

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*