

where a dense growth of tall spruce pines covers the hillsides. These pines are all more or less covered with bunches of moss and lichens. I was resting on a rock in the cool shade beneath one of these trees when I was suddenly attracted by the noise of a Hummer's wings close to my head. Looking up, I saw a female Rivoli making perpendicular dives at me. After repeating this until I had moved off a sufficient distance, she alighted upon a small dead twig and there sat watching me for some moments. As all remained quiet, she now flew about the tree slowly, and when about fifty feet up made a rapid dart to the crotch of a mossy limb about ten feet from the trunk, where the nest was built, nearly hidden from the ground. I now came up, and by throwing things at her flushed her off the nest, but she at once returned to it. After much trouble the nest and the two eggs it contained were secured in safety.

The nest was firmly attached to the limb just beyond a crotch, the limb at the nest being about an inch in diameter. It is of a uniform oval shape, its diameter outside being from 2.03 to 2.62 inches; inside from 1.20 to 1.45. The depth outside is 1.55 inches; inside it is .62. It is composed outwardly of bits of fine moss and lichens, and is indistinguishable from the limbs about it. It is well lined on the inside with many star-shaped downy seeds of a delicate cream color, similar to those of the common thistle of the East, but smaller and softer. The two eggs are pure white, shaped alike at both ends, and measure  $.53 \times .37$  and  $.52 \times .37$  inch.—OTHO C. POLING, *Ft. Huachuca, Arizona*.

**The Philadelphia Vireo in Vermont.**—Although the distribution of the Philadelphia Vireo (*Vireo philadelphicus*) leads one to expect its regular occurrence in Vermont, I find no record of its capture in that State. It may therefore be of interest to mention that on September 11, 1889, I took a female of this species at Pittsford, Rutland County, Vermont. I found the bird among some low alders which overhung a meadow brook.—FRANK H. HITCHCOCK, *Somerville, Mass.*

**Spotted Eggs of Swainson's Warbler.**—On May 13 of this year I found a nest of Swainson's Warbler in Coosawhatchie Swamp,—which is a very large river-swamp about five miles from Yemassee. Upon looking into the nest I found a single egg, and was very much surprised to see that it was distinctly marked over the whole of the egg. I left the nest with the egg to get the full set, and returned on the 15th and found the bird sitting. The nest contained three eggs which were all spotted. As these are the first eggs of Swainson's Warbler which are distinctly spotted, a description will doubtless be of interest.

I sent these eggs with the nest to Capt. Bendire, and at my request Mr. Ridgway has kindly described the eggs and I herewith give his description.

"The two eggs measure, respectively, as follows:— $.83 \times .59$ ,  $.85 \times .60$  inch. One of them, being broken, cannot be measured. The ground color of the eggs is yellowish or buffy white; one of them is very faintly and rather sparsely flecked, chiefly on and near the larger end, with pale



buffy brown; the other two are distinctly flecked with reddish brown or cinnamon-color, these markings most numerous, and in one egg most distinct, on the larger end."

The nest was built in canes, six and a half feet from the ground, and over running water, and is typical of a Swainson's nest.

After taking the nest and eggs I would not shoot the birds as I hoped I could get another set of eggs from them. I accordingly visited the same swamp again on May 26, and after an hour's careful search I found the nest, with the bird sitting. I actually had my hand on her before she left the nest. The eggs—three, as in the first nest—are all spotted, much more so than the first set. They are all marked with reddish brown, upon a buffy white ground, though in one egg the ground color seems to be a little lighter than in the others, and it is not as heavily marked. The nest was built in canes, but was placed only three feet from the ground and in a comparatively dry situation.

Mr. Brewster has described a set of three eggs of this Warbler which were taken by me. (See *Auk*, Vol. II, No. 4, 1885.) He says: "One is perfectly plain; another, like the larger egg of the first set, has two or three minute specks which may be genuine shell markings; while the third is unmistakably spotted and blotched with pale lilac."—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Yemassee, S. C.*

**Helminthophila chrysoptera in Manitoba.**—By the kindness of Mr. William Hine of Winnipeg, Manitoba, I am enabled to record the capture of a Golden-winged Warbler taken by him near Winnipeg on or about May 24, 1887. Two years ago in Winnipeg Mr. Hine showed me the specimen, which he had mounted. It was an adult male in full plumage. This capture is an interesting one, for although the Golden-winged Warbler is well known to breed in some parts of Wisconsin and Minnesota, Winnipeg is some three or four hundred miles beyond its known range.—C. F. BATCHELDER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Was He a Philanthropist?**—On the fourth of July, when in the woods looking for the nest of a Black-throated Blue Warbler, my attention was diverted by a Chestnut-sided Warbler. He came hunting over the bushes near me, once flying so low that I caught his image among the waving reflections of the sunlit saplings in the pool at my feet. I traced him to a nest, and was rejoicing over the discovery when, on walking nearer, I was thrown into perplexity by seeing a female Redstart come to feed the young. What could it mean? I dared not believe my eyes. Perhaps, in moving to a better position, I had lost my Chestnut's nest and come upon a Redstart's. Or—could such strange things be? Before I had time to get over my bewilderment, back flew the Chestnut again, feeding the babies as calmly as if to assure me that such things were, whether from precedent or the premises of ornithologists they could be or could not be.

I signalled excitedly to Mrs. Olive Thorne Miller, who was watching



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