

THE WILSON BULLETIN.

*A Quarterly Magazine Devoted to the Study of Living Birds.
Official Organ of the Wilson Ornithological Chapter of the Agassiz
Association.*

Edited by **LYNDS JONES.**

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EDITORIAL.

The editor received a very pleasant call from our fellow-member, Benj. T. Gault, of Glen Ellyn, Ill., on May 7th. His arrival was just in time for the annual "All Day with the Birds," in company with Rev. W. L. Dawson, and the reader can imagine how the day was spent when three such bird lovers were together. In the next number of THE BULLETIN there will be an account of the day's doings.

The northern Ohio warbler migrations have been unprecedented in the numbers of individuals which have visited the region, and in the length of the visits paid by each. There can be no doubt that the weather was the chief factor in this visitation. The last days of April were not favorable to much movement, but the first eight days of May proved almost everything desired for the moving birds. Just when the warbler wave was at its height the north gave us cold, wet weather, with northerly winds, which continued until the 17th almost without a shade of relief. Nothing seemed to dare the northward journey during these days. Their numbers may be guessed from the record of 22 species on May 7th.

We believe that many persons would be interested both in our organization and in our BULLETIN if their attention were called to them. The editor will be glad to furnish sample copies of the BULLETIN and send printed matter to all whose names and addresses may reach him. We should have a hundred active members, at least, and an unlimited number of associate members, representative of the whole country, in order to do the work which we want to do. A personal campaign in the interest of the Chapter and BULLETIN by every present member would result in great benefit to all in the matter of increased facility for good work, and in the possibility for improvements in the BULLETIN. Shall we not all work to this end?

The editor has enjoyed two very pleasant vacations for the sole purpose of studying the birds. The first one was a day with Mr. Benj. T. Gault, of Glen Ellyn, Ill., and Rev. W. L. Dawson, of Columbus, Ohio, on an "All Day With the Birds" in Lorain county, Ohio, being the fourth of its kind for this wonderfully favored region ornithologically. The second vacation was of more significance, being one of a series of studies planned for the purpose of determining what are the resident birds of some of the more interesting and relatively little known places in Ohio, in preparation of a revised catalogue of Ohio birds which is being prepared under the direction of the Ohio State Academy of Sciences. The work occupied three days at the Licking Reservoir, some 30 miles east of Columbus, Ohio. There were in this company Mr. Irving A. Field, a student of Dennison University, Granville; Mr. E. J. Arrick, of McConnellsville; Rev. W. L. Dawson, of Columbus, and the editor. The region is a rich one, and the work deserves special mention in a later number.

Returns from the request for notes upon the migrations for March were too meagre to permit of a report. If such a report is to be of any value it must comprise representative localities not farther apart north and south than every degree of latitude, and east and west both in the regular streams of migration and between such places. It is not enough to know the rate at which birds travel along their regular highways. We know that pretty well already in general. If the migrations away from those highways are only a spreading from them as a center, or if they are the result of an independent movement, we want to know it. The past spring has been unusually favorable for recording unusual warblers, and for studying the warbler host in general. There can be little doubt that the favorable conditions were caused by the weather rather than by any unusual numbers of the different species. This assumption could be verified or disproved if reports from many different places in Ohio and the adjoining states and Ontario were available for comparison. Studies so strictly local are of far less value standing by themselves than if taken with a large number of other local studies for adjoining regions. Can we not combine our efforts to learn more about the migrations by sending such records as we have to some one who can study them for a final report? The editor has volunteered his services, but he would be glad to turn the work over to another if any one will volunteer to do it. Is there such an one?



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