

## NESTING OF SOME CANADIAN WARBLERS.

## SECOND PAPER.

By W. L. KELLS, Listowel, Ont.

---

## NESTING OF THE BAY-BREASTED WARBLER.

It is now over twenty years since I began to form my cabinet collection of the oology of Listowel and vicinity. Having first taken specimens of what species I could find near home, I set out one June day into the forest that then existed on the northwest of the town, and soon found myself in a tract of swampy woods, composed mostly of black ash timber, with an intermingling of conifers and some hardwood. Here, a number of species of the warbler family, as well as other birds, some of which were yet unknown to me, were giving vent to their songs; some low down in the brush-wood, others more elevated among the denser foliage. Here the first nest that claimed my attention was one placed on the side of a small birch tree where a tuft of twigs grew out from the ground. I soon reached and secured this; it contained three fresh eggs; these were of a white hue, with dottings and patches of a brownish or flesh color, the nest itself being composed of fragments of bark, rootlets and hair. I did not then note the owner, nor could I, at that time, have identified the species, but I gave them a name, and placed them in my collection. Two years after—June, 1879—I was out in a piece of swampy woods south of the town, when my attention was arrested by the actions of a small bird which was constructing a nest among some leafy twigs growing on the small horizontal branch of a little water-elm, about three feet out from the trunk and ten feet off the ground. Some days after I viewed this nest again, it then contained one egg, and three days more, when I revisited it, I found the bird at home, sitting on three eggs, which I inferred were the full set, and that incubation had begun. When this bird flew off her nest and took a position on a branch near by, uttering a few chip-like notes, I identified her as a female bay-breasted warbler. This nest and eggs were exactly like those above described, and of course both belonged to the same species. Some days after this I found another nest of this bird in a