

1910, I have identified two Flycatcher's near Mount Pleasant which I wish to place on record. On October 8, 1912, a young female Yellow-bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*) was taken in a large deciduous swamp, which is the first specimen I have ever seen or taken during the past 30 years of almost uninterrupted observations. When first seen I, of course, supposed the bird to be an example of the Green-crested Flycatcher (*E. virescens*) and, as it was 16 days later than I had ever detected the latter species, I concluded to obtain it. Upon securing the specimen I realized at once that I had a prize and thoroughly explored the entire swamp with the hope of finding others. But in this quest I was disappointed, as no Flycatcher of this genus was seen after that date.

In 'Birds of South Carolina' I listed the Alder Flycatcher (*E. t. alnorum*) as the form which occurs here in late summer and autumn. Upon looking over some of these Flycatcher's, which I had packed away ever since 1900, I came across a very brownish bird that I secured on September 14, 1900. In comparing it with an example of *E. trailli trailli* from British Columbia, kindly loaned to me by Dr. Louis B. Bishop, I found no difference between them, while all the other specimens I have are apparently true *alnorum* for they agree with birds from North Dakota sent to me by Dr. Bishop.

This specimen of *Empidonax trailli trailli* evidently migrated from Ohio or Illinois.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

A Baltimore Oriole in Winter.—On January 15, 1913, I observed a male Baltimore Oriole (*Icterus galbula*) in first year plumage, at the home of H. D. Rymer, a farmer living near Columbiana, Ohio.

The Oriole first appeared a few days before Christmas and has been feeding there regularly ever since. While I was observing him, he went from the suet to an orchard where he was eating apples that remained on the trees. Mr. Rymer informs me that when he first appeared his feathers were ruffled, and he did not seem to be in nearly as good condition as at the present time. I am inclined to think the bird was disabled at migration time and could not leave for its usual winter home with the other migrants. I judge this from the fact that the left wing appeared to be about an inch lower than the right when the bird was perching with the wings folded to his body.—GEO. L. FORDYCE, *Youngstown, Ohio.*

Starlings and Turkey Vultures Migrating.—On January 3, 1912, the weather became bitter cold — following an open winter to that date, and January 4 found a flock of Starlings in Warwick Co., Va., January 6, there was a heavy snow for this section, and on the 8th a large flock was seen again in Warwick Co., while birds were killed by local gunners in Elizabeth City and Norfolk Counties. Cold weather continued until January 24 when a bright warm day induced a big flight of Turkey Vultures to recross James River at a point opposite my house — their numbers being in the hundreds. The night of March 5 it snowed again, and on the 6th a small

flock of Starlings was noticed. From that time until the present writing I have seen no Starlings in this section. During the cold spell they were also taken near Richmond, Va.—HAROLD H. BAILEY, *Newport News, Virginia*.

The Evening Grosbeak in Wisconsin.—On October 21, 1912, my mother, entering her poultry yard to feed her flock, found an adult female Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*) lying dead on the ground. On skinning the bird for my collection I found it to be in good condition of flesh, with a few moult feathers on head and neck, but could find no trace of any injury sustained, nor discover any clew whatever as to the cause of its death. I had previously seen none others here this season, and at the present date, December 16, it is my only record for 1912.—W. E. SNYDER, *Beaver Dam, Wis.*

The Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax nivalis nivalis*) in Chicago and Vicinity during the Fall and Winter of 1912.—On account of the irregular occurrence of this bird so far south, the following records, showing its status in Chicago and vicinity, as I have observed it during the fall and winter of 1912, may be of interest. It is the more interesting because 'Bird-Lore's' Christmas census for 1912 (Bird-Lore 15:20-45. 1913) seems to indicate an absence of boreal species in the Middle States, the Snow Bunting not being recorded outside of Canada, except in the eastern states of Vermont, Massachusetts and New York.

October 23 one was seen about the beach at Jackson Park. This bird arrived three days earlier than any previously reported from this region (W. W. Cooke, 'The Migration of North American Sparrows.' Bird-Lore 15:17. 1913). October 24 there were two in the same locality. November 2 twelve were seen feeding on grass seed on the beach at Lincoln Park. November 30 two were seen flying along the beach at Miller, Indiana. December 20, ten were seen about the rocks forming the breakwater where land was being filled in at Lincoln Park. Frequent excursions after December 20 failed to reveal any more of the birds, and they probably migrated still farther south.

All the birds observed were tame, allowing a close approach, thus making their identification a very easy matter.—EDWIN D. HULL, *Chicago, Illinois*.

A Strange Sparrow Roost.—Early in the fall of 1912 the European Sparrows in the City of Utica, N. Y., established a roost in the tops of the elms in the yard of a church in the most busy part of the City. At dusk every evening they assembled to the number of several hundred to spend the night in these unprotected trees. Early in January, Mr. James O. Roberts, a young observer called my attention to the fact that there were some strange birds among the sparrows, and after some difficulty in identification it was discovered that they consisted of a Starling (*Sturnus*