

The Evening Grosbeak near Washington, D.C.—The first definite record for the Evening Grosbeak in the region of Washington, was made on April 25, 1922, when Dr. A. K. Fisher, in company with Mr. E. A. Preble, and the writer, collected a female in the National Zoological Park. The flock of which this bird was a member was first observed in the park on April 21, by Mr. William Hopkins, a park employee, and was reported subsequently on April 23, by Mr. T. H. Kearney who brought the matter to attention at the Biological Survey. From April 25 the flock (containing eight or nine individuals) remained for some time in more or less the same vicinity to the delight of Washington bird-lovers, who had opportunity to view and study the birds in life almost at their pleasure. Other Grosbeaks were recorded (somewhat uncertainly) in the grounds of the Sanitarium at Takoma, Maryland, and on May 6 three were seen at Cabin John Bridge, Maryland, by Miss M. T. Cooke and others. Evening Grosbeaks had been recorded previously in this same year at Laurel, Maryland, where five were noted on April 3 and six on April 5 and 6 by Mr. George Marshall.

The specimen secured by Dr. Fisher has been preserved in the U. S. National Museum (Biological Survey collection).—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture.*

The Evening Grosbeak in Wisconsin.—The Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona v. vespertina*) is evidently not as uncommon in Wisconsin as it is in the east. Its appearance in the New England or the Atlantic states seems to bring forth a good deal of comment. It is a regular winter visitor in southern Wisconsin. One cannot call the bird common, but any person who spends four days a month in the field, may be reasonably sure of seeing the Evening Grosbeak during the course of a winter. I find that I have seen them every winter since that of 1917–1918, when I first began to observe, except 1920–1921, which was so mild that no winter birds seemed to be present in southern Wisconsin.

Birds were seen the last week in November 1917, the last week of January 1918, March 11 and 12, 1919, November 11 and 18, 1919, in or near Madison, Wisconsin; December 24, 1921, and January 2, 1922, near Milwaukee. The birds were always found in flocks of from eight to fourteen. By no means could one call them common, but I believe that they are more regular in their migrations than literature would lead one to believe. It must be remembered that the birds have no definite objective, such as a breeding spot to direct their migratory instinct, so that their migration would be to an area rather than a point. Consequently, it would be more difficult to locate birds that have a range of country, than a bird that always stays in close proximity to a certain point.

Of more interest than the winter records for southern Wisconsin are observations in Vilas and Iron counties, close to the northern border of the state. On July 21, 1918, and for two days thereafter I found eight Evening Grosbeaks feeding in a field of poplar and jack pine woods, on the south-

east shore of Lake Kawaga near Minoqua, Wis. Their food was half ripe choke cherries and pine seeds. The birds were, with the exception of one, dully colored. Their movements were slow and clownish. They seemed very fearless, allowing me to move within twenty feet of them, and observe them for nearly half an hour. Another flock was seen three years later, July 23 and 25, 1921, at Star Lake, Vilas County, some twenty five miles north of Minoqua. The birds flew from the shore to an island in the lake to feed among the white pines there. These birds were also in dull plumage. Actual breeding records in this state are not known so far as I can determine.—CLARENCE JUNG, 553 Prospect Ave., Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The Standing of the Lapland Longspur in Maine.—Forty years have passed since the Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*) was included in a list¹ of birds of Portland, Maine, and its vicinity with a record of only two specimens. In the meantime the species has lost its standing as an extreme rarity² in Maine, but little enough has been written as to its manner of occurrence there. A few more facts bearing upon the matter may now be given, though they do not have to do with very recent dates.

I believe that the Longspur was really rare in the Portland region until 1882 at least, for Pine Point, where most examples of it have been taken or seen, was covered very thoroughly by myself during several years' collecting. Indeed, I lived in a bay man's shanty there much of the time at all seasons, and kept there a complete working outfit. Furthermore, I was literally in the field during most of the hours of daylight,—my work-table being so placed that I overlooked from it much of my collecting ground.

The specimen, recorded without full data in my list above indicated, was a crude skin which I had found in the collection of Andrew Nelson, Jr., a local Taxidermist of the time, and which was clearly of his own preparation though mislabeled as were all his skins. I still see no reason to doubt his assertion that he shot the bird near the U. S. Marine Hospital, within the present limits of Portland.

After 1882 many years passed before I visited Pine Point again in the winter season except very briefly. But during the winter of 1912-13, which was generally mild, I often went there and to Old Orchard Beach which adjoins Pine Point Beach. In the period which had elapsed since my earlier visits great changes had occurred at the Point. A quarter of a mile or more of the tip of the old Point had been washed away completely, the width of what remained had been much diminished and the lands thus freed had been distributed seaward forming new flats, bars and shallows. Nevertheless, in this territory so restricted except at low tide, I at once found Lapland Longspurs to be regular and prominent visitors.

¹ Proc. Port. Society of Natural History, Dec. 4, 1882,

² See especially, Norton, Journal Maine Orn. Society, Vol. VI p. 43-44 and Vol. VII, p. 79.