



THEODORE ROOSEVELT

English Singing Birds

Reprinted from an article by Theodore Roosevelt in The Outlook, by special arrangement with The Outlook, of which Theodore Roosevelt is Contributing Editor. Copyright, 1910, by The Outlook Company. All Rights Reserved.

Like most Americans interested in birds and books, I know a good deal about English birds as they appear in books. I know the lark of Shakespeare and Shelley and the Ettrick Shepherd; I know the nightingale of Milton and Keats; I know Wordsworth's cuckoo; I know the merle and the robin in the merry green wood of the old ballads; I know Jenny Wren and Cock Robin of the nursery books. Therefore I have always much desired to hear the birds in real life; and the opportunity offered last June. As I could not snatch but a few hours from a very exacting round of pleasures and duties, it was necessary for me to be with some companion who could identify both song and singer. In Sir Edward Grey, a keen lover of outdoor life in all its phases, and a delightful companion, who knows the songs and ways of English birds as very few do know them, I found the best possible guide.

We left London on the morning of June 9, 24 hours before I sailed from Southampton. Getting off the train at Basingstoke, we drove to the pretty, smiling valley of the Itchen. Here we tramped for three or four hours, then again drove, this time to the edge of the New Forest, where we first took tea at an inn, and then tramped through the forest to an inn on its other side, at Brockenhurst. At the conclusion of our walk my companion made a list of the birds we had seen, putting an asterisk opposite those which we had heard sing. There were 41 of the former and 23 of the latter, as follows:

*Thrush, *Blackbird, *Lark, *Yellow Hammer, *Robin, *Wren, *Golden Crested Wren, *Goldfinch, *Greenfinch, *Pied Wagtail, *Sparrow, *Duncock (Hedge Accentor), *Mistle Thrush, *Starling, *Rook, *Jackdaw, *Black Cap, *Garden Warbler, *Willow Warbler, *Chiff Chaff, *Wood Warbler, *Troe Creeper, *Reed Bunting, *Sedge Warbler, *Coot, *Water Hen, *Little Grebe (Dabchick), *Tufted Duck, *Wood Pigeon, *Stock Dove, *Turtle Dove, *Pewee, *Tit (?Coal Tit), *Cuckoo, *Nighthawk, *Swallow, *Martin, *Swift, *Pheasant, *Partridge.

The bird that most impressed me on my walk was the blackbird. I had already heard nightingales in abundance near Lake Como, and had also listened to larks, but I had never heard either the blackbird, the song thrush, or the black cap warbler; and while I knew all three were good singers, I did not know what really beautiful singers they were. Blackbirds were very abundant, and they played a prominent part in the chorus which we heard throughout the day on every hand, though perhaps loudest the following morning at dawn. In its habits and manners, the blackbird strikingly resembles our American robin, and indeed looks exactly like a robin, with a yellow bill and coal-black plumage. It hops everywhere over the lawns, just as our robin does, and it lives in nests in the gardens in the same fashion. Its song has a general resemblance to that of our robin, but many of the notes are far more musical, more like those of our wood thrush. Indeed there were individuals among those we heard certain of whose notes seemed to me almost to equal in point of melody the chiming of the wood thrush; and the highest possible praise for any song bird is to liken its song to that of the wood thrush or hermit thrush. I certainly do not think that the blackbird has received full justice in the books. I knew that it was a singer, but I really had no idea how fine a singer he was. I suppose one of his troubles has been his name, just as with our own cat bird. When he appears in the ballads as the merle, bracketed with his cousin, the robin, the song thrush, it is far easier to recognize him as the master singer that he is. It is a fine thing for England to have such an asset of the countryside, a bird so common, so much in evidence, so fearless, and such a really beautiful singer.

The most musical singer we heard was the black cap warbler. To my ear its song seemed more musical than that of the nightingale. It was astonishingly powerful for so small a bird; in volume and continuity it does not come up to the songs of the thrushes and of certain other birds, but in quality, as an isolated bit of melody, it can hardly be surpassed. Among the minor singers the robin was noticeable. We all know this pretty little bird from the books, and I was prepared to find him as friendly and attractive as he proved to be, but I had not realized how well he sang.

No Cause for Alarm. "I have decided," said the theatrical manager, "to give you a trial, Miss Arlington. Please be ready to begin rehearsing Monday afternoon."

"Thank you so much. But before we go any further I must inform you that I shall positively refuse to wear tights or a gown that is cut low in the neck."

"Oh, that's all right. In the part that I'm going to give you, you will merely have to stand behind a shed and help to scream when the cyclone strikes town."

It was not a loud song, but very musical and attractive, and the bird is said to sing practically all through the year. The song of the wren interested me much, because it was not in the least like that of our house wren, but, on the contrary, like that of our winter wren. The theme is the same as the winter wren's, but the song did not seem to me to be so brilliantly musical as that of the tiny singer of the north woods. The sedge warbler sang in the thick reeds a mocking ventriloquial lay, which reminded me at times of the less pronounced parts of our yellow breasted chat's song. The cuckoo's cry was singularly attractive and musical, far more so than the rolling, many times repeated, note of our rain-crow.

Ten days later, at Sagamore Hill, I was among my own birds, and was much interested as I listened to and looked at them in remembering the notes and actions of the birds I had seen in England. On the evening of the first day I sat in my rocking chair on the broad veranda, looking across the sound towards the glory of the sunset. The thickly grassed hillside sloped down in front of me to a belt of forest from which rose the golden, leisurely chiming of the wood thrushes, chanting their vesper; through the still air came the warble of vireo and tanager; and after night-fall we heard the flight song of an oven bird from the same belt of timber. Overhead an oriole sang in the weeping elm, now and then breaking his song to scold like an overgrown wren. Song sparrows and cat birds sang in the shrubbery; one robin had built its nest over the front, and one over the back door, and there was a chipmunk's nest in the wisteria vine by the porch. During the next 24 hours I saw, heard, either right around the house or while walking down to bathe through the woods, the following 42 birds:

Little Green Heron, Quail, Red Tailed Hawk, Yellow Billed Cuckoo, Kingfisher, Flicker, Hummingbird, Swift, Meadow Lark, Red Winged Blackbird, Sharp Tailed Finch, Song Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Bush Sparrow, Purple Finch, Baltimore Oriole, Cowbird, Robin, Scarlet Thrush, Thrasher, Cat Bird, Scarlet Tanager, Red-Eyed Vireo, Yellow Warbler, Black-Throated Green Warbler, King Bird, Wood Pewee, Crow, Blue Jay, Cedar Bird, Maryland Yellow Throat, Chickadee, Black and White Creeper, Barn Swallow, White Breasted Swallow, Oven Bird, Thistlefinch, Vesperfinch, Indigo Bunting, Towhee, Grasshopper Sparrow and Screech Owl.

I sent the companion of my English walk John Burroughs' "Birds and Poets." John Burroughs' life work is beginning to have its full effect in many different lines. When he first wrote there were few men of letters in our country who knew nature at first hand. Now there are many who delight in our birds, who know their songs, who keenly love all that belongs to out-of-doors life. For instance, Madison Cawein and Ernest McGaffey have for a number of years written of our woods and fields, of the birds and the flowers, as only those can write who join to love of nature the gift of observation and the gift of description. Mr. Cawein is a Kentuckian; and another Kentuckian, Miss Julia Stockton Dinsmore, in the little volume of poems which she has just published, includes many which describe with beauty and charm the sights and sounds so dear to all of us who know American country life. Miss Dinsmore knows Kentucky, and the Gulf coast of Louisiana, and the great plains of North Dakota; and she knows also the regions that lie outside of what can be seen with material vision. For years in our family we have had some of her poems in the scrap book cut from newspapers when we knew nothing about her except the initials signed in the verses. Only one who sees with the eyes of the spirit as well as the eyes of the body could have written the "Threnody," curiously attractive in its simplicity and pathos, with which the little book opens. It contains many poems that make a similar appeal. The writer knows bluebird and robin, redbird and field lark and whippoorwill, just as she knows southern rivers and western plains; she knows rushing winds and running waters and the sights and sounds of lonely places; and moreover, she knows and almost tells those hidden things of the heart which never find complete utterance.

THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Still the 400. Ward—They say there are about 275,000 automobiles owned by individuals in the United States, or one for every 400 population.

McAllister—Well, are you in the 400 yet?—Yonkers Statesmen.

Filling Up. "What do you do when you have no news? It must be hard to fill up." "When we have no news," explained the New York Journalist, "we use larger type."

FROM COUNTY TO COUNTY

North Carolina News Prepared and Published for the Quick Perusal of Our Patrons.

Humpback Mountain Sold.
It is reported at Altapass that ex-Sheriff Wiseman has sold to Charlotte parties 1,000 to 1,500 acres of land about five miles north of there. The land purchased is what is known as Humpback Mountain and adjacent lands. The Indian name is Konitoka, which means "standing turkey." It is understood that the purpose is to develop the land as a summer resort as is being done at Switzerland. The elevator is about 4,000 feet. The new hotel at Altapass will be finished about September 1. It has 35 rooms, most of which have baths.

To Death With Curse on Lips.
"Oh, ho—, I can't wait here all night," is the declaration Engineer J. O. Smith, the Norfolk & Southern yard engineer, who took the fatal risk that is alleged to have caused the collision with an incoming passenger train, is said to have used on former occasions when he had been warned by associates about taking chances for a run from the freight yards to the turntable siding. This evidence was given by Telegraph Operator Raney in an investigation of the cause of the wreck made by the Corporation Commission.

Republican Nominee in the Fifth.
The Fifth District Republican Congressional Convention met at Greensboro, and by acclamation nominated David H. Blair, a well-known lawyer of Winston-Salem, for Congress in opposition to Maj. Charles M. Stedman, the Democratic nominee.

Vice President Coming to Carolina.
Vice President Sherman is to speak in Charlotte the last week in October, probably the 25th.

He will make several speeches in the State. The coming of Vice President Sherman of course will be an event of no little consequence. He will doubtless address himself to the issues of the day which is but another way of saying that he will make a red-hot political speech. Vice President Sherman is regarded as one of the most forceful orators of the administration. That Charlotte will give him a warm welcome goes without saying.

It is more than likely that the local Republicans will make the visit of the second standard-bearer of the party a gala day in Charlotte.

Western Union Hit For \$500.
In the Superior court at Wadesboro the case of James W. Gullidge vs. Western Union Telegraph Company was tried, the jury returning a verdict for \$750 for mental anguish on account of the non-delivery of a telegram announcing the death and burial of a sister-in-law.

A motion was made by counsel for the defendant to have this verdict set aside on the ground that it was excessive. Judge Biggs intimated that he would set it aside if the plaintiff refused to consent to a reduction of the verdict. The judgment was then reduced by consent to \$500.

Nash Republicans' Strange Action.
The Republicans of Nash county, in convention assembled, upon motion of Bernard Brooks, Esq., a recent recruit, endorsed R. A. P. Cooley, defeated in the Democratic primary this year for solicitor, for Congress in the Fourth District; endorsed J. A. Farmer, of Wilson, defeated two years ago in the Democratic primary for Representative, for solicitor; endorsed James R. Gaskill, referee in bankruptcy, for judge in that district, and John Dawes, recently a Democratic Senator, for the Senate this year.

Hickory, Lincoln, Gastonia Alive.
The people of Hickory are making a great effort to get the shops of the Carolina and North Western Railway, recently burned at Chester, located in their city. Lincoln and Gastonia are the two strongest competitors of Hickory. At Gastonia one man has offered the employees free lots to build homes on. The people of Hickory have gotten up a subscription in order to get the shops.

Right Sort of Saw Mill Men.
Messrs. Adams Bros., lately from Virginia, are putting up a band-saw mill near Sevierville station on the Clinchfield road. The firm will build a logging road up Armstrong creek. They own some 15,000 acres of timber and it is the purpose to cut it scientifically and in such manner as to conserve the property and make it perpetual yielding. The property is located across the river from Marion.

The man who shot and seriously wounded Miss Mary Culberson, a nurse at the Morganton Insane Hospital, is Joseph Upton, a former attendant at the hospital. He was discharged for unruly conduct two weeks ago. It is stated that Upton was at one time engaged to Miss Culberson, but the engagement was broken by the latter a month ago. Miss Culberson's condition is such as to make her recovery doubtful. It is probable that Upton, who attempted suicide after attacking the young lady, will recover from his wounds.

NEWS OF NORTH STATE.

Late Important Events and Facts of State-Wide Interest Printed Here for Public Benefit.

Unfortunate Tragedy at Cherryville.
Incensed at the intrusion to the village of Cherryville, of two suspicious men, whom they believed to be illegally retarding liquor, a small posse of citizens, headed by C. S. Reynolds, spent hours Friday night in hunting down the strangers, bringing them to bay on the Main street.

Calling upon them to halt, Reynolds fired, killing Andrew Pruett, one of the strangers, instantly. The other, Reilly Fallant, was captured and jailed. The grip the men carried between them contained liquor. Both hailed from the adjoining county of Lincoln, and Pruett, the victim, leaves a widow and three children.

Reynolds, who headed the movement against the alleged bootleggers, is superintendent of the cotton mills here. The coroner's jury fastened the death of Pruett upon Reynolds, and held him without bail for court on the ground that he acted without warrant of law.

"A Home Coming."

Thousands of North Carolinians have migrated to all parts of the country. This State has played a great part in the winning of the West, and in the development of all sections. North Carolina virility, pluck, and ability, have proven notable factors in many other States. People from the Old North State have set their mark everywhere, but have never lost their love for their mother State, North Carolina. Complete arrangements have been made for a great "Home Coming Jubilee and Reunion" for all persons born in North Carolina; this to be held at Raleigh during the fifteenth State Fair, October 17-22. Mayor J. S. Wynne is chairman and Fred A. Olds secretary of the committee which has, this matter in charge, and they desire to obtain the names and addresses, as far as possible, of any people who now reside in other States, in order that invitations may be sent them.

Colored Firemen's Annual Meeting.
The 21st annual session of the Colored N. C. Volunteer Firemen, meets at Winston-Salem on September 6th and lasts through September 9th. The tournament will also have fair features.

The great parade on Wednesday September 7th, will be headed by the Gold Leaf Cornet Band of 25 people, followed by 500 firemen, 25 automobiles, 20 floats, 2 bands, 200 riders on horse back and 150 carriages and buggies.

The usual firemen's races and events of different kinds will be held as usual, together with foot races and automobile races.

There will be a baseball game each day, and excursions will be run from Roanoke, Charlotte, Greensboro, Danville and Raleigh. There will also be a Midway with the usual Midway attractions.

Fayetteville Needs Union Station.
The members of the North Carolina Corporation Commission go Wednesday, August 31, to Fayetteville to investigate petitions. Citizens of that place are pressing for the railroads running into the town to join in a union passenger station, the Atlantic Coast Line and the Raleigh & Southern being principally interested.

The State Farmers' Meeting.
The farmers' state convention meets at the A. & M. College, Raleigh, August 30th, 31st, and September 1st. Rooms at the College are free, but delegates must take towels, pillows, and a light blanket for their own use. Meals at the College twenty-five cents each. Delegates should call for railroad tickets on the "certificate" plan so as to secure reduced return fare.

Lightnings Deadly Work at Church.
In the mountain fastness of Madison county, 40 miles from Asheville, three men were killed, several others injured by lightning striking Baldwin's chapel on Spring Creek Sunday.

The congregation had been dismissed when the storm came up, lightning striking the church steeple, and throwing the congregation into panic. The dead are: Jay Baldwin, aged 50 years; Homer Yates, 2 years; Joe Cogdill, 18 years; Houston Raney, aged 25, is not expected to recover.

Doctor Gets Seven Years.
The final chapter to the Deaver-Taylor tragedy at Murphy, was written when Dr. R. J. Deaver was found guilty of manslaughter and sentenced to seven years at hard labor in the State penitentiary. Dr. Deaver shot and killed his brother-in-law, N. B. Taylor, in 1902, the shooting, it is said, being the outcome of domestic strife. Deaver made his escape and succeeded in eluding capture until last July, when he was caught in He has a wife and four children.

NORTH CAROLINA EVENTS

Life in the Land of the Long Leaf Pine

Deaf and Dumb Convention.
The State Convention of Deaf and Dumb mutes will be held at Durham three days, Aug. 25, 26 and 27.

This is the second of the conventions, Raleigh having entertained the silent hosts two years ago. One hundred and fifty delegates are expected.

One of the notable features of the occasion will be the marriage of Miss Ella F. Smith and Mr. Tyre L. Walker. Both are mutes and the ceremony will have to be performed through an interpreter. Rev. S. S. Bost will unite them according to the Episcopal ritual. The mutes have a rector who is without power to hear and the plans of ministers may be changed. It is expected, however, that the dumb rector cannot be there. Mr. Bost has studied their language a great deal and is able to converse with them.

The convention next week will be presided over by Prof. D. R. Tillinghast, formerly of Charlotte. He is the father of Miss Roby Tillinghast who is doing wonders teaching the mutes. The colony at Durham is the strongest in the State and among it there seems very intellectual and substantial citizens.

Ask Wreck Victims to Settle.

The Southern and Seaboard Air Line Railway companies have appealed to the fourteen and more negroes injured in the union station collision, at Raleigh, Saturday morning to all come direct to the railroad representatives for settlement of their claims for injuries without the intervention of any lawyer. Announcement has been made to this effect at the colored churches with insistence that claimants make no move to employ counsel before they have tried to reach a settlement without lawyers. They insist that in this way those entitled to damages will realize the more benefit through being rid of exorbitant counsel fees.

Moonshiner Like a Wild Man.

United States deputy marshals placed in jail at Raleigh Jerry Kittle, who for 10 years has been one of the most daring moonshiners ever known in North Carolina.

For 10 months he had lived on a small island in the Tar river operating an illicit still, never leaving the island in all that time. Six times officers had found him at other stills, but he always escaped, being a wonderful runner.

He is charged with having murdered a negro in Franklin county, who worked at Kittle's still and who he thought was an informer. Kittle's head and face are covered by a mat of hair and he is like a wild man in appearance and habits.

Blind Senator Going to Durham.

The Durham Elks have received through their exalted ruler, W. G. Bramham, a letter from Senator Thomas P. Gore, of Oklahoma, in which he accepts the invitation to address the people of the city under the auspices of the Elks at an early date, perhaps in September. Senator Gore is an enthusiastic Elk, in addition to which he is one of the most eloquent men in the country.

Bank Resumes Business.

The People's Bank at Chapel Hill, which failed three weeks ago, has resumed business, having been placed on its feet by Gen. Julian S. Carr's backing and the aid of Profs. Williams, Howell and Webb, of the State University. Bad loans were the cause of the suspension.

Supreme Court Convenes Aug. 29th.

The North Carolina Supreme Court is to convene for the fall term Monday, Aug. 29th, and general preparations in the Supreme Court building are in progress. The first day of court will be devoted to the examination of applicants for license to practice law in this State, with indications that there will be an average class of fifty or sixty embryo lawyers.

Canning Fruit Bulletin in Demand.

The State Department of Agriculture has received requests from seventeen other States for copies of the bulletin on canning fruits and vegetables, prepared by Assistant Horticulturist Shaw. The demand all over North Carolina has been phenomenal, and the results from household canning by the directions completely successful. It is said that there was never known to be anything like the amount of canning of fruits and vegetables that there is in progress this summer, this resulting in the utilization of a vast amount of fruits and vegetables that would otherwise have gone to waste.

Another Wreck at Raleigh.

In a collision between the incoming Norfolk & Southern passenger train, due at Raleigh from Norfolk at 7:20, and a yard engine just outside of the Norfolk & Southern yards at Raleigh, Thursday night, one man was killed and two very seriously injured. Engineer J. O. Smith of the yard engine had his head crushed to a pulp and his leg terribly mangled, being caught as his tender jammed into the cab of his engine.

TRY MURINE EYE REMEDY
For Red, Weak, Watery, Watery Eyes and GRANULATED EYELIDS.
Murine Does Not Smart—Soothes Eye Pain
Drops Kill Murine Eye Remedy, Liquid, 25c, 50c, \$1.00
Murine Eye Salve, in Asseptic Tubes, 25c, \$1.00
EYE BOOKS AND ADVICE FREE BY MAIL.
Murine Eye Remedy Co., Chicago

TELEGRAPHY
We are unable to fill the demand for competent Operators. Three to four months required to complete course. Positions guaranteed. Expert Management. Only School in the Carolinas. Write for Catalog. CHARLOTTE TELEGRAPHY SCHOOL, Charlotte, N. C.

XANTHINE FOR THE HAIR
Restores Gray Hair to Natural Color; REMOVES DANDRUFF AND SCALD; Navigates and prevents the hair from falling off.
For Sale by Druggists, or Sent Direct by XANTHINE CO., Richmond, Virginia
Price 21 Per Bottle; Sample Bottle 5c. Sent by Circular

\$65 to \$85 pays board, literary tuition and room rent for session of nine months at **PIEDMONT HIGH SCHOOL**
"It is the best and the cheapest school in the state."—E. M. Koonce, State Senator.
For Catalogue write to **WM. D. BURNS, Lawndale, N. C.**

FOR SALE—SOUTH GA. FARMS
500 ACRES, 180 in cultivation, six-room residence. Best grade pebble land; ideal home. All conveniences. If you desire choice land in south Georgia, see this place. Will sell at reasonable figure.
F. J. BIVINS, Moultrie, Ga.

Dropsy CURED Gives Quick Relief
Removes all swelling in 8 to 30 days; effect permanent cure in 30 to 60 days. Trial treatment given free. Nothing can be faster. Write Dr. H. H. Green's Sons, Specialists, Box 8, Atlanta, Ga.

Bored Barred.
A reporter asked Mr. Roosevelt at the Outlook office how he got through so much work and at the same time saw so many people. "I shun bores," was the reply. "I don't waste a minute of my time on bores. Do you perceive that I have only just one chair in this room? You see, my hunting experiences have shown me that great bores are always of small caliber."

FOR COLDS and GRIP
Hicks' CAPSULES is the best remedy—relieves the aching and feverishness—cures the Cold and restores normal conditions. It's Liquid—effects immediately. 10c., 25c., and 50c. At drug stores.

A BROAD HINT.



Jim—I suppose you love to go sleighing because of the melody of the jingling sleigh bells.
Jess—Yes, and they often lead up to the wedding bells. That's the best of it.

A Sage's Summer.
Solomon sighed.
"Think of the number of plants I have to remember to water while they are all away for the summer," he cried.
Herewith he doubted his title to wisdom.

Deduction in a Street Car.
The Heavyweight—Pardon me, did I step on your foot, sir?
Coogan—If yez didn't, begorry, then the roof must hav fell on it.—Puck.

To harbor fretful and discontented thoughts is to do yourself more injury than it is in the power of your greatest enemy to do you.—Mason.

Right food is a basis for right living.
"There's only one disease," Says an eminent writer—
"Wrong living"
"And but one cure—
"Right living."
Right food is supplied by

Grape-Nuts

It contains the vital Body and brain-building Elements of wheat and barley—Most important of which is The Potassium Phosphate, Grown in the grain For rebuilding tissues Broken down by daily use. Folks who use Grape-Nuts Know this—they feel it. "There's a Reason" Read "The Road to Wellville," Found in packages.