

appeared like that of a chipping sparrow, but when the bird flushed off on my near approach, and from a position on a branch near by watched my movements, shifting uneasily and uttering a few "chip"-like notes, I carefully noted her plumage and became certain of her identity as a female myrtle warbler.

This nest contained four eggs, quite fresh, though the bird had begun to incubate, and these, with the nest, are still (1902) in my collection. The ground colour of these eggs is a clear white clouded with a wreath of reddish-brown on the larger end, but there is scarcely a dot on the rest of the surface. The nest itself was composed of stalks of dry weeds, fibres of bark, rootlets and hair from the tails of horses or cattle. Near by, in another low balsam, was an old nest of the same species which had doubtless been occupied the previous year. The next summer I saw another complete nest of this species, but it contained no eggs. This was placed in the top of a small bushy blue-beech underwood, five or six feet high, and situated in a piece of swampy bush land. Since then I have noted this species only as a spring and autumn migrant, though I believe that some of them still nest in the swampy woods of this vicinity. Some of the species are occasionally noted here as late as the last week of October. The myrtle warbler is found to be an abundant summer resident of British Columbia, but as yet has been found chiefly to the west of the Cascade range of mountains. Like all the other species of the warblers it has its particular haunts and home, especially in the nesting period, and the student of avifaunian life who desires to examine the nest and eggs of this species in a state of nature, will be much assisted in the accomplishment of that object by a previous knowledge of the habits of the bird. Deep, high-timbered forests, rolling prairies, open woods, and the surroundings of human habitations, though occasionally visited, are not selected by this bird for a summer home or a nesting-place; but where the muddy brook wends its slow course through a brushwood dell, in swampy thickets, near stagnant pools, where there is an intermingling of various species of soft woods with evergreens, are the places most likely to be affected in the nesting period by the presence of this bird, and many such places exist in the valleys and among the foothills of the southwestern portion of