

tains, by Lieutenant H. C. Benson, U. S. A. This capture renders it extremely probable that the Trogon referred to by Mr. W. E. D. Scott in 'The Auk' for October, 1886, p. 425, as observed in the Chiracahua Mountains, was this species, which is the only one of the Red-bellied Mexican species whose range extends beyond the southern half of that country. Lieutenant Benson's specimen, which is now in the National Museum collection, will be described in full in the 'Proceedings' of the National Museum for 1887.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

Capture of a Fish Crow (*Corvus ossifragus*) at Wareham, Massachusetts.—Inasmuch as my record (Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, I, 1876, p. 19) of a Fish Crow seen at Cambridge, March 16, 1875, has been treated with wholesome caution—not to say incredulity—by several recent writers on New England birds, it gives me pleasure to present a second and quite unimpeachable instance of the occurrence of the species in Massachusetts. This time the bird was actually taken;—at Wareham, July 16, 1884, by Mr. E. A. Bangs, in whose collection the specimen is now preserved, and to whom I am indebted for the following account of its capture:

"I was fishing with my brother in Tihonet Pond and, as usual on such occasions, had my gun with me. While crossing the pond we saw two birds sitting on a tree near the mouth of a brook. From their actions I thought at first that they were Pigeons, but on getting nearer made out that they were black and resembled small Crows. We approached them with all possible caution, but they flew before we got within sixty yards. I brought down one, when the other circled over it for a moment, but it escaped before I could reload the gun (a single barrel). The one I killed proved to be a female in full plumage."—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Occurrence of *Agelaius phœniceus* (L.) on the West Coast of England.—Additions to the useful 'List of Occurrences of North American Birds in Europe,' contributed by Mr. Dalglish to the 'Bulletin' of the Nuttall Ornithological Club in 1880, will, doubtless, always be welcome in the pages of 'The Auk.' It affords me much pleasure to add to that list the capture of an immigrant specimen of *Agelaius phœniceus* (L.)—a species which has been recorded as occurring in Britain on at least a dozen occasions on evidence of a more or less satisfactory nature, some of the specimens being supposed escapes from confinement. The bird now to be recorded struck against the lantern of the Nash Lighthouse, on the Welsh Coast of the Bristol Channel, at 3 A.M. on the 27th of October last, and was intended to be forwarded to me by its captor, Mr. Henry Nicholas, one of the most valued observers of the British Association's Bird Migration Committee, but during his absence for a few moments was unfortunately carried off by the cat. Mr. Nicholas had no difficulty in identifying the bird by the aid of his books, but I at once sent him a skin of the bird (an adult) in order to test his determination of the species, and he replied "that the bird killed very much resembled the one sent ex-

cept that the yellow on the wings was rather paler; the tips of the wings and the back of the neck were more sooty black, and I think it was a little larger";—a description indicating an immature bird, which is what we should have expected, since it is from the ranks of these youngsters that nine-tenths of the erratic wanderers visiting our shores are recruited. The late hours of the 26th of October and the early ones of the 27th would seem, from the returns, to have constituted an important 'immigration night,' as a few particulars furnished from the schedule of the Nash Light will make manifest:—At 9.50 P.M., Missel Thrushes (*Turdus viscivorus*); at 10 P.M., Bramblings (*Fringilla montifrigilla*); at 10.30 P.M., Snipes (*Gallinago caelestis*), four of which struck and were killed; at 12.40 A.M., Redwings (*Turdus iliacus*), two killed; at 2 A.M., Wrens (*Troglodytes parvulus*), one captured; at 2.10 A.M., Robins (*Erithacus rubecula*), and Black Redstart (*Ruticilla titys*), killed; and finally at 3 A.M., the bird in which we are specially interested. The wind prevailing at the time was a strong easterly breeze; weather cloudy with passing showers of rain.—WM. EAGLE CLARKE, F. L. S., *The Museum, Leeds, England.*

The Redpolls of Massachusetts.—In his 'Revised List of the Birds of Massachusetts' Mr. Allen includes only two Redpolls, *Acanthis linaria* and *A. l. rostrata*. He does not give his reasons for excluding *Acanthis hornemanni exilipes*, but whatever they may have been, this bird has an indisputable right to a place in our fauna. I have examined the specimen taken by Jeffries at Swampscott, Nov. 16, 1878 (see Bull. N. O. C., IV, April, 1879, p. 121); that shot by Atkinson and recorded by Dr. Brewer (Proc. Bos. Soc. N. H., XX, 1879, p. 270); and a bird in the Cambridge Museum, to which Mr. Allen probably referred when he attributed *exilipes* to Massachusetts in 1870 (Am. Nat., III, p. 583), and all three are unmistakable examples of *A. h. exilipes*. To this number I can add the following, none of which seem to have been previously announced*:

A male in the collection of Mr. H. M. Spelman, taken Nov. 15, 1880, in Cambridge; a pair shot at Revere Beach, Mass., March 8, 1879, by Mr. Foster H. Brackett, and now in the collection of Mr. Charles R. Lamb; a pair killed at Revere Beach, March 9, 1883, by Messrs. Spelman and Chadbourne, the former of whom has the male, the latter the female; and a male shot at Nantasket Beach, Feb. 22, 1883, by Matthew Lucas, Jr., and in the collection of the present writer. All of the males just mentioned are in gray (immature?) plumage.

Besides the forms above referred to, a fourth occurs, at least rarely, in Massachusetts. This is *Acanthis linaria holballii* Brehm, of which I have two examples, † shot together at Swampscott, March 26, 1883; both are males, one in gray plumage, the other a rosy-breasted adult (?).

* Several of them, perhaps, were incidentally referred to by Mr. Chadbourne (Quar. Jour. Boston Zool. Soc., Vol. II, April, 1883, p. 31).

† Dr. Stejneger has kindly examined them and confirmed my determination.