

Rare Birds in the Vicinity of Philadelphia. — On Sept. 5, 1894, a specimen of *Contopus borealis* was secured near Holmesburg, Pa., and on May 18, 1895, a specimen of *Empidonax traillii alnorum* was secured.

This is, I believe, the first definite record for the latter in this part of the State, as I am unable to find any in Stone's 'Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.' — *WITMER STONE, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

A Few Notes on the Avifauna Columbiana. — A Swallow-tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*) was observed flying over the Virginia side of the Aqueduct Bridge, by the writer, April 11, 1897. This bird is exceedingly rare here and records for this locality are scarce.

On the same date I took a set of eggs of the Turkey Vulture, about two and a half miles south of Falls Church, which is a very early date for this locality, and merits a notice.

As spring records for the Connecticut Warbler are scarce, it may not be amiss to say that I noticed a specimen May 9, 1897, in a swampy ravine, on Eastern Branch, south of the Reform School. — *PAUL BARTSCH, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.*

Northern New Jersey Notes. — In consequence of the lack of a New Jersey record of the Cerulean Warbler (*Dendroica rara*) in 'The Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey,' by Witmer Stone, I desire to note the capture of this species on an oak clad hill of Boonton, Morris Co., N. J., about the first of September, 1887. In the same township I took a young Henslow's Sparrow (*Ammodramus henslowii*) in a tussocky meadow on August 8, 1889. — *SYLVESTER D. JUDD, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.*

Bird Notes from Massachusetts. — *Mniotilta varia.* — On the 15th of December, 1895, a single individual of this species was seen among the pear trees in the yard. A heavy snow-storm was raging at the time, but the bird was actively engaged clambering about on the trunks, on the sheltered sides of the trees, where the damp snow did not cling. This bird may have been the same one, seen in the same spot November 13, in company with a flock of Chickadees. On both occasions the bird was very tame and confiding, allowing me to approach near enough so see all its markings. It was not seen again after the snow, which was the first heavy storm of the winter.

Dendroica coronata. — On the 29th of July, 1896, a single bird was seen in an orchard at Mt. Wachusett, Mass. It was engaged in catching flies and other insects, and several times uttered its characteristic *tchuck* and *wheest*. The occurrence of this species at this date seems noteworthy as being several weeks earlier than the usual appearance of the bird in this region.

Junco hyemalis. — It is interesting to note that two pairs of Slate-colored Juncos nested on the summit of Mt. Wachusett during the summer of



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