

Tringa bairdii on Long Island Sound.—A female *Tringa bairdii* was shot at Stratford, Connecticut, November 3, 1888, by Mr. J. H. Averill of Bridgeport, who kindly presented it to me. It was on a salt meadow in company with four *Tringa maculata*. Having no specimens for comparison I sent the skin to Dr. C. H. Merriam, Dept. of Agriculture, who identified it as above.—C. K. AVERILL, JR., *Bridgeport, Connecticut*.

Note on the First Plumage of *Colinus ridgwayi*.—Mr. Herbert Brown of Tucson, Arizona, has kindly sent me for examination a specimen of *Colinus ridgwayi*, a young male, still partly in the first plumage. It was taken Oct. 10, 1888, near Tubal, seventy miles south of Tucson. The top of the head is blackish, with each feather narrowly bordered with ashy brown. The hind neck, sides of the neck, and jugulum are yellowish white, with each feather barred at the tip with black. The scapulars are brownish, each feather with a rather broad whitish shaft stripe, and barred with yellowish white and black, and the wing coverts have much the same pattern, but the barring is pale cinnamon and brown. The throat is pure white, with new black feathers appearing irregularly along the sides of the chin and upper throat. Breast pale brown, with light shaft stripes and faintly barred with blackish, passing into brownish white with more distinct bars on the upper abdomen. The new feathers along the sides of the breast and flanks are chestnut, tipped with a spot of clear white, which is bordered behind with a more or less V-shaped bar of deep black. The broad yellowish white superciliary stripes extend to the nostrils. On the whole the first plumage of *C. ridgwayi* much resembles that of *C. virginianus texensis*, but the ground color above is darker, and the bars on the jugulum are stronger and better defined, and the ground color more whitish.—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City*.

Another Saw-whet Owl (*Nyctala acadica*) in the District of Columbia.—Mr. J. D. Figgins shot a male Saw-whet Owl at Capitol View Park, a short distance from Washington, on March 12, 1889. When discovered it was feeding on a Junco, and was surrounded by an angry lot of small birds.

Three other specimens of this species have been taken here, as follows: A female was taken at Washington by C. Drexler, Feb. 12, 1859, and presented to the National Museum (No. 12,044). Dr. Fisher called my attention to a description of this specimen in 'History of North American Birds,' Vol. III, p. 43. The Museum number was given as 120,044 but was a misprint for 12,044. A female Saw-whet Owl was captured in this city on November 1, 1878, and presented to the National Museum (No. 97,987) by Mr. Henry Marshall. Another was taken early in October, 1886, and recorded in 'The Auk,' Vol. IV, p. 161, by Mr. F. S. Webster.—CHARLES W. RICHMOND, *Washington, D. C.*

A Fishing Screech Owl.—I secured a Screech Owl Feb. 2, 1889, which

was caught in a steel trap, the latter having been set in a spring, where there were a number of small fish. When found it was dead, having been drowned, and its legs were more or less covered with fish scales. The trap was at least four or five inches below the surface of the water, which seems to show that the Owl must have plunged into the water in order to have got caught. This is the only instance in which I have known this species to enter the water for the purpose of securing fish.*—WILLARD E. TREAT, *East Hartford, Connecticut.*

Brewer's Blackbird near New Orleans.—I have in my possession a male Brewer's Blackbird (*Scolecophagus cyanocephalus*) in full plumage, shot a few miles from New Orleans on December 23, 1888. A small flock was seen, but only one was procured.—GUSTAVE KOHN, *New Orleans, Louisiana.*

The Chestnut-collared and Lapland Longspurs on Long Island, N. Y.—While hunting for Lapland Longspurs on February 16, my brother, J. H. Hendrickson, saw a bird which, on account of white feathers in its tail and generally dingy appearance, he thought was a Bay-winged Sparrow. He approached within five or six feet and hit it with a small stone, when it flew a short distance and he shot it. Upon examination I found it to be a Chestnut-collared Longspur (*Calcarius ornatus*). It was found near the end of a filled-in, sandy road extending about six hundred feet into a salt marsh, and was entirely alone, no other birds being found within some distance of it. Upon skinning the bird I found it to be in good condition, slightly fat. I could not determine the sex. Upon reporting the above to Mr. William Dutcher, he informed me that it was not only a new record for Long Island (as I had supposed), but was the second record for the Eastern United States, the other being one taken in Massachusetts in July, 1876 (*vide* Brewer, Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, Vol. II, p. 78), and as such it will no doubt prove interesting.

On the same day (Feb. 16) my brother found a flock of eleven Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus*), one of which he shot. When first seen they were by themselves, but when shot at became mixed with a flock of thirty Shore Larks which began to quarrel with them as soon as they alighted, evidently trying to drive them away. This made the Longspurs restless and no more were shot. Next day (Sunday) my brother and I, armed only with an opera glass, went to look for more Longspurs. When coming over the edge of a small hill I flushed a flock of about a dozen Shore Larks, and noticed as they flew straight away from me that one bird in the flock had a noticeably white tail, similar to that of the Chestnut-collared Longspur mentioned above. This flock flew a hundred yards or so and alighted among a number of large boulders, and although I examined the ground carefully from a distance of forty yards or so (as

[*For a similar case see Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club, Vol II, p. 80.—ED.]