

an adult female, was moulting about the head and lower neck. Dr. Bishop saw several others but not thinking that they were rare shot only the above specimen. I visited the marshes several days after and hunted it carefully without seeing a bird, although I saw several Sharp-tailed Sparrows. From my own observation I am inclined to believe that this bird is rare in Massachusetts, at least on the Cape coast.—JOHN C. CAHOON, *Taunton, Mass.*

Young Cedarbirds and Great Crested Flycatchers in Captivity.—While in Tamworth, N. H., last July, I imprisoned two broods of young birds when just ready to fly, with a view to seeing what their parents would do about it. One brood consisted of five Cedarbirds and the other of four Great Crested Flycatchers. I imprisoned the Cedarbirds on July 10, placing them in an ordinary wire canary cage. Their cries, when being caged, brought the mother, who first flew in my face and then perched on the outer edge of the cage as it rested on my knees. I put the cage very near the house, and it was only a short time before the parent birds began consoling the young with cherries (*Prunus pennsylvanica*). During the twelve days of their captivity the young were supplied with 8400 cherries, or one cherry a bird every six minutes. I ascertained the number by counting and weighing the stones left by them in the bottom of their cage. On an average the old bird or birds made 140 visits a day, bringing five cherries, each time. One was carried in the beak, and the others were jerked up from the throat one by one until all of the five young were fed. At their release the young were so tame that they returned to take cherries, from my fingers, but the old birds soon enticed them away.

The young Great Crested Flycatchers were taken from their cavern in an apple tree on July 21, and placed in a wire cage which I hung in the next tree. I could see it from my barn door. The old birds would never go near the young if I was in sight. Concealed, I watched them with a glass and occasionally saw the young fed. They were given harvest flies, dragon flies, and various beetles, and also smaller insects of which they left no fragments. I kept them caged until early in August. They were as wild on the last day as on the first, and if the parents changed their feelings towards me, it was only by intensifying their hatred.—FRANK BOLLES, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Song of the Female Butcher Bird.—On the morning of April 8, 1890, when walking through the Fresh Pond Swamps at Cambridge, I heard a Butcher Bird (*Lanius borealis*) in full song. The bird was an unusually fine singer, and quite a mimic, its medley of notes suggesting a combination of the Brown Thrasher and as the Blue Jay, with an occasional 'mewing' sound much like the common Catbird. It was shot, and on sexing proved a female, the ovary being considerably enlarged.—ARTHUR CHADBOURNE, M. D., *Cambridge, Mass.*

Helminthophila celata at Montreal.—On May 21, 1890, I shot an Orange-crowned Warbler at Montreal. This is, I believe, the first record of its occurrence here.—ERNEST D. WINTLE, *Montreal, Canada.*

The Song of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis*.—At Englewood, New Jersey, on May 11, 1890, I saw and positively identified an apparently typical individual of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis*. Being fortunately without a gun I was spared the temptation of shooting, and during the ten or fifteen minutes which the bird was under my observation I had the pleasure of hearing it sing many times, even seeing it open its bill in the act of song. This song exactly resembled the rising and falling *tse* notes of *H. pinus* but was slightly weaker than the average song of that species.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City*.

***Dendroica cærulea* again in the District of Columbia.**—On May 5, 1888, I had the pleasure of capturing the first Cerulean Warbler taken in the vicinity of Washington (see 'The Auk' Vol. V, No. 3, p. 323). I took a second specimen, a female, on May 11, 1890, on the Virginia side of the Potomac. The bird was in the thick woods on top of a high ridge, and was shot without the least idea as to its true identity, it being taken for a Parula Warbler.—E. M. HASBROUCK, *Washington, D. C.*

***Cistothorus stellaris* at Washington, D. C.**—Up to the present date five species of the Troglodytidae have been taken at Washington. These are: *Troglodytes aëdon*, *T. hiemalis*, *Thryothorus ludovicianus*, *T. bewickii*, and *Cistothorus palustris*, all of which are common with the exception of Bewick's Wren, of which species three, I believe, have been taken. To this list I would add a sixth species, a single female Short-billed Marsh Wren having been taken on May 9, 1890. The species has been expected to occur here for years, there being no apparent reason why it should not be found, but thus far all attempts to secure it have been unsuccessful. The bird was evidently a thoroughly tired migrant that had stopped to rest, as it was found in the very place where one would least expect it,—a swampy little ravine thickly grown with young trees and skunk cabbage, and some little distance removed from any suitable locality. The bird was entirely alone, as I searched carefully for any other stragglers, and it was so exhausted that I had little difficulty in capturing it.—E. M. HASBROUCK, *Washington, D. C.*

Capture of the Hudsonian Chickadee in Worcester County, Mass.—A specimen of this species (*Parus hudsonicus*) was taken in a low swampy tract in North Ashburnham, Mass., during a blinding snowstorm, March 17, 1890. While wading through the snow along an old cart-path in the above-mentioned swamp I thought I detected an unfamiliar chirp in the bushes near by, and presently three dark colored birds appeared in sight. I immediately fired at the nearest one, but must have missed it, as, with the aid of my setter, I could not find it. In the mean time the other two had disappeared, but following carefully along in the direction they had taken I soon found them again, and secured one with the right barrel, but the other shell missed fire, but a friend with me, from whom the other



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