

Contopus virens.—May 2.

Passerina cyanea.—May 2.

Dendroica cærulescens.—May 2. (Norbeck, Md.; C. Abert).

Habia ludoviciana.—May 3.

Icteria virens.—May 3.

Vireo olivaceus.—May 3.

Icterus spurius.—May 3. (C. I. Goodale).

Trochilus colubris.—May 3. (C. I. Goodale).

Chordeiles virginianus.—May 3.

Dendroica Blackburniæ.—May 4. (Takoma, D. C.; R. W. Shufeldt).

As showing the considerably earlier migration west of the Alleghanies, it may be mentioned that the National Museum has just received a specimen of this bird, shot April 22 at East Saginaw, Michigan, by Mr. Peter Lepp, of that place.

Tyrannus tyrannus.—May 4.

Icterus galbula.—May 4. (Takoma, D. C.; R. W. Shufeldt).

Melanerpes erythrocephalus.—May 4.

Compsothlypis americana.—May 4. (C. I. Goodale).—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Notes on some Birds of Grays Harbor, Washington.—An important paper on the avifauna of the Northwest Coast has been recently published by Mr. R. H. Lawrence,* entitled: 'A Preliminary List of the Birds of the Gray's Harbor Region, Washington.' It contains the results of observations made at various times between April, 1890, and July, 1891, and includes notes on 92 species.

While collecting on the Northwest Coast in the summer of 1889, for the U. S. Department of Agriculture, I spent two weeks and a half at Aberdeen on Grays Harbor, and although the time was mainly devoted to collecting mammals, several species of birds not mentioned in Lawrence's list came under my observation. On account of the peculiar interest of the birds of this region which is within the area of maximum rainfall of the Northwest Coast, the following notes, published through the courtesy of Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Chief of the Division of Ornithology of the Department of Agriculture, may be of interest as supplementing those of Mr. Lawrence.

Aberdeen, the largest town on Grays Harbor, is built on a 'tide flat' on the north side of the Chehalis at the mouth of the Wishkah River. At the time of my visit (August 5-22, 1889) it was practically in the midst of an extensive coniferous forest, the only outlook being down the Chehalis River which furnished almost the only means of communication between the neighboring towns of Cosmopolis and Hoquiam, since the trail through the 'timber' to the latter place was seldom used. In the dense forests, which consist mainly of gigantic spruces (*Picea sitchensis*), hemlocks (*Tsuga mertensiana*), and cedars (*Thuja gigantea*), carpeted

* Auk, IX, Jan. 1892, 39-47.

with a luxuriant growth of mosses and ferns, birds were scarce, and almost the only species met with were Sooty Grouse (*Dendragapus obscurus fuliginosus*), Harris's Woodpeckers (*Dryobates villosus harrisi*), Steller's Jays (*Cyanocitta stelleri*), Oregon Jays (*Perisoreus obscurus*), and Winter Wrens (*Troglodytes hiemalis pacificus*). Along the banks of the Chehalis River, and back of the town on the tide-flat or marsh which was several acres in extent and formed the largest opening in the forest in this vicinity, birds were abundant, and among those observed were four species not given in Lawrence's list, viz., *Phalacrocorax pelagicus robustus*?, *Rallus virginianus*, *Chordeiles virginianus henryi*, and *Piranga ludoviciana*. To the notes on these species have been added remarks on a few species of special interest.

Larus occidentalis. WESTERN GULL.—This species is given by Lawrence as a "winter resident. Very common on tide water" Gulls, presumably of this species, were abundant early in August, and at Astoria at the mouth of the Columbia River during the last week in July. It is probable that the Western Gull is absent for only a short time during the summer, and is almost a resident in this vicinity as at other points along the coast, but whether it breeds near the Harbor is uncertain.

Phalacrocorax pelagicus robustus. VIOLET-GREEN CORMORANT.—On August 20 two flocks of Cormorants, about twenty-five in all, were seen flying down the Chehalis River. Two days later, while going up the river about sunset, the steamer passed a large roost a few miles above the town of Cosmopolis. The birds were roosting near the tops of the spruce trees along the bank, and as the boat passed, with the whistle blowing, a gun was discharged and one hundred and fifty to two hundred Cormorants took wing, startled by the unwonted noise. Unfortunately no opportunity for procuring specimens was had, and the identity of the species is somewhat in doubt. A Cormorant collected by Mr. Clark P. Streater, who found it common in October or November of the same year at Ilwaco, only a short distance south of Grays Harbor, proved to be *P. robustus*.

Rallus virginianus. VIRGINIA RAIL.—On August 13 a Virginia Rail was flushed on the tide-flat just back of the town. The bird rose but a few feet from me, and was plainly seen.

Colaptes cafer saturator. NORTHWESTERN FLICKER.—The Flicker, supposed to be *C. c. saturator* was common, but unfortunately no specimens were collected at this locality. Mr. Lawrence, however, refers it to *Colaptes cafer*.*

Chordeiles virginianus henryi. WESTERN NIGHTHAWK.—Not very common, only one or two seen.

Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli. GAMBEL'S SPARROW.—This is one of the most abundant and characteristic birds of the coast region from San

* [Mr. Lawrence has sent to me quite a series of these birds, which were of course *C. c. saturator*. It was an oversight that the form recorded by Mr. Lawrence in his 'notes' was not so given.—J. A. ALLEN.]

Francisco northward to British Columbia. It seems doubtful whether the bird which breeds on the Washington coast is *Zonotrichia l. intermedia*, as given by Lawrence, although this form is probably common in winter. The *Zonotrichias* which I found breeding at Astoria and at several points on the coast of northern California proved to be *Z. l. gambeli*, and Mr. John Fannin* considers the coast bird of British Columbia *Zonotrichia l. gambeli*, while *Z. l. intermedia* is given as "very common east of Cascades." It should be added, however, that specimens of *Z. l. intermedia* were collected by Streator† at Westminster Junction, Mt. Lehman, and Vancouver, B. C.

Piranga ludoviciana. LOUISIANA TANAGER.—A single bird, either a female or a young of the year, was observed near the sawmill on the bank of the Chehalis River on August 15.

Dendroica auduboni. AUDUBON'S WARBLER.—Of this species Mr. Lawrence says: "Summer resident. Not common. One shot April 22 on Stevens Prairie, the only one noted." While it is probable that it does not breed very commonly in the spruce forests along the coast, young birds—doubtless migrants—were abundant at Aberdeen on August 14, 1889.

Salpinctes obsoletus.—ROCK WREN.—Mr. Lawrence gives this species as a "summer resident? A few observed on Wishkah River, and on the East Humptulips in June, 1890; no specimen shot. Not seen in 1891 on the East Humptulips." Is it possible that these notes refer to some other species? It is distinctly stated that no specimens were secured, a fact greatly to be regretted, since this locality is beyond the usual range of *Salpinctes obsoletus*. During my collecting on the Northwest Coast from San Francisco to British Columbia I never saw or heard a specimen in the spruce forest belt. Mr. Streator obtained it only east of the Cascades, and Mr. Fannin states (l. c., p. 42): "I secured a specimen of this bird in June, 1884, at Burrard Inlet, the only one I ever saw on the coast. It is common east of Cascades."

Certhia familiaris occidentalis. CALIFORNIA CREEPER.—The Creeper is given in Lawrence's list as uncommon, and as a doubtful resident. He observed a few in January on the East Humptulips. This species was tolerably common at Aberdeen in August, 1889, and it is probable that further observations will show it to be a common resident.

Sialia mexicana. WESTERN BLUEBIRD.—Mr. Lawrence records but a single specimen, and questions whether it is a migrant. The Western Bluebird was common at Aberdeen in August, 1889, and probably breeds in this locality.—T. S. PALMER, *Washington, D. C.*

* Check List of British Columbia Birds. Sept., 1891, p 36.

† Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., III, No. 1, Oct., 1890, pp. 145, 157, but the bird is given as a "rare spring and fall migrant."



Palmer, T. S. 1892. "Notes on Some Birds of Grays Harbor, Washington." *The Auk* 9, 308–310. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4067803>.

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