

collected by Mr. H. Keays for Prof. H. P. Attwater, in Yavapai Co., Arizona. Skins and nests accompanied both sets of eggs.

*Dendroica gracizæ*. Nest placed on limb of pine tree sixty feet from the ground. Nest very compact; outside diameter 3 in. by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. high; inside diameter  $1\frac{3}{4}$  in. by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. deep. The body of this nest is composed of horse-hair, strings and vegetable fibres. The most abundant vegetable material interwoven consists of the staminate catkins and bud scales of *Quercus emoryi*. There is also some wool, vegetable down, and insect webbing, in which are entangled the exuvia of some caterpillar. Attached on the outside was a small staminate cone of a species of *Pinus*. Nest well lined with feathers and horse-hair. The three eggs were well incubated. Their ground color is creamy white, marked over entire surface, but more heavily at larger end, where they form a wreath, with light umber and an occasional speck of dark chestnut; lilac shell markings at larger end only. Measurements,  $.51 \times .70$ ,  $.50 \times .69$ ,  $.50 \times .68$  in.; average,  $.50 \times .69$ . Collected June 23, 1890.

*Contopus pertinax*. The nest, placed on an oak limb twenty feet from ground, is compact, and reminds one of the nest of our *C. virens*, excepting in size. Outside diameter 5 in. by 2 in. high; inside diameter 3 in. by 1 in. deep. The body of the nest seems to consist of the web of some spider intermingled with the exuvia of some insect, fragments of insects, and vegetable matter, such as staminate catkins of *Quercus emoryi* and a pod of *Hosackia*, some leaves of *Quercus emoryi* and *Q. undulata*. The interior of the nest is made up of grasses, principally of two species of *Poa*, also some fragments of a *Bouteloua* and a *Stipa*. The eggs, three in number, were slightly incubated. The ground color is creamy-buff, spotted in a ring round larger end with chestnut and lilac-gray. Measurements,  $.63 \times .86$ ,  $.62 \times .83$ ,  $.61 \times .83$  in.; average,  $.62 \times .84$ . Collected June 17, 1890. I am greatly indebted to Messrs. Wm. Brewster of Cambridge, Mass., Josiah Hoopes of West Chester, Pa., and John M. Holzinger of Washington, D. C., for the identification of the above skins and nesting material. — SAMUEL B. LADD, *West Chester, Pa.*

A Female *Piranga rubra* Assuming the Plumage of the Male. On the 27th of May of the present year my son Percy W. Shufeldt collected at Takoma Park, in Montgomery County, Maryland, a female Summer Tanager having a plumage so unusual that a record of it would seem worthy of presentation. The species is by no means uncommon in the locality where it was taken, and the specimen is apparently an adult, of several years of age. In coloration her plumage about corresponds with that of a young male of this species during the first summer, or an adult female with the following differences;—the plumage of the upper parts is thickly interspersed with the dark red feathers which characterize the male, and the plumage of the entire under parts is thickly beset with bright vermilion-tinted feathers. Many of the secondaries of the wings are also bright red, as is also the outer tail-feather of the left side. I personally examined the sex of this specimen on dissection, and found her ovary to

contain ova varying in size from a No. 10 shot to that of a small pea. The skin of this bird is at present in my son's collection.—*Dr. R. W. Shufeldt, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.*

**Capture of *Geothlypis poliocephala palpebralis* in Cameron County, Texas**—Recently Mr. Charles K. Worthen of Warsaw, Illinois, sent me for identification a specimen of *Geothlypis poliocephala palpebralis* (Ridgw.), an adult male, taken by one of his collectors at Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas, June 8, 1890. On my questioning the correctness of the alleged locality, Mr. Worthen made special inquiries respecting the capture of this specimen, and writes me that his collector assures him the specimen "was taken in Brownsville, Texas." It being the first one he had seen, he sent it to Mr. Worthen for identification. This specimen is now in Mr. Worthen's collection.

This forms the first record of the species for the United States. Mr. George B. Sennett, however, has in his collection a single specimen from Aldema, Tamaulipas, Mexico, collected June 13, 1888. These specimens are both referable to the form Mr. Ridgway has recognized as *Geothlypis palpebralis* (Man. N. Am. Birds, 1887, p. 526),—one of the several closely allied forms of the *G. poliocephala* group.—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

**Bachman's Warbler (*Helminthophila bachmani*) at Raleigh, N. C.**—On April 27, 1891, while walking near a small woodland stream I heard the note of a Warbler unfamiliar to me but which reminded me of the song of the Parula without the rise at the end. The sound came apparently from the low bushes in the brook, but I could see no bird. I followed the sound up the brook till I reached a thicket at its head, where I waited. On hearing the notes again I crossed the brook and found the bird was in the woods in front of me. In a few seconds I saw a bird with a black throat about 15 ft. from the ground in the lower limbs of a small oak, and immediately after collected my first Bachman's Warbler. While in the oak the bird suggested *Dendroica virens*, but the song prevented my mistaking it for that species.

This specimen was apparently in breeding condition as the testes measured  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  mm., but I could detect no other birds with it, except a pair of Bluegray Gnatcatchers which were building near the same brook.

On May 22, I took my second specimen of this species, in a woodland thicket on the edge of Walnut Creek, within a few feet of where the above mentioned brook flows into the creek. I may here mention that since killing the first specimen I had on three occasions followed and killed Wormeating Warblers, on account of the similarity of their song to that of Bachman's Warbler. When the song of Bachman's Warbler fell on my ears on this second occasion, I remarked to my brother, who was with me, "I hear a Warbler singing that is either a Wormeater or a Bachman's." I followed the notes up the creek till at last I caught sight of a bird with a black throat in a small birch and immediately shot it. Another bird flew