

To a practiced ear this is a rich harvest, and there is probably no place where the rarer transients are so commonly met with and so often heard to sing as here in this wild gum-boot region of southeast Missouri, where the rivers have no banks, and a rise of a few feet inundates thousands of square miles. Every spring at least one half of the area is under water, but even the highest floods, among them that of 1897, cannot submerge the entire area, though it may lack only a few feet; so large is the expanse of lowland, over which the water has to spread. Kolb Island with its 140 acres had less than 40 acres of dry land at the time of my visit, though the water had already gone down over a foot and a half from its highest stage in April.

The whole St. Francis basin is a network of sloughs, in reality only arms of the St. Francis River; they have very narrow channels free from treegrowth, but overgrown with wild rice (*Zizania miliacea*), different kinds of smartweed, mostly the large southern kind, *Polygonum densiflorum*, and the channel itself is closed up in summer by a dense growth of lotus (*Nelumbium*). This narrow, treeless, channel region merges into the tupelo and taxodium belt, the region of regular yearly overflow of several months' duration, in some years hardly getting dry at all.

Then comes the region of irregular overflow of shorter duration, grown with sweetgum, blackgum, water and willow oaks, ashes, cottonwood, hackberry and, on the higher levels, white and cow oaks, pin oak, red oak, walnuts and hickories, elms and two scores of others, among them the ornamental catalpa and tulip trees and, last but not least, the mulberry. From the ornithologist's standpoint this latter is a valuable constituent of the sylvia. Its fruit begins to ripen early in May and is a great attraction for a number of birds throughout the month. I am inclined to think that the mulberry has something to do with the melodious moods and late loitering of many northbound wanderers, especially the Alice Thrushes, some of which were seen lingering into June.

[Description of the nest and eggs of **Bachman's Warbler** (*Helminthophila bachmani*).—Mr. Widmann having requested me to describe the nest and eggs referred to in the preceding article I take pleasure in doing so.