

Tree Sparrow examined in life tend towards an erect position, often forming a sort of fringe along the upper edge of the band.—C. L. Whittle, Peterborough, N. H.

Purple Finch's Nest-Building Ceremony.—Upon waking at 5 A. M. I became aware of an ecstatic bird-song with which I was completely unfamiliar. Crossing the room very quietly, I saw a pair of Purple Finches facing each other on the floor of the piazza. The bills of both birds contained nesting-materials, and the male was executing a dance with half-open wings, moving forward and back in front of the female, which stood watching him from a distance of about fifteen inches. The feathers on his head were partially erect, which gave him a crested appearance. As he moved to and fro, he sang an ecstatic song which seemed distinctly different from his ordinary one, with which I am familiar. When the ceremony was completed, both birds flew into the woods carrying the nesting materials in their beaks. They both seemed entirely unaware of my presence.—KATHARINE C. HARDING, Holderness, New Hampshire, May 30, 1928.

A Return-4 Chipping Sparrow.—L. B. Fletcher reports a Chipping Sparrow, No. 125271, banded at Cohasset, Massachusetts, August 21, 1924, which has returned to his station four consecutive seasons, the returning yearly dates given in their proper order being May 8th, 9th, 11th, and 15th. This bird is approaching at least its fourth year.

Another Tree Sparrow Recovery of Importance.—The Rev. George E. Allen sends word that a Tree Sparrow banded by him at Whitinsville, Massachusetts, on February 1, 1928, was caught by a cat belonging to Mrs. G. A. Beals, at Green, Maine, April 24, 1928. This record supplements a previous one of similar import reported in the *Bulletin*, Vol. I. No. 2, 1925, page 33, of a Tree Sparrow, No. 67250, banded by Mrs. F. D. Hubbard at New Haven, Connecticut, January 31, 1923, and recovered by Prof. Frederick A. Saunders at Kittery Point, Maine, March 30, 1925. Both these recoveries are unmistakable instances of birds taken in their spring migration to their breeding-grounds, and, as far as they go, they show a northeasterly migration-route along the Atlantic seaboard. The records also emphasize the fact that it is only the lack of a sufficient number of banding stations in the country that makes it so difficult to trace a species' migration-routes to and from its nesting-grounds. It is right here that the amateur bird-bander has an opportunity to help work out the important matter of migration-routes, rate of migration, etc.—THE EDITORS.

An unusual Sight-Recovery Record of a Purple Finch.—One of my photographs of a banded Chickadee, made in Cohasset, Massachusetts, showed two whole figures of its band-number and a portion of a third figure sufficient to enable me to determine positively the whole number, thus making it a photographic repeat. It has remained, however, for Dr. Francis Harper, of Natick, to record the first recovery made by actually reading the band-number on a visiting bird without handling it. Dr. Harper writes as follows regarding the matter: "On May 5 and 6, 1928, a