

troit, in a tangled grassy field. In fifteen years' observation, this is the first *stellaris* that has actually been taken here. Mr. Jas. B. Purdy writes that some years ago he met with a pair of this species near Plymouth, where he found it breeding.—B. H. SWALES AND P. A. TAVERNER, *Detroit, Mich.*

Additional Records for Southeastern Michigan.—SAVANNA SPARROW. *Passerculus sandwichensis savanna*.—June 18, 1904, near Pearl Beach, St. Clair Co., on the edge of the St. Clair Flats, I found a colony of these birds breeding. About a dozen birds were seen.

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW. *Spizella pallida*.—Took one bird at Port Huron, St. Clair Co., May 2, 1901. The specimen is in the collection of J. H. Fleming of Toronto, Ont.

LINCOLN'S SPARROW. *Melospiza lincolni*.—May 15, 1904, I took a male near Palmer Park, Detroit. It is in the collection of B. H. Swales.

PRAIRIE WARBLER. *Dendroica discolor*.—I took a female at Port Huron, May 20, 1900. It is now in the collection of J. H. Fleming.

CONNECTICUT WARBLER. *Geothlypis agilis*.—May 23, 1900, a female, taken at Port Huron. Now in collection of J. H. Fleming.

I also wish to record a Purple Gallinule (*Lonornis martinica*) taken near Guelph, Wellington Co., Ontario, about 1894. It is an immature bird and is in the possession of Mr. Wm. Holliday of that city.—P. A. TAVERNER, *Detroit, Mich.*

The Apparent Power of Reasoning in Birds.—The *apparent* power of reasoning, I say, because we cannot be sure of an animal's mental condition, as Mr. Wheeler points out in 'The Auk' for April, 1904, our mind being no doubt very different from that of the animal. We will have to be converted into the animal and live for a while as such before we can thoroughly understand how it feels and what motive causes it to act in a certain way. It does not do for us to treat the animal's actions as though it were a human being, and yet there are actions on the part of the animal which seem to show some mental faculty closely akin to man's power of reasoning. Whether the animal really has any forethought as to the best method of accomplishing a desired end or not we cannot say, but at times it certainly appears to have.

In the early summer of 1903, a friend and myself procured a nest of young Red-winged Blackbirds and raised the brood. Since then I have made a pet of one of them — a female. The cage sits upon the window-sill and the blackbird takes much interest in the English Sparrows which are attracted to the outer sill by her presence. Her cage has a large perch which reaches the full length of the window. This perch is securely fastened at one end while the other end rests in a notch upon a cross strip of wood. This perch is some twelve inches from the windowpane, and when upon it the blackbird was unable to see the sparrows upon the outer sill. In some way or other she discovered that one end of the perch was free.