

or ten syllables. These birds feed largely on the ground where they walk about, instead of hopping as do most other small birds.

The nest of this species is built upon the ground, sometimes partially concealed by a bush or other plants, but sometimes without any attempt at concealment, and is composed of leaves and fibres compactly woven and the cavity covered over, so that the entrance is at the side. The eggs number from three to five, and are white, speckled with cinnamon or rufous-brown. The female is a very close sitter and will almost allow one to step upon the nest before she will betray its presence by taking flight. When disturbed she flutters from the nest in an apparently helpless condition, trying to allure her enemies from her home. The sexes are the same in color of plumage. They may easily be mistaken for thrushes which they much resemble, but are somewhat smaller, than those birds are when adult.

WATER THRUSH, *Seiurus noveboracensis*.

A common bird of swamps and water courses. With us from mid-May until October. We first know of its arrival in spring by hearing the male pouring forth his loud, sweet, liquid song, from some high perch in a tree along a brook. He sings most enthusiastically while his mate is searching about on the ground, gleaning some choice material with which to build a nest. His loud song without a doubt calls the attention of enemies to himself, and leaves his mate with less watching for her own safety at that season. During autumn migrations they often stroll about buildings in search of flies or other insects, that may be partially concealed in crevices.

MOURNING YELLOW, *Geothlypis philadelphia*.

This species has been observed in Westmoreland county by Mr. J. Brittain.

MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT, *Geothlypis trichas*.

A not uncommon summer resident from the middle of May until September. They prefer thickets along water-ways, and damp places, and from such places the male sends forth his wickity, wickity, wickity, sounding song. This species gets quite excited, at any disturbance in its near neighbourhood, and generally seeks to solve the cause of disquiet with much chipping and purring about through the intervening shrubbery.