

near Orland, a few miles southwest of Chicago, came across about two hundred *Calcarius pictus*. Among them were ten or a dozen *Calcarius ornatus*, a bird of the western plains, heretofore not recorded from Illinois. The birds were not very shy, allowing a near approach, and were positively identified by Mr. Abbott, who is well acquainted with the species in the field, having previously taken specimens in Dakota and Montana.—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

**The Type Locality of *Vireo belli*.**—Audubon described *Vireo belli* without giving any type locality. The type specimen is now in the United States National Museum, and is labeled "Fort Union (?) Mr. Audubon." This specimen is quoted without the question mark in Baird's 'Birds of North America,' 1858, p. 337; in Baird's 'Review of North American Birds,' 1866, p. 358, as "Fort Union, Dec. 1843"; while in Baird, Brewer and Ridgway's 'North American Birds,' I, 1874, p. 389, the type locality is given as "Missouri River," and the statement is made in the text that this species was first procured "in what is now known as Dakota Territory." The latest manual, Ridgway's 'Birds of North and Middle America,' III, 1904, p. 204, gives the type locality as "Fort Union, Dakota, type in Coll. U. S. Nat. Mus."

There seems to be no foundation in fact, in any of these statements, for giving Fort Union as the type locality. *Vireo belli* was described by Audubon in his 'Birds of America,' octavo edition, 1844, p. 333, and he says, "On the same day that Harris' Finch was procured, Mr. J. G. Bell. . . shot one of the species which I am now about to describe." On page 331 of the same volume, under *Fringilla harrisi*, the statement is made that the "first specimen seen was procured May 4, 1843, a short distance below the Black Snake Hills." Therefore, according to this statement, the type of *Vireo belli* was secured May 4, 1843. From the journal of Audubon, it is known that at this date he was a few miles below St. Joseph, Mo., and under this date he speaks of securing "a new Finch" (Audubon and his Journals, by Maria R. Audubon, I, 1897, p. 470), but he says nothing of any new *Vireo*. Two days later, however, he says: "Bell also shot a small *Vireo*, which is in all probability a new species (to me at least)." This is the *Vireo belli*, and at this date the party was at St. Joseph, Mo. There is thus a discrepancy of two days between the date given in Audubon's journal and that mentioned in the original description of *Vireo belli*. Audubon's journal mentions that another specimen of the Harris Finch was shot on May 6, and it is evidently this specimen that Audubon remembered when he wrote that Harris's Finch and Bell's *Vireo* were taken the same day. The type of *Vireo belli* was therefore taken May 6, 1843, at St. Joseph, Mo.

Audubon makes the explicit statement in the original description of *Vireo belli* that he found it "as far up the Missouri River as Fort Union." This is probably a mistake, as no subsequent observer has noted the species farther north than southern South Dakota.

The label on the type specimen was evidently not written by Audubon himself and whoever wrote it had doubts as to the correctness of the locality.

Old Fort Union is the type locality of several species, but writers and geographers have disagreed as to whether the Fort was in North Dakota or Montana. Mr. E. A. Preble, of the Biological Survey, visited the site a few days ago and finds that the present Montana-Dakota line cuts right through the site of the old fort, but as most of the buildings were on the Dakota side, it seems best to consider that Old Fort Union was in North Dakota.—WELLS W. COOKE, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**The Redstart in Southern New Jersey in Summer.**—The Redstart is a rare summer resident in southern New Jersey, and it is only of late years that it has been commonly observed at this season.

On the Pensauken Creek, as far back as 1894 or 1895, in September, I collected a nest that was undoubtedly of this species. It was found well in a wood on the high bank of the stream, above Parry, on the Burlington County side, and was placed in the crotch of a white oak sapling, about 20 feet from the ground. It differed appreciably in composition from nests of the Yellow Warbler, the only species breeding on the creek whose nests it resembled; but I have never yet found *Dendroica aestiva* nesting in woods. I had the nest several years in my collection and it was almost the exact reproduction of other Redstarts' nests I possessed, which were collected in New York and Pennsylvania.

Nevertheless, the Redstart does breed on the Pensauken Creek, as I saw a pair here on June 14, 1908, in a wood on the Burlington County side of the South Branch, above Fork's Landing, and observed a male in the same wood on June 13, 1909. But on both occasions I failed to find the nest.

At Fish House, Camden County, N. J., one was seen on June 3, 1906, but no search was made for its nest. A Blue-winged Warbler, another rare breeder in southern New Jersey, was observed on the same day at this locality.

It is my belief that the Redstart is increasing in South Jersey in summer, as it appears to be doing in southeastern Pennsylvania.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Providential Supply of Food for Birds in a Blizzard.**—April 22, 1910, opened bright and warm. Fruit trees were in blossom, flowers everywhere. By night a heavy rain set in, followed by snow and a cold northwest wind. By morning it was mid-winter. Birds and plants were frozen, and there was several inches of snow on the ground.

Half-frozen and bedraggled, the birds huddled under the hedges or in the evergreens for protection from the blizzard. After breakfast I went out to shovel the snow off the walk, and was surprised to see throngs of