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A List of the Birds Observed in Clay and O'Brien Counties, Iowa

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U.S. Department of Agriculture

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A LIST OF THE BIRDS OBSERVED IN CLAY AND
O'BRIEN COUNTIES, IOWA.

IRA N. GABRIELSON.

Clay and O'Brien counties lie in a section of Iowa which has received little attention from ornithologists. O'Brien is the more westerly; it is the second from the western boundary of the state, with Clay county adjoining it on the east; and each lies within one county of the Minnesota state line.

The following list of the birds observed in these counties is based on notes made through a number of years and is by no means complete. Previous to 1907 the writer lived at Sioux Rapids, which is just south of Clay county, and made from there numerous trips into that county. The period from February, 1907, to September, 1908, was spent in this county on a farm near Webb. Later, notes were made on summer and holiday trips during which Webb in Clay and Sheldon in O'Brien county were visited more than any other points, although many other parts received some attention.¹ Unfortunately, many of the notes previous to 1909 were accidentally destroyed and this has made necessary the omission of some species from this paper.

A migration season spent in the Little Sioux valley would undoubtedly have added many species to the list. The number of warblers and other migrants added during the few days spent in Sheldon in May of different years is an indication of what might be expected. Plans for this work had been made but circumstances have rendered the possibility of their fulfillment remote. The only excuse offered for publishing an admittedly incomplete list lies in the fact that conditions have changed so much in this territory since 1912 that the completion of the work is no longer possible. The region has been so rapidly

¹The following are the dates and principal points visited on each trip: Webb, Clay county, June 10-Sept. 1, 1909; Webb, Nov. 23-26, 1909; Webb, Dec. 18, 1909-Jan. 3, 1910; Webb, March 26-April 9, 1910; Sheldon and Hartley, O'Brien county, and Evely, Clay, April 9-12, 1910; Sheldon, May 14-16, 1910; Webb, June 11-Oct. 1, 1910; Clay county north of Sioux Rapids, Oct. 1-Nov. 30; Webb, Nov. 30, 1910-Jan. 30, 1911; Webb, April 8-15, 1911; Granville (near the O'Brien county line but lying in Sioux county), Paulina, O'Brien, and Peterson and Webb, Clay, June 13-20, 1911; Sheldon, May 19-22, 1912; Sheldon, Spencer and Webb, Aug. 6-17, 1913.

drained that comparatively few swamps or ponds were left when it was last visited, in August of 1913. Where, in 1909 and 1910, cattails and other aquatic vegetation, teeming with bird life, flourished, solid fields of corn now stand and the birds have vanished. This is particularly true of southeastern Clay county, where most of the time was spent. These notes are presented as a partial record of the conditions existing in this region before man eliminated the swamps and "kettle holes" and changed entirely the conditions found there. It is believed that the list of water birds is reasonably complete except among the migrating sandpipers and rarer ducks.

Little has been published regarding the avifauna of this region. Tinker² published a list of eighty-six species based on material secured by the University of Michigan-Walker Expedition, which visited Clay and northwestern Palo Alto counties between July 1 and September 1, 1907.

A paper by the writer³ contained a list of fifty species found breeding on a farm near Webb. Aside from these two articles only scattered notes in reference to this locality have appeared. Tinker's list includes eight species which were not found by the writer, namely Virginia Rail, Stilt Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Long-eared Owl, Alder Flycatcher, Western Henslow Sparrow, Bay-breasted Warbler, and Wilson Warbler. These added to the 136 recorded here make a total of 144 species for the region.

Little need be said regarding topography. The dominant feature is the gently rolling prairie land which is now practically all under cultivation. Innumerable lakes, ponds, swamps, and "kettle holes" dotted this prairie at the time these notes were made and the land was cultivated between them. The only stream of any importance is the Little Sioux river which crosses Clay county from north to south just east of the center and then turns west along the southern edge of the two counties, running here within and there without the borders. The valley is more or less wooded throughout the course with the heaviest timber in southern Clay. Ash (*Fraxinus americanus* var.), elms (*Ulmus americana* and *U. racemosa*), maple (*Acer saccharinum*),

²Tinker, A. D., Notes on the Ornithology of Clay and Palo Alto counties, Iowa: Auk, Vol. XXXI, p. 70-81, January, 1914.

³Gabrielson, Ira N., Breeding Birds of a Clay County, Iowa, Farm: Wilson Bulletin, Vol. XXVI, p. 69-80, June, 1914.

boxelder (*Acer negundo*), cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) and willows (*Salix sp.*) are the most common bottom land trees, while burr oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) is the most conspicuous upland form. The Floyd river, flowing for a short distance across the northwestern corner of O'Brien county, is a typical prairie stream with only an occasional fringe of willows. The smaller streams tributary to the Little Sioux are much the same, being open water courses with little or no timber. Many of these are dry during the summer months. A straggling marginal growth of timber, locally widening to form groves of several acres, along the shores of the larger lakes, forms the only other native timber in the territory. Artificial groves, usually of willow, maple, boxelder, or cottonwood, are almost universally planted about the farm buildings. These groves attract numbers of such species as the kingbird, bronzed grackle, catbird, red-eyed vireo, warbling vireo, brown thrasher, western house wren, Baltimore and orchard orioles, robin, downy and red-headed woodpeckers and others. It is unquestionably true that such birds as these have a more general distribution and have been present in greater numbers in the two counties since these groves were planted.

1. **Podilymbus podiceps*. Pied-billed Grebe. A common breeding species, one or more nests of which could be found in every little pond.

2. *Gavia immer*. Loon. A single individual alighted on a small pond among the duck decoys during a snowstorm on November 28, 1909. I have also at different times found dead birds of this species around the ponds.

3. *Larus delawarensis*. Ring-billed Gull. These birds appeared in the spring either in small flocks or in company with the Franklin Gull. I saw one individual repeatedly among the gulls following the plow during the spring of 1907.

4. *Larus franklini*. Franklin Gull. A very common migrant which was most abundant in April and October. It came in large flocks and followed the plows, picking up insects. If not molested they became very tame and often engaged in a wild scramble to be the first into the furrow after the plow had

(NOTE). Species marked with an asterisk (*) in the following list are those recorded in the writer's paper on the "Breeding Birds of a Clay County, Iowa, Farm" (*op. cit.*), as breeding.

passed. During the summer of 1904 about a dozen remained in a little swamp near Sioux Rapids. They joined the black terns in a demonstration against me when I invaded the swamps but no nests of this species were found.

5. **Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis*. Black Tern. A common breeding species. They often followed the plow after the manner of Franklin Gulls and occasionally mingled with that species at such times.

6. *Mergus americanus*. Merganser. A male was shot on one of the ponds near Webb during the last week in March, 1910. I examined the skin later. Flocks of Mergansers (probably this species) were noted several times but could not be identified with certainty.

7. *Lophodytes cucullatus*. Hooded Merganser. This species was a common migrant and possibly a breeding bird as from three to five were often noted about a chain of small ponds during June and July, 1910.

8. **Anas platyrhynchos*. Mallard. An abundant migrant, being probably the most common duck of the region. It nested occasionally.

9. *Chaulelasmus streperus*. Gadwall. This duck was not common in my experience. One female collected in March, 1908, is the only definite record that I have.

10. *Nettion carolinense*. Green-winged Teal. Although these ducks were shot during the spring migration every year they never appeared in any numbers.

11. **Querquedula discors*. Blue-winged Teal. One of the most abundant ducks of the region during migrations and the only species which nested regularly.

12. *Spatula clypeata*. Shoveller. A regular migrant.

13. *Dafla acuta*. Pintail. As a spring migrant this duck equalled the mallard in abundance but was not noted in the fall. It was often killed in large numbers and I once saw 125 of the species which had been killed by two gunners in one day's shooting on a small lake in Clay county.

14. *Aix sponsa*. Wood Duck. This duck is reported to have nested along the Little Sioux in past years. I shot one bird out of a flock of five in the fall of 1905 (exact date missing) in southern Clay.

15. *Marila americana*. Red head. This species was regularly secured in small numbers by hunters and I have handled a number killed in eastern Clay.

16. *Marila valisineria*. Canvas back. This duck undoubtedly occurs although I have never seen one. Mr. Gilbert, of Marshalltown, Iowa, who hunted regularly at Trumbull lake, informed me that he secured them every spring. In August, 1913, while waiting for a train at Spencer, I saw a mounted male in a store window in a collection of local birds. I was unable to find the owner and so have no definite information regarding it. This species is included on the basis of Mr. Gilbert's statement.

17. *Marila affinis*. Lesser Scaup Duck. A very common migrant. It is curious that among the dozens of scaups handled from this region no specimens of *Marila marila* were found, although undoubtedly it occurs.

18. *Marila collaris*. Ring-necked Duck. This duck was a tolerably common migrant and I shot it every spring around Webb where it was known as "Ring-bill" or "Black Jack" by the gunners who distinguished it from the scaup.

19. *Charitonetta albeola*. Bufflehead. A tolerably common spring migrant in 1907. Rare after that time.

20. *Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus*. Snow Goose. "White Brant." A very common spring migrant. They often were associated with blue geese and white fronted geese in flocks of considerable size.

21. *Chen caerulescens*. Blue Goose. "White-headed Brant." This species was a regular migrant. I collected one in March, 1907, and usually saw three or four each year that were killed by hunters.

22. *Anser albifrons gambeli*. White-fronted Goose. "Brant." A common spring migrant.

23. *Branta canadensis canadensis*. Canada Goose. The most common goose of the region. The smaller ones are called "Brant" or "Black Brant" and possibly *B. c. hutchinsi* occurs among them, but I have no definite records of this subspecies.

24. *Olor columbianus*. Whistling Swan. At various times swans, probably this species, have been killed in this region. I have one definite record—a bird killed by Mr. Gilbert, of Marshalltown, at Trumbull lake, during a two weeks' hunting trip

in March, 1908. This bird was presented to me in 1913 and is now in the Marshalltown, Iowa, Public Library.

25. **Botaurus lentiginosus*. Bittern. A common breeding species which usually selected the marshy hay lands for nesting sites.

26. **Ixobrychus exilis*. Least Bittern. Fairly common breeding species.

27. *Ardea herodias herodias*. Great Blue Heron. A common migrant, most abundant in July and August.

28. *Butorides virescens virescens*. Green Heron. This heron bred commonly along the Little Sioux and could usually be found about any large pond with timber near it.

29. *Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*. Black-crowned Night Heron. A common summer resident which was reported as nesting along the Little Sioux in scrub oak. From one to six birds appeared every evening at the farm near Webb. This was about six miles from the nearest possible breeding place. I have never visited a colony in this territory but Paul C. Wood reported a colony at Spencer in June, 1895. (Iowa Ornithologist I, 2, 1895, p. 13.)

30. *Grus americana*. Whooping Crane. On April 9, 1911, I saw five birds near Webb which were undoubtedly this species. These birds were standing near the edge of a small pond and I was able to approach within 300 yards and examine them through the glasses. After watching them for approximately half an hour I attempted to approach closer, but was unsuccessful as they immediately took wing and flew slowly off to the north.

31. *Grus mexicana*. Sandhill Crane. This species was a fairly common migrant, flocks of from forty to fifty often being seen standing about in cornfields or drifting along in great spirals far overhead.

32. **Rallus elegans*. King Rail. A locally common breeding species. The writer has found nests in various swamps in eastern Clay in addition to those previously reported from the farm near Webb. The King Rail has the most startling voice of any of the breeding marsh birds. It may be described as a loud, abrupt, *bup-bup*, repeated rapidly and explosively. My first ornithological experience was with a king rail intent on keeping three youthful egg-collectors from appropriating her clutch. She flew

at our bare legs, her feathers ruffled until she looked twice natural size; and used her beak with such good effect as to put us to flight momentarily. When we mustered up courage to return we found the probable explanation of this behavior was that the eggs were just hatching.

33. **Porzana carolina*. Sora. A common summer resident and breeder. The plaintive note of this species was one of the most characteristic sounds of the summer evenings.

34. **Gallinula galeata*. Florida Gallinule. A common breeding species.

35. **Fulica americana*. Coot. This species is the most abundant breeding water-fowl in this region. Every small slough harbored at least one pair and nests could be found by the score in the larger cattail or wild rice marshes.

36. **Steganopus tricolor*. Wilson Phalarope. An occasional migrant, rare summer resident, and possibly a breeding species. One pair remained all summer in 1910 near Webb.

37. *Gallinago delicata*. Wilson snipe. Common migrant.

38. *Pisobia maculata*. Pectoral Sandpiper. An abundant migrant.

39. *Pisobia fuscicollis*. White-rumped Sandpiper. While not so abundant as *P. maculata* this sandpiper was found in numbers during migrations.

40. *Pisobia minutilla*. Least Sandpiper. Common migrant.

41. *Ereunetes pusillus*. Semipalmated Sandpiper. Also a common migrant but not usually so abundant as *P. minutilla*. They were present in numbers along the Floyd river at Sheldon, on August 6-8, 1913.

42. *Totanus flavipes*. Yellow-legs. Common migrant.

43. *Helodromas solitarius solitarius*. Solitary Sandpiper. Common migrant.

44. **Bartramia longicauda*. Upland Plover. This species bred commonly in eastern Clay county.

45. *Actitis macularia*. Spotted Sandpiper. Nested commonly along the water courses and on the shores of the larger ponds.

46. **Oxyechus vociferus*. Kildeer. One of the common breeding species of the region. They nested in the cornfields, depositing their eggs on a few pebbles and bits of corn husks gathered together at the base of a hill of corn.

47. *Actialitis semipalmata*. Semipalmated Plover. A single bird observed at Sheldon, August 7, 1913, is the only record for the two counties. It was probably a regular migrant as I have found it quite common both north and south of here.

48. **Colinus virginianus virginianus*. Bob-white. The Bob-white was locally a common breeding species. Where hunting was forbidden they frequently nested about buildings and became quite tame.

49. **Tympanuchus americanus americanus*. Prairie Chicken. This bird was only a tolerably common breeding species although considerable flocks often appeared during the winter. The last nest record I have is June 10, 1909. This nest contained twelve eggs and was built in the weeds and grass along a fence.

50. **Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*. Mourning Dove. This common breeding species was found nesting in artificial groves and feeding about barnyards.

51. **Circus hudsonius*. Marsh Hawk. This was the only common hawk of the region. It nested in marshy hay lands. The three or four nests I found usually had a little corn about each. This grain probably came from the cheek pouches of the striped gopher (*Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*) and gray squirrels (*S. franklini*) brought to the nestlings though some of the farmers accused the hawk of eating corn.

52. *Accipiter cooperi*. Cooper Hawk. A young bird barely able to fly, was found in the city park at Sheldon, August 6, 1913, and it is the only definite record that I have. It probably nested in the heavier timber along the Little Sioux.

53. *Buteo borealis krideri*. Red-tailed Hawk. Red tails were common in migration, and possibly nested in the heavy timber. H. C. Oberholser says that breeding birds of this region as well as most migrants are of this subspecies.

54. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus leucocephalus*. Bald Eagle. I have examined two specimens taken in the county and there are probably others in existence, as one of these birds is shot every few years.

55. *Falco sparverius sparverius*. Sparrow Hawk. This little hawk was common in the fall. At this season it was usually found perched on the telephone and telegraph poles on the lookout for grasshoppers, locusts and other insects.

56. *Pandion haliaetus carolinensis*. Osprey. On September 25, 1910, while watching a number of herons, I noticed a large hawk diving into the waters of a small lake. It remained about for several hours and I identified it as this species. I was not familiar with the bird at this time but subsequent acquaintance serves to confirm the identification.

57. **Asio flammeus*. Short-eared Owl. A common breeding species and permanent resident. Most of these birds migrate during the winter, but a few usually remain about the frozen meadows.

58. **Otus asio asio*. Screech Owl. The most common owl found. It breeds both in the native timber and in artificial groves.

59. *Nyctea nyctea*. Snowy Owl. This species was said to be a common winter visitant during some seasons and entirely absent during others. I saw one on December 22, 1909, and another was reported to me in April, 1910. Mounted specimens usually without dates, were not uncommon in the various towns.

60. *Speotyto cunicularia hypugaea*. Burrowing Owl. On June 16, 1911, I made a special trip to Granville, which lies just about on the line between Sioux and O'Brien counties to see a colony of this species reported from there. Three pair were nesting in burrows dug in low ridges in a swampy pasture. One pair which was dug out had two fresh eggs. The female remained on the nest and, after the burrow was partially excavated, was caught and handled for some time. She struck viciously at every one within reach of her claws. Several skins or pieces of skin of the striped gopher (*Spermophilus tridecemlineatus*) and a number of unidentified bones were about the nest entrance and in the tunnel.

61. *Coccyzus americanus americanus*. Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Nested regularly in the timbered areas.

62. *Coccyzus erythrophthalmus*. Black-billed Cuckoo. This species was less common than the yellow-bill but was found regularly.

63. *Ceryle alcyon*. Belted Kingfisher. Nested commonly wherever suitable nest sites were found.

64. *Dryobates villosus villosus*. Hairy Woodpecker. One bird observed June 19, 1910, in the Little Sioux valley is the only summer record I have. The birds undoubtedly nested more

or less regularly and were common winter residents of artificial groves and timbered areas.

65. **Dryobates pubescens medianus*. Downy Woodpecker. A common breeding species and permanent resident.

66. **Melanerpes erythrocephalus*. Red-headed Woodpecker. Nested commonly.

67. **Colaptes auratus luteus*. Northern Flicker. Common permanent resident.

68. *Chordeiles virginianus virginianus*. Nighthawk. A common migrant, most abundant in August, when it often appeared in considerable numbers.

69. **Chaetura pelagica*. Chimney Swift. Nested commonly.

70. *Archilochus colubris*. Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Tolerably common summer resident.

71. **Tyrannus tyrannus*. Kingbird. An abundant breeding species and one of the conspicuous birds of the region.

72. *Tyrannus verticalis*. Arkansas Kingbird. According to Anderson⁴ this species was rather rare in northwestern Iowa up to 1905. It appears to be increasing in this section as by 1910 and 1911 it was tolerably common in these two and surrounding counties.

73. **Sayornis phoebe*. Phoebe. Nested commonly.

74. *Myiochanes virens*. Wood Pewee. A common breeding species in timbered areas and found frequently in artificial groves.

75. *Empidonax minimus*. Least Flycatcher. Common summer resident in the same localities as the Wood Pewee.

76. **Otocoris alpestris praticola*. Prairie Horned Lark. An abundant permanent resident. Two and possibly three broods were raised each year. In winter they fed in barnyards and about stacks in company with large numbers of Lapland Longspurs.

77. **Cyanocitta cristata cristata*. Blue Jay. A common resident, most abundant about towns.

78. **Corvus brachyrhynchos brachyrhynchos*. Crow. Common permanent resident.

79. **Dolichonyx oryzivorus*. Bobolink. The bobolink was locally abundant throughout the region. One meadow would

⁴Anderson, R. M., Birds of Iowa: Proc. Davenport Academy of Science, Vol. XI, p. 285.

contain numbers of these birds while another a few miles away, apparently equally favorable, would not contain one.

80. **Molothrus ater ater*. Cowbird. An abundant breeding species. I rarely found a nest of any of the smaller birds which did not contain at least one Cowbird egg.

81. **Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*. Yellow-headed Blackbird. The yellow-heads were abundant in the swampy parts of the country. In the larger wild rice swamps hundreds of nests could be found.

82. **Agelaius phoeniceus phoeniceus*. Red-winged Blackbird. These birds, by far the most abundant breeding species, nested not only in the cattails and flags but in the willows along water courses and on bogs in bunches of heavy grass.

83. **Sturnella neglecta*. Western Meadowlark. Nested commonly.

84. *Icterus spurius*. Orchard Oriole. An uncommon summer resident, found only in certain groves and absent over the remainder of the country. One pair nested for two years (1908-09) in a small orchard near Webb.

85. **Icterus galbula*. Baltimore Oriole. Common breeding species.

86. *Euphagus carolinus*. Rusty Blackbird. The rusty was found in considerable numbers in the great fall flocks of blackbirds which roamed over the country.

87. **Quiscalus quiscula aeneus*. Bronzed Grackle. This species seemed to be particularly fond of artificial groves and appeared to nest exclusively in them. One of the most interesting sights of the region was the immense blackbird flocks which formed in the fall. Grackles, red-wings, yellow-heads, rusty blackbirds, and cowbirds banded together in almost incredible numbers.

88. **Astragalinus tristis tristis*. Goldfinch. Common breeder.

89. *Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*. Snow Bunting. The Snow Bunting was an irregular winter visitor. It was present in small numbers near Webb in the winter of 1907-08. I failed to see it in other years although it was occasionally reported.

90. *Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*. Lapland Longspur. An abundant winter visitor, generally appearing in flocks with prairie horned larks.

91. *Calcarius pictus*. Smith Longspur. Probably a more common species than my records indicate. I found it on April 8, 1910, in company with the Lapland Longspurs and Prairie Horned Larks. Five birds were watched through field glasses, at this time, at short range.

92. *Poocetes gramineus gramineus*. Vesper Sparrow. A flock of six birds remained in a farm yard near Webb from April 9 to 11, 1911.

93. **Ammodramus savannarum bimaculatus*. Western Grasshopper Sparrow. In Tinker's list (*op cit.*) his specimens of the grasshopper sparrow are referred to this subspecies. It was a common breeding species.⁵

94. **Chondestes grammacus grammacus*. Lark Sparrow. Tolerably common summer resident and breeder.

95. *Zonotrichia querula*. Harris Sparrow. Abundant in southern Clay on October 20, 1910. The only other record was of a few noted at Sheldon, May 14, 1910.

96. *Zonotrichia albicollis*. White-throated Sparrow. Common migrant.

97. *Spizella monticola monticola*. Tree Sparrow. Common winter visitor.

98. *Spizella passerina passerina*. Chipping Sparrow. A breeding species most abundant about towns.

99. *Spizella pusilla pusilla*. Field Sparrow. A common breeding bird along the watercourses and lakes, wherever there is sufficient brush to furnish nesting sites.

100. *Junco hyemalis hyemalis*. Slate-colored Junco. A common winter visitor.

101. *Melospiza melodia melodia*. Song Sparrow. Nested commonly.

102. *Melospiza georgiana*. Swamp Sparrow. Common migrant, most abundant in September.

103. *Passerella iliaca iliaca*. Fox Sparrow. Tolerably common migrant.

104. *Pipilo erythrophthalmus erythrophthalmus*. Chewink. Common summer resident in timbered sections.

105. *Zamelodia ludoviciana*. Rose-breasted Grosbeak. Nested commonly.

⁵In my first paper on the "Breeding Birds of a Clay County, Iowa, Farm", (*op. cit.*) grasshopper sparrows were referred to as *A. s. australis*. This was done without specimens and as the birds of this region prove to be the western subspecies, the error is corrected at this time.

106. *Passerina cyanea*. Indigo Bunting. Common during spring migration and a tolerably common summer resident.

107. **Spiza americana*. Dickcissel. An abundant breeding species; nested in weeds and vines along fences.

108. *Passer domesticus*. English Sparrow. Abundant permanent resident.

109. *Piranga erythromelas*. Scarlet Tanager. Tolerably common breeding species.

110. **Progne subis subis*. Purple Martin. There were breeding colonies in Spencer, Everly, Sheldon, Peterson, and Webb. Other towns that probably had them were not visited at the right seasons.

111. **Petrochelidon lunifrons lunifrons*. Cliff Swallow. Locally common throughout the territory. Clusters of their mud nests were hung under the eaves of barns.

112. **Hirundo erythrogastra*. Barn Swallow. One or more pairs of these swallows could generally be found about every cluster of farm buildings. They occasionally nested under wooden bridges and were then known as "bridge swallows."

113. *Iridoprocne bicolor*. Tree Swallow. An abundant fall migrant in July and August. At this season great mixed flocks of swallows appeared to feed over the marshes. Between meals they rested on telephone wires and fences and often filled all the wires for rods. All five species here recorded were well represented in these flocks.

114. *Riparia riparia*. Bank Swallow. Nested commonly.

115. *Stelgidopteryx serripennis*. Rough-winged Swallow. Occurred in numbers in the fall flocks.

116. *Lanius ludovicianus migrans*. Migrant Shrike. A pair with four young just out of the nest were found near Sheldon, August 7, 1913. The species seemed to be generally distributed over the region as I noted it at Spencer, Webb and in southern Clay.

117. *Vireosylva olivacea*. Red-eyed Vireo. Tolerably common breeding species.

118. *Vireosylva gilva gilva*. Warbling Vireo. Common summer resident.

119. *Mniotilta varia*. Black and White Warbler. One noted at Sheldon, May 14, 1910.

120. *Vermivora peregrina*. Tennessee Warbler. This warbler was common at Sheldon, May 14-16, 1910.

121. **Dendroica aestiva aestiva*. Yellow Warbler. Nested commonly.

122. *Dendroica coronata*. Myrtle Warbler. Two observed in the city park at Sheldon, May 14, 1910.

123. **Geothlypis trichas trichas*. Maryland Yellowthroat. Common breeding species.

124. *Setophaga ruticilla*. Redstart. One recorded at Sheldon, May 19, 1912.

125. **Dumetella carolinensis*. Catbird. Nested commonly.

126. **Toxostoma rufum*. Brown Thrasher. Common breeder.

127. **Troglodytes aedon parkmani*. Western House Wren. Common breeding species.

128. **Cistothorus stellaris*. Short-billed Marsh Wren. A small colony of these birds was found near Webb and one nest containing six eggs was discovered.

129. **Telmatorhynchus palustris iliacus*. Prairie Marsh Wren. Common breeding species.

130. *Certhia familiaris americana*. Brown Creeper. Common winter visitant.

131. *Sitta carolinensis carolinensis*. White-breasted Nuthatch. Common permanent resident. It probably bred though I never found a nest.

132. *Penthestes atricapillus septentrionalis*. Long-tailed Chickadee. Common permanent resident, bred in timbered sections.

133. *Hylocichla mustelina*. Wood Thrush. Common breeding species in timbered sections.

134. *Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni*. Olive-backed Thrush. One found dead, Sheldon, May 14, 1910.

135. **Planesticus migratorius migratorius*. Robin. Common breeding species.

136. *Sialia sialis sialis*. Bluebird. Tolerably common breeding bird.

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