

Proceeding to a patch of woodland in which I had previously located two pairs, I quickly discovered one of the males, and in the course of half an hour his mate appeared, whereupon I transferred my attention to her. After an hour's patient watching she at last was seen to go to her nest, which was thus discovered to be saddled on the fork of a horizontal branch of a certain kind of tree, far out from the trunk, and fully 50 feet from the ground. The only way it could possibly be reached was by climbing a tall, slim butternut tree adjacent, thus enabling one to scoop out the eggs by means of a net attached to the end of a pole. However, on May 26 the plan was successfully carried out, though not without considerable risk; in addition the nest was secured and the female bird shot, thus putting the identification beyond question. The male came about at the time, but apparently manifested little concern.

The nest was a small, neat structure, tightly fastened to its branch, and composed mainly of weed stalks and strips of bark, though the outside, whose texture was rendered firmer by means of a plentiful supply of saliva and cobwebs, presented a decidedly white appearance, owing to the color of the stems composing it as well as to the bits of paper and hornets' nest added. The lining was simply finer weed stalks. It contained three eggs of the Warbler and one of the Cowbird, all fresh, so that the set was probably incomplete. In color they almost exactly resemble a set of American Redstarts in my collection, differing only in being slightly shorter. The ground-color is white, with a rather decided suggestion of bluish-green, spotted over, in the style of most Warblers, with reddish-brown, the spots tending to aggregate at and around the larger end.

The eggs, the nest, and the female bird are now in the collection of Dr. C. Hart Merriam of Washington, D. C.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, *Beaver, Beaver County, Pa.*

Marian's Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus marianæ*) **on the Coast of South Carolina.**—On December 16, 1890, I shot a fine adult male of this new bird. This specimen was the only one I could find, although the Long-billed Marsh Wren was very abundant the same day. This record extends its range about two hundred miles or more to the northward.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

The Bluebird Wintering near Boston.—On the 9th of December, 1890, my neighbor, Mr. E. F. Holden, reported a Bluebird in the village. I found one in the same valley on the 21st of that month, and saw it afterward at different times up to February 5. My own dates were as follows: December 21, 22, 27, 29; January 3, 30; February 1, 4, 5. On three of these occasions the bird was perched in an ash-tree beside an old barn, in which I suspected it of finding shelter. At three other times it was within a very few rods of the same spot, and at the farthest it was less than a quarter of a mile away. The casual appearance of a Bluebird here in mid-winter would not be worthy of record, but I am not aware that one has ever been

reported as actually spending the winter with us. The present season, it should perhaps be added, has been exceptionally severe.—BRADFORD TORREY, *Melrose Highlands, Mass.*

Notes on the Occurrence of Uncommon Species at Beaver, Pa.—*Clangula hyemalis*. LONG-TAILED DUCK.—On April 15, 1890, a party of three, all females, appeared at the mouth of the Big Beaver Creek, of which two were secured by one of the local gunners and given to me for inspection. The fact is certainly somewhat worthy of remark considering the lateness of the date and the mildness of the previous winter.

Phalaropus lobatus. NORTHERN PHALAROPE.—On the 26th of September, 1890, while pursuing a wounded duck, a bird of this species flew past me and alighted not a dozen paces away, showing no more fear or suspicion than would a Least Sandpiper. My shotgun missed fire twice before I at last secured it, in a condition unfortunately quite unfit for preservation. The only note it uttered was the chirp, which, more or less modified, characterizes nearly all the Shore-birds.

Tringa bairdii. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.—Shot a single individual of this species September 16, 1889, while in company with a couple of Semipalmated Plovers.

Geothlypis philadelphia. MOURNING WARBLER.—Two specimens have been taken thus far, one on May 11, 1889, the other on May 21, 1890, which dates, though in different years, probably represent the extremes of migration at this place.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, *Beaver, Beaver County, Pa.*

Cistothorus marianæ, *Buteo lineatus alleni*, and *Syrnium nebulosum alleni* in South Carolina.—A very interesting collection of birds made by Mr. James E. Benedict, of the National Museum, on the coast of South Carolina (near Charleston), in January, 1881, contains several specimens of the first-named of the above mentioned species and one each of the other two—all perfectly typical. The *Cistothorus* is so exceedingly different from *C. palustris*, in both plumage and proportions, judging from these specimens alone, that I could not doubt their specific distinctness.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

CORRESPONDENCE.

[Correspondents are requested to write briefly and to the point. No attention will be paid to anonymous communications.]

Camera Notes for Ornithologists.

TO THE EDITORS OF THE AUK:—

Dear Sirs: At the last Congress of the American Ornithologists' Union there were exhibited many photographs of all sorts of ornitholog-



Torrey, Bradford. 1891. "The Bluebird Wintering near Boston." *The Auk* 8, 239–240. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4068097>.

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