

CARNEGIE MUSEUM

DEPARTMENT OF THE CARNEGIE INSTITUTE
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INVERTEBRATES • INVERTEBRATE FOSSILS • VERTEBRATE FOSSILS • PLANTS INSECTS & SPIDERS • AMPHIBIANS & REPTILES • BIRDS • MAMMALS • MAN • EXHIBITS

Director—M. GRAHAM NETTING
Associate Dir.—JAMES L. SWAUGER

22 September 1971

*And. Field Notes, 1965, 19:24 — Sept. 17, 1964
B. Hurlock*

Mr. Harold Mayfield
River Road, R.D.
Waterville, Ohio 43566

Sept. 21, 1971

Dear Harold:

I was in the middle of writing a long and complicated letter to Oliver Austin late yesterday morning when I had a telephone call from Bob Leberman out at Powdermill Nature Reserve, our banding station. Whereupon both Mary and I dropped what we were doing and high-tailed it for Powdermill. Bob had netted a Kirtland's Warbler! When we got out there, we photographed the heck out of it (on three different cameras, just in case anything went wrong), banded it, and released it. The bird was an excellent match (allowing for museum fading) for a female in first basic ("first winter") plumage in our collection, taken 30 August 1915 in Michigan, but I gather from your book that one cannot safely sex this species at this age.

Dr. Netting naturally wants us to get out one of our mimeographed Powdermill Educational Releases on this, as soon as possible. In fact, if my photographs come out well, he may try to get CARNEGIE MAGAZINE to use one as a cover. I am therefore turning to you for information supplemental to that in your book, to help make our release as accurate as possible. We would very much appreciate your giving us what you can in the way of answers to the questions below, at your earliest convenience.

- (1) What other banding records are there for this species on migration? We have heard about at least one at Long Point, Ontario, from Leberman, but he may have had the Point Pelee bird in mind.
- (2) Are there any other records of any kind for the species, subsequent to your book, from north and east of Ohio?
- (3) Are there any other records since the book that would throw additional light on the normal migration route across the United States?

Incidentally, Bob and Mary and I were all in agreement that a size 0 band, as recommended, appeared to be too small, and Bob used a size 1 on the bird.

Mary and I both feel that this record is a borderline case as far as being worthy of a note in a major journal is concerned. We will probably write up, in addition to the Educational Release, a note for the ASWP Bulletin and a short paper with photograph for EBBA NEWS.

Best regards,

Ker

Kenneth C. Parkes
Curator of Birds

