

they must have been protected only by the early flowering Marigolds for when discovered by Mr. Nutter on May 13, the grass was but just springing up, the bog being still frozen hard at a depth of only a foot or so from the surface, as was discovered on attempting to drive surveyor's stakes. By the twenty-second the grass was nearly knee high but was still overtopped by the Marigolds and the marsh was yet gay with the golden blossoms. By the time the parents ceased their nesting duties their domiciles were hidden at the bottom of a miniature forest of luxuriant meadow grass and marshy plants, more than waist high, with all the original land marks obliterated and not a vestige of the early Marigold shelter to be seen.—THOS. S. ROBERTS, *Minneapolis, Minn.*

Southern Meadowlark (*Sturnella magna argutula*) in Northern Illinois.—In November, 1913, it was my good fortune to attend the Annual Meeting of the A. O. U. in New York City, and later to inspect a number of collections of birds in the New England States.

At different points Meadow Larks were seen, some flying up quite near the train.

These birds appeared to be much larger than those of northeastern Illinois. This was verified upon examining some Massachusetts specimens in Mr. Hersey's collection at Taunton; their large size as compared with Illinois birds at once attracted my attention. Mr. Hersey and Mr. C. L. Phillips of Taunton sent me some skins of the Massachusetts birds. Later in looking over the skins of birds taken in Illinois, and on comparing them with true *Sturnella magna argutula* from Florida, I found them to be identical. Whether the type of *Alauda magna* Linn. was this subspecies, or represented the large New England *Sturnella magna*, I am not able to say, but the species which breeds in northern Illinois and adjacent states is not true *magna* as has been supposed, but *argutula*. The measurements following are from specimens in my collection referred to *Sturnella magna*.

Sturnella magna.

(Measurements in inches).

H. K. C.				Length of Skin	Wing	Tail	Tars.	Bill	Mid- toe
16850	♂	Chathamport Mass.	Jan. 29, 1913	10.5	5.00	3.63	1.63	1.25	1.60
16793	♂	" "	Nov. 22, 1913	10.25	5.00	3.60	1.63	1.25	1.60
16794	♀	" "	" "	10.15	5.00	3.70	1.62	1.30	1.60

Sturnella magna argutula.

10473	♂	Highland Park, Ill.	Apr. 2, 1906	8.50	4.60	3.15	1.48	1.20	1.10
9537	♀	" "	" 25, 1905	8.00	4.40	3.00	1.45	1.15	1.10
12692	♀	Lukeus, Fla.	Jan. 10, 1906	8.30	4.35	3.00	1.50	1.20	1.20
12691	♂	St. Marys, Ga.	Feb. 19, 1903	8.60	4.65	3.00	1.50	1.30	1.40

HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*