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Birds

**THE SUMMER BIRDS**  
OF THE ADIRONACKS IN FRANKLIN COUNTY, N. Y.

BY THEODORE ROOSEVELT, JR., AND H. D. MINOT.

1877

The following catalogue (written in the mountains) is based upon observations made in August, 1874, August, 1875, and June 22d to July 9th, 1877, especially about the Saint Regis Lakes, Mr. Minot having been with me, only during the last week of June. Each of us has used his initials in making a statement which the other has not verified.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT, JR.

The general features of the Adirondacks, in those parts which we have examined, are the many lakes, the absence of *mountain*-brooks, the luxuriant forest-growth (the taller deciduous trees often reaching the height of a hundred feet, and the White Pines even that of a hundred and thirty), the sandy soil, the cool, invigorating air, and both a decided wildness and levelness of country as compared with the diversity of the White Mountain region.

The *avifauna* is not so rich as that of the latter country, because wanting in certain "Alleghanian" birds found there, and also in species belonging especially to the Eastern or North-eastern Canadian fauna. Nests, moreover, seem to be more commonly inaccessible, and rarely built beside roads or wood-paths, as they often are in the White Mountains. M.

1. **Robin.** *Turdus migratorius* (Linnæus). Moderately common. Sometimes found in the woods.
2. **Hermit Thrush.** *Turdus Pallasi* (Cabanis). Common. Sings until the middle of August (R.).
3. **Swainson's Thrush.** *Turdus Swainsoni* (Cabanis). The commonest thrush.
4. **Cat-bird.** *Mimus Carolinensis* (Linnæus). Observed beyond the mountains to the northward, near Malone.
5. **Blue Bird.** *Sialia sialis* (Linnæus). Common near Malone.
6. **Golden-crowned "Wren."** *Regulus satrapa* (Lichten.). Quite common; often heard singing in June.
7. **Chickadee.** *Parus atricapillus* (Linnæus). Rather scarce in June. Abundant in August (R.).
8. **Hudsonian Chickadee.** *Parus Hudsonicus* (Forster). Found in small flocks at Bay Pond in the early part of August (R.).
9. **Red-bellied Nuthatch.** *Sitta Canadensis* (Linnæus). Common. The White-bellied Nuthatch has not been observed here by us.
10. **Brown Creeper.** *Certhia familiaris* (Linnæus). Common.
11. **Winter Wren.** *Troglodytes hyemalis* (Vieillot). Moderately common.

12. **Blue Yellow-backed Warbler.** *Parula Americana* (Linnæus). Very common. The Black and White Creeper we have not seen here.
13. **Nashville Warbler.** *Helminthophaga ruficapilla* (Wilson). Not common.
14. ? **Tennessee Warbler.** *Helminthophaga peregrina* (Wilson).
15. **Yellow Warbler.** *Dendroica æstiva* (Gmelin). Common near Malone.
16. **Black-throated Green Warbler.** *Dendroica virens* (Gmelin). Common.
17. **Black-throated Blue Warbler.** *Dendroica cærulescens* (Linnæus). Common.
18. **Orange-throated Warbler.** *Dendroica Blackburnia* (Gmelin). Common. Its song has several rather misleading variations.
19. **Yellow-rumped Warbler.** *Dendroica coronata* (Linnæus). Common in August (R.). Summer-resident in the White Mountains (M.).
20. **Black and Yellow Warbler.** *Dendroica maculosa* (Gmelin). Not common.

The following other *Dendroica* are summer-residents in the White Mountains: Prairie Warbler, accidental; the Chestnut-sided, Bay-breasted, Black-poll'd, and Pine Warblers, all rare (M.).

21. **Golden-crowned "Thrush."** *Siurus auricapillus* (Linnæus). Quite common.
22. **Water "Thrush."** *Siurus naevius* (Boddaert). Rare summer-resident (R.).
23. **Maryland "Yellow-throat."** *Geothlypis trichas* (Linnæus). Hardly common. Very common in the White Mountains (M.).
24. **Mourning Warbler.** *Geothlypis Philadelphica* (Wilson). Locally not uncommon.
25. **Canada "Flycatcher."** *Myiodiocetes Canadensis* (Linnæus). Less common than in the White Mountains, where the Redstart also is found, even at Bethlehem (M.).
26. **Scarlet Tanager.** *Pyrranga rubra* (Linnæus). Two pairs found in June near the Upper Saint Regis Lake.
27. **Barn Swallow.** *Hirundo horreorum* (Barton).
28. **Cliff Swallow.** *Petrochelidon lunifrons* (Say). Seen near Malone.
29. **White-breasted Swallow.** *Tachycinetes bicolor* (Vieillot). Common, and met with far from any buildings.
30. **Bank Swallow.** *Cotyle riparia* (Linnæus). Rather rare.
31. **Purple Martin.** *Progne subis* (Linnæus). One seen at Malone.
32. **Cedar-bird.** *Ampelis cedrorum* (Vieillot). Common.
33. **Red-eyed Vireo.** *Vireo olivaceus* (Linnæus). Very common.
34. **Solitary Vireo.** *Vireo solitarius* (Wilson). Very common. The Warbling Vireo has not been observed here by us.
35. **Purple Finch.** *Carpodacus purpureus* (Gmelin). Common.
36. **Red Crossbill.** *Loxia curvirostra* (Linnæus). Not rare. The male often sings somewhat like a Purple Finch from the top of a tall dead tree. The White-winged Crossbill we have not seen here.
37. **Goldfinch.** *Chrysomitris tristis* (Linnæus). Common. Less so than in the White Mountains (M.).
38. **Siskin.** *Chrysomitris pinus* (Wilson). One specimen got, August 27th, 1874 (R.). Probably breeds.

39. Savannah Sparrow. *Passerculus savanna* (Wilson). Apparently rare.
40. Bay-winged Sparrow. *Poocetes gramineus* (Gmelin). Common.
41. Song Sparrow. *Melospiza meloda* (Wilson). Common. Much less so than in the White Mountains (M.).
42. Swamp Sparrow. *Melospiza palustris* (Wilson). Two or three were found in the wet ground, covered with very low shrubs, which borders the stream connecting Upper Saint Regis and Spitfire Lakes. Perhaps not found in the White Mountains (M.).
43. Chipping Sparrow. *Spizella socialis* (Wilson).
44. ?Field Sparrow. *Spizella pusilla* (Wilson).
45. White-throated Sparrow. *Zonotrichia albicollis* (Gmelin). Common.
46. Snow-bird. *Junco hyemalis* (Linnæus). Common. Less so than in the White Mountains, at least than in the northern and western parts, where the Canadian fauna is most marked (M.). This opportunity is taken for mentioning that the Rose-breasted Grosbeak, *Goniaphea Ludoviciana* (Linnæus), was seen in July, 1875, on Mount Mansfield, Vt., and in July, 1877, in Essex County, New York (R.).
47. Bobolink. *Dolichonyx oryzivorus* (Linnæus). Several seen, August, 1874 (R).
48. Cow-bird. *Molothrus ater* (Boddaert). Rare.
49. Red-winged Blackbird. *Agalæus phœniceus* (Linnæus). By no means abundant.
50. Rusty Blackbird. *Scolecophagus ferrugineus* (Gmelin). Two or three seen in June (M.).
51. Crow Blackbird. *Quiscalus purpureus* (Bartr.) var. *æneus* (Bd.). Neither rare nor common. The Baltimore Oriole is not seen here.
52. Raven. *Corvus corax* (Linnæus). A pair were observed at Lake Farnsby, jr., August, 1874 (R.).
53. Crow. *Corvus Americanus* (Audubon). Comparatively uncommon.
54. Canada Jay. *Perisoreus Canadensis* (Linnæus). Locally common in the thicker woods.
55. Blue Jay. *Cyanurus cristatus* (Linnæus). Moderately common.
56. King-bird. *Tyrannus Carolinensis* (Linnæus). Common.
57. Great Crested Flycatcher. *Myiarchus crinitus* (Linnæus). Very rare.
58. Pewee. *Sayornis fuscus* (Gmelin).
59. Wood Pewee. *Contopus virens* (Linnæus).
60. Olive-sided Flycatcher. *Contopus borealis* (Richardson). Not uncommon.
61. Traill's Flycatcher. *Empidonax Trailli* (Audubon). Rare.
62. Least Flycatcher. *Empidonax minimus* (Baird). Strikingly common, and much in tree-tops.
63. Yellow-bellied Flycatcher. *Empidonax flaviventris* (Baird). Rather rare, and a frequenter of shrubbery.
64. Night "Hawk." *Chordeiles Virginianus* (Gmelin).
65. Whippoorwill. *Antrostomus vociferus* (Wilson). One heard early in July (R.).
66. Chimney Swift. *Chaetura pelagica* (Linnæus). Common, and often met with in the wilds.
67. Hummingbird. *Trochilus colubris* (Linnæus). Rare; lives in the woods.

68. **Kingfisher.** *Ceryle alcyon* (Linnæus).
69. **Cuckoo.** *Coccyzus* [*erythrophthalmus* (Wilson)?]. Twice heard.
70. **Pileated Woodpecker.** *Hylotomus pileatus* (Linnæus). Rare; but found in the backwoods (R.).
71. **Hairy Woodpecker.** *Picus villosus* (Linnæus). Very common; with a great variety of notes, some of which are indistinguishable from those of the *Picoïdes*.
72. **Downy Woodpecker.** *Picus pubescens* (Linnæus). Once seen in June, and common in August (R.).
73. **Black-backed Woodpecker.** *Picoïdes arcticus* (Swainson). Common; second in numbers to the Hairy only.
74. **Banded-backed Woodpecker.** *Picoïdes Americanus* (Brehm). Much less common than the preceding.
75. **Yellow-bellied Woodpecker.** *Sphyrapicus varius* (Linnæus). Quite common.
76. **Golden-winged Woodpecker.** *Colaptes auratus* (Linnæus).
77. **Barred Owl.** *Syrnium nebulosum* (Forster). One shot in August, 1875 (R.). Probably not very rare.
78. **Great Horned Owl.** *Bubo Virginianus* (Gmelin). Common in wild parts (R.). There are doubtless other kinds of owls here as summer-residents.
79. **Goshawk.** *Astur atricapillus* (Wilson). Found in June.
80. **Cooper's Hawk.** *Nisus Cooperi* (Bonaparte).
81. **Sharp-shinned Hawk.** *Nisus fuscus* (Gmelin). The Sparrow Hawk and the Red-shouldered Buzzard we have not seen here.
82. **Red-tailed Buzzard.** *Buteo borealis* (Gmelin).
83. **Broad-winged Buzzard.** *Buteo Pennsylvanicus* (Wilson). One shot August 24th, 1874 (R.).
84. **Bald Eagle.** *Haliaëtus leucocephalus* (Linnæus). Rare, but seen at least once (R.). The Golden Eagle probably occurs here.
85. **Fish Hawk.** *Pandion haliaëtus* (Linnæus). Rare, but certainly breeds here (R.).
86. **Wild Pigeon.** *Ectopistes migratorius* (Linnæus). Undoubtedly to be found here at times.
87. **Canada Grouse.** *Tetrao Canadensis* (Linnæus). In some parts quite plentiful (R.).
88. **Ruffed Grouse.** *Bonasa umbellus* (Linnæus). Not uncommon (R.).
89. **Woodcock.** *Philohela minor* (Gmelin). In July, one was shot at Paul Smith's; none of the inhabitants knew what it was, or had ever seen another (R.).
90. **Spotted Sandpiper.** *Tringoides macularius* (Linnæus).
91. **Great Blue Heron.** *Ardea herodias* (Linnæus). Rare.
92. **Bittern.** *Botaurus mugitans* (Bartram). Occasional (R.).
93. **Black Duck.** *Anas obscura* (Gmelin). Breeds (R.).
94. **Wood Duck.** *Æx sponsa* (Linnæus). Breeds (R.).
95. **Merganser.** *Mergus* [*serrator* (Linnæus)?] Breeds (R.).
96. **Loon.** *Colymbus torquatus* (Brünnich). Rare, but in 1870 common (R.). Grebes have been seen in August; species uncertain (R.).
97. **Herring Gull.** *Larus argentatus* (Brünnich). Rare. Breeds (R.).