

Warbler.

ii, 1788, 977.
I, 1790, 527.
Mag., n. s., I, 1827, 434.
R. R. Surv., IX, 1858, 274.
WARBLEE. HEMLOCK WAR-

Common migrant, which in
ts from the last of April
fall from the middle of

North America chiefly east
est to Utah, New Mexico
the northern United States
udson Bay, the Alleghany
rolina, and in the higher
County) and eastern Ten-
southward through eastern
in South America, and to

Sycamore Warbler.

MS., RIDGWAY, Amer. Nat.,

ON, Bull. Essex Inst., VIII,

O. U. Check List, 1895, 278.

species as follows:* "A
th." Mr. T. H. Douglas
e taken at Waukegan in
† reports it as a common
and as a rare visitant in
yne, Indiana. The Syc-
Monroe County and from
parent reason why this
area, particularly in the
Lake County, Indiana.

the A. O. U. Check-list:

north to Lake Erie and
ern North Carolina; in
onduras, Guatemala and

Dendroica virens (Gmelin). Black-throated Green Warbler.

Motacilla virens GMELIN, S. N., I., ii, 1788, 985.
Sylvia virens LATHAM, Ind. Orn., II, 1790, 537.
Sylvicola virens JARDINE, ed. Wilson's Amer. Orn., I, 1832, 279.
Dendroica virens BAIRD, Rep. Pacific R. R. Surv., IX, 1858, 267.

The Black-throated Green Warbler is a common migrant, ar-
riving in the spring from the last of April to the last of May,
and returning in the fall from the fourth of September to the
middle of October. Mr. E. W. Nelson says:* "A few remain
to breed."

The range of this Warbler covers North America east of the
Plains, and from the Hudson Bay region southward. It breeds
from the northern United States northward and southward along
the higher Alleghanies to eastern Tennessee, western North Caro-
lina and northwestern South Carolina. It winters southward to
the West Indies and through eastern Mexico and Central Amer-
ica to Panama.

Dendroica kirtlandii Baird. Kirtland's Warbler.

Dendroica kirtlandii BAIRD, Rep. Pacific R. R. Surv., IX, 1858, 286.
pl. 6.
Dendroica kirtlandii BAIRD, Rep. Pacific R. R. Surv., IX, 1858, 286.

There are but two records of the taking of the very rare
Kirtland's Warbler within our limits. A fine specimen was cap-
tured in DuPage County, Illinois, on the seventh of May, 1894,
by Mr. B. T. Gault, and a fine male was taken at Morgan Park,
Illinois, on May 22, 1899, by Mr. Eliot Blackwelder. It was not
until the year 1903 that anything was known regarding either the
breeding range or the nesting habits of this shy Warbler. Early
in June of that year Mr. E. H. Frothingham, of the museum staff
of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and Mr. T. G. Gale
were in Oscoda County, Michigan, fishing in the Au Sable River.
Mr. Frothingham, who is an experienced field ornithologist, heard
the song of a strange bird, which was shot, and on their return
to Ann Arbor was found to be the skin of a Kirtland's Warbler.
Mr. Charles C. Adams, Curator of the Museum, appreciating the
value of the discovery of this species in that locality during the
summer months, and believing that it nested in that vicinity com-
missioned Mr. Norman A. Wood to make a thorough survey in
the vicinity of Oscoda County, hoping that nests might be located.
Reaching his field of labor in Oscoda County, Mr. Wood was

*Birds of Northeastern Illinois, Bull. of the Essex Institute, Vol. VIII, 1876, 100.

eminently successful. I quote from his report:* "On July 2d, at six A. M., I started out; crossing the river bottom (near Butler bridge, Oscoda County, thirty-five miles northeast of Roscommon, Michigan) I came to a steep terrace which forms the edge of the Norway plains. This is very wet, and in places fine springs seep out. Here also is a dense growth of cedar with tamarack near the foot of the terrace. Fir, balm of Gilead and birch make up the timber. Climbing this slope I found a rather level plain with scattering Norway and jack pines. In places these have been cut off, and in their stead there has sprung up a more or less thick growth of small jack pines, yellow oak and poplar. The ground is covered with a mat of wintergreen, sweetfern and trailing arbutus. I was walking slowly through this, watching the junco, song sparrow, chipping sparrow and the vesper sparrow—the most common bird of these plains—when suddenly I heard a new song, loud, clear, joyous and full of sweet melody. This song may be described as follows: *weche chee-chee-chee-r-r-r*. The r sound is quite prolonged and loud. The first two notes are low, then the notes gradually increase in volume to the end. I thought it a Kirtland, although I had never before heard its song. I heard this song repeated at intervals of about thirty seconds, and from different directions. I tried to catch a glimpse of the singer, but for a long time failed to do so, as he kept among the thick jack pines and scrub oaks. I repeatedly tried to go where he sang last, and finally saw him flit from a bush to a yellow oak scrub and light about three feet above the ground. As I watched him he sat quite erect, threw forward his head and the wonderful song rang out. This song was remarkable because of its volume and rich melody. I was sure this was the bird for which I was in search; but in order to make certain the identity I shot it. A moment later I held in my hand a fine adult male of Kirtland's Warbler." Though Mr. Wood saw other specimens of this Warbler, both male and female, it was not until the eighth of July that he was successful in his hunt for a nest. He says: "We had nearly reached the line of Crawford County when I heard a song and on stopping, soon saw a male *Kirtlandii* singing from his favorite tree. I slipped from the wagon and secured this male. Driving on one half mile I saw a male fly to a dead tree near the road. This bird had a worm in its mouth, so I concluded that its nest was near by, and that it would go to it

*Bull. Michigan Orn. Club, Vol. V, March, 1904, 5.

with the worm. I went to the side of a large stub, and while I was watching, saw this male assume the erect singing position, throw forward his head and try to sing, still holding the worm in his mouth. This song may be written thus: *ch-ch-che-che-che-a* (the a long drawn out). He sang a number of times at intervals of about sixty seconds—but still held the worm. He soon spied me and seemed rather uneasy, wagging his tail after the fashion of *Dendroica palmarum*. Now the song seemed to take an anxious or scolding tone and sounded like *cha, che-chee wich-a-a*. After watching me a few minutes he dropped from the tree (on a long glide) to the east about three rods. I suspected he was going to the nest, so I hurried to the spot, but when I reached it he was not there; so I stood still and waited. In a few minutes he was at his place on the old tree with another worm. Again he sang and wagged his tail and then dove down, but this time two rods to the west of the tree. I started to go there, when just south of the tree I flushed the female from the ground and after a close look, saw the nest. It may be imagined with what delight I beheld the first nest of this rare bird ever seen, and with what eagerness I dropped to my knees beside it to make a closer examination of its contents. There were two young birds, perhaps ten days old, and a perfect egg; this proved to be the only egg found.

"This egg was a delicate pinkish-white (since the contents were removed it has faded to a dull white) thinly sprinkled with several shades of brown spots forming a sort of wreath at the larger end. This egg is .72x.56 inches or 18 by 14 mm., and contained no embryo. The nest was built in a depression in the ground, at the foot of a jack pine about five feet tall, and was only five feet from the road. It was partly covered with low blueberries and sweetfern plants. The nest is two inches inside diameter and the same in depth, very neat and compact, and is composed of strips of soft bark and some vegetable fiber, thickly lined with fine dead grass and pine needles. A few hairs from horses' mane or tail complete the lining.

"As I sat near the nest the female came and alighted on the branch of the jack pine just back of the nest. She was not at all shy. Once she came with a worm in her mouth, but would not feed the young while I was near. The male also came, but not so close. Both birds were very restless and uneasy—only a few seconds in a place—which made it very difficult to take photographs of them."

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