

NESTING OF THE RED-FACED WARBLER (*CARDELLINA RUBRIFRONS*) IN THE HUACHUCA MOUNTAINS, SOUTHERN ARIZONA.

BY W. W. PRICE.

THIS beautiful Warbler is commonly met with in the pine region of Southern Arizona, where, in the Huachuca Mountains, on May 31, 1888, I had the good fortune to find its nest and eggs, the first taken within the limits of the United States, I believe.

Early on that morning I left the house at the mouth of the Ramsey Cañon, taking an old disused lumber road to the mills, situated about three miles from my stopping place, and at an elevation of about 6500 feet, or some 2000 feet above the mesa at the northern base of the range. I had secured a fine variety of birds and was on my return, when I decided to leave the trail and follow down the cañon, which, below the point where the road leaves it and crosses a spur of the mountains, is extremely steep and rocky. As I was making my way slowly down, I noticed a Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher (*Myiodynastes luteiventris*) perched on a branch of a maple, and while I was trying to get a shot at it, a little bird flew from close to my feet. On securing the Flycatcher I returned and searched for some time in vain for my bird and nest, and was about to leave, when a *C. rubrifrons* came chirping about. I secreted myself, and the bird soon flew to a clump of columbine which grew on the bank of the creek. I again flushed the bird, a female, and secured it, and also found the nest, which was placed on sloping ground in a slight hollow and contained four fresh eggs. A few sprays of the columbine hid the nest so completely that had not the bird been frightened directly off from it, I should not have found it. Dissection of the female showed that the full clutch had been laid. The structure was a very poor attempt at nest-building, and made of such loose material that it crumbled to fragments on being removed. The chief substance was fine fibrous weed stalks, while the lining consisted of fine grass, rootlets, plant fibres, and a few hairs. Skeleton leaves and bits of fine bark were scattered sparingly throughout the nest. Leaves and other rubbish had drifted with the wind or had been

scratched up all around, to a level with the rim, so that one could hardly see where the nest proper left off. Inside the nest was about two and one half inches wide by one and one half inches in depth; outside it was about five inches wide by three inches in depth. The ground on which the nest was placed was so damp that the bottom part of it was badly decayed.

[The eggs of *Cardellina rubrifrons*, kindly presented by Mr. Price to the National Museum collection at Washington, D. C., are new to science, I believe. They are ovate in shape. Their ground color is a delicate creamy white, and they are spotted with small blotches of cinnamon rufous and a few dots of heliotrope purple and pale lavender. These form a wreath around the larger end. They resemble the eggs of *Helminthophila lucia* and *H. virginia* to a certain extent. They measure .66 X .50, .67 X .50, .66 X .50 and .66 X .50 inch.—CHAS. E. BENDIRE.]

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## NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF WINCHENDON, WORCESTER COUNTY, MASSACHUSETTS.

BY WILLIAM BREWSTER.

IN 1887 I spent three days (June 23 to 26), and in 1888 seven days (June 11 to 18), investigating the bird fauna of the region about Winchendon, a town near the northern border of Worcester County, Massachusetts, about sixteen miles south of Mt. Monadnock.

On the first trip I was accompanied by Mr. H. A. Purdie, on the second by Messrs. H. M. Spelman and S. W. Denton; while during both visits Mr. C. E. Bailey, a young local collector, devoted his entire time to helping me, his intimate knowledge of the woods and swamps and the particular haunts of some of the rarer birds proving of very great value. Upon looking over the notes made during these trips I have decided to omit in the present paper any detailed mention of birds whose occurrence possesses no particular significance or interest, but a nominal list is given of all the species observed.

Most of the notes relate, of course, to the presence of the summer birds only, but a few captures of rare winter visitors are given on Mr. Bailey's authority.