

hat one might search
without seeing a single

early breeder. The
building commences by
the weather is cold and
the week in April. The
first nest, which con-
sists of April 20. In 1897,
the first nest, which
April 2, while another,
April 4.

ably built in festoons
exceptions to this rule.
of pine, forty-five feet
fifteen feet from the
ground in a mass of dead
on April 21. It is
the other nest
the ground, and on
It was entirely
contained four heav-
April 19, 1905, and is now

alone, is constructed
with other lined profusely
with moss, and is indeed a
the moss together
the pillars is fastened,
the nest is always built
in festoons from ten to one

This bird appears
five eggs are laid,
spotted, and blotch-
marked. They
and I saw the young

the young leave the
scattered trees near
of June, and migrate

Occasional specimens have the back spotted with black. An adult male, taken August 29, 1889, near Charleston, has the entire back very heavily spotted beneath the surface with black. This specimen was recorded by the writer in the *Auk*¹ and is still in my collection. Since this specimen was recorded I have taken four or five others which have the back spotted with black.

The Yellow-throated Warbler winters from the coast of South Carolina southward to Cuba, Jamaica, Hayti, and Porto Rico.

263. *Dendroica virens* (Gmel.). BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER.

This is a regular transient visitant in spring but is not observed in the fall. It arrives with great regularity and I mention two dates upon which the first birds were secured, namely—March 26, 1890, Yemassee; and March 27, 1900, Mount Pleasant.² It is not common until the middle of April, and its passage through the coast region requires so long a time that one not acquainted with the migration of birds might readily believe that it bred here. I have heard numbers singing as late as May 26.

On May 21, 1904, these birds were common in a great deciduous swamp on the plantation of Mr. B. B. Furman in Christ Church Parish, where they were singing constantly from the tops of the tallest trees, some of them being scarcely visible from the ground at such a height. I have always found this species a very high-ranging bird; in fact it ranges higher than any Eastern North American warbler with which I am acquainted. A few birds remain on the coast until the first day of June, but these are females.

That this species should remain on the coast until June and not breed is very surprising, as it has been found breeding on the island of Grand Manan, New Brunswick, on the 17th of June.

Mr. Leverett M. Loomis³ found this species breeding in the mountains of Pickens county and also at Caesar's Head, Greenville county. It winters in the West Indies and Panama.

264. *Dendroica kirtlandii* Baird. KIRTLAND'S WARBLER.

Until recently (1903), all ornithologists considered this species the rarest of the warblers. There are three records for this

¹ VII, 1890, 97.

² Since the above was written Mr. Wayne found this species common on March 22, 1910—his earliest record.—Ed.

³ See *Auk*, VII, 1890, 128, and VIII, 1891, 331.

state, namely—April 27, 1886, male, St. Helena Island, collected by a native lad, and recorded by Mr. Walter Hoxie in the *Auk*;¹ October 11, 1888, female, Chester, taken by Mr. Leverett M. Loomis, and recorded by him in the *Auk*;² October 29, 1903, male, near Mount Pleasant, taken by the writer and recorded in the *Auk*.³

I herewith quote the account of my capture of this rare warbler:

On October 29, 1903, I shot near Mount Pleasant, S. C., a superb specimen of Kirtland's Warbler from the top of a water oak tree about 40 feet from the ground. It was about 11 a. m., when I heard a chirp which I thought was that of a Prairie Warbler (*Dendroica discolor*) and as it was a very late date for a Prairie Warbler to be here I went in search of the bird. The sound ceased entirely, but I kept looking into the water oak tree and did not move far away. At last I saw a small bird near the top of the tree behind a cluster of leaves, and when it moved it wagged its tail in a most deliberate and studied manner. The tail seemed to be disproportionately long and the body altogether unsymmetrical in contour. I at once realized that it was a Kirtland's Warbler—a bird that I had looked for in vain for twenty years. The bird kept constantly *behind* a limb or a cluster of leaves or twigs and remained in this position nearly all the time I was watching it. At last it changed its position and with its breast towards me I fired and found that I had secured a superb specimen of this rare warbler.

The specimen is a young male, and had not entirely completed the moult, and was very fat. This bird makes the third specimen captured in South Carolina, and, if I have read the record correctly, makes the third specimen taken in the United States during the autumnal migration; while it is the latest fall record by eighteen days for the presence of the bird in the United States.

Previous to the capture of the bird heavy frosts were noted, and on the day of the capture there had been a heavy frost.

In the Atlantic states (in addition to the records from South Carolina) this species has been taken by Mr. William Palmer at Fort Myer, Virginia, on September 25, 1887, and a second specimen was seen, but not secured, a week later.⁴ In Florida, a specimen was seen on April 19, 1897, at West Jupiter, and one was taken on April 27, at the same place by Mr. Charles B. Cory.⁵ At Cumberland Island, Georgia, a specimen was taken on April 12, 1902, by Mr. A. H. Helme.⁶

Kirtland's Warbler breeds—as far as is known—only in the northern portion of the southern peninsula of Michigan (Oscoda, Crawford, and Roscommon counties), where, in July, 1903, Mr. Norman A. Wood⁷ found the first nest, which contained one egg, besides several young birds. I have but little doubt that this species will be found breeding in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and northern Ontario.

A specimen was taken at Toronto, Canada, on May 16, 1900,

¹ III, 1886, 412.

⁴ *Auk*, V, 1888, 148.

⁷ See Wood, *Bull. Mich. Orn. Club*, V, 1904, 3-13.

² VI, 1889, 74.

⁵ *Ibid.*, XV, 1898, 331.

³ XXI, 1904, 83-84.

⁶ *Ibid.*, XXI, 1904, 291.

by Mr. J. Hughes & This bird is the only States during the mig

The migration of t ward of the Alleghan season, and St. He northerly limit of its westwardly direction North Carolina. In Chester and Charlest that its route of migr

Kirtland's Warble

265. *Dendroica vi*

The Pine Warbler abundantly along t however, more abun the breeding season, that breed far to th winter home. True the pine forest exc months to feed upon

Audubon says in I

The Pine-creeping War makes it of a different f linas, for instance, it is u moss, with less workman: York, or that of Maine.

The statement th dangling fibres of tl is invariably built in limb, among the "na

The breeding seas containing small eml of the birds do not h

Much also depend very backward and t was not found until was taken the follow

The nest is alwa:

⁸ XVII, 1900, 391.

