

which form it was, I sent it to Mr. J. H. Riley of Washington for identification, who reports it to be *Coccyzus minor maynardi* Ridgw., adding that there was no certainty heretofore to which form the Cuban bird belonged. I have another specimen of this species also a female taken by me along the bay at "Los Caños," Guantanamo on March 26, 1911, which had remained unidentified in my collection until now.—CHAS. T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba*.

**The Cuban Whip-poor-will** (*Antrostomus cubanensis* Lawrence) **with Young**.—On April 20, 1912, while riding over some pastures 10 miles south of Bayamo, a city in Oriente Province, Cuba, I came to a patch of woods about two acres in extent which stood in the middle of the pasture and through which flowed a small stream; suddenly there flew up from under the horse's feet four *Antrostomus cubanensis*—two adults and two three-fourths grown young. I secured one of the young by throwing a stick at it, the parents flew short distances each flight, to attract me away from the spot, but I was unable to secure them as I had no gun.

I believe this to be the first record of the young being seen or taken, as also a new locality record: Dr. Gundlach states that he has taken it only at "La Cienaga de Zapata" and in the mountains north of Guantanamo.—CHAS. T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba*.

**A Starling at Squantum, Mass.**—On March 26, 1912, on a trip to Squantum and Moon Island with Mr. Richard M. Marble, a Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was seen on the headland, known as Squantum Head. It was in company with four Robins and was viewed on successive perches upon the scattered trees and also as it walked on the ground. The bird was not seen on subsequent visits to the place either by ourselves or by other observers. As Squantum Head is within sight of the gilded dome of the State House, the occurrence of this individual Starling, is, so far as I am aware, the first record of the species in the immediate vicinity of Boston.—HORACE W. WRIGHT, *Boston, Mass.*

**A case of Cannibalism among Blackbirds.**—On June 17, 1911, in a patch of rushes bordering the Wisconsin River, at Tomahawk, Wis., I noticed a great commotion among a colony of Red-winged Blackbirds. Upon investigation I found the object of the united attack of the Redwings was an adult male Bronzed Grackle. As the Grackles and Blackbirds appeared to live peaceably side by side all along the river I suspected the bird which was being attacked had wronged the Redwings, and to render my observations more certain I shot the Grackle, and on picking him up found a young Redwing in his bill. He had killed the Redwing by crushing its skull with his heavy bill and would no doubt have carried it off to his own young, had not the adult Redwings attacked him. Judging the young Redwing by its size, it had probably left the nest for about a week, and it is surprising that the Grackle should have selected so large a bird. An

investigation of the nests of the Redwings in the vicinity showed them to be either empty or only one or two young in the several nests which I located. This lead me to believe that the Grackles may have carried off some of the nestlings, for the Redwings usually have from three to five young to a nest.—J. A. WEBER, *Palisades Park, N. J.*

**Rusty Blackbirds** (*Euphagus carolinus*) **wintering in Essex Co., Mass.**—A flock of Rusty Blackbirds spent most, if not all, the past winter in Danvers, Mass. This seems remarkable considering the great severity of January and February, 1912.

Mr. Brewster records a flock of this species in Brookline, February 8, 1879. Mr. A. C. Conrey noted one on Concord turnpike, Concord, January 22, 1905. Howe & Allen, 1901, give February 20 as earliest, except the accidental February 8, and in Townsend's Birds of Essex Co., March 14 is given.

I first saw a flock of eight individuals during a snowstorm on January 29, feeding on a large pile of manure close to Burley St. On January 30, they were in the same place. I could not find out whether anyone had seen them before this. On February 6, Mr. G. A. Peabody saw twelve on his estate near the same spot, and on February 7, he counted eighteen. I looked up the flock again on February 18, and also counted eighteen birds. They were getting most of their food, apparently, from a large pile of horse manure. From that date until March 19, Mr. Peabody tells me he constantly saw the birds at the same place.—J. C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

**Lark Sparrow** (*Chondestes grammacus grammacus*) **in Cuba.**—On December 12, 1911, I took in a "potrero" on the San Carlos Estate, Guantanamo, Cuba, a female specimen of the Lark Sparrow in very fine plumage. This is the first Cuban record for this species. The specimen was kindly compared and identified for me by Mr. W. DeW. Miller at the American Museum of Natural History.—CHAS. T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba.*

**Unusual Nest Site of the Cardinal.**—I have known of Catbirds, Phœbes, Robins and Hummingbirds building and rearing their young in vines on porches or verandas; but it was not until the other day (May 11, 1912) that my attention was called to the fact of a Cardinal Grosbeak (*C. c. cardinalis*) exhibiting such implicit confidence in man.

This spring, a pair of these birds built their nest in a small, white wisteria vine running up some wire-netting on the porch of Mr. G. W. H. Soelner at 3436 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., very near my own home. On the morning of the 13th of May, they completed the somewhat flimsy nest, and one egg was laid. A Purple Grackle, which had undoubtedly watched the entire proceedings, stole the egg a few hours after it had been deposited, and I doubt whether the Cardinals will return.—R. W. SHUFELDT, *Washington, D. C.*