, 293 mm. (11.53 in.); wing, 92.25 mm. (3.63 in.); tail, 70. mm. (2.75 in.); culmen from feathers, 12.50 mm. (.50 in.); culmen from base, 17 mm. (.66 in.); depth of bill at nostrils, 3.75 mm. (.15 in.); tarsus, 28.50 mm. (1.13 in.).

It will thus be seen that this individual is smaller than the average of the males of Mr. Bicknell's type specimens taken in the Catskills,* and is also smaller than those killed by Mr. Brewster on Mt. Washington.†

Auk, I, Jan., 1884, p.

* For the original list and first and second addenda, see Bull. Nutt. Ornith. Club, Vol. VI, No. 4, Oct. 1881, pp. 225-235; Vol. VII, No. 2, April 1882, p. 128; Vol. VII, No. 4, Oct. 1882, pp. 256-257.

* Ridgway, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. IV, 1882, pp. 377-379.

† Brewster, Bull. Nutt. Ornith. Club, Vol. VIII, Jan. 1883, pp. 12-17.

Long Island Bird Notes. Wm. Dutcher

23. *Turdus aliciae bicknelli*. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—With a number of birds which were sent to me, that had been killed by striking the Great West Bay Light (Shinnecock Bay), Long Island, on the night of October 1, 1881, were four Thrushes, which I labelled *aliciae*. Quite recently I submitted them to Mr. Bicknell, who pronounced two of them to be undoubted examples of the new variety *bicknelli*. I have therefore the pleasure of adding another bird to the known avi-fauna of Long Island.

Auk, 3, Oct., 1886, p. 443-44.

General Notes

On the occurrence of these rare birds on Long Island
Arthur H. Howell Brooklyn, N. Y.

Turdus aliciae bicknelli.—I shot two Bicknell's Thrushes on Oct. 5, 1892, at Rockaway Beach. They were not together, but at widely separated parts of the Beach. I found them exceedingly shy, and it was only after much watching and pursuing of all the Thrushes that were noticed that I secured them. Many Thrushes were observed, but no others of any species were identified, for the cedars which grow on the Beach, and the tangled thickets of briars, afford excellent concealment to ground-loving birds, and in these spots they remained despite our most persistent efforts to dislodge them. Hence it seems probable that some of these others also were *T. a. bicknelli* and that there was a small migration of them at that time.

I have already noted² the capture of this bird at Rockaway Beach on Oct. 5, 1889, and may mention the following cases of its occurrence in this region. Mr. Wm. Dutcher writes.—“My Long Island records of *bicknelli* are as follows: Oct. 1, 1881, two, Shinnecock Light; Oct. 23, 1886, one, shot at Astoria; Sept. 23, 1887, one or more, Fire Island Light; Sept. 18, 1889, one, Shinnecock Light. I believe them to be a regular migrant but not nearly so abundant as *aliciae*.” Mr. L. S. Foster writes me that he has three skins of this bird taken at the Statue of Liberty, New York Harbor, one Sept. 18-19, 1889, the others Oct. 11-12, 1891. I believe with Mr. Dutcher that this subspecies is a regular, though uncommon migrant.—ARTHUR H. HOWELL, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auk, 2, Jan., 1893, p. 91.

Long Island, New York.
A Spring Record for Bicknell's Thrush on Long Island.—In looking over the series of Gray-checked Thrushes in the Brooklyn Institute Museum a few days ago I noticed one specimen that seemed very small. A careful examination showed it to be a typical example of Bicknell's Thrush. It is a male in nuptial plumage and was collected by the writer on the divide north of Jamaica May 22, 1900.—Geo. K. Cincinnati, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Auk, 23, Apr. 1906, p. 196

No 724 C. P. Bicknell, Rivindale, N. Y., Sept. 21, 1875:
 "L., $6\frac{5}{8}$; $4.10\frac{1}{4}$;" wing, 3.32; tail, 2.65; tar. 1.11; culmen (shallowly)
 depth of bill at nostril .16.

Above rich brownish-olive strongly reddish on wings
 & tail; jugulum & breast decidedly fulvous; a nearly
 complete but very narrow orbital ring of light fulvous,
 broken only by a short space above the eye, but
 nowhere embracing more than the eyelids; hence narrower
 than in *T. swainsoni*. (This space within dotted lines
 is fulvous). There are some rusty tear-shaped spots
 on the back & wing-coverts—remains of the first plumage.

Additions to Catalogue of North
 American Birds. — Ridgway.

3a. *Hyalocichla aliciae bicknelli* Ridgw. BICKNELL'S THRUSH.—
 Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. IV, 1882, p. 377. (Breeding on the Catskill
 Mts., New York.)

Bull. N. O. C., 7, Oct. 1882, p. 257.

Notes on Two Rare Birds from Long Island, N. Y.

BICKNELL'S THRUSH (*Turdus aliciae bicknelli*)—Since my previous
 records of this bird (Auk, Vol. X, p. 91), I have discovered four addi-
 tional specimens. Three of them are in the Brooklyn Institute collection,
 and were collected at Parkville, Kings Co., L. I., by E. F. Carson and
 Frank Suydam—two of them on Oct. 12, 1892, the other Sept. 30, 1893.
 Dr. Wm. C. Braislin, of Brooklyn, also has a specimen which he has
 permitted me to record, collected by himself at Parkville on Oct. 3, 1894.
 —ARTHUR H. HOWELL, Washington, D. C.

Auk, XVI, Jan., 1899, p. 95.

ed line between the two counties mentioned, are the Mud Islands and Seal Islands. These are almost entirely covered with a low growth of evergreens—black spruce and balsam fir. Except the Robin, the Song Sparrow, the Snowbird, and a few Redstarts and Winter Wrens, almost the only small land-birds breeding here are the Black-poll Warbler and Bicknell's Thrush Puget Sound, April 15, 1856; Dr. Geo. Suckley, U. S. A.): Upper parts, in general, rather deep vinaceous, the back, scapulars, and rump, however, more grayish brown, very broadly and conspicuously streaked with brownish black. Lower parts pale yellow, or yellowish white, becoming nearly pure white on flanks and crissum. The usual black areas on head and jugulum. Wing, 3.80; tail, 2.60; culmen, .45; tarsus, .75.

Adult ♂, in winter (No. 80477, Yuba Co., California, February 1877; L. Belding): Similar to No. 8734, but upper parts more obscured by brownish (the dark streaks of dorsal region very heavy and distinct, however), and yellow of lower parts much deeper, except the crissum, to the jugular patch being light primrose-yellow, the whole surface posterior which is white; black jugular patch and that on fore part of crown slightly broken by very narrow pale yellowish tips to feathers. Wing, 4.00; tail, 2.80; culmen, .40; tarsus, .80.

Adult ♀, in spring (No. 8733, U. S. Nat. Mus. Ft. Steilacoom, March 20, 1856; Dr. Geo. Suckley): Lesser wing-coverts bright cinnamon; mid-

was Bicknell's Thrush, lately identified in the Catskill and in the White Mountains, and named in honor of its discoverer. It was so abundant, and not particularly shy for a Thrush, that I had the most ample opportunity for the study of its habits; and several specimens were secured and retained. Next to its lesser size, in structural peculiarity, is its slender, depressed, and finely curved bill, compared with which that of the typical Olive-back seems thick and clumsy. While singing, which occurred throughout the day, but more especially in the evening twilight and early morning, the bird delighted to perch in the top of the evergreens, often on the very tip, where its bright, brown figure, with elevated head, was quite conspicuous. On the ground and in taking its food, its habits were precisely like those of other Thrushes.

To find the nest of this species was my great desideratum; and though the bird was so numerous, it was by no means an easy task. Many an hour did I thread my way through almost impenetrable evergreen thickets before I could secure the much

BICKNELL'S THRUSH.

BY REV. J. H. LANGILLE.

OFF the south-west end of Nova Scotia, opposite Yarmouth and Shelburn Counties, is a large number of islands—one for every day in the year, they say. On leaving the harbor of the city of Yarmouth, off to the westward and well out at sea, are Green Island and Garnet Rock. Then comes the Tusket Islands, many in number, and of varied size, form and appearance; some being partly cultivated, some wholly wooded and the outermost almost as smooth as a lawn; these last are called the Bald Tusquets. Farthest out at sea, and very nearly on an extend-

ed line between the two counties mentioned, are the Mud Islands and Seal Islands. These are almost entirely covered with a low growth of evergreens—black spruce and balsam fir. Except the Robin, the Song Sparrow, the Snowbird, and a few Redstarts and Winter Wrens, almost the only small land-birds breeding here are the Black-poll Warbler and Bicknell's Thrush—the last two being very abundant.

This Thrush (the Black-poll I have described) was wholly new to me. My attention was first arrested by its call or alarm note, which sounded like *crcc-e-e-e-eeep*, or *quce-a*, or *crce-e-e-ee*, on a rather fine, high key. It had some resemblance to the call of Wilson's Thrush, but was unmistakably different; and as Mr. Brewster has noted (Bull. N. O. Club, Vol. VIII, p. 12), is very particularly different from the sharp liquid *pip* or *peenk* of the typical Olive-back. The song, *Tsiderca, tsiderca, tsidireca*, sometimes *tsidireca, rea, tsiderca*, or some other modulation of the same theme, is similar in tone to that of Wilson's Thrush, but more slender and wirey, and therefore not nearly so musical and grand. In the solitude of its evergreen islands, however, this bird is by no means an inferior songster, the sibilant tones of its voice being finely relieved by certain more prolonged and liquid vibrations. A careful examination satisfied me that the bird was Bicknell's Thrush, lately identified in the Catskill and in the White Mountains, and named in honor of its discoverer. It was so abundant, and not particularly shy for a Thrush, that I had the most ample opportunity for the study of its habits; and several specimens were secured and retained. Next to its lesser size, in structural peculiarity, is its slender, depressed, and finely curved bill, compared with which that of the typical Olive-back seems thick and clumsy. While singing, which occurred throughout the day, but more especially in the evening twilight and early morning, the bird delighted to perch in the top of the evergreens, often on the very tip, where its bright, brown figure, with elevated head, was quite conspicuous. On the ground and in taking its food, its habits were precisely like those of other Thrushes.

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BICKNELL'S THRUSH (*TURDUS ALICLÆ BICKNELLI*) IN NEW ENGLAND.

BY WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Upon reading Mr. Bicknell's article in the July number of this Bulletin (pp. 152-159) it occurred to me that his new Thrush must breed on our New England mountains as well as among the Catskills. This conviction was strengthened, shortly afterwards, by a letter shown me by Mr. Purdie, in which the writer, Mr. Bradford Torrey of Boston, asked if *Turdus aliclæ* was known to summer among the White Mountains, he having heard a Thrush there which he felt sure was neither the Wilson's, the Olive-backed, nor the Hermit. Acting upon the double hint I took an early opportunity to look for the interesting bird, with the following result.

On the afternoon of July 19, 1882, I started up the Mt. Washington carriage-road from the Glen House, in company with Mr. Walter Deane and Mr. James J. Greenough of Cambridge. At first our choice of a time proved unfortunate, for a succession of heavy showers prevented us from exploring the dripping thickets by the way, and forced us to push on as rapidly as possible, so that we reached the summit, shortly after dark, without having shot a bird of any kind. Thrushes were heard at various points, however, and the peculiar notes of a few met with near the Half-way House led us to hope that our quest would not prove in vain.

The following was one of those rare mornings that mountain climbers long for but seldom get. The sky was cloudless, and as the sun rose above the horizon its rays gilded the snowy banks of fog that marked the courses of distant rivers, and, touching the eastern sides of the surrounding mountains, bathed every rugged slope and beetling precipice in a flood of light, the brighter from its contrast with the gloom that still enveloped their western sides and shrouded the mysterious depths of dark ravines far below. The keen, almost frosty morning air rustled among the scant vegetation, and an occasional stronger puff heralded the coming blasts which, with other retainers of Winter's train, are

never quite banished from these elevated regions, even during mid-summer. But time was precious, and barely pausing to admire the grandeur of the scenery that surrounded us we began the descent, my companions botanizing, while I watched closely for birds.

On the very summit—or at least less than a hundred feet below it—Snowbirds (*Junco hiemalis*) were twittering among the rocks, but no other species were observed until near the end of the third mile, when the clear notes of a White-throated Sparrow rose from a thicket of dwarf birches (*Betula glandulosa*) and blueberry bushes (*Vaccinium cespitosum*) by the roadside. A few hundred yards further down we heard a Nashville Warbler singing in a sheltered hollow among some black spruces (*Abies nigra*), the tallest of which were barely four feet high. His presence in such a spot was a forcible illustration of the law that Nature fills all her waste places, for surely he might have found a more congenial home among his kindred in the forests below.

Down to this point we had seen no trace of Thrushes of any kind, and indeed the evergreens were nowhere numerous or high enough to afford them suitable shelter. But about a third of a mile above the Half-way House, or nearly four miles, by the carriage-road, from the summit, and at an elevation of (approximately) 4000 feet, we came to a tract of firs (*Abies balsamifera*) and spruces (*A. nigra*) that seemed to promise better results. This thicket covered three or four acres of a comparatively level portion of the mountain, and extended down the face of an almost sheer precipice to the bed of West Branch in the "Gulf of Mexico" below. Over the level area the trees attained a height of about ten feet. They averaged perhaps four inches in diameter at their bases and their tops were matted and spreading. The ground beneath was moderately open, entirely free from undergrowth, and deeply carpeted with a yellowish-olive moss over which were thickly sprinkled the clover-like leaves of the wood sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) and, more sparingly, graceful star flowers (*Trientalis americana*) and beautiful Clintonias (*Clintonia borealis*), the latter still bearing their greenish-yellow blossoms. In the immediate vicinity, but not actually under the shade of the trees, we found *Pyrus americana*, *Betula papyracea* (four or five feet high), *Amelanchier canadensis oligocarpa* (three or four feet in height), *Ledum latifolium*, *Cornus cana-*

densis, *Vaccinium vitis-idaea*, *Salix cutleri*, *Arenaria grælandica*, *Solidago virga-aurea alpina* (with flowers on the point of opening), and *Smilacina bifolia*.

Around the outskirts of this Alpine wood the trees were shrubby and often so densely matted that it was impossible to penetrate them, but in the interior one could walk with comparatively little difficulty. As I picked my way between the stems, carefully avoiding the many dangerous holes and crevices concealed beneath the mossy floor, I was forcibly reminded of similar forests on the bleak shores of Labrador. The few sunbeams that penetrated among the branches had a pale, wintry cast, and at intervals the rising wind sighed drearily in the trees. Altogether there was about the place an air of rugged—almost savage wildness, in fit keeping with the grandeur of the surrounding scenery.

In this shaggy forest Thrushes were singing and calling on every side, and in the course of an hour or two I managed to secure three specimens, one of which was a typical Olive-back, while the other two, to my great delight, proved to be the birds of which we were in search; *viz.*, representatives of the small southern race of *T. aliciae* lately named by Mr. Ridgway in honor of its discoverer, Mr. Bicknell, and until now known only from Riverdale on the Hudson and the Catskill Mountains of New York.

Although the specimens just mentioned were the only ones actually taken, we saw and heard many others, both at the point already described, and further down the mountain, in the vicinity of the Half-way House. Nor were opportunities wanting for comparing the voice and habits of the new bird with those of its near relative *T. swainsoni*, both being frequently found together in the same thicket, although the Bicknell's Thrushes were the more numerous throughout the region of stunted spruces, while the Olive-backs predominated in the heavy timber below.

The song of Bicknell's Thrush is exceedingly like that of Swainson's; indeed, to my ear, the usual strain, though rather feebler, was nearly indistinguishable; but occasionally—perhaps on the average once in the course of five or six repetitions—a peculiar, and apparently perfectly characteristic bar was interpolated. This was a flute-like *per-pseüeo-pseüeo* given quickly and in a tone which, at a little distance, closely resem-

bled that of the Solitary Vireo's well-known voice. The respective call-notes of the two birds, however, were radically different. That of *T. swainsoni* is a musical *pip* or *peenk* as liquid in tone as the sound of dropping water. The call of *bicknelli*, on the contrary, was harsh and far from pleasing. Usually it was a single loud, penetrating *queep*, often abbreviated to *quee*, and occasionally varied to *queeah* with a falling inflection. At a distance this note sounded not unlike the cry of a Nighthawk. Near at hand it had a peculiarly startling effect in the silence of these solitary woods, and I noticed that it left a disagreeable, jarring sensation on the ear. Once or twice it recalled the *phew* of the Tawny Thrush, but ordinarily it was sharper and higher pitched.

In a general way the habits and actions of these Thrushes may be said to be identical, but *bicknelli* is a much shyer, noisier and more restless bird than its cousin the Olive-back. Indeed I found it next to impossible to creep within shot of one, for long before I was near enough the wary bird would take flight, to resume its singing or calling at some distant and perhaps inaccessible point on the steep mountain side below. The only successful method of proceeding proved to be that of lying in wait near the spot whence one had been driven, for in a short time it was almost sure to return, prompted, apparently, by curiosity, which I found I could stimulate by making a shrill chirping or squeaking. On such occasions the bird would approach by short, cautious flights, keeping itself so well concealed that it would often come within a few yards and retire again without once exposing itself to view. Indeed the two specimens taken were only secured by snap shots directed almost at random towards some opening in the branches where the flash of a wing betrayed its owner's movements.

Judging from the necessarily imperfect observations made during my hurried reconnoissance, the Bicknell's Thrushes are most abundant, on Mt. Washington, in the belt of stunted firs and spruces which border the upper edge of the heavy timber, at an elevation of about 3800 feet. From this point their numbers rapidly diminished as we descended, and the last one positively identified was met with at an elevation of (approximately) 3000 feet. Their range upwards is probably co-extensive with that of their favorite spruce thickets, for, as already stated, they were

found at the highest point where shelter of this kind occurred. There is, of course, no reason for supposing that they are confined to the eastern side of Mt. Washington. On the contrary it is highly probable that they are generally distributed over the upper portions of that mountain as well as on many of the higher ones of the surrounding group. Indeed they may be confidently looked for almost anywhere in New England at an elevation of over 3500 feet.

Through Mr. Bicknell's kindness I am now able to make a direct comparison between the specimens obtained on Mt. Washington and two of the Catskills examples, one of which (No. 653) figures prominently in Mr. Ridgway's original description of the new race.

My measurements of these four specimens are as follows:

653 (E. P. Bicknell) ♂ ad., Slide Mt., New York, June 15, 1881. Wing, 3.65; tail, 2.96; culmen from feathers, .50; from base, .68; depth of bill at nostrils, .16.

717 (E. P. B.) ♂ ad., Slide Mt., June 27, 1882. Wing, 3.60; tail, 2.73; culmen from feathers, .54; from base, .67; depth of bill at nostrils, .18.

7389 (W. B.) ♂ ad., Mt. Washington, July 20, 1882. Wing, 3.74; tail, 2.93; culmen from feathers, .49; from base, .64; depth of bill at nostril, .15.

7390 (W. B.) ♂ ad., same locality and date. Wing, 3.60; tail, 2.79; culmen from feathers, .52; from base, .67; depth of bill at base, .16.

The Mt. Washington birds are in worn breeding plumage. They are plain grayish-olive above and along the flanks, with a slight tinge of reddish on the tail, and more or less fulvous over the jugulum and throat. Their general coloring is identical with that of average spring specimens of *T. aliciae* and very much grayer than in Mr. Bicknell's No. 653, which, however, is probably an exceptional specimen, for his No. 717, obtained in the same locality June 27, 1882, is but a trifle browner than the New Hampshire skins. The latter come well within the limits of size given for *bicknelli*, and their bills are fully as slender and depressed as in Mr. Bicknell's most extreme specimen (No. 653). This peculiar shape of the bill, already remarked upon by Mr. Ridgway, is a striking point of difference between them and all of a large series of Gray-cheeked Thrushes which I have collected in New England during the migrations. But although seemingly confined to the smaller race, it is an inconstant character, for Mr. Bicknell's No. 717 has a bill as stout as in many of my largest *aliciae*. Taking size as the sole test (and it is the only one posi-

tively claimed by Mr. Ridgway) I find that of Massachusetts specimens captured during the migrations, my series includes five that fall within the extremes assigned to *bicknelli*, to which, necessarily, they, with the Mt. Washington examples, must now be referred.

While it is perhaps unsafe to base any very positive conclusions on the material at present available, there seems every reason to believe that this small race will prove a reasonably constant one, at least as represented along the southern borders of its breeding range. However this may be, the long-disputed question of the character of the relationship borne by *T. aliciae* to *T. swainsoni*, is, as Mr. Bicknell has pointed out, at length definitely settled. Those who from the first have maintained their specific distinctness have surely good reason to exult in this final victory.

Our satisfaction at the acquisition of this Thrush, new specifically to the summer fauna of New England, and, as a variety, previously unrecognized from within its limits, can scarcely fail to be tempered with chagrin that so interesting a stranger has all this time existed among us undetected. Yet when we pause to reflect, there is the consolation—barren though it be—that our higher mountains have never been adequately explored by ornithologists; and who can say that they do not hold further surprises? With their Alpine flora and cold climate they offer conditions favorable to the requirements of many northern-breeding birds, and it is by no means improbable that several such, at present known only as migrants through New England territory, may eventually be found to pass the summer in their remote fastnesses. At all events the field is well worth further investigation.

Bull. N. O. C. 8, Jan, 1888, p. 12-17.

while a sharp wind from the northwest piercing the wet woods and sighing among the balsams, blasted and weather beaten, heightened an impression of remoteness and desolation. The evergreens, constituting the principal arboreal growth, extended off on all sides, clothing the rocky and moss-grown slopes, and presenting the striking contrast of a young and fragrant second growth clustering about the branchless and spiny trunks of their sires tottering in decay; or, with tangled and matted branches outlined here and there as we approached the summit against a met with at Fort Fairfield.

88. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (Linn.) Savig. BALD EAGLE.—“Not common” at Houlton.

89. *Cotopistes migratorius* (Linn.) Sw. WILD PIGEON.—Breeding at Grand Falls, but not common.

90. *Canace canadensis* (Linn.) Bp. SPRUCE PARTRIDGE.—At Houlton “mostly found in the deep fir thickets, or in the swamps of firs and cedars.” Not met with at Fort Fairfield and Grand Falls, though of course it occurs there.

91. *Bonasa umbellus* (Linn.) Steph. RUFFED GROUSE.—Rather common at Fort Fairfield. At Grand Falls only a few were seen in the hard woods.

92. *Ardea herodias* Linn. GREAT BLUE HERON.—“Common” at Houlton.

93. *Nyctiardea grisea naevia* (Bodd.) Allen. NIGHT HERON.—“Not common” at Houlton.

94. *Botaurus lentiginosus* (Montag.) Steph.—BITTERN.—“Common” at Houlton. One seen at Grand Falls.

95. *Philohela minor* (Gm.) Gray. WOODCOCK.—One seen on Little River Flats near Grand Falls. At Fort Fairfield we saw a specimen in the collection of Mr. Frank P. Orcutt, who considered it rare in that neighborhood. “A few breed in the vicinity” of Houlton.

96. *Rhyacophilus solitarius* (Wils.) Cass. SOLITARY SANDPIPER.—At Grand Falls some were seen along the river June 9 (J. A. J.).

97. *Tringoides macularius* (Linn.) Gray. SPOTTED SANDPIPER.—At Fort Fairfield it was very numerous along the Aroostook River, and was also noticed in one or two other places. It was abundant along the rivers at Grand Falls. At Houlton too it was very common.

98. *Porzana carolina* (Linn.) Bd. CAROLINA RAIL.—One seen at Fort Fairfield, June 20, in a wet meadow partly grown up with alder bushes (J. D.).

99. *Anas obscura* Gm. BLACK DUCK.—“Very common, breeding” at Houlton.

100. *Aix sponsa* (Linn.) Boie. WOOD DUCK.—“Quite common” at Houlton.

101. *Clangula glaucium americana* (Bp.) Ridgw. GOLDEN-EYE.—A few seen at Grand Falls.

A SKETCH OF THE HOME OF *HYLOCICHLA ALICIAE BICKNELLI*, RIDGWAY, WITH SOME CRITICAL REMARKS ON THE ALLIES OF THIS NEW RACE.

BY EUGENE P. BICKNELL.

That there remained unrecognized at this late day a bird regularly inhabiting one of the most populous portions of our country; or, indeed, that a species of eminently boreal habitat during its breeding season, and not known to occur at all at such time within the limits of the United States, should have a representative race regularly breeding in our midst, are facts for which we were little prepared. Mr. Ridgway's recent paper* announcing these facts being necessarily of a technical nature, and confined to a formal description of the new Thrush, it has been thought well on the present occasion to allude more particularly to the character of the locality inhabited by the bird, and to some of its associates there, in connection with other sequential considerations. As the general physical character of the Catskill Mountains and the faunal features of the region will be treated by the writer elsewhere, it will be unnecessary to extend the range of the present relation from the summit of Slide Mountain in Ulster Co.,† where the new race was discovered.

On June 15, 1881, nearing the summit of this mountain, the forests of a more northern latitude were forcibly suggested. A shower had fallen during the ascent, and the sun was still obscured,

* "Descriptions of two new Thrushes from the United States." Proceedings U. S. National Museum, Vol. 374, pp. 374-9.

† The highest peak of the Catskills,—4,205 feet altitude.

while a sharp wind from the northwest piercing the wet woods and sighing among the balsams, blasted and weather beaten, heightened an impression of remoteness and desolation. The evergreens, constituting the principal arboreal growth, extended off on all sides, clothing the rocky and moss-grown slopes, and presenting the striking contrast of a young and fragrant second growth clustering about the branchless and spiny trunks of their sires tottering in decay; or, with tangled and matted branches outlined here and there, as we approached the summit, against a gray and cheerless sky. Owing to the comparatively short life of these trees, that high portion of the mountain where their tribe had pitched was brought into grim contrast with its surroundings. Old age and death, continually present invading their ranks, had everywhere left their traces; flourishing clusters had been stricken in their fellowship, groups and gatherings had been divided and scattered, and like a contagion the destroyer had spread among their hosts. But the younger generations are continually forming their associations, and with green and fragrant grouping filling in deserted chambers and screening the devastation that has gone before, although only to furnish material for its continuance in the future. All this, with an occasional undergrowth of greater or less luxuriance, gave a diversified and somewhat open character to the surroundings, entirely dissimilar to that of the environing forest; conditions, which, in conjunction with humidity and elevation, have brought this mountain top into some relation with the swampland of a more northern region.

Reaching a more elevated portion of the ridge where the ground was more level and the surface less rocky, that north-woods tree, the Paper Birch (*Betula papyracea*) occasionally appeared, and more abundantly the Mountain Ash. Almost the only remnant of the dense mountain forests below was the Yellow Birch (*Betula lutea*) which, joining the undergrowth, persisted with small and stunted stature to the summit. On all sides were to be seen the white blossoms of *Viburnum lantanoides* which, though also found in the valley woodlands, had there long since flowered and was now bearing green fruit. Another characteristic shrub was *Amelanchier canadensis oligocarpa*; lower down had been found the var. *botryapium*, but here, the northern form was well marked, seeming almost specifically distinct. In the deep, damp moss, covering and filling in the rocks beneath the balsam growth,

and relieving the ruggedness of the slopes, northern plants were growing in greater or less profusion. The Dwarf Cornel (*Cornus canadensis*) grew in such close luxuriance in congenial spots, that its snowy bracts imparted an almost uniform whiteness to whole beds. With, or near it, blossomed the Wood Sorrel (*Oxalis acetosella*) with delicately violet-veined petals, and the appropriately-named Gold-thread (*Coptis trifolia*) of evanescent bloom but shining evergreen leaves, and the little Star Flower (*Trientalis americana*) were often also associates. Excepting the pale yellow bells of *Clintonia borealis*, and the purplish tinge, or veining, of the blossoms of several other species; all the plants noticed in bloom at this time upon the mountain bore flowers of some shade of white. The more open ground about our course along the ridge supported a luxuriant and graceful growth of that lovely fern *Aspidium spinulosum*, and with it, in openings about the summit, grew abundantly the Mountain Golden-rod (*Solidago thyrsoides*) which, although yet many weeks from bloom, heralded a royal emblem to light the mountain's brow ere the white locks of winter should again possess it.

At the elevation where these plants first appeared the trees nowhere attained more than a medium stature, those which seemed best to have surmounted the difficulties of their situation, the Balsam and the Paper Birch, never rising to a height of more than, perhaps, twenty-five feet. This growth completely encompassed the range of vision, but an occasional scantiness in the foliage permitted glimpses of surrounding mountains rolling off like huge green billows into the blue distance.

From these evergreens came the leisurely call of the Canada Nuthatch (*Sitta canadensis*), and on closer approach the low, plaintive notes of the little Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*). The brief warble of the Black-and-Yellow Warbler (*Dendroica maculosa*) told of the presence of its unseen author in the surrounding trees, while among the undergrowth the less frequent, but louder and more sustained song of the Mourning Ground-warbler (*Geothlypis philadelphia*) showed that this species, which had been left at the foot of the mountain, had here reappeared. At intervals, faintly mingling with these songs, from some hidden fastness below, came the *fantasia* of the Winter Wren, a melody that seemed to pass from the spirit of unclaimed nature, voicing some mystery of the mountains.

The clamor of a party of Blue Jays occasionally arose and died away in the forest, but here, in this mountain solitude, their screams seemed more subdued than in less primitive regions, and lacked that suggestion of consciousness which individuals constantly within human hearing, seem to acquire. Busily roaming Chickadees (*Parus atricapillus*) at times came about our path, and the Snowbird (*Junco hyemalis*) was present with its simple song. Olive-backed Thrushes (*Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*) too, were constantly to be heard, and finally, guided by its near song, one was followed up and secured. A moment later another Thrush darted across the path, and disappearing through a young balsam growth, immediately began to sing a few rods off. The song was different from that of the bird which had just been shot, so much so, in fact, as to be remarked even by my guide. It seemed to be more uniform in character, with less variation and definition of the notes: as I wrote in my note-book at the time—more suggestive of the song of *H. fuscescens*. A conspicuous point of difference was that it was more subdued in tone, in fact of a somewhat ventriloquous nature. On examining the bird, in hand, although I had thought myself familiar with all our eastern *Hylocichlae*, I must confess to having been puzzled. It was obviously neither the Olive-backed nor the Hermit Thrush, the only species of our own smaller Thrushes which from the distribution of their group (as then understood) could possibly be expected to occur. I at once noted its general resemblance to the Gray-cheeked Thrush, but it seemed impossible that this Hudsonian bird could be found so far south at this season: and though a second specimen pointed more strongly toward it, it was not until I had reached home and made actual comparisons, that I could feel satisfied that its true relationship was with that species. I had long noticed certain somewhat constant differences between examples of *aliciae* occurring at New York on their migrations, and incited by these specimens went carefully over my series of seventeen examples and found them separable into two forms, characterized by slight differences in coloration and a notable difference in size. The examples from the Catskills were more closely allied to the smaller of the two forms, and these, with, subsequently, my entire series, were submitted to Mr. Ridgway, the result being the recognition of a new bird, belonging to our eastern fauna.

But to return to the mountain. It would hardly be justifiable to make a positive statement about a difficult song that had been but once identified, but I feel positive that the Thrushes which were last heard that evening about our camp on the extreme summit of the mountain were of the new form. Night was rapidly falling, and the valleys were in darkness, when one sang several times near the camp, and for some time afterwards a single call-note was occasionally heard, and the varying distance of the sound showed that the birds were still active. Excepting these sounds, the last bird notes heard were those of the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher.

The sharp northwest wind continued late, and the night became clear and cold. Shortly after midnight the bright moon showed the temperature, by a thermometer which I had hung beside the camp, to be 35°, and at sunrise it stood at 32°. Before daylight I was standing on a boulder of conglomerate on the dim mountain's brow listening for the awakening of the birds. The first songs heard were those of the Hermit Thrush, Snowbird, and Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, which began almost simultaneously, followed a little later by those of the Olive-backed Thrush and the Mourning Warbler, but *H. bicknelli* was not heard, or at least not near enough to be distinguished among the other species.

The increasing light upon the mountain seemed to attract the birds from below. Whither, perhaps, they had retired for the night, and soon many different notes were to be heard about the camp; not, however, in that boisterous chorus with which the day is often announced about our homes, in which the notes of many individuals of many species are blended in such confused medley that separate voices are almost indistinguishable, but simply the association of a few vocalists, the very isolation of whose position endowed their voices with an additional interest and charm.

After those already mentioned the Black-poll Warbler (*Dendroica striata*) began its unpretending notes, which always to me suggest a short dotted line, and this song, with that of the Black-and-Yellow Warbler, occasionally alternated about us in agreeable contrast. Now and then a Canada Nuthatch, on its morning tour, carried to inspect some dead trunk or thinly clothed tree, upon the projecting apex of which, or that of some com-

panion, a solitary Purple Finch occasionally alighted, and with a few wild fugitive notes was gone, to other mountain tops or the forests of the descending slopes.

But to revert to the Thrushes. The two specimens of the new form which were obtained were both males, and were unquestionably breeding,* though no nest known to belong to their species was found.

It remains to briefly consider some facts furnished by the birds' occurrence as narrated. These facts bear directly on the long contested question of the relationship which *H. aliciae* and *H. swainsoni* bear to one another, and it can scarcely be denied that the present evidence on this point is conclusive. Not only have we representatives of both birds preserving their respective identities at the same locality, under identical conditions of environment, but examples of each taken under these circumstances, display, except in size, even a greater dissimilitude than those which occur together on their migrations. There is but one tenable interpretation of these facts: the birds—*Hylocichla aliciae* and *H. ustulata swainsoni*—are wholly and entirely distinct. Any theory of dichromatism which might be advanced, aside from its extreme unlikelihood, would be shown inadequate by the relative differences in proportions of parts which the two birds exhibit. These differences, as well as those of color are illustrated by the Catskill birds. A specimen of *H. swainsoni* taken at the top of Slide Mountain was in every way typical of its species, and conspicuously unlike the examples of *bicknelli* taken at the same time. Aside from differences in the proportions of parts, the two birds were strikingly different in color, the decided grayish olive tinge of the superior surface of *swainsoni* contrasting strongly with the much darker brownish cast of its congener. One example of the latter instead of showing indications of a buffy tinge about the sides of the head and on the breast, which under the circumstances we should expect to be the case, were it in any way specifically related to *swainsoni*, has absolutely no indications whatever of this shade about the sides of the head, and actually less on the breast than any speci-

* Both birds were carefully examined and the evidence on this point was positive and unequivocal. A Thrush's nest containing spotted eggs discovered near the top of Slide Mountain may have been either that of this form or of *swainsoni*, but as positive identification was prevented, further allusion to it is, for the present, withheld.

fuliginosa

A NEW SUBSPECIES OF THE GENUS *HYLOCICHLA*.

BY REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR.

SINCE I published my paper on 'The Ranges of *Hylocichla fuscescens* and *Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola*' in 'The Auk' for January, 1900 (Vol. XVII, No. 1, pp. 18-25), I have had quite a number of additional specimens sent me for examination and identification. These have forced me to recognize that a subspecific difference exists between the *Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola* of the West and the bird inhabiting Newfoundland, which in my former paper I referred to this same race. I noticed at that time that a slight difference did exist, but did not deem it worthy of separation; not being in favor of describing slight variations. I am now, however, of the opinion that the Newfoundland bird is subspecifically distinct from the western *salicicola*, though nearer this race than to *Hylocichla fuscescens*. This difference, now apparent, proves the necessity of having, in describing species and subspecies, very large series with which to work. My former paper was based on the examination of far more specimens than a great many of our recognized subspecies have been described from, and yet the addition to that series has proved that if the western race *salicicola* is recognized the race inhabiting Newfoundland also must be, or in other words that the former series of thirty-six specimens only barely suggested what the addition of eleven more specimens proves.

The Newfoundland Veery (*Hylocichla fuscescens fuliginosa*) in Massachusetts. — On the 27th of last September I shot a specimen of this lately described bird in Lanesboro, Berkshire Co., Mass., — the first example taken in this State. The four autumnal records for New England fall within the narrow limits of five days (Sept. 23-27), and indicate a migration through this region considerably later than the departure of the native Veeries for the South. In 1889 I killed a Veery in Waltham, Mass., on the extraordinarily late date, Oct. 5. This bird was unfortunately not preserved, but without much doubt it belonged to the race *fuliginosa*. — WALTER FAXON, *Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.*

Auk, XVIII, April, 1901, p. 198.

Various Massachusetts Notes of Interest.

Hylocichla fuscescens fuliginosa. — In this same house I discovered a specimen of the Newfoundland Thrush, taken also near Lowell, a number of autumns ago. This is the second record for the State. — REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

Auk, XIX, Jan., 1902, p. 92.

Hylocichla fuscescens fuliginosa, subsp. nov.

Type, from Codroy, Newfoundland, No. 46260, adult. Coll. of William Brewster. Collected May 31, 1895, by Ernest Doane.

Geographical Range.—Newfoundland (also possibly Anticosti and Labrador).

Subspecific Characters.—Size slightly larger. Upper parts, especially on the head, distinctly *brownish*, much darker and not of the tawny shade of typical *fuscescens*, and *lacking* the greenish tinge of *salicicola*. Throat, lores, and upper breast suffused with *buff*, though perhaps less so than in *fuscescens* (in *salicicola* buff is practically absent), the upper breast and usually also the throat spotted *heavily* with *broad* arrow-shaped brown markings suggesting very strongly the throat and breast of *H. u. swainsonii*. The breast markings of both *fuscescens* and *salicicola* are narrow and more penciled and lighter in shade. Bill darker and heavier.¹

Remarks.—The two specimens already recorded from Rhode Island, and the ones from Ottawa, Ontario, are referable to this race, as is also a male kindly loaned me by Dr. Louis B. Bishop, taken at New Haven, Conn., on September 23, 1895. The specimen recorded from Chester, South Carolina, is probably referable to this new race, rather than to *salicicola*. Another specimen sent me by Dr. Bishop from the Magdalen Islands, taken June 13, 1887, is intermediate between *fuscescens* and *fuliginosa*, although difficult to determine on account of being in worn, breeding plumage. Dr. Bishop has also kindly sent me an adult male (No. 4116) taken May 6, 1899, in New Haven County, Conn., and an adult female (No. 4950) taken May 16, 1900, in the same locality, both referable to *fuliginosa*, and the first spring specimens from New England I have seen.

¹ For measurements see Tables with former paper. Auk, Vol. XVII, No. 1, pp. 22, 33.

Auk, XVII, July, 1900, pp. 270-271

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Auk, XIX, Jan., 1902, p. 92.

salicicola

Bird of Toronto, Canada,
by Dennis W. Fleming.
Part II, Found Birds. Hypothetical List.
Auk, x 18, Jan., 1907, p. 88.

31. *Hylodichla fuscescens salicicola*. WILLOW THRUSH.—I have one, from the McIlwraith collection, taken at Hamilton, May 16, 1895, but it has not yet been detected here.

Notes from Connecticut

Hylocihla fuscescens salicicola. Four adult males,—New Haven, Sept. 23, 1895; Woodbridge, May 5, 1894; and East Haven, May 16, 1900, and May 14, 1904.—Louis B. Bishop, *New Haven, Conn.*

ARK, XXIII, July, 1906, p. 344-345.

RANGES OF *HYLOCICHLA FUSCESCENS*, AND *HY-*
LOCICHLA FUSCESCENS SALICICOLA IN
NORTH AMERICA.

BY REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR.

WHILE looking over the Ornithological Collection of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, I came across a peculiar specimen of Wilson's Thrush (*Hylocichla fuscescens*) taken at Newport, Rhode Island, by R. L. Agassiz on the very late date for this locality of September 25, 1885. A few days later I happened to

son's records for typical *Hylocichla fuscescens* are probably at fault, the bird inhabiting this region (Manitoba) being undoubtedly *Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola*, for the specimen (Coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 112606) from Shoal Lake, Manitoba, I have examined, and it is typical of this last named race, as are many other specimens examined from the same region. Two specimens (Coll. U. S. Nat. Mus., Nos. 63847, Pembina, Dak., and 13698, Rainy Lake River), identified by Mr. Ridgway as *H. fuscescens* are without doubt *salicicola*, though slightly intermediate, as might be expected, being taken on the border line between the two races.

The range of *Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola* Ridgw., Willow Thrush, is from Missouri (Charleston) and Dakota westward to the Rocky Mountains (Washington, Spokane), south to New Mexico and Arizona, and northward to Manitoba, Rainy Lake River and British Columbia (Kamloops). A series of specimens from Codroy, Newfoundland, in Mr. William Brewster's collection I find to be typical *salicicola*, but I am unable to obtain any

speak to Dr. Walter Faxon in regard to this specimen, and he spoke of always having noticed a peculiarity in late fall migrants of this species in New England. This led me to look into the matter more carefully with the following results.

I find that the range of typical *Hylocichla fuscescens* extends northward to Nova Scotia (Streuracke); Toronto, Ontario; northern Ohio; and westward to Missouri. Audubon recorded it from Newfoundland (Orn. Biog., II, p. 362) and Labrador, the species, however, was probably *Hylocichla alicie*. Mr. William Brewster recorded it from Ellis Bay, Anticosti (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. His., Vol. XXII, p. 368) where he writes "rather to my surprise I came upon a pair of these Thrushes, . . . they were seen so distinctly that there can be no doubt as to the correctness of the identification." The birds, however, were not taken. Thompson in 'Birds of Manitoba' (Proc. U. S. Nat. Museum, Vol. XIII, p. 633) records this species as an "abundant summer resident," and gives the following localities where the species has been recorded: Pembina; Red River Valley; Selkirk, and Red River; Shoal Lake; Oak Point; Portage la Prairie; Lake Manitoba, and westward; Carberry; Qu' Appelle; but Thompson's records for typical *Hylocichla fuscescens* are probably at fault, the bird inhabiting this region (Manitoba) being undoubtedly *Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola*, for the specimen (Coll. U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 112606) from Shoal Lake, Manitoba, I have examined, and it is typical of this last named race, as are many other specimens examined from the same region. Two specimens (Coll. U. S. Nat. Mus., Nos. 63847, Pembina, Dak., and 13698, Rainy Lake River), identified by Mr. Ridgway as *H. fuscescens* are without doubt *salicicola*, though slightly intermediate, as might be expected, being taken on the border line between the two races.

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specimen along the line of the 50th parallel of latitude between Newfoundland and Rainy Lake River. Although this apparent hiatus exists, careful comparison and measurements show no difference between specimens from these two localities. The specimen from Chicago, Ill., which Mr. Ridgway cited in the collection of H. K. Coale of that city (No. 15681), taken September 16, was undoubtedly a fall straggler, but probably not so far out of its range as at that time supposed. The bird recorded from Cook Co., Texas (Cook's Migration in the Miss. Valley, Bull. No. 2, U. S. Dept. of Agr., p. 284) was probably also a straggler. The pair of Thrushes observed by Mr. Brewster on Anticosti may have been of this race, for without the bird in the hand it is difficult, though not impossible, to tell it from *Hyalocichla fuscescens*, and it seems unlikely that Mr. Brewster should identify *fuscescens* or its subspecies for *alicia*. The specimen taken at Newport, before referred to (also typical *salicicola*), and the Willow Thrush recorded from near the town of Chester, South Carolina, October 5, 1888, by Levegett M. Loomis (Auk, Vol. VI, No. 2, p. 194), and a male taken by me at Bristol, Rhode Island, on September 24, 1899 (typical *salicicola*), are probably not stragglers, as one might heretofore have supposed, from the far West, but from Newfoundland. The question at once arises as suggested above, whether *salicicola*, as it inhabits Newfoundland, does not also inhabit Labrador, Anticosti, and surrounding regions, and whether it does not also inhabit the intervening country between its known western and eastern habitats.

It will be interesting to see whether many of the eastern United States collections do not contain specimens of *salicicola* taken late in the fall or perhaps early in the spring, formerly identified as *Hyalocichla fuscescens*.¹

It is thought that it may be of value to add here, beside the

¹ Since the above was put in type I have received from Mr. W. E. Saunders a specimen of *H. f. salicicola* from Ottawa, Ont., taken Sept. 19, 1899. Being a fall specimen, it only shows the southward migration of this race extends as far west as Ottawa, or that in case the bird had followed a direct southern route, that the region directly north of Ottawa is inhabited by *H. f. salicicola*, which would be interesting as filling the gap between its western and eastern ranges.

HYLOCICHLA FUSCESCENS SALICICOLA.

Males.

Coll. No.	Collection.	Locality.	Date.	Sex.	Wing.	Tarsus.	Culmen.	Bill.	Nostril.
46261	Wm. Brewster, Cambridge	Codroy, Newfoundland	June 1, 1895	♂	4.00	1.18	.50	39	
46264	" "	" "	" 15, 1895	♂	4.10	1.13	.48	37	
46266	" "	" "	May 31, 1895	♂	4.03	1.15	.45	36	
46262	" "	" "	June 1, 1895	♂	3.76	1.20	.48	35	
46263	" "	" "	" 1, 1895	♂	4.07	1.15	.51	38	
46268	" "	" "	May 31, 1895	♂	4.02	1.22	.52	41	
46256	" "	" "	June 31, 1895	♂	3.98	1.19	.45	35	
25331	Comp. Zool., Cambridge	Mouth Blue River, Colorado	June 4, 1877	♂	4.00	1.19	.45	39	
65952	" "	Fort Rice, Dakota	" 19, 1877	♂	3.88	1.10	.46	39	
66669	Bryant, Cambridge	Charlestown, Missouri	May 9, 1879	♂	3.88	1.10	.46	39	
10882	" "	Fort Garland, Colorado	June 19, 1873	♂	3.95	1.17	.48	38	
13698	" "	Fort Bridger, Wyoming	May 28, 1858	♂	3.81	1.14	.47	38	
65893	" "	Rainy Lake River	" 29, ?	♂	3.90	1.10	.49	35	
59251	" "	Souris River	Sept. 16, 1873	♂	3.86	1.16	.52	39	
14160	" "	Fort Rice, Dakota	June 14, 1873	♂	4.00	1.14	.49	35	
41810	" "	Mont Lake, Manitoba	May 20, 1887	♂	4.02	1.20	.53	35	
63847	" "	Pembina, No. Dakota	Aug. 19, 1887	♂	4.00	1.23	.51	38 ?	
122605	" "	Shoal Lake, Manitoba	May 20, 1887	♂	3.86	1.20	.51	37	
31555	Acad. Nat. Sciences	Kamloops, British Columbia	July 14, 1892	♂	3.91	1.16	.47	39	
31554	" "	Clinton, British Columbia	" 6, 1892	♂	3.92	1.15	.47	36	
31553	" "	Bonaparte, British Columbia	" 16, 1892	♂	3.90	1.16	.48	36	
29240	" "	Dickinson Co., Iowa	June, 1881	♂	4.07	1.26	.51	35	
790	R. H. Howe, Jr., Brookline	Bristol, R. I.	Sept. 24, 1899	♂	3.85	1.13	.48	36	
Totals, average									
									3.94+
									1.16+
									.49+
									.37+

HYLOCICHLA FUSCESCENS SALICICOLA.

Females.

Coll. No.	Collection.	Locality.	Date.	Sex.	Wing.	Tarsus.	Bill.	
							Culmen.	Nostril.
46267	Wm. Brewster, Cambridge	Codroy, Newfoundland	June 16, 1895	♀	3.74	1.16	.51	.47
46266	" "	" "	" "	♀	3.77	1.13	.50	.40
46265	" "	" "	May 30, 1895	♀	3.85	1.15	.47	.36
36524	Comp. Zool., Cambridge	Newport, R. I.	Sept. 25, 1885	♀	3.75	1.15	.50	.47
118369	U. S. Nat. Mus.	(Near Spokane) Washington	June 10, 1890	♀	3.71	1.12	.49	.35
10881	" "	Fort Bridger, Wyoming	May 27, 1858	♀	3.83	1.12	.50	.35
31556	Acad. Nat. Sciences	Kamloops, British Columbia	July 14, 1892	♀	3.79	1.05	.50	.37
31557	" "	Vernon, British Columbia	Aug. 1, 1892	♀	3.78	1.11	.49	.38
31558	" "	" "	" 9, 1892	♀	3.77	1.14	.44	.32
1402	Paul Bartsch, Wash.	Altaimakee Co., Iowa	June 28, 1895	♀	3.78	1.15	.50	.35
1403	" "	" "	June 27, 1895	♀	3.65	1.18	.47	.31
1389	" "	Burlington, Iowa	Aug. 29, 1898	♀	3.76	1.19	.50	.35
Totals, average					3.77—	1.13+	.49+	.36+

HYLOCICILA FUSCESCENS.

Coll. No.	Collection.	Locality.	Date.	Sex.	Wing.	Tarsus.	Bill.	Midtill.
153	R. H. Howe, Jr., Brookline	Belmont, Mass.	May 23, 1896	♂	3.91	1.09	.50	.35
124	" " " "	" " "	" 20, 1893	♂	4.09	1.16	.49	.35
192	G. C. Shattuck, "	Brookline, "	" 17, 1896	♂	4.05	1.21	.51	.35
36	" " " "	" " "	" 13, 1894	♂	4.10	1.15	.51	.38
838	Comp. Zool., Cambridge	Cambridge, "	" 16, 1868	♂	3.95	1.19	.52	.40
8904	" " " "	Newtonville, Mass.	" 22, 1868	♂	3.55	1.15	.52	.38
23370	" " " "	Cambridge, "	" 22, 1868	♂	3.91	1.20	.59	.35
23329	" " " "	Plainfield, N. J.	" 10, 1872	♂	4.10	1.09	.48	.37
120	H. V. Greenough, Brookline	Chestnut Hill, Mass.	" 16, 1897	♂	3.69	1.16	.50	.38
118	" " " "	Washington, D. C.	June 20, ?	♂	3.77	1.12	.51	.46
12874	Bryant, Cambridge	Lynn, Mass.	May 17, ?	♂	3.58	1.08	.48	.38
18876	" " " "	" " "	May 15, ?	♂	3.76	1.11	.49	.37
	U. S. Nat. Museum	Toronto, Canada	Aug. 19, 1887	♂	4.01	1.23	.50	.38
	" " "	Sturrocke, Nova Scotia	" " "	♂	3.77	1.15	.46	.35
		Totals, average			3.92+	1.15	.49+	.37+
632	R. H. Howe, Jr., Brookline	Brookline, Mass.	May 15, 1898	♂	3.71	1.05	.48	.35
19	R. W. Gray, "	" " "	" " "	♂	3.91	1.10	.55	.37
8836	H. V. Greenough, "	Chestnut Hill, Mass.	May 27, 1896	♂	3.80	1.16	.49	.38
6764	Comp. Zool., Cambridge	Brookline, "	" 25, 1868	♂	3.70	1.19	.47	.35
8596	" " " "	Cambridge, "	" 22, 1868	♂	3.90	1.19	.50	.35
121	Bryant, Cambridge	Lynn, Maine	" 17, ?	♂	3.75	1.18	.58	.38
119	" " " "	Milton, Mass.	" 27, 1874	♂	3.64	1.16	.49	.37
108	G. F. Dippie, Toronto	Lynn, Mass.	June 6, ?	♂	3.97	1.18	.50	.38
	" " "	Toronto, Canada	May 4, 1894	♂	3.98	1.20	.50	.36
		Totals, average			3.80+	1.15+	.50+	.36+

COMPARATIVE MEASUREMENTS.

	♂				♀			
	Wing.	Tarsus.	Bill.		Wing.	Tarsus.	Bill.	
			Culmen	Nostril.			Culmen	Nostril.
<i>H. fuscescens</i>	3.92+	1.15	.49+	.37+	3.80+	1.15+	.50+	.36+
<i>H. f. salicicola</i>	3.94+	1.16+	.49+	.37+	3.77-	1.13+	.49+	.36+

Auk, XVII, Jan., 1900, pp. 18-25.

Turdus ustulatus swainsonii.

Wm. Brewster's Garden, Cambridge, Mass.

1897. An Olive-backed Thrush appeared in the garden on the
May 29. 24th, Monday. I have seen a good deal of him on the 24th,
25th, 27th, and 28th. He has kept mostly in the shrubbery and
trees in the west side of the garden and I have been very near
him on several occasions. He was singing every time and I had
a fine chance to study his song and his markings. I observed
the strong character of the spots on the breast and the light
ring about the eye. Once I got within a few feet of him and
I stood behind a bush and listened to his song to my heart's
content. On another occasion I got my glass on him as he
stood on a branch a short way off, and for fully ten minutes
I watched him. Most of the time he sat on one leg and seven
times he gaped, opening his little mandibles to their full ex-
tent. I hoped he would sing, but he never would sing when I
was looking at him. I saw him only once in the east part of
the garden when he was by the lilacs. I was not in the garden
on the 26th. Dr. Walter Faxon heard him on the 27th. I have
seen him and heard him singing both morning and afternoon.
This morning I have walked all over the place and listened
carefully, but have not found him. Has he at last left this
beautiful spot and started north?

May 30. I have been in the garden morning and afternoon, but no
Thrush. He must have gone.

June 7. The Thrush did not appear after the 28th of May.

109
Walter Deane

Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni

In full song.

Concord, Mass.

1899. In the dense pines near Pulpit Rock an Olive-backed

May 10. Thrush was in full song at sunset making the woods ring.

In full song.

To the Barrett farm by way of Davis's Hill in P.M. An

May 15. Olive-backed Thrush in full song near the spring.

Cambridge, Mass.

Nearly full song in September.

1899. One sang in The Garden almost continuously and in nearly

Sept. 21. full tones for fifteen minutes or more during a light shower
just before sunset.

Birds of Upper St. John.
Batchelder.

4. *Turdus ustulatus swainsoni* (Caban.) Coates. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.—Common at Grand Falls, especially in the hard woods and more open fir woods. At Fort Fairfield it appeared to be rather common, though seldom seen. Common and breeding at Houlton.

Bull. N. O. C., 7, April, 1882, p. 103.

Summer Birds of Sudbury, Ont.
A. R. Libberger.

758a. Olive-backed Thrush. Tolerably common. Breeds. Fresh eggs July 4th.

O. S. C., XV, June, 1890, p. 88

Turdus ustulatus swainsonii. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.—Very abundant, almost equalling in numbers the Hermit Thrush. They are usually excessively shy and difficult to obtain, although several may be singing within hearing at the same time. They frequent thick growths of spruces, and from some commanding perch pour forth their rich song. If they become aware of your approach even a gunshot or more away, they dive down into the dense undergrowth, and a few soft alarm notes are the last you hear of them. Squeaking to them will bring them to you for one brief look, which satisfies them, but not you, for they generally see you first and at close range. Sometimes they sing in the thickets of spruces, but are more apt to have a particular perch, perhaps on some towering, dead tree. I heard no songs that I had any reason to suppose were other than true *swainsonii*, for the possibility of finding *bicknelli* or *alicie* had to be kept constantly in mind. I found no young, even up to the last day of my stay, but that proves nothing with a bird so retiring. They sang more persistently and in greater numbers in the early morning and late evening hours.

Dwight, Summer Birds of Prince Edward Island.

Auk X, Jan., 1893, p. 14-15

Birds of N.E. coast of Labrador
by Henry B. Bigelow.

82, 83. *Turdus ustulatus swainsoni*. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH; *Turdus alicie*. GRAY-CHEEKED THRUSH.—One or the other of these thrushes was common as far north as Aillik. I supposed they were all the Olive-backed, but one which I took at Battle Harbor proved to be a Gray-checked which leaves me somewhat in doubt as to the identity of the others.

Auk, XIX, Jan., 1902, p. 30.

Birds of Toronto, Canada,
by James H. Fleming.
Part II, Land Birds.
Auk, XXIV, Jan., 1907, p. 86.

287. *Hyalocichla ustulata swainsonii*. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.—Common migrant, April 27 to May 26, and September 12 to October 14; earliest spring record, April 13, 1890; earliest fall record, September 1, 1906.

Turdus swainsoni

1896. Penobscot Bay, Maine.

Deer Island. June 20⁴/₇ 21⁷/₇ 22⁷/₇ 23³/₇ 24⁴/₇ 25⁵/₇ 26³/₇ 27²/₇ 28¹/₇ 29²/₇
July 1¹/₇ 2²/₇ 3²/₇ 4²/₇ 5¹²/₇ 6²/₇ 7²/₇ 8²/₇ 9³/₇ 10²/₇ 11²/₇ 12²/₇ 13²/₇ 14²/₇ 17²/₇ 18²/₇

Dumpling Island June 22⁴/₇

Grog Island - June 23²/₇

Campbell Island. July 6²/₇

July 8 Isle au Haut. Two singing & heard calling in honey woods near
the shore. Watson was ascended to the summit
of the island reports them numerous there in rich
hickories

" 9 Marshall Island. One singing.

" 15 Sedgewick. Abundant everywhere in honey woods & honey-grown pastures

" 16 Brooksville. " " " " " " " " " " " "

Birds of Dead River Region, Me. F. H. C.

2. *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*, (Olive-backed Thrush). Fairly common. More often observed in the hard wood forests around the cultivated fields of the southern portion of Franklin county, than in the dense spruce tracts further north, while in Somerset county they were more common in the northern portion. A nest containing three eggs was brought to me while at Flagstaff, "Taken from among the roots of an overturned spruce about as high as my head," was the ill-constructed phrase of the youth who secured them for me.

O. & O. XI, Aug. 1886. p. 114

Mt. Washington, N. H.

Turdus swainsonii

1884

July 11-12 Found from the base of the mountain to a tract of stunted fir, spruce, and yellow birch more than a mile above the Half-way House or midway between the 5th and 6th mile posts. (approximately 4350ft.) on the wind-swept mountain side. Over the higher parts of this range they were everywhere associated with *T. bicolor*. The song notes of these species are wholly different. A nest of *T. swainsonii* found during one ascent on the 11th contained one fresh egg. On the 12th it held two (over)

Swallow, N. H.

Turdus swainsonii

1884

July.

A few males met with in the valley but all of these at the base of the mountains saw one singing near an empty but neatly finished nest on Lyall's Brook. The ♂ sang well through the month but during the last week I saw not more than I heard more than one or two. The song of this Thrush is an intricate, rolling, flute-like yet rather wiry trill usually rising slightly at its termination but sometimes ending on the same key. The bird is especially fond of singing when the woods are dripping after (over)

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A. F. Chadbourne

second mile of carriage road

3. From the last point to 3000 feet altitude *T. u. swainsonii* was the only one seen in any numbers.

of the Thrushes

Auk, 4, April 1887, p. 108

nest was built in a low thicket
near the road about midway of
the second mile.

July 16, Sunday there were, two or
three *Sylvania* the first seen
near. All were about 100 yds.
from the second mile.
on the summit.

a thicket. We also bring my list
into the evening the *Sylvia* containing
with the amount for the last word.

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A.P. Chadbourne

second mile of carriage road

From the last point to 3000 feet altitude *T. u. swainsonii* was the only
one seen in any numbers.

of the thrushes

Aug. 4, April 1887, p. 108

83. *Hylodichia ustulata swainsonii*. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH. — This is the commonest Thrush on the lower slopes of the mountain, ranging from the base to the upper limits of the heavy timber, above which it is replaced by *bicknelli*. Although quite shy, and therefore rarely seen, its beautiful rich song — in my opinion second only to that of the Hermit — was heard at frequent intervals during my trips up the mountain, sometimes as many as three of the singers being within hearing at once.

**Eds. Obs. near Graylock Mt. Berkshire
Co. Mass. June 28-July 16. W. Faxon**

77. *Turdus ustulatus swainsonii*. SWAINSON'S THRUSH.—Not uncommon on the Saddle-Back range from about 2800 feet up to the summit of Graylock, 3505 feet. Met with sparingly as low as 2000 feet.

Auk, VI. April, 1889. p.107

Mass. (near Concord).

1887

May 11³/₇ - 21¹⁰/₇ - 23¹/₇

+ shot

Turdus swainsonii

Mass. (near Cambridge).

1887

Oct. 4²/₅ - 5⁴/₅

Turdus swainsonii

**Birds of Bristol County, Mass.
F. W. Andros.**

Turdus ustulatus swainsonii (Cab.), Olive-backed Thrush. Migrant, rare.

O. & O. XII. Sept. 1887 p. 141

Some Birds of Lewis Co., N. Y.
C. Hart Merriam

In the Eastern (Adirondack) region
T. swainsoni, is found breeding

Bull. N. O. C. 3, April, 1878. p. 53

Birds of the Adirondack Region.
C. H. Merriam.

4. *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni* (Caban.) Ridgw. OLIVE-BACKED
THRUSH. — Tolerably common summer resident, breeding throughout the
wilderness.

Bull. N. O. C. 6, Oct, 1881, p. 226

Arrivals of Mig'y Birds, Spring-1886.
Central Park, N. Y. City. A. G. Paine, Jr.

May 9, *Turdus ustulatus swainsoni*, (758a).
Olive-backed Thrush.

O. & O. XI. July. 1886. p. 109

Fall Mig. Raleigh, N. C. 1885.
76. 76. 2. C. S. Bramley.

Olive-backed Thrush, (*Hyllocichla swainsoni*).
Only one seen this Fall, on Oct. 7th and 21st.

O. & O. X, Dec. 1885, p. 183

Turdus ustulatus swainsoni. OLIVE-BACKED THRUSH.

This Thrush is in full song during its spring migration, which occupies the latter half or two-thirds of May, but is commonly silent in the autumn. It is, however, probable that singing may occasionally be indulged in that season, for I was assured by one who was familiar with the song of the species; that several were heard singing at Bay Ridge, Long Island, September 26, 1880, at the height of their migration.

On their arrival in September the new plumage has not always completed its growth. In many specimens growing feathers are scattered over the body, and often some of the remiges have their bases still soft, or even sheathed by the matrix of the feather. When the birds first appear they have begun to develop adipose tissue, and it is not long before they become excessively fat.

Auk, I, April, 1884, p. 129-130.

230

WHITE on Birds of Mackinac Island.

[Auk
July

Turdus ustulatus swainsoni - Common summer resident
departed for the south Aug. 29 - Sept. 4.

During the summer of 1891 some very interesting observations were made as to their song habits. The song of the Olive-backed Thrush begins low and ascends by two regular steps of two notes each, and ends with several sharp notes. The first note of each step is higher than the second, and the second of the next is about the same as the first note of the first step. Occasionally the whole is preceded by a sharp *chuck*. The notes have the swelling beauty of all Thrush songs, while the metallic ending rings like a little bell. The song always says to me,—*gurgle gurgle ting, che che che*. As far as my experience goes, this Thrush never sings steadily except in his chosen tree; in fact for two years one has selected for his perch a small evergreen near our cottage, and it was from him that I procured the following data.

He sings on an average nine and a half times a minute with extreme regularity. During the song periods of morning and evening his constancy of purpose is remarkable; except to seize a passing insect, he never breaks the regular recurrence of his song. From a series of records it is found that he begins on an average about 3.15 A. M., and sings steadily (of course I mean by that ten times a minute, not constantly) until about 9.00 A. M.; he is nearly silent until noon, after which he sings occasionally for a minute or so. About 4.30 he begins again, and only ceases to retire for the night about 7.30 P. M. This is a wonderful record, and were it not verified by long experience, I should myself be inclined to consider it exceptional. Allowing but eight times a minute for his songs, we have, for one day, the time consumed in song periods about eight hours and forty-five minutes, and in occasional song, at least twenty minutes, according to which there would be a total of 4,360 songs per day. His song ceased entirely about July 25, although for five days before that but half the time was employed. Certainly it would not be unfair to allow him at the very least six weeks of song, 42 days at 4000 per day, in all 168,000 songs in a season. The above facts have been many times verified.

Auk X. July, 1893 p. 230

2199-

Detroit, Mich. 1891 Notes.
B. H. Swales,

May 24. H. Allis and I went collecting in the swamps near Voight's woods.

Olive-backed Thrush; I found two nests containing four eggs each. The nests were in low bushes, and were shrouded over with green leaves, and were very pretty structures; each contained a Cowbird's egg. I never found any nests of this Thrush before.

O. & O. Vol. 18, July. 1893 p. 100

Some Birds of La Platta Co. Col. With
Annotations. C. F. Morrison.

1. *Hyloricichla ustulata swainsoni* (Caban), Midgw. Olive-backed Thrush. I took a nest with three eggs, supposed to be of this species, but as it was in the post and near where a sentry was stationed, I dared not fire my gun, as by so doing I was liable to alarm the garrison, and perhaps spend the balance of the day in the post guard-house. The nest was placed upon some dead bushes hanging over a small sluggish stream, two feet above the water, nest of grass and leaves which were moist, and so loosely constructed as to nearly fall to pieces when I removed it. Eggs with ground color, dark-blueish, and I should say spotted, not speckled, as the spots were large and almost entirely covered the ground color. I am sorry to be obliged to begin this list with such a doubtful species, but I enter it with the above remarks, for what it is worth. Found up to 5000 feet. O. & O. XIII. May. 1888 p. 70

Notes- Eggs of Thrushes & Thrashers
H. G. Parker.

Olive-backed Thrush (*Hyloricichla ustulata swainsoni*). Possibly breeds in the mountainous portions of Pennsylvania, but its habitat is Massachusetts and northward. Eggs of this species run through all the varieties exhibited in a series of the Russet-back, and no rule can be laid down for properly distinguishing the eggs of these birds in the cabinet. Eggs commonly four, rarely five, and sometimes three.

A set collected at Grand Manan, N. B., June 18, 1884, was taken from a nest in a spruce tree three feet from the ground. Eggs bright bluish green, speckled all over with reddish brown, quite pointed, .90 x .63; .89 x .64; .90 x .63.

Another set collected June 11th, 1877, also at Grand Manan, N. B., the nest which was made of roots etc., in a hollow stump about five feet from the ground, has four eggs: .94 x .70; .94 x .71; .96 x .71 and .96 x .69. Pale bluish, spotted with reddish brown, chiefly at the larger end. In three of the eggs the markings form an indistinct wreath at the larger end.

O. & O. XII. May. 1887 p. 69

The Olive-backed Thrush.

Never shall I forget my first experience with the Olive-backed Thrush. It was during that delightful period of my ornithological experience when any bird at all out of the common in occurrence, habits, or coloring, was exceedingly "rare." What was my delight, then, when late in July this species literally forced itself upon my notice. On opening the door early one morning the first object presented itself to my gaze was a little half-grown bird placidly sunning himself on the warm boards, while his wiser or more experienced mother was vainly striving to impress upon his youthful mind a more fitting fear of man. The youngster, as all youngsters are apt, thought he knew more about it than anyone else. He not only refused to leave, but submitted to handling with the utmost equanimity. Having examined him to my heart's content, I threw him into the air; at once the old bird was by his side, guiding him into the less exciting but safer confines of the wood. How anxiously did I watch the brood, hoping that they might remain until grown, that I might procure a specimen. They vanished in two days, but my disappointment was alleviated by the capture of a fine old male.

Since that long-ago experience this species has become perfectly familiar to me from four summers' observation on Mackinac Island.

The Olive-backed Thrush arrives in Kent County from the fifth to the tenth of May. Never common, a specimen or so may always be found during an afternoon walk. Unlike his brother, the Hermit Thrush, this bird prefers woods either entirely dry or of a swampy character surrounded by high-wooded hills. During migrations, however, this bird is not essentially woodland. Flocks of two or three may often be surprised in the city orchards.

Wherever found he attends strictly to his own affairs, neither obtruding himself upon your notice or exhibiting unnecessary shyness. A short *chip* is his only note at this period; his song, abundant and long, too, as you shall see, is reserved for his summer home. His stay is short, except in some favored localities, where he sometimes lingers a week beyond his time. The twenty-first of May sees the last one off.

115

... a wonderful record, and were it
... by long experience I should
... inclined to consider it excep-
... Why, just take your pencil and
... that how many songs he must utter
... le day!
... ssing the time in round numbers,
... him but eight a minute (he may
... liered while I was not looking,
...) and we have—
... of singing, one day, 500 min.
... "occasional song, 20 "
... Total, 520 "
... in. at 8 per min., 4160 songs.

... ng ceases entirely about the 25th
... although for five days before that
... al effort is somewhat relaxed,
... If the usual time being spent in
... it. However, as he must arrive
... first week in June, certainly it
... st be unfair to allow him at the
... st six weeks of vocal effort, 42
... 000 per day, 168,000 songs in a
... t record excelled probably by the
... lone.

... arm note is now *chu-rec*, with a
... brating nasal sound on the last
... Often, as with other thrushes,
... x whistle is uttered, *pee-o-o*.

... f his characteristics is that, when
... it takes a great deal to frighten
... ne can stand almost directly under
... but he will continue to sing on,
... y oblivious of your presence.
... he young hatch, little time is lost
... ginning the southward journey.
... ry abundant on the island during
... migrations, I have observed but
... agglers in Kent County during
... d. *Stewart Edward White*.

... of our readers will be pained to
... James M. Southwick, the Rhode
... turalist, has been confined to his
... ng the last ten weeks. We all
... a speedy recovery.

O. & O Vol. 17, Aug, 1892 p. 114-115

weather much the same. At such times often see flying fish. Their motion closely resembles the flight of some of the smaller Sandpipers, and indeed the

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PUBLISHED BY THE FRANK
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Vol. XVII. HYDE PARK, Md.

Bird Notes at Sea.

All summer I have been cruising off shore on a pilot boat. I expected to get material for a long article for the ORNITHOLOGIST AND OÖLOGIST, but find myself much disappointed. Species are few and well known and incidents almost entirely lacking. Our cruising ground off the coast of South Carolina, never extending much beyond Cape Romain to the north, or Tybee on the south. The greater part of the time we are out

time squally, with a high sea. One heavy storm we dragged both anchors and went ashore in the night, but were helped off again early next morning by a passing steamer.

Our boat is a comfortable forty-ton schooner, and one of the fastest on the coast. We have had some lively races with our competitors, and leave the no victories to record so far. There are three boats working against us, so we seldom have to, but spend our time either beating to windward in a heavy head sea or rushing down with slack sheets and topsails all up as soon as a speck of sea breaks the horizon line. With this view of my surroundings it will be readily seen that it has not been easy to make field notes upon the habits and manners of the few birds that I have seen.

When once we strike out into the blue

August, 1892.]

AND OÖLOGIST.

115

We again strike acquaintance on Mackinac Island about the first of July. Here the Thrushes frequent the steep bluffs covered with evergreens, in which the nests are built. Here by far his most striking characteristic, his singing power, is developed.

The song of the Olive-backed Thrush begins low, ascends by two steps of two notes each, and ends with several sharp notes. The first note of each step is higher than the second, and the second of the next is about the same as the first note of the first step. Occasionally the whole is preceded by a sharp *chuck*. The notes have the swelling beauty of all thrush songs, while the metallic ending "rings" like a little bell. The song always says to me, *gurgle gurgle ting che che che*.

As far as my experience goes, the Thrush never sings *steadily*, except in his chosen tree. In fact, for two years one has selected for his perch a small evergreen near our cottage, and it was from him that I procured the following data.

I am about to state what to most of you will seem incredible. Please remember that each of these statements has been verified again and again through successive seasons, and that I have not attempted to over rather than understate the case.

He sings on an average nine and one-half times a minute with extreme regularity. During the song periods of morning and evening his constancy of purpose is remarkable; except to seize a passing insect, he never breaks the recurrence of his song. From a long series of records it is found that he begins on an average at about 3.15 A.M., sings *steadily* (of course I mean ten times a minute with slight intermissions, not *constantly*) until about 9 A.M.; is nearly silent till noon, after which he sings occasionally for a minute or so; begins again about 4.30, and only ceases to retire for the night at 7.30 P.M.

This is a wonderful record, and were it not verified by long experience I should myself be inclined to consider it exceptional. Why, just take your pencil and figure out how many songs he must utter in a single day!

Expressing the time in round numbers, allowing him but eight a minute (he may have soldiered while I was not looking, you know) and we have—

Time of singing, one day,	500 min.
“ “ occasional song,	20 “

Total,	520 “
520 min. at 8 per min.,	4160 songs.

His song ceases entirely about the 25th of July, although for five days before that date vocal effort is somewhat relaxed, about half the usual time being spent in its pursuit. However, as he must arrive by the first week in June, certainly it would not be unfair to allow him at the very least six weeks of vocal effort, 42 days at 4000 per day, 168,000 songs in a season, a record excelled probably by the Vireos alone.

His alarm note is now *chu-rec*, with a strong vibrating nasal sound on the last syllable. Often, as with other thrushes, a soft low whistle is uttered, *pec-o-o*.

One of his characteristics is that, when singing, it takes a great deal to frighten him. One can stand almost directly under his tree, but he will continue to sing on, seemingly oblivious of your presence.

After the young hatch, little time is lost before beginning the southward journey. While very abundant on the island during autumnal migrations, I have observed but a few stragglers in Kent County during that period. *Stewart Edward White*.

Many of our readers will be pained to learn that James M. Southwick, the Rhode Island naturalist, has been confined to his bed during the last ten weeks. We all wish him a speedy recovery.

O. & O Vol. 17, Aug, 1892 p. 114-115

Turdus aonalarchkae pallasii

B. F. = Bannister
B. H. = Ball's Hill

- Monday
January 12⁽⁷⁰⁾ 1891 7. 14⁽¹⁸⁸²⁾ 12. Concord
April 14² 15¹ 16¹ 25¹ 26¹ 27¹ 1891. 200 days. 1891
" 15¹ 17¹ 19¹ 23¹ 24² 25³ 26⁵ 30² Concord 5^(Farm) 1892
" 8¹ 29^(Jan) 30^(Jan) 1893
" 30^(Jan) 1894
" 16¹ 17¹ 21¹ 1896 17th. Baiter 1897 18¹ 19¹ 20¹ 21¹ 22¹ 23¹ 24² 29¹ Concord 1^(Baiter) 1898
May 100. 2³ 3⁴ 4¹ 5¹ 6³ 7² 8² 29¹ Concord 1892
" 9² 1897. 1897. 5¹ 6¹ 7¹ 8¹ 13¹ Concord 1898
April 15¹ 18³ 23² 24¹ Concord 1894
June 8¹ 9¹ 10³ 11¹ Plymouth woods 1894
July 6¹⁰ 19¹ 1890. 23² 24¹ 1892. 20¹ 1894
February 27¹ 28¹ 1891
August
Aug.
September 27¹ 28¹ 1891
October 21² 22³ 23³ 24¹ Concord 1896.
" 18¹ 19¹ 20¹ 21¹ 22¹ 23¹ 24¹ 1897.
" 18¹ 19¹ 20¹ 21¹ 22¹ 23¹ 24¹ 25¹ 26¹ 28¹ 30¹ Concord 1898
" 21² 23³ 24¹ 27² 30¹ Concord 25¹ N.D. 1899
" 2¹ 3¹ 4¹ 8¹ 17¹ 18¹ 19¹ 20¹ 22¹ 23¹ 24² 25¹ 26¹ 28¹ 29¹ 30¹ 31¹ 1891.
" 9¹ 18¹ 21¹ 22¹ 24³ 25¹ 27¹ 28¹ 30¹ 31¹ Concord 1892
" 25¹ 26¹ 31¹ 1893 13¹ 19¹ 20¹ 1894 7¹ 9¹ 18¹ 20¹ 22¹ Concord 1895
Nov. 5¹ 6¹ 30¹ 1891 13¹ 6¹ 1892 1893 12¹ 15¹ 17¹ 1894
" 3¹ 1895 3¹ 1898 1¹ 21¹ 1899 Concord 1899

pallasii

Turdus pallasi

1889

Mass.

April

Milwau Highlands. - "What has become of the Hermit Thrushes? For the Scarcity at Milwau in Spring
past two Springs they have been rare. So far this season I have seen but four birds! (Bradford Torrey letter Apr. 30/89) 7/1888-1889

Belmont (?) - "Faxon's experience with Hermit Thrushes is like mine. He saw them only twice (Apr. 13 & 14) last month - one bird in each case - I caught a single strain of a Hermit's song yesterday morning (May 2) and saw a single bird in the afternoon. That is all for this month" (Torrey letter May 3/89) Early singing

Concord. - Dr. Faxon tells me that he has heard this Thrush in full song in the breeding season at Walden Pond near the site of Thoreau's house and at White Pond. This within two or three years (June 1888) Distribution

July 14 Beverly Farms. Two ♂♂ heard singing in hemlock & white pine woods not over 1/4 of mile from sea coast. Distribution
by H. A. Purdie.

Cape Cod. Mr. Outram Bangs, who spends much time in early summer Abundant on
bird fishing on Cape Cod, tells me that Hermit Thrushes are very generally Cape Cod
distributed there and in most places among the most abundant breeding birds. He showed me a nest containing 2 eggs which were far advanced in incubation, taken at Sandwich, Aug. 1, 1881, and another with set of 4 fresh eggs collected at Monument, July 16, 1881. Late date of
breeding

1891

April 15 Cambridge. - A Hermit visited my garden this forenoon staying in the pear orchard for some time flying down to the ground and back into the trees again every minute or two. Saw them on the Payson place yesterday and others were observed at Brookline by C. E. Faxon. None reported earlier. W. Faxon saw three in Belmont to-day.

Turdus pallasi

1894 Mass.

Dec. Walden Hills. Hoffmann tells me (Jan. 6/95) that Forey has found a Hermit wintering at Walden Hills.

1895.

April-May A single Hermit seen by Faxon in Arlington in April is the only individual reported hereabouts this Spring. It is for they have dropped the same note as the Bluebirds during the cold snap in the South last February

Scarcity in Spring very

I notice you say that some hermit thrush eggs are said to be spotted. It may interest you to know that I have one marked with a few little dots. I took it from a set of three which I found in Bridgewater, N.H., on Aug. 1, 1883. ^{shot the bird} The other two eggs were slain ^{at} Aug. 9 of the same year at the same place, I found another Hermit's nest with three eggs, one of which was dotted in the same way. I left that one and took one of the others. That was when I took only one egg from each nest. The eggs taken were both fresh and were I suppose from second broods.

Spotted eggs.

^{Francis H. Allen letter May 21, 1895}

Turdus palmarum

1895 N.H.
Mar 26 to Warren, Woodstock etc. Faxon & I found Hermits very scarce.
June ? As nearly as we could judge there were not over ten per cent
as many as we found in this region last year.

Mass.

June 16 Waltham "I have been several times in the woods beside the
driving about I do near home. I have heard just
one" Hermit Thrush. (O. Bangs, letter June 16, 1895.)
July 11 "A few Hermit Thrushes have turned up but only a few"
(O. Bangs letter July 11, 1895)

Waverly, Mass.

This afternoon in the grove by the Waverly Hospital—besides
three Robins—there was a dear Hermit Thrush;—the first one I ever
found in winter

Walter Faxon (letter January 12, 1891).

Waverly
Arlington, Mass.

Hoffmann visited my Hermit Thrush ground later in the month,
and found two there, feeding on the privet berries. It is the same
spot where I saw one last winter in January. It looks as if the
Hermit's presence here in winter was hardly an accident. Did you
know that Bolles saw one last month in Cambridge?

Walter Faxon (letter March 3, 1892).

1895

Oct. 19-31 Concord. "Hermit Thrushes have been more numerous
than for several years past. I saw five on the 22^d
during a drive to Carlisle & back." Journal.

Turdus a. pallaskii,

1898 Mass.

Apr. 17-23 Cambridge. One was seen a heard every day in the garden.
He sang softly this forenoon (23^d). [Jann.]

May 5 Concord. Heard one this evening singing on one of the oak-leaved
hills on the Blackmore lot. It sang for about five minutes in loud
but somewhat broken tones. Rain was falling at the time and
the twilight was far advanced. [Jann.]
Mass., Berkshire Co.

July 2-4 Gardale (in a near). I noted two singing. [Jann.]

1901

Oct. 26-29 Cambridge - Carl caught in his hands on the morning
of Oct. 26 an adult Hermit Thrush - It was seen on
Drewster St. and it was unable to fly - It ran into
the garden through the wire fence and was there
caught. One wing was injured, but not broken.
We put it into a cage and gave it Mocking
Bird food but I did not see it touch it, I
saw it drink water. It scarcely fluttered in the
cage and soon was very tame. On the 28th
it sat on my finger and took pieces of worms
from my fingers. It put it out of doors in
the sun and it put its head under its wing
and seemed to sleep. On the morning
of the 29th it was dead in the cage -
Walter Deane.

Turdus a. nallasii.

Phillips Academy, Andover, Mass.

1898. Hermit Thrushes are also rather common about this pond
June 17. (Foster's Pond in the southern part of the town) though I
have not met with them elsewhere.

Extract from letter of Howard I. Ford.

YALE NATIONAL BANK

New Haven, Conn. Dec. 28 1892

Dear Mr. Brewster

While shooting on Monday, 26th inst
I took a ♀ Hermit Thrush. a remarkable
capture as the snow here is about four inches
deep & it was cold upon dissection
the left breast showed a protuberance
with four or five yellowish spots showing through the
flesh and these spots about the size of
when examined were hard as stone and
there appeared to be an orifice extending through
the sternum slightly filled with pus. On
opening the body there was found an
irregular ossified substance beneath the
sternum and beneath the contour of
protuberance alluded to above it is the
most peculiar thing I ever saw in
this line and I send the body to you
to do as you may examine it
Will write again later

Yours Dr. W. G. Gillet

(over)

The bird was apparently in perfect health - fairly fat - and took three flights of 10 or 12 rods each before it fell to my Parker humblers

Massachusetts.

Turdus a. pallasi.

1884.

- April 25. Concord. As I came out into Pratt's pasture a Hermit Thrush began singing among the Scotch pines. It uttered three or four bars and then ceased. I never heard a migrant sing in Mass. before.
- May 5. About noon a Hermit Thrush sang for a minute or more with me, among the oaks just above my cabin.
- Oct. 25. The heavy flight of Hermit Thrushes noted yesterday passed on during the night but there were still plenty of birds left. I saw them most often in birches and feeding on barberries in the pastures. Both yesterday and today they were very evenly distributed. Usually one or two birds in each corner and never more than three together in one place.

Scarcity of Thrushes.

Concord, Mass.

1893. One of the most marked phenomena of this interesting
May 22. spring is the extreme scarcity of some of the small Thrushes.
The Hermit Thrushes passed us in such very small numbers that
Hoffman saw only four, Faxon but two or three, while I met
with just one! The Wilson's Thrushes appeared at about the
usual time and in fair numbers but not a single Olive-back or
Gray-cheek has been as yet reported. Faxon thinks they are
yet to come but it seems to me more probable that they have
followed the example of the Hermits and passed north by some
other route.

Turdus a.pallasii.

Concord, Mass.

Scarcity.

1894. Hermits Thrushes have been exceptionally scarce. There
Oct. 11 was a solitary bird at Ball's Hill on the 12th, 15th & 17th of
to
Nov. 21. November. On the first of these dates when the ground was
covered with snow to the depth of five or six inches I saw
this bird, a little ^{after} sunset, eating black alder berries in a
swamp.

Turdus a. pallasii.

Peterborough, New Hampshire.

1898. If the Hermit Thrushes of this region suffered serious
July 5 losses in the South during the terrible winter of a few win-
to ters ago (their numbers have been since materially diminished
Aug. 15. ^{years}
 in most parts of New England) they must have recovered very
 rapidly for I have never seen them more abundant than they
 have been here this season. During July they were singing
 almost everywhere and in white pine-woods and old pastures
 growing up to pines and spruces one might often hear two or
 three - and sometimes even four - males at once. They were
 in full song up to and including August 2nd when they ceased
 very abruptly and generally although I heard a bird singing
 continuously on the evening of August 6th and another at the
 same hour on the following evening. During July they sang
 more or less freely through the day when the weather was
 cloudy or cool, but when it was clear and warm they were or-
 dinary silent except in the early morning and at evening.

I noticed that at evening, after finishing singing, they
regularly called to one another for several minutes before
going to sleep, using chiefly the low, whining, canary-like
e-e-e-e but also giving, not infrequently, the clear, whist-
ling note which they use when migrating at night.

Hylocietula g. pallasii.

Concord, Mass.

1899. A Hermit Thrush was singing gloriously but sotto voce in April 24. a dense thicket of white pines on the Barrett farm this afternoon. Rarely have I heard a finer performance although at a distance of thirty yards I could only just hear the lower notes. I estimated the distance by the bird's cluck for I did not see him.

Peterborough, New Hampshire.

1899. Numbers reduced about one half from those of last year. July & Aug. The reduction was not uniform over the whole region for in some localities - as in the swale near the Day's - the birds were as common as usual but in many places where we found them last season they were wholly absent this. They sang regularly up to August 5th this year.

Cambridge, Mass.
- Garden -

Hylœichla f. pallasi.

1903

Dec. 16

At eleven o'clock this morning as I was sitting in my room in the Museum I saw a Hermit Thrush, in the small triangular plot between my window and the catalpa tree, some ten feet away from me - It was very active and was engaged in scratching and pecking. It flew into the lilacs and I saw it eating barberries in the bush in front of the Museum. The mercury this morning at 7.30 was 16° above zero - I saw the bird for about half an hour.

Dec. 17

Clear and cold - Mercury here at 7.30 Am. 9° above zero & a light fall of snow last night whitened the ground, bare before. About ~~about~~ half past ten this morning I saw the Thrush again in the garden. It is very active and strong of wing, flying briskly here and there, and scratching upon the lilacs - Once it sat for at least five minutes in the ~~Helleborus~~ tree near my window, hunched itself up, raised & lowered continually its rufous tail and clucked steadily. A Chickadee and female Downy kept it company part of the time, while a Golden-crested Kinglet flitted about near by, and a male White-breasted Nuthatch in the neighboring cherry tree alighted in the swinging tray and took off a cornel of corn. At 11.30 it came up close under my window and spent some minutes eating snow. I saw the Thrush last at 4 P.M., hopping over the ground at pecking up bits. It hid in the catalpa very near the front one - It flies well.

Hyllocichla g. pellarisii

1903

Dec. 18

Clear, cold, mercury at 7.30, 10° -

This afternoon at 3 o'clock the Hermit Thrush appeared in front of my window - It hopped about picking up here + there - On the 16th I saw it picking up bits of Suet that had fallen under the lamp hanging from the ceiling, the Downies, Chickadees and Nuthatches drop bits when feeding. This afternoon it flew to the barberry bush and I saw it eat at least one berry - It flew from the adjoining Duce and took a berry in the wing, alighting on the ground and swallowing it.

Dec. 19

Clear, cold, mercury at 7.30, 10° rising to 33° at sun.

The Thrush has been here all day. I saw it first at 8.30. At 9 o'clock I sprinkled bread crumbs over the ground in front of my window and during the morning it feed freely upon them, sometimes hopping about among the English Sparrows. I saw it last about 3.30 when Mr. Brauser who came in saw it too. He has been away all the week, the Thrush has eaten a good deal of food to-day, picking it up eagerly - The ground is almost bare. Twice to-day I saw it fly into the barberry bush in front of the Museum and once or twice I saw it pull off and eat berries. It seems to be a perfectly well bird.

Dec. 20

Very rainy - H.M. Spelman heard + saw the Thrush to-day.

Hylocichla g. pallasii

1903

Dec. 21

Clear, mild, mercury 40°-50°.

Yesterday, being Sunday, I did not come here. It rained and blew hard all day -

This morning, at about 9.30 o'clock my Hermit Thrush appeared and came off and on during the morning, feeding on the bread crumbs that I put out. He shows no fear of the English Sparrows, but feeds amongst them and on more than one occasion I have seen it go straight for a Sparrow that had a bit of bread in its bill and take it away and eat it. I saw the Thrush last at 3.30 this afternoon.

Dec. 22

Cloudy, clearing in middle of morning, rest of day clear. Mild-melting.

The Thrush has been about all day as usual.

Dec. 23

Clear, above 32°.

The Thrush has been about, morning & afternoon.

Dec. 24

Cloudy, above 32°.

I saw the Thrush to-day at 3 & 3.35 P.M. before my window - It was very vigorous.

Dec. 26

Driving snow storm all the morning. Cloudy still P.M.

This morning the Thrush passed my window three times hopping in the snow - The crumbs that I put out were quickly covered by snow.

Hy. weickela f. pallarii

1903

Dec. 28

Mercury fell on the night of the 26th to 5° below zero. Yesterday was cold - Last night was about 20° above. To-day has been clear and cold about 20° above, snow covers the ground.

I saw the Thrush at 9.30 Am and 2.30 Pm. This morning he sat for a good while in the Halenia tree, then flew down and alighted in the deep snow which he ate greedily - then he took some bread crumbs under my window - This afternoon I saw him fly across the garden and alight in the barberry bush in front of the Museum where he ate at least two barberries. Shortly after he flew to the Halenia again, and soon flew straight away vigorously nearly to Brewster St. and up into a tree.

Dec. 29

Cloudy, flakes in the air - mercury 3°+ on the night.
4°+ at 7.30 Am.

The Thrush was in sight at 9.30 Am. & 12.30 Pm. On both occasions he flew with ease across the garden. He ate crumbs on the flooring -

Dec. 30

Clear, cold

I was away this Am. Gilbert saw the Thrush at 11 Am.

Dec. 31

Clear cold

I did not see the Thrush to-day.

1904

Jan. 1

Hyalocichla g. pallorisi

Clear, cold

I saw the Thrush this morning at 10.15. It is in the cherry tree that the tray swings from in company with some English Sparrows. It looked as if it wanted to alight on the tray but it didn't do so. Soon it hopped down into the snow and jumped about picking here & there and occasionally alighting on dead flower stalks. Then it flew to the Silver Bell tree where it stayed a while. At 10.30 it flew off. I saw it no more during the day -

Jan 4

Clear, 4° below zero at 8 A.M.

A heavy storm of snow with low temperatures raged on the 2^d and till the morning of the 3^d. It seemed impossible for the Thrush to live. I did not see it on the 2^d when I was here all day and yesterday the 3^d, being Sunday, we were all away. This morning, however, at 9 o'clock as I was leaving my house on 29 Brewster St. I saw the Thrush sitting in the maple tree close by our steps on the right. It looked perfectly well. In a minute it flew to the tree on Mrs. Hammond's place and then to the vines by her front door where it perched on the top of them, leaving there some and flying away. Everything indicated perfect health on the part of the bird. I saw it no more today. The snow lies deep everywhere and the cold is intense.

Hylocichla g. pallasii

1904

Jan. 11

During the past week the weather has been very cold and another heavy fall of snow has occurred. The mercury has ranged between $28^{\circ} + 3^{\circ}$ at night, and $38^{\circ} + 37^{\circ}$ in the day since Jan. 4.

I have been at home with a bad cold since noon on Dec. Jan. 6. This morning I came to the Museum, and, looking out of the window at 9 o'clock, there was our Thrush sitting composedly in the Silver Bell tree, looking bright & happy. Gilbert & I watched him for about five minutes, when he flew to the catalpa near my south east window. He remained there a moment and then flew away round the building in front. I put out bread crumbs, but saw no more of him all day -

Jan. 15

Clear, mercury between 28° & 30° . Snow everywhere. This noon at 12.30 Gilbert & I saw the Thrush on the catalpa tree by my window. He flew off very soon. At 2.30 P.M. I saw him on the pavement by the side gate. I got very close - He flew to the bush close by where I watched him a while but a few yards away. Then he flew round the Museum, calling.

Jan. 24

The Thrush was seen this morning in Mr. Bear's place, Beattie St., by Mr. T. V. Kidder. I have not seen it since the 15th inst.

Hylocichla g. pallasii

1904

Jan. 26

This morning at half past nine o'clock I saw the Thrush in the garden on the big cherry tree close to the suet. He sat there quietly for about five minutes, elevating occasionally his red tail. A female Downy, anxious to get at the suet, got too near at last, and the Thrush flew to the Silver Bell tree and then to the Barbary bushes beyond, where he pulled away at some barberries. Then he flew to the cherry tree just beyond and from there round the building. I saw him all about ten minutes.

I saw him again at quarter of eleven in the Silver Bell tree where he sat for five minutes before flying round the front of the building. From the study window I was about two feet from him. He is in fine plumage.

Feb. 8

After an absence of thirteen days the Thrush appeared to-day at twelve o'clock. He may have been here, but he eluded my sight, if so. I saw him with some English Sparrows on the lawn, which lies deep everywhere, as it has for weeks, upon the Benzoin bush near my window. He soon hopped into the bush and raised his tail several times, showed his spotted breast, then flew into the adjoining barberry bush, ate some barberries and soon flew vigorously past my window round the museum out of sight. December 16 to February 8 is the record thus far -

Hylocichla g. pallasii

1904

Feb. 9

Clear, cold morning about 5° below zero
last night.

I saw the Thrush to-day at noon in
the barberry bush in front of the Museum.
He ate me a new barberry. He has wi-
dely picked off all within easy reach, and
he found it hard to reach any. He soon
flew off by the front of the Museum.

Mar. 21

I have not seen the Thrush since Feb. 9

Walter Deane.

June 10. — Flushed a Hermit Thrush, *Hylocichla unalascae pallasii*. Between you and I, Mr. Editor, do you think it is a square deal to give this innocent bird such a name? Don't you think if that bird had to sign his name often, say as president of a silver mining company with well watered stock, don't you think he would — *dash* Mr. Ridgway and tri-nominals? O confess to a strong desire to cling to the "Turdus" of other days, but I suppose I must display my acquaintance with the "new nomenclature" or, like the fellow who the grave digger in Hamlet condemns for not having been at court, I shall be "surely damned" in the eyes of your scientific readers. Well, this long named party got up off three eggs laid in a nest on the ground under the protecting shade of a low bending limb of a spruce tree. A visit to the nest two days after determined the fact that it had been deserted, and Mr. Banks says "I have observed that this species of bird frequently deserts a nest after it has been discovered."

S. Johns, N. B. M. Chamberlain
 April.
 O + O. VII. 1882. p. 112.

Summer Bds. Restigouche Valley, N. B.
 July, '85. J. Brittain and P. Cox, Jr.

Turdus aonalaschke pallasii. HERMIT THRUSH.—Observed everywhere.

Ank, VI. April, 1889, p. 119

Birds of Upper St. John,
 Batchelder,

3. *Turdus pallasii Caban*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Common. One nest taken May 30 at Grand Falls was about three feet from the ground in a small fir tree.

Bull. N. O. C. 7, April, 1882, p. 100

Summer Birds of Bras D'Or Region
 Cape Breton Id., N. S. J. Dwight, Jr.

58. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*.

Ank, 4, Jan., 1887, p. 10

Birds, Haute Island, Bay of Fundy, July
 26, 1887. W. L. Bishop, Kentville, N. S.

Hermit Thrush, *Turdus ^{pallasii} ~~mussetianus~~*; very common.

O. & O. XII, Sept. 1887 p. 145

Birds of Magdalen Islands.
 Dr. L. B. Bishop.

65. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Common, bred in on most of the islands. I was quite surprised to find a single bird of this species apparently thoroughly at home on Great Bird Rock. A more unsuitable place for a bird fond of the deep woods cannot be imagined.

Ank, VI. April, 1889, p. 149-150

Long Island Bird Notes. Wm. Dutcher

24. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—A case of the probable breeding of this Thrush on Long Island has come to my notice through the kindness of Mr. Charles Earle, of New York City. On the 23d of September, 1878, near Lake Ronkonkoma, he secured a Thrush of this species in the nesting plumage, and on the next or the following day another in the same plumage. Both specimens show conclusively that they are very young birds, each being in the undeveloped feather-stage peculiar to altricial birds just leaving the nest. As both specimens were taken in the same neighborhood, it is presumable that they were nest companions, although one is some days more developed than the other. I have shown them to Mr. J. A. Allen, who informs me that he knows of no instance of such immature birds migrating.

Ank, 3, Oct., 1886, p. 443-444.

Hermit Birds of Sudbury, Ont.
H. Alberger.

7596. Hermit Thrush. Tolerably common.

O. & O. 17, Dec. 1890, p. 83

Birds within Ten Miles of Point
de la Roche, Can. Comeau & Merriam

2. *Turdus aonalaschæ nanus*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Tolerably common;
breeds.

N. O. C., 7, Oct. 1882, p. 234

Ornithological Trip to St. Bruno, P. Q.
May 20, 1885, E. D. Wintle, Montreal.

Hermit Thrush, scarce. Found a nest contain-
ing four eggs incubated; bird on the nest was
identified. It was well concealed in a grassy
bank on the outskirts of a woody ridge. This bird
was remarkably shy when I approached the nest,
which I did several times. It would slip quickly
off the nest and then keep out of sight until I hid
myself, when it would return to the nest.

O. & O. XI, May, 1886, p. 75

Last Dates Migratory Birds observed by
E. D. Wintle, Fall 1885, Montreal, Can.

Oct. 18. Hermit Thrush,

O. & O. XI, Mar. 1886, p. 44.

Dwight's Summer Birds of
Prince Edward Island.

Turdus aonalaschæ pallasii. HERMIT THRUSH.—Slightly more
abundant than the preceding species, and perhaps more generally dis-
tributed. The songs and notes of this species have been so frequently
confused with those of other Thrushes, particularly with those of the
Olive-backed Thrush, that an effort on my part to call attention to the
differences that exist between them may not be without interest. The
deliberate character of its song is in marked contrast to that of *swainsonii*
and its musical ability is more varied. The usual song dies out without
the rising inflection of *swainsonii*, and there is a pause after the first syl-
lable, while in *swainsonii* there is no pause and the second syllable is
strongly accented, the whole song being quickly delivered. The Hermit
Thrush has also a nasal note of complaint in two elided syllables, a cluck
like a Blackbird, and a lisp not unlike a Cedarbird. The nasal note has
its counterpart in *swainsonii* which utters a similar, but more liquid
note, and the cluck of *pallasii* may be compared with a 'puk' or 'pink' (as
near as it can be represented) of *swainsonii*. The lisp is peculiar to
pallasii, while there is a queer multiple note of soliloquy peculiar to
swainsonii.

Auk X, Jan, 1893, p. 10

Birds of Toronto, Canada,
by James H. Fleming
Part II, Land Birds
Auk, xx (1907), p. 86.

288. *Hylocichla guttata pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Abundant mi-
grant, April 13 to May 10, and September 23 to October 23; earliest
spring record, April 8, 1898; earliest fall record, September 19, 1906;
there are several late records (November 20, 1901), and Dr. K. C. Mellwraith
observed one from November 21, 1903, to the following January.

Absence of *Turdus aonalaschkæ pallasii* at Tadousac, Quebec, in 1896.—The almost complete absence of the Hermit Thrush from the vicinity of Tadousac during the summer of 1896 was very noticeable. During six weeks spent there in June and July, the only evidence I found of the presence of the birds was a single family seen one day late in July. In other years this species has been nearly as abundant as the Olive-backed Thrush (*T. u. swainsonii*), and many of each could be heard every day, but last summer the Olive-backs alone were heard, and I wondered where the Hermits had gone. The freeze of a couple of winters ago which was so destructive to the Bluebirds in the Southern States, doubtless is responsible, in part at least, for the sudden diminution in the number of Hermits, and I have already seen some allusion made to this species as one of the sufferers. — JONATHAN DWIGHT, JR., M. D., *New York City*.

Turdus pallasi

1896

Penobscot Bay, Maine.

Deer Island - June 20² 21² 22¹ 23¹ 24¹ 25² 26¹ 27¹ 28¹
July 1¹ 3¹ 4¹ 5¹ 6² 7¹ 8¹ 9² 10¹ 11¹ 12¹ 13¹ 14²

July 8 Ile au Haut. Two males singing & bird with brood of young seen.

June 22 A Hermit this evening sang after the last Swainson's Thrush had
ceased but a Robin sang later still.

Maine Notes.

Hylocichla unalascae pallasii (Caban.) Ridgw. HERMIT THRUSH.—
These birds breed commonly with us every year (Bangor). Their eggs
are usually taken early in June, but I find among my notes the record of
a set taken August 5, 1873, at Dedham, Maine, the eggs being but slightly
incubated. This would seem to be presumptive evidence for the belief
that these birds raise two broods in a season.

Harry Merrill, Bangor, Me.

Bull. N. O. C. 7, July, 1882, p. 191.

Maine
(near Bangor)

Turdus pallasii

Fresh eggs in August

I found a nest of the Hermit Thrush August 13th with
three eggs. The bird was setting on them, but I think she did
not finish laying.

--- Manley Hardy, --- Letter of September
13th, 1889.

Summer Residents on Southwest
Coast of Maine. T. B. Montgomery, Jr.

750b. Hermit Thrush. Shot an adult and
a young ♂ at Boothbay.

October 20, 1889

Birds of Dead River Region, Me. F. H. C.

3. *Hylocichla ustulata pallasi*, (Hermit Thrush). One of the typical birds of the dense forests of Maine, the Hermit Thrush was commonly found in this region. In the spring this species is more conspicuous, as at that period of the year it bursts forth into song, but during the latter part of summer when passing through the woods I have seen many of these birds sitting on the limb of some spruce tree, motionless and alone, scarcely flying out of reach when approached. Owing to such demeanor they were easily overlooked, even by the few who penetrate the vast silent forest they inhabit. A nest was found containing young, in the alder swamp near Tim Pond. It was placed on a dry mound, in a heap of rubbish left by the spring flood. The nest was a frail affair, but could not be examined, owing to its contents. The song of the Hermit Thrush is exquisite, and during the first part of June it was heard at morning and evening. The song of birds is about the only part of their life habits which can not be given on paper, and I have noticed that scarcely do two persons interpret a song the same, both will have a different rendering of the same song, this may be in part due to the state of the feelings

of the hearer; in my own case it has been very apparent with the song of the species under consideration. When after a hard day's tramp, I have lain wrapped in my blanket under the friendly protection of a wide branching hemlock, listening to my guide as he related some tradition handed down from the days when his ancestors' wigwams stood on the banks of the fair Penobscot until drowsy nature nearly asserted herself, then the vesper song of the Hermit Thrush distinctly uttered far up on the mountain side, would fill the air with its sweet strains, and at its cadence both of us, stoical half-breed and tired civilian, would under the influence repose into a dreamless slumber; yet on the morrow morn, when standing in the bow of the frail birch-bark canoe, held tremblingly among the rushing rapids of Spencer stream by the brawny arm of my companion, with nerves strung to high tension, as I endeavored to bring to net a vigorous two pound trout with an eight ounce split-bamboo for my rod, and when successful and the toothsome fish lay in the canoe, then the matin hymn of the Hermit Thrush as it sounded clear on the morning breeze seemed to my ear like the triumphant pean of victory, but perhaps the critic, unmoved by surrounding circumstances, could have perceived no variation from the notes uttered at eventide.

O. & O. XI. Aug. 1886. p. 114

Profile House, N. H. Aug. 1-12; 1867.

Turdus pallasi. - Common, singing freely at sunrise and sunset.

^{3 singing}
Turdus pallasi. - July 27 Eye Beach, N. H. 1871.

^{Young on wing.}
Turdus pallasi. - July 28, 30; Aug. 5 Eye Beach, N. H. 1872.

Eye Beach, N. H. July 23-24 1885.

Turdus pallasi. - One ♂ singing (24th)

Turdus pallasi. - Aug. 6 Profile House N. H. July 27-Aug. 7. 1886

Shelburne, N. H.

Turdus pallasi

1884.

July

The most abundant thrush throughout the valley haunting, by preference wood edges bordering the hillside pastures (often in hardwood groves) and the extensive dry white pine groves so common here. The males were in full song throughout the month, their musical order showing scarcely any diminution towards its close. In cloudy or lowering weather they sang continuously throughout the day. At other times chiefly in the early morning and after sunset. With the Olive-backed & Veery they

Notes: A rather loud but soft
chirp and a complaining
whistle.

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A. P. Chadbourne

46. *Turdus aonalaschkae pallasi*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Saw nothing of the bird except on the way up the mountain by the carriage road. It was common as far as the second mile post, but none were seen beyond with the exception of a single specimen seen at an elevation of 3300 feet.

Auk, 4, April 1887, p. 108

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A. P. Chadbourne

2. From the low intervalle lands nearly to the second mile of the carriage road *T. a. pallasi* outnumbered *T. u. swainsonii*.

Auk, 4, April 1887, p. 108

Profile House, N. H. Aug. 1-12, 1867.

Turdus pallasi. - Common, keeping freely at heron and hermit.

Turdus pallasi. - July 27^{38 miq} Rye Beach, N. H. 1871.

Turdus pallasi. - July 25, 30; Aug. 5^{Young on bird.} Rye Beach, N. H. 1872.

Rye Beach, N. H. July 23-24 1885.

Turdus pallasi. - One & five in (24th) ..

Turdus pallasi. - Aug. 6 Profile House N. H. July 27-Aug. 7, 1888.

This Turdus was abundant at the Presidential House Rye Beach (elevation 1650 feet) from 27 July 1871 to July 27. It was usually applied to get a report of me at heron house & the herons. I saw it on July 17 & it was very common. It was abundant at the Presidential House Rye Beach (elevation 1650 feet) from 27 July 1871 to July 27. It was usually applied to get a report of me at heron house & the herons. I saw it on July 17 & it was very common. It was abundant at the Presidential House Rye Beach (elevation 1650 feet) from 27 July 1871 to July 27. It was usually applied to get a report of me at heron house & the herons. I saw it on July 17 & it was very common. It was abundant at the Presidential House Rye Beach (elevation 1650 feet) from 27 July 1871 to July 27. It was usually applied to get a report of me at heron house & the herons. I saw it on July 17 & it was very common. It was abundant at the Presidential House Rye Beach (elevation 1650 feet) from 27 July 1871 to July 27. It was usually applied to get a report of me at heron house & the herons. I saw it on July 17 & it was very common.

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A. P. Chadbourne

46. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Saw nothing of the bird except on the way up the mountain by the carriage road. It was common as far as the second mile post, but none were seen beyond with the exception of a single specimen seen at an elevation of 3300 feet.

Auk, 4, April 1887, p. 108

Summer Birds of Presidential Range,
White Mts. A. P. Chadbourne

2. From the low intervale lands nearly to the second mile of the carriage road *T. a. pallasii* outnumbers *T. u. swainsonii*.

Auk, 4, April 1887, p. 108

Birds Obsvd. near Holderness, N.H.
June 4-12, '85, and 4-11, '86. W. Faxon

63. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Common.
Auk, V. April, 1888. p.151

Bds. Obs. at Franconia and Bethlehem
N.H. July-August, 1874. J.A. Allen

48. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. Common.
Auk, V. April, 1888. p.156

Bds. Obs. in Franconia, N.H. June 11-21
'86, and June 4-Aug. 1, '87. W. Faxon

83. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Common.
Auk, V. April, 1888. p.153

Birds Obs. at Moultenboro, N.H.
July 21-Aug. 11, 1888. F.H. Allen

- Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*.—Quite common.
Auk, VI. Jan., 1889. p. 79

Birds Obs. at Bridgewater, N.H.
July 12-Sept. 4, 1888. F.H. Allen

- Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*.—Common.
Auk, VI. Jan., 1889. p. 77

Bird Notes, Central N.H. Winter '91-92
J. H. Johnson

Hermit Thrush, November 9th.

O. & O. Vol. 17, May 1892 p. 72

1884

Quite as common in the valley
as I have ever seen it elsewhere
in New England. On the 16th we
heard the song of a Hermit family
as we stood on the very crest of Mt
Woodlark but the bird was far
below us probably near the bottom
of Joidenell Ravine.

The Hermit does not sing so late
into the evening as does the
Swainson's Thrush. July 2nd we
heard the last bird at 8 P. M.
while several Swainson's were singing
at 8.15 & the last at 8.19 P. M.

Swainson's Thrush

1884

5222

84. *Hylocichla aonalaschkæ pallasii*. HERMIT THRUSH.—During my first visit to the mountain in 1899, I listened in vain for the Hermits, and in 1900, I heard but one. They are certainly not numerous at the base of the mountain where I stayed, and I am quite sure there were none on the mountain or along the Notch road. Mr. Torrey writes me, however, that at the time of his visit in 1885, he heard the Hermit near the summit, "singing freely."

Mrs. Straw reports them as rather common at certain points lower down the valley.

—see HYLOCICHLA, Vol. 1, 1901, p. 347.

Turdus pallasi

Spring notes - 1883

Cambridge, April 12. One shot by Spelman in the
Fresh Pond Grove.

Turdus pallasi
1886 April 10th

Mass. - near Cambridge.

Mass. (near Cambridge).

1887
April 21st

Turdus pallasi

Mass. (near Cambridge).

1888

APR 25th

Oct. 26th

Nov. 2nd - 4th (between the islands)
B. Forney

Turdus pallasi

Mass. (Winchester)

Turdus pallasi

1882

Dec. 2

One shot by J. L. Goodale as above. It was
on a warm, sunny hillside grown up to scrubby
cedars.

Mass. (Winchester)

1888

Apr. 8 (Gibson)

Turdus pallasi

1887

June 4 $\frac{2}{5}$
July 10 $\frac{3}{8}$

* singing - at Fairhaven Bay.
Turdus pallasi

Mass. (Concord)

Turdus pallasi

1887 Localities addition to the Fairhaven Bay ground.

Mr. Walter Farson tells me that in 1887
he heard Hermit Thrushes singing near
the site of Thoreau's house at Walden,
and also at White Pond.

W. Middlesex Co. Mass.

June 25-30, 1889.

Turdus pallasi

One in white pine woods near W. Townsend. Very common about Ashby in
white pines & oak woods on right hand, in the spruce forest on the
W. side of Mt. Watatic, and about the edges of the spruce & larch
swamps. One heard a few miles N. of Fitchburg. In full song during
our stay

Mass. (Wittletton)

Turdus pallasi

1886

July 25 Four ♂♂ in full song in a piece of dense
pitch pine woods on dry sandy flat by
roadside about two miles west of the
town. Two were singing in adjoining trees,
two others were together about 100 yds. away.
One flitted from twig to twig in intervals
between bars of song, another sat erect & still
near the top of a pitch pine. June 10 A.M.,
cloudy & misty. Shot one ♂ tested of maximum
size. These four birds were the only ones heard
during a drive of about fifty miles in
the Middlesex Co.

Mass (Winchendon)

1887

June 24⁶ - 25³⁰ - 26⁴¹ 1887

" 12⁴ - 13⁵ - 15⁶ - 16¹⁵ - 17²⁰ - 18⁶ 1888

White pine woods and spruces in pastures; also in
spruce swamps. More numerous than I have ever seen

Turdus pallasi

Winchendon, Mass. June 1888.

12 12 15⁵ 16¹⁵ 17²⁰ 18⁶ ✓

Falmouth, Mass. 1889.

8 *Turdus pallasi* July 4²³ - 14⁴³

Notes on Birds of Winchendon, Mass.
William Brewster.

Turdus aonalaschkae pallasi.—An abundant bird throughout the entire
region, haunting by preference dry, rather open, white pine woods.

Auk, V, Oct., 1888. p.393

Birds Known to Pass Breeding Season
nr. Winchendon, Mass. Wm. Brewster

Turdus

So. " *aonalaschkae pallasi*.

Auk, V, Oct., 1888. p.389

Mass. (Wilmington)

Turdus pallasi

1887

Aug 4

A ♂ singing in white pine woods near
a swamp where were many black spruces.
(*Corvus canadensis* abundant here)

Winter Birds of Eastern Massachusetts.
H. K. Job.

Another good capture was a
Hermit Thrush, which I took on Christmas day in a pine grove,
in company with a flock of Robins.

1881. Near Boston.

Bull. N. O. C. 8, July. 1883, p. 149.

It elsewhere.
built very.

Winchendon, Mass. June, 1888.

12 - 13² - 16 - 17² - 18⁴ ✓

Falmouth, Mass. 1889.

1889, ~~1889~~ July 4² - 14²

Notes on Birds of Winchendon, Mass.
William Brewster.

Turdus aonalaschke pallasii.—An abundant bird throughout the entire region, haunting by preference dry, rather open, white pine woods.

Auk, V, Oct., 1888. p. 393

Birds Known to Pass Breeding Season
nr. Winchendon, Mass. Wm. Brewster

Turdus

80. " *aonalaschke pallasii*.

Auk, V, Oct., 1888. p. 389

Mass. (Wilmington)

Turdus pallasi

1887

Aug 4

A ♂ singing in white pine woods near
a swamp where were many black spruces.
(*Corvus canadensis* abundant here)

Winter Birds of Eastern Massachusetts.
H. K. Job.

Another good capture was a
Hermit Thrush, which I took on Christmas day in a pine grove,
in company with a flock of Robins.

1881. Near Boston.

Bull. N. O. C., 8, July, 1883, p. 149.

Birds of Bristol County, Mass.
F. W. Andros.

Turdus aonalaschke pallasii (Cab.), Hermit
Thrush. Migrant, rare.

O. & O. XII, Sept. 1887 p. 141

Bds. Obs. near Sheffield, Berkshire
Co., Mass. June 17-26, '88. W. Faxon

74. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. EASTERN HERMIT THRUSH.—Common on the Taconic Mountains where it replaces to a great extent the Wood Thrush which is found only sparingly on the mountain sides. Also found to be abundant on Bear Mt., Salisbury, Conn.

Auk, VI. Jan., 1889, p. 46

Bds. Obs. near Graylock Mt. Berkshire
Co. Mass. June 28-July 16. W. Faxon

78. *Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*. EASTERN HERMIT THRUSH.—Common at elevations from 1000 or 1200 feet to 2900 feet.

Auk, VI. April, 1889, p. 107

Stearns & Cooper New Eng. Bird Life.
Review by Wm Brewster.

Turdus pallasii.—"The Hermit Thrush is another bird whose breeding range draws a line between the two principal Fauna of New England, being restricted in the breeding season to the Canadian Fauna, as the Wood Thrush is to the Alleghanian." In point of fact, the Hermit Thrush breeds regularly in Massachusetts at many places in Essex and Middlesex Counties, and on Cape Cod in abundance. Authenticated nests have been taken at Gloucester, Beverly, and Concord, while in June and July we have heard many males singing near Hyannis, Marston's Mills, and Osterville. Its distribution in the breeding season, so far from being, as is elsewhere stated, closely coincident with that of Swainson's Thrush, is rather to be compared with that of the Olive-sided Flycatcher, which breeds generally and most abundantly throughout the Canadian Fauna; locally and sparingly, but still regularly, in the Alleghanian, and perhaps occasionally just within the northern boundary of the Carolinian.

Bull. N. O. C. 6, Oct. 1881, p. 237.

Turdus pallasi

Breeding in South. Mass.

Rehoboth, Mass.
June 1, 1883

Mr. F. T. Jewell of Providence R. I. writes under date of July 16, 1883 that Mr. F. H. Carpenter of Providence "brought to me on June 1 a Hermit Thrush which contained a soft-shelled egg, which from appearance was evidently the last of the clutch. He shot the bird at Rehoboth, Mass. about ten miles due east of this city"

MASS. (Middlesex Co.)

APR 25 1888

Turdus pallasi

1888

Habits and haunts.

April 25

Saw about a dozen during a walk of three or four miles in Waltham. They were in little parties of three or four each some among copres of red cedars and pitch pines, others in a dense wood of white pines and cedars, still others in birches, all on high, dry hill sides or tops. As usual they were very tame and nearly silent, ^{mostly} ~~checking~~ checking occasionally. It is strange that during their migrations they are regularly tamer and much more sluggish than any of their congeners whereas on their breeding grounds they are quite as alert and shy or at any rate more chaste than any other *Turdus* excepting *T. alcinas* et *bicknelli*.

The Breeding of the Hermit Thrush on Martha's Vineyard Island.— Mr. H. V. Greenough took on July 27, 1900, a female Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata pallasii*) near Tashmoo Lake, West Chop, Martha's Vineyard, Mass. The bird was heard singing, and a number of others of its kind were seen, evidently of one family. The bird taken is in very worn breeding plumage. This is the first breeding record I believe for this island.— REGINALD WEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*
Auk, XVIII, Jan., 1901, p. 111.

The Hermit Thrush on Martha's Vineyard, Mass.— Apropos of Mr. Reginald Heber Howe's record of the Hermit Thrush on Martha's Vineyard, the following may be of interest. In a list of birds read before the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, Feb. 2, 1899, the writer gave the Hermit Thrush as a summer resident on Martha's Vineyard. My first experience with this bird was in August, 1897, while camping on the western shore of Lake Tashmoo, a small brackish pond in the northern part of the island. Our camp was situated upon a small promontory which projects into the lake for about one hundred yards. Extending between this point and the shore is a cove-shaped marsh covered with sphagnum and freshened by numerous springs. On the side of the marsh near the shore the bank ascends abruptly for eight or ten feet and then slopes gradually back, at no place reaching a height of fifty feet. Covering the point and extending half a mile back from the shore is a grove of yellow pines. Here and there they have been cleared away, giving place to an undergrowth of bay, high bush huckleberry, and various species of oak. Further back from the shore the pines have so intergrown as to make it almost impenetrable. Bordering on these is an oak growth which where it encroaches upon the pines makes a dense and well-shaded woods.

Early in the morning we would invariably find several Hermit Thrushes near the springs. Soon, however, they would retire to the deep woods whence we could hear their songs until late in the afternoon.

During each of the following summers I have made many trips to this locality, the earliest and latest dates being June 24 and September 27. Of all the days spent there I can only recall one instance, a dark cloudy day late in August, upon which I neither heard nor saw a Hermit Thrush.

Although the writer has never found a nest he has seen the young birds repeatedly and feels quite confident that at least three pairs nested there during the past summer.

So far my experience leads me to believe that this "boreal island," occupying less than one square mile, is the only spot where the Hermit Thrush nests on Martha's Vineyard.— HERBERT L. COGGINS, *Germantown, Pa.*
Auk, XVIII, Jan., 1901, pp. 111-112.

Unusual Winter Records.

Hermit Thrush. One seen on the 14 and 16 of December in the Harvard Botanical Gardens in this city.

Arthur C. Cony, *Cambridge, Mass.* *Auk*, N. Y., July, 1899, p. 293.

Notes on the Summer Birds of Berkshire County, Massachusetts.

Hylocichla guttata pallasii. One heard singing on the Greylock range.
Reginald Heber Howe, Jr., *Longwood, Mass.*
Auk, XIX, Oct., 1902, p. 405.

A Winter Record for the Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata pallasii*) in Eastern Massachusetts. — This species is sufficiently rare in winter in Massachusetts to make it of interest to record one seen by the writers in Longwood, Brookline, Mass., January 1, 1904. The bird was not at all shy, and was observed for several minutes within a distance of a few feet, so that its identification was easily determined. It was hopping about in a clump of trees and bushes at the edge of a small pond, now and then uttering its characteristic *chuck*.

Another Hermit Thrush, or possibly the same one, was observed at Chestnut Hill, Mass., on January 8, 1904. It was watched for several minutes while it was picking at a small crust of bread which lay on the snow. As the two localities mentioned are at least three miles apart, it is impossible to tell whether this was the same bird as the one seen on January 1 or not. Messrs. Howe and Allen in their 'Birds of Massachusetts,' p. 95, give only three winter records for the Hermit Thrush for this State.— FRANCIS G. AND MAURICE C. BLAKE, *Brookline, Mass.*

Auk, XXI, Apr., 1904, p. 233.

Unusual records near Boston, Mass.

Hylocichla guttata pallasii. Observed on January 1, 1904, in Brookline, Mass., and January 8, 1904, at Chestnut Hill, Mass. (*Auk*, Vol. XXI, p. 233).— FRANCIS G. AND MAURICE C. BLAKE, *Brookline, Mass.*

Auk, XXI, Apr., 1904, p. 233-234.

Boston Transcript

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1904

Dear Listener—It is of such unusual occurrence to see the Hermit thrush in Massachusetts at this season, that I thought other readers of the Transcript might be interested to hear of it. On Sunday morning, Jan. 24, at about eight-thirty a beautiful Hermit thrush alighted on the vine over our porch, and stayed nearly ten minutes. Was very tame, as there were four of us close by the window watching, and even when we carefully opened the door and whistled a poor imitation of a few of its notes, it only moved its tail slowly up and down, and looked at us with interest. Its plumage was in fine condition, and it looked plump and contented. If I were not so well acquainted with Hermit thrushes, I should have hardly believed my own bird-eye, but Mr. Brewster, in a footnote in Minto's book, says: "It has been found several times in midwinter near Boston." So I am perfectly sure there is no mistake in its identity. L. C. West Medford.

+ + +

Dear Listener—Your West Medford and Boston correspondents, L. C. and H. W. W., who have recorded the presence of the hermit thrush about Boston in winter, will doubtless be interested to hear of two further records. A hermit thrush was seen on Jan. 1 in the morning at Hall's Pond, Longwood. It was plump and active, hopping about in a thicket of brambles, tilting its tail and uttering its characteristic "chuck." Another hermit thrush was seen on Jan. 8 at Chestnut Hill. This bird was likewise plump and active, and seemed in a perfectly healthy condition. From so many records, it is evident that the hermit thrush is wintering not at all uncommonly with us this severe season.

F. G. B. and M. C. B.

Brookline, Feb. 2.
Bost. Transcript, Feb. 3, 1904.

Dear Listener—Your West Medford correspondent, "L. C.," who saw a hermit thrush on the vine over the porch of the house in the early forenoon of Jan. 24, will be interested to learn that another bird observer saw a hermit thrush on Jan. 21, in Olmsted Park. He was seen as he came on the wing to one of the little ponds, the water of which keeps open during the severest cold—black, quick of motion, picking at the water's edge, running on the snow, lifting the tail when stopping or perching on a nearby bough, silent but as animated as a hermit of the summer time in the Northern forests; the bird, presumably the same I had seen also on Dec. 19 and 20 in the same vicinity. We certainly have hermit thrushes wintering with us this severe season of 1903-1904. It is the more remarkable since careful observation of bird life in and about Boston, during the last four winters has not before placed in my record the hermit thrush. This food season has been chosen by the species, therefore, to further establish Mr. William Brewster's statement, "Found several times in midwinter, near Boston." Other records of mine in December were: Stoneham, Bear Hill, Dec. 5; Malden, Pine Banks Park, Dec. 12; Longwood, Riverway Park, Dec. 30.

Your readers may also be interested to know that there is one other species whose

presence with us may be even more surprising, the mockingbird. I have seen one in the same corner of Jamaica Park, Jan. 6, 7, 12, 13 and 23. It has, therefore, safely passed through nights of 12° to 15° below zero. Abundance of food is present in the berries remaining upon the shrubs. It is asked, is not this an escaped cage bird? It may be answered, would such a one survive the extreme cold of this month? Other mockingbird records, 1902 and 1903, have been: Melrose, Oct. 16, 1902; Duxbury, Dec. 29, 1902, and June 18, 1903, and, upon reliable authority, continuously resident from Oct. 5 to June 18 (later knowledge of it is not mine) on a rather bleak point of land jutting out into the marshes; the Arboretum, 1903, Feb. 26 and 27, March 2 and 6, April 21, singing, and seen by others repeatedly upon intervening and later dates; Nahant, Dec. 23, 1903. It seems hardly possible that these five mockingbirds were all escaped birds. On the other hand, it seems quite probable that most of them were never caged. Except in the case of the Duxbury bird, to which a friend conducted me, I came upon the birds unexpectedly in my walks. It would seem a rare experience if, under these circumstances, a single observer has fallen in with escaped birds only. The pleasant inference, which fairly may be drawn, is that the mockingbird is becoming more present with us than ten years ago. When Mr. Brewster appended this one of his many valuable footnotes to Minto's "Land Birds," one or two specimens have been taken in Massachusetts in winter.

The South and the North are met together in Jamaica Park this winter, for in close proximity to the mockingbird may be seen a flock of pine grosbeaks feeding contentedly on the berries and expressing the pleasure of companionship in soft, sweet tones, as they move through the shrubbery. Not far distant on Jan. 23 was seen another bird of the North, a snow bunting, upon the snowy roadway of the park, where he was intently occupied in picking up his noonday meal, merely avoiding the sleighs as they passed, and heading them scarcely more than a house sparrow would. The dense fog of the morning no doubt gave him greater courage, and the complete envelopment of the landscape in snow and ice, as well as fog, must have been as congenial to him as would be Nahant or Ipswich. It was my first record of a snowflake in the park, and it is to be credited to Brookline. It may be mentioned that a flock of robins numbering fifteen or more is frequenting the Arboretum, and that on Jan. 11 and 12 a Wilson's snipe made a brief visit there, finding the shallow run of water over unfrozen ground at the north gate adapted to the use of his long bill in probing for necessary food.

H. W. W.

Boston, Jan. 28. [*Harvard Magazine*]
Last Sunday morning, it will be remembered, was quite warm and pleasant—one of the few days of the month of which as much can be said—and Mr. G. A. Spooner and a friend saw in Franklin Park a flock of as many as twenty-five robins, a dozen pine grosbeaks, all females, some downy woodpeckers, male and female, chickadees, juncos and bluejays. The woods seem to be full of them, and a bright day will bring some of them out from their refuges.

Boston Transcript + Jan. 30, 1904.

| I shot a Hermit Thrush |
the middle of January, |

John W. Clark, Saybrook, Conn.
O. & O. VIII. Oct. 1883. p. 80

A Partial Albino Hermit Thrush (*Turdus aonalaschke pallasii*).—I have a male of this species taken in this vicinity October 27, 1885, which has the top of the head and the back light gray. Below white, the spots on the breast being fairly distinct. Tail and the primaries and secondaries fawn color.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

Auk, 3, April, 1886, p. 282.

General Notes. Notes from Connecticut,
Jno. H. Sage, Portland.

Turdus aonalaschke pallasii.—Two nests of the Hermit Thrush, each containing three fresh eggs, were taken at Norfolk, June 20 and 23, 1893, by Mr. Treat. He found this Thrush common there. I think the actual nesting date in Connecticut has not previously been recorded.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.* *Auk* X. Oct., 1893 p. 371.

The Hermit Thrush Breeding in Litchfield County, Connecticut.—

On July 23, 1910, I found a nest of a Hermit Thrush near the top of Bear Mountain, Litchfield County, Connecticut. The nest was about a half mile south of the Massachusetts line, and two or three miles east of the New York line, and at an altitude of about 2300 feet. The bird was flushed from the nest by a companion who was walking with me, and I had only a momentary glimpse of it as it flew away. Although I remained in the vicinity of the nest for quite a long time, the bird did not return, but the glimpse that I had was sufficient to show that it was neither a Wood Thrush nor a Wilson's Thrush. The locality and construction of the nest, and the size and color of the eggs, seem to conclusively establish that of the remaining possible thrushes, the bird must have been a Hermit Thrush. Dr. Louis B. Bishop, of New Haven, Conn., agrees with this identification, and tells me that it is the second record for Connecticut.

The nest was placed on a broad flat rock, under the shelter of a blueberry bush, and was embedded in gray moss. The nest was deeply cupped, and very neat. It was built externally of small sticks, most of them rotten and pulverized; the next layer was of grasses and fine twigs, with a good deal of green moss, and a few leaves, which, however, were not at all conspicuous, the moss being worked up around the edge of the nest, so that the general outer appearance of the nest was chiefly green. The nest was lined entirely, and very neatly, with long pine needles.

There were two fresh eggs in the nest, which measured .63 x .83 inches. They were a pale blue. Upon comparison with my series of eggs, I find that the blue is somewhat darker than that of a Bluebird, but fully as light as either a Robin's or a Wood Thrush's. Compared with the eggs of the Wilson's Thrush, the eggs are strikingly blue, and without any pronounced greenish tinge.—LOUIS H. PORTER, *Stanford, Conn.*

Auk 27. Oct-1910 p. 461.

LATE BREEDING OF THE HERMIT THRUSH IN NORTHERN NEW YORK.—On the 24th of August, 1879, Dr. Frederick H. Hoadley and myself found a nest of the Hermit Thrush, containing three fresh eggs, at Locust Grove, in Lewis County, New York. It was on the ground, near an old log, in an open place in the woods; and I almost stepped on it before the parent bird flew off. Two weeks later there were three young in the nest. They were very small and helpless, and evidently not more than a day or two old.—C. Hart Merriam, M. D., Locust Grove, N. Y.

O. & O. VII, Nov. 1882, p. 171

Some Birds of Lewis Co, N. Y.,
C. Hart Merriam

In the Eastern (Adirondack) region
Turdus pallasi is found breeding

Bull. N. O. C. 3, April, 1878. p. 53

Arrivals of Migratory Birds, Spring-1886,
Central Park, N. Y. City. A. G. Paine, Jr.

April 10, *Turdus aonalaschka pallasi*, (7596).
Hermit Thrush.

O. & O. XI, July, 1886, p. 109

Birds of the Adirondack Region.
C. H. Merriam.

5. *Hylocichla unalascae pallasi* (Caban.) Ridgw. HERMIT THRUSH.
—Abundant summer resident.

Bull. N. O. C. 6, Oct., 1881, p. 226

430. Late Breeding of the Hermit Thrush in Northern New York.
By C. Hart Merriam, M. D. *Ibid.*, p. 171.—Fresh eggs found August 24,
1879, at Locust Grove, Lewis Co. O. & O. Vol. VII

Notes from Western New York.
Maurice C. Blake, Hanover, N. H.

Hylocichla guttata pallasi.—Two Hermit Thrushes in song June 2 and two others June 3, 1906, in the vicinity of West River were recorded by Mr. Antes and me. It would seem that this bird is probably a not rare summer resident in Yates County. "Nest found in Yates Co., May 29, 1898."—MAURICE C. BLAKE, Hanover, N. H.
Auk, 24, Apr., 1907, p. 224-226.

Notes on Some Winter Residents of
Hudson Valley. E. A. Mearns.

2. *Turdus pallasi*. HERMIT THRUSH.—A few sometimes winter along the Hudson. In the Highlands, during the severe winter of 1874-75, when birds of the Canadian Fauna, such as *Pinicola enucleator*, *Loxia leucoptera*, *L. curvirostra* var. *americana*, *Aegithus linaria*, *Chrysomitris pinus*, and *Plectrophanes nivalis*, were very numerous, the Hermit Thrushes were frequently observed or shot. They were found only in the cedar groves by the river, and were very shy and silent; only occasionally uttering, in a low tone, their customary *chuck*. These wintering birds remained until the middle of March, and the regular migrants began to arrive April 2. No Hermits were seen here during the past extremely mild winter (1877-78); but "Mr. A. J. Huyler, a competent observer, told Mr. Ernest Ingersoll, on several occasions, that he had seen *Turdus pallasi* at Tenally, N. J. [opposite Riverdale, N. Y.], during each month of the past winter, — of course not in any great numbers."* Mr. Huyler since writes me that he "took a specimen of *T. pallasi* during the past winter, about the middle of February." Mr. Eugene P. Bicknell, of Riverdale, N. Y. (to whom I am indebted for many valuable notes on our winter birds), writes me: "The extremes of early arrival and late departure of this species are April 11 and November 20, both dates being in 1875; though on February 28 (same year) I saw one in a grove of pine-trees, feeding on the dried berries of sumach (*Rhus*), and appearing quite at home. I again observed it (doubtless the same bird) at the same place, on March 28."* I have observed a great irregularity in the migrations of this species, both as to abundance and time of arrival.

Bull. N. O. C. 4, Jan., 1879, p. 33

* There is a notice in "Forest and Stream" newspaper of the occurrence of a Hermit Thrush, at St. John, N. B., on January 11, 1878; and there are numerous records of its capture, in winter, in Southern New England.

Bird notes from Shelter Island, Long Island, N. Y. —

HERMIT THRUSH (*Hylocichla guttata pallasi*).—Very scarce during their usual migration dates. For some unaccountable reason their movements to the south seem to have been postponed so long that, by the advent of severe weather, many of them came to grief. A single specimen was noted on Nov. 13, 1903; next seen on Dec. 26, and again on Dec. 31. The weather was then very cold, the ground covered with snow, and the specimens were in an emaciated condition. The last chapter in the tragedy was revealed by a specimen found under the edge of a sheltering embankment, frozen to death, on January 5, 1904. The ground was then covered with snow, about a foot deep on the level, and traveling was very hard, so that I covered only a small section of country during my observations, but, judging by the several instances in which I noted the birds, many hundreds must have perished, in the aggregate.—WILLIS W. WORTHINGTON, *Shelter Island Heights, N. Y.*
Auk, XXI, Apr., 1904, p. 287

Notes on the birds of Madison County, New York,
with especial reference to Embury's recent list.

35. *Hylocichla guttata pallasi*. HERMIT THRUSH.—Given only as a common transient visitant, which would be my verdict. Mr. Miller, however, found it breeding commonly at Peterboro.

By William R. Maxon, Auk, XX, July, 1903, p. 266.

The Hermit Thrush as a Summer Resident of Long Island, N. Y.—

Late in the afternoon of July 13, 1908, while walking along the road between Holbrook and Patchogue, L. I., about two miles from the latter place, I heard a Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata pallasii*) singing at a distance of about a hundred yards from the road. After stalking it for more than half an hour I was able to secure a good view of the bird with an opera-glass and complete the identification, although the song, with which I was familiar, had been unmistakable from the first. Meantime the bird had been singing continually, except when I would disturb it by approaching too closely. I am quite certain that I heard one other Hermit Thrush singing in the vicinity at the same time.

The locality is densely grown with young white oaks (*Quercus alba*) reaching a height of perhaps twenty or twenty-five feet, together with a few scattered pitch pines (*Pinus rigida*). The underbrush is composed largely of short blueberry bushes. The place is only forty feet above sea level, and three miles distant from Great South Bay.

This seems to be the first adult Hermit Thrush observed on Long Island during the breeding season, though there are two previous records for immature birds (Dutcher, Auk, III, 1886, pp. 443, 444, and Brausin, Auk, XXIV, 1907, pp. 186-189). Dr. Brausin, in the reference just cited, says, "Further investigation will probably show that the Hermit Thrush is, though rare, a regular summer resident on Long Island."—FRANCIS HARPER, College Point, N. Y.

Auk 25, Oct. 1908, p. 481-82.

Yaphank, Long Island, New York.

A Colony of Hermit Thrushes at Yaphank, Long Island, N. Y.—

On the afternoon of the 25th of July, 1908, I heard an unfamiliar bird song in the woods at the easterly end of the village of Yaphank, not far from the middle of Long Island. Upon investigation I found several of the birds, but as they sang from the tops of the pines or other trees, it was difficult for me to secure a good view with my glass. Early the next morning I was more fortunate, and secured a much better view of a rather tame bird, and was convinced that I had to do with Hermit Thrushes (*Hylocichla guttata pallasii*) resident on Long Island in mid-summer. This idea, however, was not strengthened by an examination of the literature, and it seemed from the records quite improbable that a colony of Hermit Thrushes should reside so far south as Yaphank, Long Island, and only 40 feet above the level of the sea.

Later I read with interest the article by Mr. Francis Harper in 'The Auk' for October, 1908, wherein he records a Hermit Thrush singing in the woods between Holbrook and Patchogue, Long Island. He also mentions the two previous Long Island records for immature birds and quotes from Dr. Brausin that, "Further investigation will probably show that the Hermit Thrush is, though rare, a regular summer resident on Long Island."

From observations made during July, 1909, I may state that the Hermit Thrush is one of the most common birds at Yaphank, and that I have heard as many as four singing at one time. On one occasion on the 31st of the month, one sang for over an hour with only momentary intermissions caused by its changing its position among the trees, or by my approaching too near. It, however, was a tame bird, and very accommodating. I found that the thrushes were not only abundant in the pitch pine and oak woods at the easterly end of the village, but that they were to be met with in the woods several miles to the north, in the vicinity of Longwood manor house. This district appears then to be the chief summer home of the Hermit Thrush on Long Island, and the ornithologist may with certainty expect to hear this fine songster if he but repair to Yaphank at the proper season.—WM. T. DAVIS, New Brighton, Staten Island, N. Y.

Auk 26, Oct. 1909, p. 435-36.

Double Bird Tragedy.—About eight o'clock May 6, 1913, painters working on a forcing house on the grounds of the New York Agricultural Experiment Station at Geneva, N. Y., were startled by the headlong flight past them of two birds. One was evidently frantic with terror from pursuit, the other conscious of nothing but its prey, for both birds rushed heedlessly past the men and after a flight of five or six rods more dashed headlong into the plate-glass window of the residence of the Station Director, who, with his family, was away from home. The glass was not broken but the birds were both instantly killed, either by the shock or by breaking their necks. The commission was heard by the forcing-house man at his work and he, with the painters, went to the place and picked up the birds. These were later identified by Mr. B. B. Fulton, Assistant Entomologist of the Station, as a Hermit Thrush and a Sharp-shinned Hawk, and the identification was later confirmed by the writer. The thrush is migratory here, the hawk resident but not abundant.—F. H. HALL, Geneva, N. Y.

438

Notes concerning certain birds of Long Island,
New York. By William C. Braislin, M.D.

Hyllocichla aonalaschkae pallasii. HERMIT THRUSH.—Mr. Wm. Dutcher has related in 'The Auk' (III, 1886, p. 443) the evidence obtained favoring the probable occurrence of this thrush as a summer resident on Long Island, but as no further data appeared in relation to the matter the possibility of its being a breeding species remained problematical. In reply to an inquiry, Mr. Arthur H. Howell kindly wrote me that he has twice heard the notes of what he regarded without doubt as the Hermit Thrush in summer on Long Island, during the time of his collecting here. He had once heard it at Lake Ronkonkoma north of the lake, and again near Coram on the old bicycle path which crosses the center of the island, connecting Port Jefferson and Patchogue. On both occasions the song was heard in the low range of hills running the length of Long Island. To obtain if possible further information regarding the species as a summer resident, Mr. George K. Cherrie and I journeyed to Lake Ronkonkoma on June 9, 1906, whence on foot we covered as much of the ground in the east and north as we were able on that day. The list of species which we made proved most interesting to us. The object of our search was not met with until almost at the end of our stay, when a single immature Hermit Thrush was shot. This was the only thrush of any species and the only individual of this species seen on that date. It was found in a wood of mostly deciduous timber. In the tracts where the pines predominated Prairie Warblers, Mourning Doves, Blue Jays, and Chewinks were abundant. Twenty-five species of birds were observed. Neither the Wood Thrush nor Wilson's Thrush was seen.

The young bird taken was probably not twenty-four hours out of the nest, in fact it corresponded in every particular with young Hermit Thrushes taken from the nest by Mr. Cherrie in Vermont the preceding season.

Obtaining this young bird, practically a nestling, unable to fly any considerable distance, was satisfactory evidence to us that the Hermit Thrush is a nesting species on Long Island. Our not meeting with adult birds would seem to indicate that on Long Island the Hermit Thrush is equally as shy as elsewhere, and perhaps to an even greater degree. We likewise decided, largely from the same reason—that of our not meeting an adult specimen—that it is but a *rare* summer resident. In this we may be in error. The nature of the ground they occupy here may give the birds need for special caution in exposing themselves, while it is possible that they may occur more commonly in other parts of the island than in the region visited.

Auk, 24, Apr., 1907, p. 186~89.

Birds Observed at Coosada, Alabama
N. C. Brown

3. *Turdus pallasi*, Cab. HERMIT THRUSH. — Common and generally distributed up to within a few days of my departure. I was surprised, in this southern latitude, to find that the males became musical as spring advanced. On March 16 I heard the first song, and during the following three weeks it was one of the commonest wood sounds.

Bull. N. O. C. 3, Oct., 1878, p. 169

Winter Birds at Princeton, N. J. — Scott

1879.

On January 17, after a heavy fall of snow, there being from a foot to eighteen inches on the ground, I took a male Hermit Thrush, the only one seen during the month.

Bull. N. O. C. 4, April, 1879, p. 81

Birds Obsd. at Gainesville, Fla. Nov.
27, '86 - May 27, '87. F. M. Chapman.

147. *Turdus aonalaschkae pallasi*. HERMIT THRUSH. — Abundant in the hummocks and common in the pineries. Several were heard singing January 8, and from March 10 to 26, they sang occasionally. Few were noted after the last named date until the time of their final departure, April 15.

Auk, V, July, 1888. p. 277

ABUNDANCE OF THE HERMIT THRUSH IN WINTER NEAR WASHINGTON, D. C. — During the winter of 1879-80, the Hermit Thrush was commonly distributed throughout the woods of the District of Columbia as well as those of Alexandria County, Virginia. As the occurrence of this species in winter is not recorded in the lists of District birds, I, at that time, considered its appearance as exceptional and due to the unusual mildness of the season.

The present winter, however, has been one of remarkable severity in this part of the country, the rivers having frozen in November, while the ground has been covered with snow, from nine to twelve inches deep, since December 20. On the 1st of January, while hunting for birds among the wooded hills which border the Virginia shore of the Potomac, I again met with this species. These hills are very wild and steep, densely covered with a growth of young trees, and intersected by numerous deep ravines, through which streams of water work their way to the river. In these secluded places numbers of birds had sought shelter from the cold, which, during the night, had been intense, the thermometer registering a temperature of fourteen degrees below zero. The first Thrush noticed was shot about ten o'clock in a clump of saplings a few yards from the river's bank. In the course of the day seven other individuals were observed. They frequented the most sheltered and tangled portions of the ravines, principally near the summits of the hills. They were silent and solitary, and so tame that they frequently permitted an approach to within five or six yards before leaving their perch.

My brother obtained another specimen in the same locality on the 4th and reported them more numerous than on the 1st. I observed three more individuals in the woods bordering on Rock Creek on the 9th, a few hours after a snow storm. — GEORGE SHOEMAKER, Georgetown, D. C.

Bull. N. O. C. 6, April, 1881, p. 113-114.

Winter Food of Birds in the South.
O. S. Brimley, Raleigh, N. C.

Hermit Thrush, (*Tylocichla pallasi*). Feeds indiscriminately on all kinds of berries throughout the winter — Dogwood, Frost Grapes, Cedar and Holly being the favorites.

O. & O. XII, July 1887 p. 105.

Summer Birds of the Pennsylvania
Alleghanies. J. Dwight, Jr.

Turdus aonalaschkae pallasii. HERMIT THRUSH.—Among some scattered pines at the top of Wopsonnock Mountain I found a pair feeding their young. As the abundance of this species can best be determined about sunset, when every male is pouring forth its evening song (and the same remark applies to *T. u. swainsoni*), I cannot say how abundant it is at this point. It was not encountered at Cresson, but in the deep woods of North Mountain it found a congenial home and was very numerous. Often it was possible to distinguish a dozen singing at the same time in the early morning or late evening hours. There was an overhanging cliff commanding a deep, narrow valley, whence at sunset even a greater number might be heard, their notes blending with those of the Olive-backed and Wood Thrushes. I have listened to the songs of all these birds many times, but never before have I heard all these species singing at the same time and had such opportunities for comparing their notes. I am satisfied that the song of the Hermit Thrush is more beautiful than that of the much-renowned Wood Thrush. There is a liquid, ringing sweetness about it, that is only matched in part by the song of the latter. The notes of the Olive-backed Thrush are inferior to both, although delivered with more swing and emphasis than either. The Hermit Thrush is one of the characteristic Canadian birds found in this region. Baird did not meet with it in summer. Dr. Warren says: "This species, it is stated, breeds sparingly in some of our higher mountainous districts." Auk, 9, April, 1892, p. 141.

General Notes.

Some Summer Birds of the Pocono
Mountains, Penn. Witmer Stone.

Turdus aonalaschkae pallasii.—One specimen secured. The elevation and location of the Pocono plateau is such as to warrant a fauna quite as boreal as that found at Harveys Lake and North Mt.,¹ but the virgin forest has been entirely cleared away in the vicinity of Mt. Pocono and with it have disappeared the northern species of birds, a few only remaining in the deep ravines where they still find a congenial home in the rhododendron thickets, and the scant growth of hemlocks which escaped the lumberman's axe.

That the fauna of the Poconos was once quite as rich in boreal forms as the northern Alleghanies is shown by the fact that a few miles beyond Tolyhanna Mills (northwest of Mt. Pocono), where there still remains a portion of the virgin hemlock forest, my friend, Mr. Stewardson Brown, found (July 24, 1893) the Junco and Winter Wren in addition to the species above mentioned. Mr. Brown also observed a large flock of Red Crossbills at Tolyhanna, and in a clearing near the hemlock tract, he is positive he heard several White-throated Sparrows singing. As Mr. Brown is thoroughly acquainted with this bird he could hardly have been mistaken, but it is unfortunate that he was unable to secure a specimen, as this is, so far as I am aware, the first record of the occurrence of this species in Pennsylvania in the breeding season.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

¹ See Stone, Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1891, p. 431, and Dwight, Auk, 1892, p. 129.

Auk XI, April, 1894 p. 182

Rebonds, Washington and
British Columbia Birds.

Turdus aonalaschkae pallasii. HERMIT THRUSH.—The presence of this species breeding in the region around Lake La Hache, B. C., as attested by four skins in the collection, further complicates the relationships of this genus in the Northwest. Neither *auduboni* nor *pallasii* was found in any other part of British Columbia. I found *aonalaschkae* breeding in the Rocky Mountains at Field. It is doubtful if *auduboni* reaches the forty-ninth parallel. If, as seems probable, it be found that *pallasii* and *aonalaschkae* breed indifferently across common ground in the central and Rocky Mountain regions of British Columbia, without the intervention of intergrades, a more definite separation of the two is necessitated. Owing to the limited series obtained in evidence of this, a satisfactory conclusion cannot now be reached. Two points at least are established; first the breeding of *aonalaschkae* in the Rocky Mountains; second, the breeding of *pallasii* west of the Rockies and south of the fifty-second parallel.

Auk X, Jan., 1893, p. 24.

Turdus nanus. HERMIT THRUSH.

Though this little Thrush is always to be found with us during its migrations, it was only after some years of observation that I discovered that it ever sang near the sea-coast in this latitude. Either it is very furtive-voiced while it is with us, or singing is exceptional. Twice only have I heard its song away from its summer home,—on April 26, 1878, and April 29, 1879. In both cases the songs were faint and of an unfinished character, and positive identification only satisfied me that they were of this species. It is probable that this Thrush sings occasionally in the autumn; for there is little doubt that I heard it on October 18, 1880. It was in the dusk of the early morning, and the song, though several times repeated, was not clearly heard. It was, however, from a *Hylocichla*, and sounded most like that of the Hermit Thrush, the only one of the smaller Thrushes which was present at the time in any numbers.

The call-note of the Hermit Thrush is very different from that of any other species of its group which occurs with us. It is a low *chuck*, suggestive of the note of a distant Blackbird. The Hermit Thrush possesses the singular habit of demurely raising its tail and allowing it to fall back slowly to its natural position; this strange movement recurs at intervals and often follows the act of perching. Does it bear any relation to the characteristic caudal activity of the Water-thrushes and some of the Warblers?

Auk, I, April, 1884. p. 131.

Notes—Eggs of Thrushes & Thrashers.
H. G. Parker.

Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla ustulata pallasi*).

Eggs generally four in number, average size .90 x .66. Though very similar to the eggs of Wilson's Thrush, those of the present species appear to be possessed of a much more delicate

and lighter shade of blue; the similarity likewise extends to the nests of these two species. In one set of these eggs minute pin point spots of black are apparent to the eye, and upon applying a strong glass they appear even more distinctly. In two eggs of the set these spots are easily observed, and on the third egg entirely lacking. A number of applications of an acid wash have failed to remove them.

The nest is found in swampy or low places, and the breeding range is from Massachusetts northward. Two sets collected in Ontario, on May 30th and June 23rd, 1886, respectively measure .89 x .66; .88 x .68; .93 x .65; .89 x .66, and .90 x .65; .86 x .63; .84 x .62.

O. & O. XII, May, 1887 p. 60-70

Nesting of the Hermit Thrush.

This Thrush has not until the present year been known to breed in this (Hillsboro) county. Therefore it is with great pleasure that I am able to announce, through these columns, the taking of two sets the past season. The credit of taking the first set belongs to Mr. Dinsmore, of this place, who is a most thorough collector and field naturalist.

The second set, which I collected myself on July 8, is now in my collection.

This set I found accidentally while walking through a blueberry patch a few rods from a swampy stream.

The bird left the nest when I was but three feet distant and flew about thirty feet to a small tree, where she perched for some time watching me examine the nest. Finally she flew away to some thick growth and disappeared.

The nest was built in a small depression in the leaves, and composed of leaves, grass, and weed stalks with a strip of thin bark about the outer edge. It was lined with pine needles and horse-hair. The nest measures in depth outside 2.5 inches.

Inside 1.25 inches; the width outside is 4.5 inches; inside 2.5 inches.

The nest contained three bluish green eggs, the average size of which is .67 x .94 inches.

Arthur M. Farmer.

Amoskeag, N.H.

O. & O Vol. 17, Oct. 1892 p. 155-56

THE AUK:

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF

ORNITHOLOGY.

VOL. XIV. JANUARY, 1897. pp. 1-2. NO. 1.

NOTES ON A CAPTIVE HERMIT THRUSH.

BY DANIEL E. OWEN.

JUNE 26, 1896, while exploring a small patch of mixed growth in search of birds, I fell in with a young Hermit Thrush, accompanied by its parents. The young bird was just from the nest and had such ill control of its faculties and muscles that, ultimately, after a laborious flight of seven or eight yards, it alighted at my very feet. I captured the youngster, by dropping my hat over it, and having tied the bird, loosely, in my handkerchief, carried it home in my collecting basket. For the next five weeks, the Thrush was my constant study companion, and during this period discovered so many attractive traits that when I came to restore my captive to its native wood, the parting was, to one of us, the occasion of real regret.

I domiciled my little orphan in a large, old-fashioned canary cage which was allowed to stand, most of the time, on the sill of an open window. At first the Thrush objected to this durance vile, expressing its distaste by ejaculatory 'peeps' which, June 28, attracted to the roof, near the window, a sympathetic Chipping Sparrow, and caused a Robin in a neighboring tree to sound a loquacious and protracted alarm. But the imprisoned bird, about one centimeter long by half a centimeter wide, before inserting the pieces of meat between the young bird's gaping mandibles, I dipped them in water by way of lubrication, in order that they, readily, might slip down the bird's throat. This was the more necessary because the bird, often, would refuse to swallow unless the food had been placed far back in the mouth, at the very entrance to the gullet. Moreover, it seemed well to supply

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seemed soon to realize that remonstrance was of no avail, and by June 29 its impatience had given way to a philosophic serenity and composure that rarely were disturbed during the remainder of our acquaintance.

It was astonishing to see how quickly and well the Thrush adjusted itself to novel conditions. By the twenty-ninth of June, that is, after three days of confinement, the bird was not only on the best of terms with me, but we had learned to communicate. I found that a very gentle kissing sound, made with the lips, at once attracted its attention, causing it to ruffle its feathers, as young birds do on the approach of the old ones, and giving rise to an expectant attitude generally. Having secured its attention, I had then only to open the cage door, when the bird would come out, hop into my lap, and open wide its mouth. In a few days more, the Thrush had learned my step and my whistle. Its recognition of these sounds was voiced in a succession of chirps, which, usually, had an imperative tone, or a coaxing one, and indicated an empty stomach. If my absence had been rather long and the bird's meal unduly delayed, its piping voice took on a mandatory key which bordered on imprecation. When well fed and comfortably at rest on its perch, the little fellow had a habit of trilling softly, as if talking to itself. This trill had a remarkable property of ventriloquism that led me, at first, to ascribe the notes to a bird out of doors; but I soon learned their author and came to take pleasure in their assurance of genuine contentment.

When captured, my Thrush was unable to feed itself, so I had to make my bungling fingers do the work of a mother-bird's dexterous bill. Knowing that it would be a good deal of a task to furnish, altogether, food of the same nature as that provided by the parent birds, I made the experiment of substituting, to some extent, for grubs, earthworms, and insects, raw beef cut into bits about one centimeter long by half a centimeter wide. Before inserting the pieces of meat between the young bird's gaping mandibles, I dipped them in water by way of lubrication, in order that they, readily, might slip down the bird's throat. This was the more necessary because the bird, often, would refuse to swallow unless the food had been placed far back in the mouth, at the very entrance to the gullet. Moreover, it seemed well to supply

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water, in some way, to the digestive tract of the Thrush, which for many days refused to drink. Although the bird bathed almost daily, and once, at least, bathed twice in one day, up to July 31, when observation was discontinued, it drank in my presence but three times. These exceptions to its rule of abstinence occurred during some hot weather toward the end of its confinement.

The young Thrush took kindly to its diet of meat. June 28, between 8 A. M. and 7 P. M., it was fed eight times and swallowed 27 bits of meat. June 29, between 8 A. M. and 8 P. M., it was fed ten times and ate 25 pieces of meat. In order to get a more definite idea of the appetite that demanded this amount of solid nourishment, I began, July 4, to weigh the bird's food, as well as the bird itself. As this little investigation proceeded, it became apparent that the bird's weight fluctuated greatly within a space of twenty-four hours. Thus July 4, at night, the Thrush weighed 30 grammes, while in the morning of July 5 it weighed but 25.5 grammes, a loss during the night of 4.5 grammes. To appreciate the significance of this variation, let it be noted that the loss in a single night was 15 per cent of the total weight, so that if a 150 pound man were to suffer the same diminution in avoirdupois, between going to bed and rising, he would lose no less than 22.5 pounds.

In order to get comparable figures, I made it a practice, therefore, after July 5, to weigh the bird in the morning. For the five days, July 4 to July 8, inclusive, the bird's average weight was 27.7 grammes, and the average weight of meat eaten daily, 13.56 grammes. These figures do not convey a strictly accurate idea of the bird's appetite, because I was absent from my study several hours daily, and the Thrush, undoubtedly, would have eaten more if assiduously tended. For example, July 7, between the hours of 11.30 A. M. and 8.45 P. M., being constantly looked after, the bird ate 12 grammes of meat, nearly as much as its average for a whole day; and although my record indicates that it ate about 50 per cent of its weight in meat, yet I feel certain that under the most favorable conditions it would have made way with at least its own weight of raw beef, daily.

While meat formed the staple diet of my Thrush, during the first weeks of its confinement, and was used, more or less, throughout,

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I began, early, to experiment with such food as I thought likely would have fallen to the lot of the Thrush had it been left to the care of its parents. Thus, July 1, I fed to the bird a number of earthworms. For convenience' sake, I cut a few of the biggest worms into two or three pieces, each of which was as large as an ordinary worm. Counting these pieces as whole worms, and this is legitimate, considering their size, the Thrush ate 19 worms between the hours of 8.30 A. M. and 1 P. M., four hours and a half. This is at the rate of 4 worms per hour, or one worm every fifteen minutes. These figures, again, do not represent the capacity of the bird truthfully because I had not become expert in feeding, and after I had made several unsuccessful efforts to thrust the wriggling object in my fingers down the bird's throat, it often would shut its mouth in disgust and refuse the worm.

July 3 came the discovery that the Hermit Thrush is fastidious in its diet. At 1.45 on that day, the bird weighed 25.2 grammes. At the same hour, I weighed out 7.5 grammes of worms taken from a manure heap. In 30 minutes, the bird had eaten four grammes of the worms. If it had continued at the same rate, it would have eaten its own weight in worms in 3.15 hours; but it soon appeared that the bird did not relish the flavor of these dunghill delicacies. It made a great splutter in eating the worms and frequently rejected them with every symptom of nausea and abhorrence, wiping its bill on the nearest object, which was, generally, my hand. So I threw away the remainder of this lot of worms and renewed the experiment with five grammes of worms taken from cool, black, garden mould. These the bird dispatched, with evident relish, in just 30 minutes more. At this rate, it would have eaten its own weight of acceptable worms in about two hours and a half! My record of later experiments, however, indicates that the Thrush would not prove quite so voracious a songster. Just how long it would take the young bird to eat its own weight in worms, I never accurately ascertained. To know this would, indeed, be interesting, but it would be of small scientific value since the conditions of captivity differ widely from those surrounding a bird in the wild state.

The results of the raw meat and the worm experiments caused me to infer a rapid digestion on the part of the young Thrush. It

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was not long before I had an opportunity of verifying this presumption. July 11, I was shown, in a blueberry patch, a nest which I took to be that of a Hermit Thrush. Judging that the location of this nest might imply a fondness for blueberries on the part of the Thrush, I introduced a few berries, July 13, into my bird's cage. The avidity with which they were seized and swallowed showed that my conjecture had been well founded. The coloring matter of the berries dyed the bird's excretions, and it occurred to me that this fact furnished a ready method of finding the length of time required by the Thrush to digest blueberries. The test was made July 25. At 12.56 P.M. of that day, the bird voided white excrement and was fed, at once, with blueberries. At 2.28 P.M., one hour and thirty-two minutes later, it dropped blue excrement mingled with berry seeds. If this experiment is trustworthy, and I see no reason to doubt the accuracy of its method, the time required for a blueberry to traverse the digestive tract was, practically, one hour and a half.

I have said that, at first, my little captive was unable to feed itself. Generally speaking, this is true; but the bird soon acquired a habit of picking up occasional morsels and at the time of its release, July 31, it could get along very well without assistance, although, even then, it preferred to be fed.

The bird began to peck at imaginary objects, in a desultory way, June 29. In the morning of July 1, while the Thrush was on a window sill, a favorite perch when liberty had been granted it, I put beside it a piece of earth-worm. It eyed the worm for a moment and then attacked it in dead earnest. In its enthusiasm, the bird lost its balance and fell off the sill; but later, when it had regained its equilibrium, mental and physical, it managed to get away with several worms unassisted. July 3, the Thrush spent some time on the floor of my study, running about, sometimes making short flights, and displaying, withal, a great deal of curiosity. My shoes, particularly the lace fastenings, the carpet tacks, and a pair of ring staples on a box, were all critically examined and pecked at; but the favorite subject of investigation was a small piece of waste paper that lay on the floor. The paper was red on one side and white on the other and was picked up and tossed about very frequently. July 8, the bird discovered a fondness for

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house flies, to which, when placed in its cage, dead or disabled, it helped itself. Later it developed considerable skill as a flycatcher and no insect was safe within the wires of its cage. The bird's predilection for pulling over paper grew on it. It was very amusing to see it alight on my study table and essay, forthwith, to look beneath each separate sheet of paper lying thereon. This habit I took to be a display of instinct, which, exercised in the woods, would lead the bird to overhaul leaves and other similar rubbish in search of food.

The behavior of the Thrush at various times gave me several hints as to the habits of its species in the wild state. For example, it ate most greedily in the morning and at night, thus corroborating the general testimony of observers that birds take a rest in the middle of the day. Again, as dusk came on, the bird became restless and fluttered about its cage so recklessly that, at times, I was obliged to cover the cage with a cloth and set it in a dark corner. After some study of the bird's movements, I was led to attribute its unrest at evening to a desire for a high perch. To test my inference, I one evening liberated the bird. It flew about the study, close to the ceiling, and, finally, went to roost on a high picture. This proved that I had, in fact, in these nightly flutterings, an evidence of the instinct that leads birds to seek high perching places, at night, as a safeguard against many dangers. It struck me as especially interesting in the case of the Hermit Thrush which builds its nest on the ground.

My captive Thrush slept with its head under its wing, in the orthodox fashion, and took occasional naps during the day. It proved a meditative bird and would sit for half an hour at a time with an air of deep abstraction. As it dozed on my study table, June 30, I counted its respirations and found them to be from 80 to 85 per minute. When it is reflected that the rate of human respiration ranges from about 44 at birth to 15 at maturity, the fact that the bird is a high pressure organism may be appreciated.

My Hermit Thrush belied its name by being very fond of society. Occasionally, I allowed the bird the freedom of my study. At such times it preferred to keep near my chair, often alighting on my head, or on the table upon which I was writing. It would allow itself to be held in the hand, but was rather ill at

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ease, and pruned itself carefully on being released. It bathed regularly, and though it kept its cage in a litter, was scrupulous about its plumage. When taken, its tail feathers had just started. They grew rapidly, and by July 31 had attained their full length. As soon as the appendage had gained sufficient length to be used in gesticulation, the bird accompanied its 'peeping' cry with flicks of the tail, after the manner of a Robin. Some of its attitudes, as it stood with uplifted tail, were very like those of the Catbird.

In concluding this record it remains to speak of the bird's method of eating earthworms, for it was method, indeed. The bird began by worrying the worm, much as a cat does a mouse, nipping, pecking, and slatting its victim violently. The attack seemed to be directed, mainly, at the extremities of the worm. Thus, in one case, the head of the worm was pecked ten times, the tail seventeen times, and the middle twice. The worm, of course, squirmed and wriggled vigorously, at first; but, after a time, lost, in a measure, the power of motion. Now and then, the bird's beak would miss the worm, or would slip off. At such times the mandibles came together with an audible snap, conveying a suggestion of the torturing pinches to which the unfortunate worm was being subjected. The pummeling and nipping having gone on for from one and a half to three and a half minutes, the Thrush would next essay to swallow the worm, beginning, almost invariably, at the tail. This mode of attack may have been prompted by a chivalrous desire to give the poor worm as much of a chance as possible. If so, its object was, in a measure, gained, for, in the case of a big worm, the process of swallowing was distressingly prolonged by the efforts of the worm to escape, in which it often succeeded so far as to crawl out of the bird's mouth almost as fast as it was drawn in. The outcome of the struggle was always in the bird's favor, although in one instance, that I timed, the head of the worm visibly protruded from the bird's throat for seven minutes and a half after swallowing began.

The fact that the Thrush swallowed its worms tail first gains something in interest when the structure of the earthworm is taken into account. As is well-known, the earthworm's body consists of from 100 to 200 rings, or segments. Every segment, except the

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anterior two or three and the last, affords insertion to four groups of short bristles, to which muscles are attached, and by means of which the worm progresses. The bristles may be made to point in either direction, according as the worm wishes to advance or retreat. When pointed toward the tail, they hold the worm as it crawls ahead; when directed ahead, they give foothold for retrograde movement.

Now a person would suppose that the presence of several hundred little bristles, all pointing the 'wrong way,' would interfere with easy and pleasurable deglutition; and inasmuch as a worm, normally, crawls ahead, and not back, I expected to see my Thrush swallow worms head first, when, it is to be presumed, the bristles in question would not retard the process. As a matter of fact the contrary method, as noted above, was followed. Once in a while, a small worm was seized by the middle and doubled, or taken by the head; but careful observation, extending over several days, brought out so few instances of this kind that I am convinced it was a rule with the bird to swallow earthworms tail first. The fact that the worm often made some progress in its attempt to escape from the bird's mouth would indicate that the bristles were in working order, despite rough treatment, and that they were pointed back, toward the tail of the worm. From this we must infer, either that the bird was indifferent to the rasping of the bristles on the walls of its throat, or that the sharp resistance they exhibited added spice and flavor to the writhing morsel. But, for all that, any explanation is merely conjecture, and why the Hermit Thrush should choose to begin its meal with the tail of its victim remains a curious, though not a profound, subject for speculation.

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pilaris

European Thrush and Lawrence's
Warbler.

I have the honor to report the capture of the European Thrush (*Turdus pilaris*), which was shot near this place in March, 1888. I believe it is the first bird of this species recorded.

O. & O. XIV Mar. 1889 p. 44.
Stamford, Conn. Wm. H. Hoyt.