This plant, vulgarly named Pheasant's-eye, grows in Louisiana and Europe in the cornfields. It has an erect, branched stem, with copiously pinnatifid, alternate, sessile, dark green leaves, the segments of which are linear and acute, and deep crimson flowers, having a black spot near the claw of each of the petals, which vary from six to ten.

MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT.

†TRICHAS MARILANDICA, Linn.

PLATE CII.—MALE, FEMALE, AND YOUNG MALE.

The notes of this little bird render it more conspicuous than most of its genus, for although they cannot be called very musical, they are far from being unpleasant, and are uttered so frequently during the day, that one, in walking along the briary ranges of the fences, is almost necessarily brought to listen to its *whitititee*, repeated three or four times every five or six minutes, the bird seldom stopping expressly to perform its music, but merely uttering the notes after it has picked an insect from amongst the leaves of the low bushes which it usually inhabits. It then hops a step or two up or down, and begins again.

Although timid, it seldom flies far off at the approach of man, but instantly dives into the thickest parts of its favourite bushes and high grass, where it continues searching for food either along the twigs, or among the dried leaves on the ground, and renews its little song when only a few feet distant.

Its nest is one of those which the Cow Bunting, *Molothrus (Icterus) pecoris*, selects, in which to deposit one of its eggs, to be hatched by the owners, that bird being similar in this respect to the European Cuckoo. The nest, which is placed on the ground, and partly sunk in it, is now and then covered over in the form of an oven, from which circumstance children name this warbler the *Oven-bird*. It is composed externally of withered leaves and grass, and is lined with hair. The eggs are from four to six, of a white colour, speckled with light brown, and are deposited about the middle of May. Sometimes two broods are reared in a season. I have never observed the egg of the Cow Bunting in the nests of the second brood. It

G. trichas

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R. J.

Maryland Ground-Warbler?

1 Adult Male. 2 Young Male 3 Female

Bitter-wood Tree Viburnum prunifolium

is less active in its motions than most birds of the genus, but makes up this deficiency by continued application, it being, to appearance, busily employed during the whole of the day. It does not chase insects by flying after them, but secures them by surprise. Caterpillars and spiders form its principal food.

Although this species is found throughout the Union, the Middle States seem to attract and detain more individuals, during the breeding season, than any others. Very few breed in Louisiana. In Kentucky, however, many breed in the barrens. The neighbourhood of swamps and such places is their favourite ground, but every field provided with briar patches or tall weeds harbours some of them. It leaves the Central Districts about the middle of September. The male bird does not attain its full colouring until the first spring, being for several months of the same tints as the female.

The twig on which the males are seen, is commonly called in Louisiana the Wild Olive. The tree is small, brittle and useless. It bears an acid fruit, which is sometimes employed as a pickle, and eaten when ripe by some people.

This bird was published in my Ornithological Biography erroneously as a new species. Of this I informed my friends Dr. BACHMAN, Mr. HARRIS, and Dr. BREWER, and afterwards the Prince of MUSIGNANO. I have nothing to add to my account of its habits. It was found on the Columbia river by Mr. TOWNSEND, several of whose specimens I have seen. I also found it in the Texas in April. No mention is made of it in the Fauna Boreali-Americana; and I saw none in Labrador or Newfoundland. The eggs of this species measure $5\frac{1}{2}$ eighths in length, by four and a half eighths, and are rather pointed at the small end.

The roof of the mouth is flat, posteriorly with two ridges, anteriorly with a middle prominent and two very slight lateral ridges; its width 3 twelfths. The tongue is $4\frac{1}{2}$ twelfths long, sagittate and papillate at the base, thin, concave above, tapering to a deeply slit and slightly lacerated point. The œsophagus is 1 inch 7 twelfths long, its greatest width 2 twelfths. The stomach is rather small, elliptical, $4\frac{1}{2}$ twelfths long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ twelfths broad; its lateral muscles moderate, the lower very thin; the epithelium longitudinally rugous. The intestine is 5 inches long, its greatest width 1 twelfth; the cœca 1 twelfth long, and about a third of a twelfth wide, their distance from the extremity 7 twelfths.

The trachea is $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch long, 1 twelfth broad at the top; its rings 60; its muscles as usual. Bronchial rings 15.

MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT, *Sylvia Marilandica*, Wils. Amer. Orn., vol. i. p. 88, Male; vol. ii. p. 163, Female.

SYLVIA MARILANDICA, Bonap. Syn., p. 85.

MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT, Nutt. Man., vol. i.

YELLOW-BREASTED WARBLER, OR MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT, *Sylvia Trichas*, Aud.

Orn. Biog., vol. i. p. 121, Adult; vol. v. p. 463.

ROSCOE'S YELLOW-THROAT, *Sylvia Roscoe*, Aud. Orn. Biog., vol. i. p. 124. Young.

Adult Male.

Bill of ordinary length, tapering, slender, nearly straight, acute. Nostrils basal, lateral, elliptical, half-closed by a membrane. Head and neck of ordinary size, the latter short. Body rather short. Feet longish, slender; tarsus longer than the middle toe, covered anteriorly with a few scutella, the uppermost long; toes scutellate above, the inner free, the hind toe of moderate size; claws slender, compressed, acute, arched.

Plumage loose, blended. Wings very short, the first quill longest. Tail rounded.

Bill dark brown. Iris dark hazel. Feet flesh colour. A broad band of black across the forehead, including the eyes, and terminating in a pointed form half-way down the neck; behind which is a narrower band of very pale blue; a slender white streak under the eye. Fore part of the neck bright ochre-yellow, the rest of the under parts pale brownish-yellow, fading into white on the abdomen and under tail-coverts. Upper parts dull greyish-olive, on the head tinged with red. Inner webs of the quills deep brown.

Length $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches, extent of wings $5\frac{1}{2}$; bill along the ridge $\frac{5}{12}$; along the gap $\frac{2}{3}$; tarsus $1\frac{1}{2}$.

Adult Female.

The female has the upper parts lighter, the under parts tinged with reddish-brown, and wants the two bands on the head, which is of a pale brownish-red colour.

THE SNOW-DROP TREE, SILVER-BELL TREE, OR WILD OLIVE.

HALESIA TETRAPTERA, Willd. Sp. Pl., vol. ii. p. 849. Pursch, Flor. Amer., vol. ii. p. 448.

—MONADELPHIA DECANDRIA, Linn.—GUAIACANÆ, Juss.

Leaves ovate, acuminate, serrate; flowers with twelve stamina; the fruit rhomboidal. It grows in shady woods, generally near rivers.

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Maryland Ground-Warbler?

1 Adult Male. 2 Young Male 3 Female

Bitter-wood Tree Viburnum prunifolium

Audubon, John James. 1841. "Maryland Yellow-Throat, *Trichas marilandica*, Linn. [Pl. 102]." *The birds of America : from drawings made in the United States and their territories* 2, 78–80. <https://doi.org/10.5962/p.319215>.

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