Birds of Western New York.

SHORT.

1893.
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BIRDS OF
WESTERN NEW YORK,
WITH NOTES.

BY

ERNEST H. SHORT.

CHILI, N. Y.

August 1st, 1893.
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1893

A. M. EDDY,

PRINTER AND BINDER,

ALBION, N. Y.
Introduction.

In placing this modest list before the public, I do not claim to have brought it to perfection or even to have approached it. I have simply arranged and combined such notes as I possessed and could procure, with the hope that by bringing the subject before other Ornithologists of this section we might some day bring it to completion. I am greatly indebted to the following persons, viz: Frank H. Lattin, Neil F. Posson, and Leslie V. Case, for notes and all other help in their power, and to them I tender my sincere thanks.

I only regret its incompleteness, owing chiefly to the poor facilities of those interested, to make a thorough study of the water birds, especially during migrations. This, in a measure, accounts for the large proportion of breeders over migrants as compared with other lists, as I feel certain that a number of species of water birds occur here during migrations that I can find no record of.

The classification is that of the A. O. U. Checklist.

The Author.
Order Pygopodes. The Diving Birds. 
Family Podicipidae. The Grebes.

Family Ursatorinae. The Loons.
11. Red-throated Loon, Occasional migrant. Two taken at mouth of Oak Orchard Creek, Orleans county, during February, 1893.

Order Longipennes: The Long-winged Swimmers.
Family Larida. The Gulls and Terns.

Order Steganopodes. The Toti-palmate Swimmers.
Family Phaethontidae. The Tropic Birds.
112. Phaeton Flavirostris. Yellow-billed Tropic Bird. A bird of the Tropics and rare in the Gulf states; Rev. J. H. Langille reports the a young male of this species was brought to him, alive, at Knowlesville, Orleans Co., in September 1878. It was found in a field after a heavy storm from the southwest.

Order Anseres. The Lamellirostral Swimmers.
Family Anatidae, the Ducks, Geese and Swans.
132. Anas Boschas. Mallard. Migrant Occurring in small scattered flocks or most commonly in detached couples.


144. Aix Sponsa. Wood Duck. Migrates in isolated couples; a few staying to breed in suitable localities.

147. Aythya Valsinaria. Canvasback. Rare Migrant.


149. Aythya Aflinis. Lesser Scaup Duck. Migrant. May possibly breed as I have found them here in May.


157. Erismatura Rubida. Ruddy Duck. Rare Migrant. One shot in April, 1891, at Chili, Monroe Co.


Family Ibitidae, The Ibis


Family Ardeidae. The Herons


194. Ardea Herodias Great Blue Heron. Summer resident. There are several breeding places where these birds colonize, especially in Tonawanda Swamp.


Order Limmicole. The Shore Birds. Family Scolopacidae. The Snipes, Sandpipers, etc.


255. Totanus flavipes. Yellow-legged Sandpiper. Rare migrant. One shot at Chil, Monroe Co., in May, 1889.
261. Bartramia longicauda Bartramian Sandpiper. Migrant and rare breeder. Found an old bird and four newly hatched young in the latter part of June, 1890.

Family Charadriidae The Plovers.

Family Amniptizidae. Surf Birds and Turnstones.

Order Gallinaceae. The Gallinaceous Birds.
Family Tetraonidae. The Grouse, Partridges and Quails.

Order Columbae The Pigeons.
Family Columbidae. The Pigeons or Doves.
315. Ectopistes migratorius. Passenger Pigeon. Rare summer resident. Breeding in some localities.

Family Cathartidae. The American Vultures.

Family Falconidae. Hawks, Eagles, Falcons, etc.
331. Circus hudsonius. Marsh Hawk. Summer resident and Breeds.
333. Accipiter cooperii. Coopers Hawk. Summer resident and breeds. One of our common raptors.
339. Buteo lineatus. Red-shouldered Hawk. The most common of all our larger Hawks. Breeding in all suitable places.
343. Buteo latissimus. Broad-winged Hawk. Summer resident an
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breeds. Not nearly as common as Borealis and Lineatus.


Duck Hawk. Rare in fall and winter.


Family Bubonidae. The tormed Owls, etc.


367. Asio Accipitrius Short-eared Owl. Common fall and winter visitant and possible rare breeder.


Order Coccygtes. The Cuckoos, etc.

Family Cuculidae. The Cuckoos.

387. Coccyzus Americanus. Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Summer resident and breeds.


Family Alcedinidae. The Kingfishers.


Order Pici. The Woodpeckers, etc.

Family Picidae. The Woodpeckers.


403. Cooiphus Pileatus. Pileated Woodpecker. Care resident and breeder. Seems to be confined to the wildest parts of the southern tier of counties.


Order Megalochires. The Goatsuckers, Swifts and Hummers.

Family Caprimulgidae. The Goat-suckers.

417. Antrostomus Voliferus. Whip-
poor-will. Rare summer resident and breeder.
*Family Micropodidae. The Swifts.*
*Family Trochilidae. The Hummingbirds.*
*Order Passers. Perching Birds.*  
*Family Tyrannidae. The Tyrant Flycatchers.*
452. Myiarchus Crinitus. Crested Flycatcher. Summer resident and breeder. Not as common as last.
463. Empidonax Flaviventris. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. Rare summer resident and breeder. Not very common.
466a. Empidonax Pusillus Traillii. Traill's Flycatcher. Said to be not uncommon in some places. A rare summer resident and breeder in Monroe county.
*Family Alaudidoe. The Larks.*
474. Otocoris Alpestris. Horned Lark. Occasional winter visitor
474c. Otocoris Alpestris Pratodia

Prairie Horned Lark. Common summer resident and breeder. Seems to be with us nearly all the time from Jan. 1st to December 1st. Breeds twice, in March and April and in June.  
*Family Corvidae. The Crows, Jays, etc.*
488. Corvus Americanus. American Crow. Common resident and breeder. Abundant in Chili, Monroe County especially in winter, there being a large roost near here.  
*Family Icteridae. American Starlings.*
*Breeds.*
*Breeds.*
501. Sturnella Magna. Meadowlark. Common summer resident, a few staying all winter.  
*Breeds.*
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Family Fringillidae. Finches, Sparrows, etc.

514. Cocothraustes Vespertina. Evening Grosbeak. During the winter of 1889 and 1890 the remarkable movement of this species to the east extended over Western New York. Specimens were taken at Brockport, Albion, Gaines and Chili.

515. Pinicola Enucleator. Pine Grosbeak. Occasional migrant in severe winters. While large numbers passed through New England the last winter (1892-93) few if any seemed to have passed as far west as this.


529. Spinus Tristis. American Goldfinch. Abundant summer resident. Breeds. Often seen in the winter and like the Meadowlark may be classed as an occasional resident in winter.

533. Spinus Pinus. Pine Siskin. Irregular fall and winter visitor, and very rare breeder. One nest taken in spring of 1889.


540. Poecetes Gramineus. Vesper Sparrow. Abundant summer resident and breeds


546 Ammodramus Savannarum Passerinus. Grasshopper Sparrow. Reported by J. H. Langille as a summer resident near West Barre, Orleans Co. A nest containing four eggs found near Maplewood, Monroe Co., June 1, 1893. Eggs were fresh and I identified the species.


563. Spizella Pusilla Field Sparrow. Summer resident and breeds. Not very common.

567. Junco Hyemalis. Common migrant and breeds in parts of Erie, Cattaraugus, and probably other counties.

581. Melospiza Fasciata. Song Sparrow. Common summer resident and breeds.


584. Melospiza Georgiana. Swamp
Sparrow. Summer resident and breeds. Probably much more than the records shown owing to its secluded habits.

585. Passerella iliaca. Fox Sparrow. Occasional Spring migrant

587. Pipilo erythrophthalmus. Towhee. Rare summer resident and breeds.


Family Tanagridae. The Tanagers.

608. Piranga erythromelas. Scarlet Tanager. Summer resident and breeds.

Family Hirundinidae. The Swallows.

611. Progne subis. Purple Martin. Rare summer resident in some localities. Breeds. Reported as fairly common in Medina by N. F. Posson.


614. Tachycineta bicolor. Tree Swallow. Summer resident and breeds. Not as common as most of our swallows.


617. Stelgidopteryx serripennis. Rough-winged Swallow. Summer resident and breeds. Seems to be confined to localities where stone work abounds, in the crevices of which it breeds.

Family Amelidae. The Wax-wings.


Family Lanidae. The Shrikes.


Family Vireonidae. The Vireos.


Family Mniotilidae. The Wood-warblers.


642. Helminthophila chrysoptera. Golden-winged Warbler. Summer resident and breeds. Have found it nesting here and it is reported as breeding at Medina and Naples.
648. Compsothlypis Americana. Parula Warbler. Rare summer resident and breeds.
650. Dandroica Tigrina. Cape May Warbler. Abundant summer resident and breeds.
652. Dandroica Tigrina. Cape May Warbler. Rare migrant.
660. Dandroica Castanea. Bay-breasted Warbler. Migrant in flocks. This and the next species sometimes swarm in some place where feed is plenty.
664. Dandroica Palmarum. Palm Warbler. Rare migrant.
674. Seiurus Aurocapillus. Ovenbird. Summer resident and breeds.
681. Geothlypis Trichas. Maryland Yellow-throat. Summer resident and breeds.
703. Minimus Polyglottus. Mockingbird. Rare visitor and possible breeder. Reported by L. V. Case, of Naples, N. Y.
705. Harporhynchus Rufus. Brown Thrasher. Rare summer resident, becoming more common in the southern counties. Breeds.
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Family Certhidae. The Creeper.

Family Paridae. The Nuthatches and Tits.

Family Sylviidae. Kinglets and Gnatcatchers.
751. Polioptila caerulea. Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher. Very rare summer resident. Know of only one instance of its breeding. A pair reared their young near Coldwater, N. Y., during the summer of 1890.

Family Turdidae. The Thrushes, Bluebirds, etc.
759b. Turdus aonalaschkae pallis. Hermit Thrush. Common migrant and rare breeder. Have found nests at Chili, During 1889-90-92. Also reported by L. V. Case as a rare breeder at Naples, Ontario Co.


SUMMARY.

Throwing out a few such as Whoop Crane, Cardinal and others of whose occurrence the evidence is too slight at present I find 206 species as follows:

Residents, .......................... 11.
Summer residents, ....................... 99.
Migrants, ............................ 67.
Visitors, .............................. 20.
Stragglers, ............................ 9.

Total ................................ 206.
Breeders .............................. 112.

ADDENDUM.

465. Empidonax acadicus. Acadian Flycatcher. Summer resident and breeder, not very common.