

**KIRTLAND'S WARBLER (*Dendroica kirtlandi*) AT  
OBERLIN, OHIO.**

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It has been my rare good fortune to meet face to face three Kirtland's Warblers during the season of migration just past. On May 7 it was seen and heard singing in an orchard of some three acres just outside the limits of Oberlin. The early hour—4:15 A. M.—an overcast sky with fine rain and searching north wind made a satisfactory scrutiny of the bird impossible. Consequently its identity was not fixed. One could not see the markings clearly in the feeble light. May 9th, at 5:00 A. M., in company with a considerable number of students, one was heard singing in the "South Woods" about a mile south of Oberlin. Here, again, circumstances made it impossible to obtain a satisfactory scrutiny of the singer, but the song was carefully studied and written out. On our return from the woods at 6:30, past the orchard mentioned above, the song was heard again and the bird clearly seen and studied for some time. Half an hour later the bird was in my hand for positive identification. It seemed a great pity to sacrifice so sweet a singer for a museum specimen.

One may ask why I speak so confidently of three individuals when but one of them was positively identified. In the first instance it was both seen and heard, and in the second clearly heard, and there is no Warbler song like it. Even the students remarked upon the unusual quality of the song and its striking character. It was given from three to six times in succession at intervals of about fifteen seconds, then with a prolonged pause sometimes lengthening into ten minutes, but often not over two minutes. It is likely, however, that the longer pause was occasioned by the bird flying from one tree to another because of my inquisitiveness. One does not meet so rare a Warbler every day, and so may be excused for a degree of over inquisitiveness. The song was loud and full, given with all the vigor of a Wren or Kinglet; the body being straightened to almost a perpendicular direction, and the beak

