

large scale and when the crop was being harvested and left in the field in stacks to cure, vast numbers of both species of Crow, also Red-winged Blackbirds, Boat-tailed Grackles and Cowbirds wrought havoc with the crop on account of incessant rains which prevented the threshing machine to operate, or to house the crop. On January 21, 1925 while watching the great hosts of birds I noticed small flocks of black birds that flew marvelously fast and which at once reminded me of Purple Martins going for food for their young. I realized instantly that the new birds were Starlings by their manner of flight for I could not approach them near enough to see the white spots on their plumage. I went home at once for my gun, feeling sure that I could easily collect all I needed. But in this respect I was badly mistaken for the birds were so wild that I could not approach them in the open, or under cover, as long as they saw me stalking them, therefore I did not get any that day. On January 22, however, I succeeded in shooting one from a bare locust tree near where I concealed myself in a building, and on January 24 I collected two more specimens.

Day after day with the aid of Mr. Edward von S. Dingle we tried our utmost to collect additional specimens, but the birds became so wild that the mere sight of us would at once cause every individual to fly away with tremendous rapidity some of them flying far away over the salt marshes and alighting in them.

The total number of birds seen was between forty and fifty, and up to February 3 but three were shot. There is a record by Mr. Gabriel Cannon of a pair of these birds breeding at Spartanburg, on May 7, 1922 (Bird Lore, July-August, 1922, p. 212). As far as my information goes the capture of these three Starlings is the first record for S. C., south of Spartanburg.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

The first Labrador Record of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*).—In 'The Auk,' Vol. XXXIX, No. 4, p. 513, I recorded a Starling taken by Mr. F. W. Salzman at Betchewun, on the south shore of the Labrador Peninsula, in April, 1917, and remarked, "This is the first Labrador record of the Starling."

Mr. Henry Mouseley, referring to this record in 'The Auk,' Vol. XLI, No. 1, p. 158, states that it "purports to be the first record of the Starling in Canada" and adds, "So far as I know, Aroostook County in Maine, (some 400 miles north of New York), is the most northerly point recorded for the Starling in New England, so this lone bird made quite a jump when it landed in Labrador, another four hundred miles or so farther north."

At the suggestion of Mr. J. H. Fleming I recently consulted in the Emma Shearer Wood Library of Ornithology, McGill University, Montreal, the 'Journal für Ornithologie,' 1882, Bd. XXX, p. 234, where I found a record which, translated, reads as follows: "Herr Cabanis shows a specimen of the above-mentioned species [*Sturnus vulgaris*] belonging to the Berlin Museum, which was in transition plumage and was killed in a Herrnhuter-Colonie in Labrador, probably in the autumn of 1878, and was pre-

sented to the Berlin Museum as an interesting specimen. Hereby the existence of the species on the North American continent would be confirmed."

It thus appears that the specimen of the Starling displayed by Herr Cabanis is the first known to have occurred on the North American continent and the first known to have occurred in Labrador, but the one taken at Betchewun by Mr. Salzman in 1917 still remains the first known to have occurred in Canada. As the Starling had not been introduced into North America in 1878, Herr Cabanis's specimen was undoubtedly a stray from Europe. Possibly the Betchewun specimen was also a European stray, and not a descendant of introduced North American individuals.—HARRISON F. LEWIS, *Canadian Nat. Parks, Ottawa, Canada.*

Further Notes on the Breeding of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) at Hatley, Quebec, 1924.—Referring to my previous notes in 'The Auk' for July and October 1923, also January 1924, in which latter issue, I mentioned that the pair of Starlings breeding in the church spire at Hatley during the summer of 1923, were still with me on November 12. This pair of birds remained until December 11, as recorded in 'Bird-Lore,' Vol. XXVI No. 1, 1924, and did not return until March 24, 1924, when they were accompanied—I am assuming—by two of their offspring. On arrival, they visited the site of the old home, flying in and out of the ball on the top of the church spire, and roosting there at night. This continued for some little time, in fact, until April 10, when the old birds drove off the young ones, which retired to roost somewhere to the north of the village. On the 26th, I saw one of the old birds carrying building material to the nest, and on June 7 the young left it, just three days later than in 1923. Two days afterwards, or on June 9, I located the second pair of birds to the north of the village, feeding their young—strange to say—in the belfry of the Methodist Church. Thus we see the results of a good example, these offspring following in the footsteps of their parents, by choosing the precincts of a church for their first nest. The young of this pair of birds left the nest on June 17, and no second brood was reared. The old pair of birds, however, again brought up a second brood in the same nest as heretofore, the young leaving it on July 19, just three days later than last year, when they left on the 16th. From now, until August 21, I saw nothing of any of these Starlings, but on the latter date, three made their appearance in my garden, and on the 24th, and 27th, they were on the ball of the church spire. I was somewhat surprised at seeing only such a small number, but on September 7, a flock of 25-30 were flying around the church spire for a short time, eventually going off to the north of the village. From this date nothing more was seen of them until the 22nd, when the old pair—presumably—were on the top of the church spire early in the morning, and this was the last I saw of them as I left Hatley on that day to spend the winter in Montreal.

The pair of birds recorded in 1923 as having nested in the barn of Mr.