

just below Alexandria, Virginia. As far as I am aware, this is the first time Black Terns have been seen in this vicinity in spring, though there are several autumn records.

**Botaurus lentiginosus.** AMERICAN BITTERN.—One was seen near Dyke, Virginia, on May 2, 1918. The latest previous spring record of which I am cognizant is April 30, 1859.

**Spinus pinus.** PINE SISKIN.—Two flocks containing about 35 individuals were seen October 22, 1916, above Cabin John, Maryland. Fall records of Siskins seem to be rare, and this is two days earlier than any previously recorded. Throughout the autumn of that year Siskins were quite common.

**Passerherbulus henslowi henslowi.** HENSLOW SPARROW.—One seen near New Alexandria, Virginia, April 1, 1917. The average date of arrival for this species is about April 18, and the earliest previous record April 10, 1889. This record was inadvertently reported by Dr. H. C. Oberholser (Bird-Lore, XIX, page 153) as March 25.

**Oporornis formosus.** KENTUCKY WARBLER.—Heard in Zoölogical Park, April 26, 1917, one day earlier than previously recorded.

**Geothlypis trichas trichas.** MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT.—One seen above Cabin John, Maryland, October 22, 1916. The latest previous fall record for this species is October 21, 1895.

**Poliioptila cærulea cærulea.** BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER.—On January 1, 1917, a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher was observed for some time at the Arlington Experiment Farm, Virginia. It was very active and several times uttered its characteristic squeaking note. As far as I am aware, this is the first record of the occurrence of the species near Washington in winter. Through a clerical error this occurrence was recorded by Dr. H. C. Oberholser (Bird-Lore, XIX, page 153) as January 2. The average date of spring arrival is April 7, and the earliest March 30, 1907.—M. T. COOKE, *Washington, D. C.*

**Scarcity of Birds in the Spring Migration of 1918.**—I have seen no reference, either in 'The Auk' or 'Bird-Lore,' to a general scarcity of birds this year, especially of the warblers and other small birds.

Here, the robins, grackles, starlings, and, perhaps, the thrashers, are as numerous as usual; the jays, and, perhaps, the towhees, more so. Taking the birds as a whole, however, the difference from other years may be indicated by the following figures:—best record to June 30, 104; average record to June 30, for fourteen years, 91; this year, 67.

Not only is the number of species seen notably smaller, but the number of individuals is smaller. For instance, I could count on the fingers of one hand all that I have seen of such common warblers as the Redstart, Wilson's, the Blackpoll, Black-throated Blue, Black-throated Green, Black-and-White; and the record is not much better for the Myrtle, the Yellow, and the Maryland Yellow-throat.

I might say the same thing about the Vireos, and the Flycatchers.



The testimony of every bird student with whom I have talked, either here or in Central Park, New York, is in entire harmony with my own experience.—ROBT. BARBOUR, *Montclair, N. J.*

**Notes on Six Birds from Georgia.—*Sturnus vulgaris*.** STARLING.—A young male was shot near Savannah by Mr. Ernest Cunningham on November 11, 1917, and brought to Mr. Gilbert R. Rossignol, Jr., who preserved it and presented the specimen to me. This is the first occurrence of this bird in Georgia.

***Piranga erythromelas*.** SCARLET TANAGER.—Among a collection of birds, made near Savannah by Mr. Troup D. Perry, and which I have acquired, is a male of this species that was taken by Mr. Perry on October 14, 1906. The Scarlet Tanager is a very rare bird in the south Atlantic States particularly on or near the coast and I have yet to detect it in the autumn in South Carolina.

During the past thirty-five years that I have devoted to ornithology in South Carolina I have seen but four birds, three of which I procured, as follows: April 30, 1889, an adult male taken on Oakland plantation, Christ Church Parish; May 4, 1911, a fine adult male taken, the late Dr. Edgar A. Mearns being at my side when I shot it; May 1, 1912, a male in very high plumage, Dr. Louis B. Bishop being near me when I shot it. The other specimen was seen on April 29, 1884, on the plantation of Mr. F. W. Heyward near Oakley and about thirty odd miles from Charleston.

***Vermivora pinus*.** BLUE-WINGED WARBLER.—Mr. Gilbert R. Rossignol, Jr., shot on September 6, 1909, near Savannah, a beautiful male of this bird and presented it to me. The Blue-winged Warbler is very rare in the south Atlantic States and I have yet to see one alive.

***Dendroica dominica albilora*.** SYCAMORE WARBLER.—I have an adult male of this western form of *D. dominica* taken by Mr. D. V. Hembree at Roswell, Ga. (near Atlanta), on July 2, 1913. This bird was from the collection of Mr. Troup D. Perry and labeled by Mr. Hembree "Yellow-throated Warbler." The superciliary stripe is almost immaculate white, there being the faintest tinge of yellow when placed under a magnifying glass. This bird is in high plumage and the yellow of throat intense and hence not faded, and without doubt was mated and raised a brood of young at Roswell for the date on which it was taken was too early for a migrant from some other region, as birds do not migrate in the autumn, that is land birds, until they have renewed their plumage — and this one had not done so.

***Thryomanes bewicki bewicki*.** BEWICK'S WREN.—Mr. Perry shot near Savannah on March 19, 1909, a fine male Bewick's Wren, which is the only one he has ever seen during all the years he has been observing birds near his home in Savannah. This specimen is now in my collection. Bewick's Wren is a bird of the Upper Austral Zone during the breeding season in North and South Carolina as well as Georgia, and it is resident even in the mountains of North Carolina where I have seen and heard it



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