

On Nov. 17, 1885, the bulk passed south, and on Dec. 10 the mercury fell to 15° below freezing. This was the coldest weather until Jan. 7, 1886. On Jan. 6, 1886, a flock of fifteen were seen, and were repeatedly seen up to Jan. 20. Where those birds came from and why they came at such an unseasonable time of the year is the question. It will be seen that they passed south in November, 1885. It will be further noted that there was only four days difference in the time of arrival in January, 1885, and that of 1886. For three weeks prior to their arrival in 1885 it was very cold for this climate. For three weeks prior to their arrival in 1886 the temperature was moderate. During January, 1886, they endured weather 4° below zero.

If winds are to be considered as affecting the flight of birds, these Finches must have come from the N. W., as it had blown from that quarter for five successive days, and one day it blew with great violence all day. They were just ahead of the 'blizzard' of Jan. 7, which was also from N. W. But why should they come in advance of the cold in 1886, and through it in 1885? Mr. Nehrling (Bull. N. O. C., Vol. VII, p. 12) says: "Grass Finch. Only found during migrations. None remain, so far as I know, to winter or to breed." His observations were made near Houston, Tex. Mr. Geo. B. Sennett's 'Notes on the Ornithology of the Lower Rio Grande of Texas,' page 17, says: "*Poæetes gramineus confinis* (Gm.) Bd. Western Grass Finch. ♂ Apr. 9th, Brownsville. ♀ Apr. 29th, Hidalgo." Dr. J. C. Merrill's 'Notes on the Ornithology of Southern Texas' (Fl. Brown), page 126, says: "*Poæetes gramineus* var. *confinis* Baird. Spring and Autumn."

It is probable from the longitude of the localities in which the above observations were made that a large per cent. of the Grass Finches are of the intermediate form.

It is worthy of note that Grass Finches were wintering south of the Rio Grande in 1876, and on the northern border of Texas in 1886.—GEORGE H. RAGSDALE, *Gainsville, Cook Co., Tex.*

**A Song Sparrow wintering in Eastern Maine.**—During the winter of 1885-86 I received a Song Sparrow (*Melospiza fasciata*) from a friend, who secured it on January 23, 1886. The bird found abundant food during its winter sojourn in the chaff and other refuse from a large barn, in the immediate vicinity of which was a protected covert that afforded it ample shelter. On dissection it proved to be a male in good condition. Considering the date and locality, it may fairly be said to have been wintering.—LEWIS M. TODD, *Calais, Me.*

**The Song Sparrow in New Brunswick in Winter.**—I have seen the Song Sparrow occasionally in New Brunswick during the winter months, and Mr. Francis Bain says a few regularly remain on Prince Edward's Island all winter.—MONTAGUE CHAMBERLAIN, *St. John, N. B.*

**Unusual Nesting-Site of the Song Sparrow.**—Mr. Wilbur F. Lamb, of Holyoke, Mass., writes me under date of May 30, 1887, as follows: "I