

A Remarkable Specimen of Bachman's Sparrow (*Peucaea aestivalis bachmani*).—I shot on February 5, 1902, an adult female of Bachman's Finch which has *thirteen* rectrices. The bird may have had more, but upon closely examining the ground where it fell I failed to discover any more tail feathers. In the family Fringillidæ the rectrices always number *twelve*, but this specimen, taken near Mount Pleasant, S. C., is indeed an anomaly.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

Henslow's Sparrow on Shelter Island, N. Y.—On November 20, 1901, as I was crossing a rather barren, hilly pasture field, with a somewhat sparse covering of grass, I was much surprised on flushing a small brown sparrow, on which I had almost placed my foot in taking a step, which I at once recognized by the peculiar corkscrew flight as *Ammodramus henslowi*, having observed and taken numbers of them in the Southern States. A snap shot at long range (my astonishment at seeing the species so unexpectedly having banished at first all thought of shooting) wounded, but failed to kill, and the bird dropped flutteringly into another bunch of grass, and was out of sight in an instant. Knowing their habits, I thought the specimen lost to me, but rushing to the spot and stamping quickly about, thanks to the scanty grass, the specimen was flushed again, and finally secured, making the first record for eastern Long Island. The bird was a female, and in good condition. I took an Ipswich Sparrow on the same day, and another Nov. 22, and on December 18 a Lapland Longspur.—W. W. WORTHINGTON, *Shelter Island Heights, New York.*

The Field Sparrow in Arlington, Mass., in Winter.—On February 14, 1902, I saw a small sparrow on the Arlington Heights which I am confident was a Field Sparrow (*Spizella pusilla*). I watched him at close range through my glass for fifteen or twenty minutes, and got all his markings, including the peculiar color of his bill. In size he was distinctly smaller than a Junco with which he was feeding, while the Tree Sparrow, the only other bird I know with which I could have confused him, is larger.

I have also seen, off and on all winter, two Red-winged Blackbirds (*Agelaius phoeniceus*), four or five Swamp Sparrows (*Melospiza georgiana*), and one Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Cistothorus palustris*) in the Fresh Pond Marshes, Cambridge, Mass.—RICHARD S. EUSTIS, *Cambridge, Mass.*

The Length of Life of the Chipping Sparrow and Robin.—It is so rarely that one gets a chance to estimate the length of life of many of our birds that this bit of information may be worth presenting. The late Prof. Alpheus Hyatt has kindly sent me the following note on the Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella socialis*) from a friend of his, Mrs. H. S. Parsons, who lives in Annisquam, Mass. "The bird you wish to know about," she writes, "came to notice first in the door yard. It seemed quite tame and

would not fly when crumbs were thrown out. Then I began to feed it from my hand, and it soon became so tame that it would fly to meet me, and would come in at the open door or window. I would call it to me at any time if it was within sound of my voice. It went away in October and returned the last of April. It would come to the doorstep all ready for crumbs and would light on my hand and peck a piece of cake. I would have known it from its manner, but it had lost a joint of one toe, which I thought a sure mark. It would always bring its young to the door, and sometimes into the house, and they, too, would be very tame. One summer it brought with its own a young bunting and fed it, a much larger bird than the sparrow. The chippy came *nine* summers and the last one one morning after a cold rain storm the last of May, came to the window seeming weak and sick. We fed it but it grew weaker and in a few hours it died." I have a like story reported to me from Milton, Mass., where a Robin returned for four years.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

The Cardinal an Established Resident of Ontario.—In September I spent four days, 17th to 21st, in company with my cousin, Mr. H. H. Keys at Point Pelee, collecting. Nearly every evening of our stay the fishermen gathered around our camp fire, apparently much interested in us as strangers and in our work; after telling us of the strange birds they had seen on the point (their descriptions of which were usually too complicated for us to make more than a guess at the species) one of them asked us of a bird that made its appearance about four years ago and had since been quite common, stating that it was a splendid whistler, and that an old lady in the vicinity had caught a number of them and sold them for cage birds, catching them in a cage trap and using the first one taken as a decoy for more. From his description we concluded it must be the Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*), and sure enough, on the following day we secured one, a young male in moulting plumage. Twice afterwards we heard near our camp, just at dawn, the call note of what we decided must have been this bird.

Without doubt the Cardinal has come to stay at Point Pelee, nor could they select a more suitable place, the cape being quite plentifully covered with red cedar, and the weather remaining mild in fall longer than on the mainland, on account of its proximity to the lake, as is evident by our having no frost during our stay, while on our return we noted the corn well bleached on the mainland.

It is to be hoped, however, that it will not restrict its range to the point nor to the shores of lake Erie in Ontario, as this bright plumaged bird will make an acceptable addition to our fauna.

Dr. McCallum says a few of this species are seen along the lake shore every summer near Dunnville (McIllwraith 'Birds of Ontario'). Inland we have but few records of stragglers, which in the vicinity of London