

places in the very outskirts of the city of Portland, and also in Falmouth and Scarborough.

The earliest date on which I have noted the bird's occurrence in spring is March 27. They have frequently shown a tendency to remain late in fall, having been recorded in November several years, in December twice, and in January once, in Westbrook. The winter just passed, 1908-09, a small flock actually wintered on the marshes back of Pine Point Beach in Scarborough, where they were watched with great interest by Mr. Walker, agent of the Pine Point R. R. station.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Portland, Maine.*

**Another Hoary Redpoll (*Acanthis hornemanni exilipes*) at Westbrook, Maine.**—On February 14, 1909, in a garden in the outskirts of Saccorappa village, Westbrook, I collected an adult male Hoary Redpoll. It was accompanied at the time by another bird, which I believe to have been of the same form, but this was not positively determined. Two and three birds had been visiting the place for several days previous to the capture, and I had become positive that one at least was a Hoary Redpoll, undoubtedly the one secured.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Portland, Maine.*

**Late Records for Siskins in Chester County, Pa.**—April 24, 1909. To-day I watched 7 Pine Siskins, *Spinus pinus*, for several minutes as they were feeding out on the twigs of some young apple-trees close to our lawn. They were extremely active and gentle, and confiding as usual, so that I was frequently within less than fifteen feet of some of them. I find in 'Cassinia' for 1904, Mr. Keim noted them at Bristol, Pa., 20 miles north of Philadelphia, on April 24, 1904, and in the same journal for 1902 are the following later New Jersey records, the last one being from considerably farther south than my home: At Plainfield, April 26 to May 11 (Miller); at Moorestown, April 28 to May 5 (Mickle); at Bridgeton, May 10 (Rhoads and Stone).

April 30, 1909. At noon to-day I saw 10 or 12 Siskins busily gleaning on one of the large Norway firs on our lawn. They remained till scared away by a passing trolley car.—C. J. PENNOCK, *Kennett Square, Pa.*

**The Third Specimen of the Summer Tanager for Canada.**—On May 7, while Messrs. J. S. Wallace and B. H. Swales were searching the end of Point Pelee for migrants, Mr. Wallace found a female summer Tanager (*Piranga rubra*) sitting quietly on a tangle of grape vines growing over some low trees. The bird was immediately shot and is now in the collection of Mr. P. A. Taverner, Detroit. Two other specimens have occurred in Ontario,—one seen near Hamilton in May, 1885 (McIlwraith, *Birds of Ontario*, p. 335), the other taken near Toronto in May, 1890, and now in the National Collection of the Geological Survey of Canada.

From the same locality I received in mid April a male Mockingbird which had been taken by Mr. Albert Gardiner. This is the second specimen of

this species that has come from Point Pelee within three years.— W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ontario*.

**Prothonotary Warbler taken on the Coast of Maine.**— A number of bird skins collected between about 1867 and 1874 by the late Levi L. Thaxter and his two sons have recently come into the possession of the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. Among them is a beautiful adult male Prothonotary Warbler in fresh nuptial plumage. Like many of the others it is encircled by a broad, close-fitting paper band into which, no doubt, it was slipped when freshly skinned and put away to dry, according to a practise much in vogue half a century ago and one followed rather frequently, although not invariably, by the Thaxters. This band was made to serve the place of the usual tag or label, for on it is clearly inscribed in ink, and in the handwriting of Mr. Levi L. Thaxter, the following brief record:— "Matinicus Id., Me., August, 1868."

In addition to these data there is the word "Lonys" faintly written in pencil. "Lony," it seems, was a familiar nickname applied to Dr. Roland Thaxter in his early youth and sometimes used in the possessive case to designate the birds which he himself had killed. Although he has no distinct recollection of the Prothonotary Warbler his brother John, whom he has just questioned on the subject, remembers it perfectly and is certain that it was shot on Matinicus Island. It is not less reassuring than satisfactory to have so positive a statement from such a source; for when Mr. Samuel Henshaw first called my attention to the bird I could not help suspecting, and indeed, suggesting to him, that its original paper wrapper might easily have been exchanged through accident for that of some other skin of similar size, prepared in the same way. There is, I believe, but one record besides this of the occurrence of the Prothonotary Warbler in Maine. It relates to a specimen taken by the late Mr. George A. Boardman at Calais on October 30, 1862.<sup>1</sup>— WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**The Races of the Parula Warbler.**— On a short trip to Seaford, Delaware, in June, 1908, Mr. James Chapin and the writer found the Parula Warbler an abundant bird along the Nanticoke River. The subspecific identity of the breeding bird of Delaware has heretofore been uncertain, Ridgway stating that the southern form, true *Compsothlypis americana*, probably reached the State. To settle this question, five males and one female were collected. The males are all fully adult birds, none being in the immature first nuptial plumage. They prove conclusively that the Delaware bird belongs to the northern form, *usneæ*. The size and proportions of wings and bill agree nearly with *usneæ*, while the coloration, though perhaps not typical, is nearer this race. Three of the specimens have a blackish jugular band, while the two others have no trace of it. In this species, however, the total absence of blackish seems to be an individual peculiarity and as

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<sup>1</sup> Verrill, Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., IX, 1863, p. 234.