

KIRKLAND'S WARBLER.

This member of the Warbler family received its name from Dr. J. P. Kirtland, of Ohio. Dr. Kirtland appears to have been the first to have brought the species before American Ornithologists.

The male of this species is about 5½ inches in height. The plumage on the upper part is of a slaty blue color, the front of the head being black and the crown streaked with lines of the same hue; the under parts yellow, whitening toward the extremities. The wings and tail are each marked with spots and lines of a clear white. The female is a little smaller in size than the male. The markings of her plumage is much similar, but the colors are of a duller hue. The bill and feet are black.

Of the nesting and general habits of this species but little is known. In its migratory movements and food-seeking actions it does not appear to differ from the other members of the Warbler family.

Dr. Cones, in his "Key to North American Birds," gives a full description of the size and plumage of both sexes of this species, and, after noting its habitation, Eastern United States, says: "That it is the rarest of all the Warblers and that up to 1884 only about a dozen specimens had been collected."

In the general notes of the first volume of the "Auk," page 389, under the heading, "Another Kirtland's Warbler, From Michigan," Robert Ridgway, of the Smithsonian Institute, Washington, contributes the following note, regarding this species: "The National Museum has recently acquired an adult

male of this species, which in the collector's label bears the following legend: 'No. III. Collection of Ny Green, (*Dendroeca pinus*) Pine-creeping Warbler, Battle Creek, Mich., May 11, 1883.' This specimen which was generously presented to the National Museum by Mr. G. H. Batty, of Parkville, L. I., is in the highest state of plumage of the fully adult male, and has the yellow of the underparts entirely free from markings, which are present in the type (an immature male changing to a Spring plumage), and in two of the three females in the collection."

The reader will note that though the collector of the above specimen labeled it as the Pine Warbler, Mr. Ridgway identified it as a fully plumaged specimen of the Kirtland species.

Referring to the birds of Michigan, by Professor A. J. Cook, we find that author recording Kirtland's as a rare straggler in that state. He mentions the specimens taken at Battle Creek in May, 1883, and refers to another taken at Ann Arbor in May, 1888; refers to another taken at the Straits of Mackinaw, and identified by Dr. Merriam. Up to 1878 but nine specimens were known, the fifth and ninth of these having been taken by Mr. Covert in Michigan.

The members of John Borroughs' Bird Society held an interesting meeting on the evening of December 7. A. W. Anthony made an address on the condition of bird life on the Pacific Coast, a very vivid account being given of the merciless slaughter among the rookeries on the Southern Coast of North America.

