

which he sang was, in all cases, nearly the same, i.e., within a very few feet of the place where he was seen on a previous evening. Between intervals of singing he sometimes flew into the air after insects returning again to the same perch. At other times he remained motionless between songs. Sometimes the song would be broken off abruptly and the bird would take wing and capture an insect. In such cases, after returning to his perch, he usually remained silent for a while.

After it became too dark for satisfactory observation, I frequently heard a bird sing again from some of these stations but I never was able to determine if he made a second circuit of his singing stations during the same evening. I doubt if he did for the reason that the door-step bird never sang from there more than once during an evening. Another individual was quite punctual in the time of his arrival and we made it a practise during the early summer to watch for him each night. Within a few minutes of 8.30 he would be heard singing just outside the door. It is probable that the insects attracted by the light streaming from the windows induced him to come so close to the house.—F. SEYMOUR HERSEY, *Taunton, Mass.*

**Gray Kingbird (*Tyrannus dominicensis*) at Cape May, N. J.**—

While a party of members of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club were exploring the meadows and dunes at Cape May Point, at the mouth of Delaware Bay, we were attracted by a bird which flew out from a growth of wind swept and half dead Red Cedars on Pond Creek Meadow. It dashed out into the air seized an insect and returned to its perch. It had all the action of a Kingbird and such we supposed it to be. But when a dozen glasses were leveled at it we saw to our surprise that the bird lacked the characteristic white tip to its tail; the upper surface was found to be gray and in addition a dark line extended through the eye like that of a Shrike though broader and not so distinct. In actions and general appearance the bird was like our ordinary Kingbird. He made no sound of any kind while under observation. We were trying to place the bird when some one produced one of those ever ready bird identifiers, Reed's 'Pocket Bird Guide,' and turned to the Kingbird and there on the opposite page was the Gray Kingbird. The bird in the tree was compared with the picture in the book and was found to be identical in every detail. For further confirmation a description was written and sent to Dr. Witmer Stone with the question attached "What is it"? The answer came back the next morning over the wire "Gray Kingbird." Several of those who saw the bird examined skins the next day at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Philadelphia and further confirmed the identification. This is the first record of the species for New Jersey and, we believe, with one exception the first record north of South Carolina.—JULIAN K. POTTER, *Camden, N. J.*

**The Starling in Norfolk, Va.**—On January 21, 1921, at Campostella Heights, a suburb of Norfolk, my attention was attracted by the clear

whistle of a bird, which I at once recognized as the note of a Starling, and soon located it in the top of a dead pine on the edge of a grade. On January 30, two Starlings were noted and on February 17 nine Starlings were feeding in our back yard. The ground was covered with snow, six inches deep, and the temperature was ten degrees above zero. During March from two to four Starlings were seen almost daily in the nearby pines, and seemed very much interested in several Woodpecker holes in a dead pine stub, and on March 27 a pair had selected a hole about 30 feet up, and were carrying nesting material.

Incubation began about April 4, and, on April 28, I first noticed the male bird carrying food to the nest. Both birds took their turn at incubating. The male bird seemed to do all the feeding, until the young were old enough for the mother to leave them, then the duty of feeding the young was turned over to her and all he did was to fly back and forth or sit in the top of a dead pine and whistle, chatter, and flap his wings, somewhat after the manner of the Boat-tailed Grackle. A second brood was raised in another hole about 50 feet up, and on June 2 the old birds were feeding the young. On June 25, about nine o'clock, two young birds left the nest, and were led out of the grove by the old birds, and over the fields out of sight. The flight started right from the nesting hole. During all of the fall, Starlings would gather in a dead pine, on the edge of the grove, within 80 ft. of our back door, about two hours before dark, and remain until time to go to roost. I have been unable to locate their roosting place, as they flew over the river, and out of sight over the city of Norfolk. They did not gather in the pine in a flock but came singly, by twos or several at a time. They seem to gather to have a good sociable time, before bed time, to judge from the chattering, whistling, and mocking of other bird notes and calls. The largest flock noted was on the evening of October 31, when 32 were in the pine at one time. It might be of interest to state that a pair of Sparrow Hawks had selected a nest place in a hole at the top of the same pine stub in which the Starlings were nesting, but were so persecuted by a pair of Fish Crows, which had their nest in a live pine close by, that they left the grove.—JOS. E. GOULD, *Campostella Heights, Norfolk, Va.*

**Notes on a Sparrow Roost, and the Arrival of the Starling in Wisconsin.**—The writer has watched with considerable interest a certain English Sparrow roost near the Zoo in Washington Park, Milwaukee. Sparrows from a large area (their line of flight has been followed a mile and a half in one direction) have roosted the latter part of each summer with large numbers of Robins, Purple Martins and Grackles in a small grove of deciduous trees.

After their companions go south and the leaves fall, the Sparrows normally transfer their roost to a number of small evergreens nearby, which offer considerable shelter from the elements.