

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.

Thus of the five Redpolls attributed to North America at large four have been found in Massachusetts. Of these *A. linaria* visits us in abundance, but of course more or less irregularly; *A. rostrata* in smaller numbers, but still plentifully at times, as in February, 1883 (see Bull. N. O. C., Vol. VIII, pp. 95-99, recorded as *Ægiothus linaria holboelli*); *A. h. exilipes* in very limited numbers, and perhaps even less regularly than either of the two preceding; while *A. l. holboellii* is apparently the rarest of the four and possibly a mere accidental straggler. The fifth North American form, *Acanthis hornemanni typica*, has never been taken within the limits of the United States.

As the recent shifting of names in this group is somewhat confusing it may be well to explain, that the *Ægiothus linaria holboelli* which I re-recorded* from Massachusetts in 1883 is the *Acanthis linaria rostrata* of the A. O. U. List, and the *Acanthis linaria holboellii*, now for the first time reported from our State, another and very different form, much more nearly like true *linaria*, from which it can be distinguished only by its greater size and longer bill. Those who care to look further into this subject should consult Dr. Stejneger's able papers on the genus *Acanthis*.†—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

[The omission of *Acanthis hornemanni exilipes* from my 'Revised List' was due (1) to the fact that the then latest authorities on this group did not recognize *exilipes* as occurring south of "Arctic America and North-eastern Asia"; (2) in view of the recent radical shifting of names, and the supposed not wholly trustworthy identification of at least some of the specimens of '*exilipes*,' referred to above as recorded from Massachusetts, the omission of this form was thought to be the safer course, especially as the alleged specimens were not then accessible to me for examination.—J. A. ALLEN.]

Vireo solitarius alticola in Tennessee.—In my list of birds taken in Roane County, Tennessee (Auk, III, p. 317), I record two specimens of *Vireo solitarius*. Mr. Ridgway has since informed me that the specimens are typical of the new form *alticola*. Both specimens were females, and were taken at the foot of the ridge, in a grove of small pines.—WILLIAM H. FOX, M. D., *New York City*.

Another Specimen of the Prothonotary Warbler in Massachusetts.—Recently when examining the collection of birds made by Mr. E. O. Damon at Northampton, Mass., I saw a beautiful *Protonotaria citrea* which he told me he killed in that vicinity *on high ground*, in May, 1883, and that two other specimens were shot at the same time by a friend of his. These examples, additional to those already recorded by Messrs. Brewster and Purdie (Auk, July and Oct., 1886), would seem to indicate that the species enters New England regularly.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*

* Bull N. O. C, VIII, pp. 95-99.

† Auk, I, 1884, pp. 145-155; *ibid.*, IV, 1887, pp. 30-35.