

said by Mr. Halliday, who is a taxidermist, that the Starlings were followed later by the returning Flickers who found themselves dispossessed and fought to regain their home, but were unable to oust the Starlings. Am confident this is the first record of Starlings in this locality.—HENRY HOWITT, *Guelph, Ontario*.

The Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) at Leetonia, Ohio.—Some time during the previous year (I cannot recall the exact date) I had occasion to enter a barn out in the country near here. In the uppermost part of the barn in each end there was a window and every morning I noticed a strange looking bird flying around there. It gained entrance under the roof for the purpose of roosting overnight, I suppose, and then it became confused and was unable to find the exit. In its efforts to regain its freedom it flew from one window to another with considerable force. When I went out I left the door ajar and thus allowed it to escape. Every morning during the ensuing week this program was repeated. Finally, I decided to try to determine the species. I climbed to the window where it was sitting and captured it. On consulting Reed's 'Bird Guide' I identified it as a Starling, (*Sturnus vulgaris*). In the neighborhood of my home I have recently noticed large flocks of Starlings. The previous year only a few roosted in a certain place but now they congregate in flocks of several hundred. They seem to be increasing as rapidly as did the English Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*). The largest number I have observed in a single flock would be about fifty.—LONY B. STRABALA, *Leetonia, Ohio*.

Mountain Song Sparrow in Oklahoma.—A specimen of *Melospiza melodia montana* (formerly *fallax*) has recently been identified for me by Dr. H. C. Oberholser. This bird was collected by me in Canadian County, Oklahoma, Dec. 25, 1913; it is now in the Museum of the University of Oklahoma. This constitutes the first record for this subspecies from the state.—E. D. CRABB, *Ann Arbor, Mich.*

Winter Habits of the White-throated Sparrow at Chapel Hill, North Carolina.—During the winter months of 1923-24 a flock of some thirty or more White-throated Sparrows (*Zonotrichia albicollis*) could always be found in the neighborhood of a small wooded ravine near our house. The ravine was perhaps two hundred and fifty yards long and one hundred yards wide and through it flowed a small brook bordered by elms and willows. The slopes of this little valley, with the exception of several weed grown fields, were covered with small bushes, a few scattered cedars and deciduous trees, and thick tangles of honeysuckle vines. From this sheltered haven the White-throats made frequent excursions to the lawns and shrubbery surrounding the houses on the west side of the ravine. On winter mornings it was cheery to hear a few somewhat subdued notes of their sweet and plaintive song. Towards spring the notes became richer and the entire song was given much more frequently.

The feathered folk always found plenty of bread crumbs, and sometimes suet, waiting for them. The White-throated Sparrows, Cardinals, Cat-birds, Slate-colored Juncos, and Carolina Wrens were daily visitors and occasionally Myrtle Warblers and Brown Thrashers came with them. The White-throats, with almost clock-like regularity, visited our feeding station twice daily, just after daybreak and again in the early evening during the hour before dusk. Often they appeared at other hours during the day but never with the regularity of their morning and evening visits. At times as many as fifteen or twenty individuals could be counted at once but it was almost impossible to estimate the number in the flock. They straggled from the ravine, five or six at a time, searched industriously for food for a few minutes and then left, their places being taken by new comers, and consequently we never saw all of them at any one time. It is interesting that these White-throats seemed to follow a regular route, nearly always coming in from the southern end of the valley and, when they left, going towards the north.

In order to get more definite information about the White-throats and to find out whether the group was composed of the same individuals from month to month we decided to trap and band as many as possible. A home-made model of the U. S. Government Sparrow trap was used. The trap was located about twenty feet from the house near a stone wall sheltered by small bushes. We could watch all that went on, from a window, and be unobserved ourselves. At first the White-throats were slow to find the trap and shy and hesitant about entering, but later, after they had learned that there was always an abundance of food within, they entered more readily. Sometimes a bird would enter the trap and, after feeding quietly for several minutes, would casually find its way out, apparently never realizing that its freedom had been endangered. As soon as a bird became conscious of being a captive it was invariably panic stricken, fluttered wildly about, and then was seldom able to find the narrow opening through which it had entered. We always removed and banded a bird as soon as we found that one had been trapped so that it should not remain in the trap a needlessly long time. Occasionally, after the hand was opened to release it, the bird did not seem to know that it was free and lay motionless on its back. Seconds passed, perhaps a minute, then like a flash the bird would dart to the nearest tree, ruffle its disarranged plumage utter an indignant chirp, and fly away.

We discovered, as others have, that the birds in their struggles to escape from the trap pushed their beaks through the meshes of the wire and scraped the surfaces of the mandibles. When this happened it was always noted on the record card. No. 129,774, banded on April 16 had not only injured the upper mandible but had also scraped the feathers and skin from the forehead above the bill. This bird was taken again on April 22 and at that time was apparently suffering no ill effects from its previous injury.

The following is a list of individuals which were banded and which repeated at a subsequent date.

No. 122,796	banded Jan. 7, 1924	repeated Jan. 21 and Feb. 19, 1924.
" 122,799	" Jan. 16, 1924	" Feb. 19, 1924.
" 122,800	" Jan. 16, 1924	" Jan. 20 and Feb. 25, 1924.
" 122,802	" Jan. 19, 1924	" April 23, 1924.
" 122,803	" Jan. 20, 1924	" Feb. 22, 1924.
" 122,805	" Jan. 22, 1924	" March 10, 1924.
" 122,809	" Feb. 7, 1924	" Feb. 18, 1924.
" 122,810	" Feb. 19, 1924	" April 11, 1924.
" 122,811	" Feb. 22, 1924	" Feb. 24, 1924.
" 122,821	" March 3, 1924	" April 28, 1924.
" 122,822	" March 4, 1924	" March 10, 1924.
" 129,772	" March 26, 1924	" April 2, 1924.
" 129,774	" April 16, 1924	" April 22, 1924.

In addition to the above we banded 26 White-throats which were never taken a second time. The first White-throat of the season was seen on October 14, 1923; the last one recorded in the spring was on May 3. These records indicate that this was a "neighborhood" group of White-throated Sparrows, such as Baldwin has described ('The Auk,' Vol. XXXVIII, April, 1921) and that some, and possibly all, of the individuals composing this group remained in this comparatively limited area all winter. Very often we saw individuals at our feeding station with a shiny band on one leg and, since we had never taken a White-throat which had been banded at another station, we felt fairly safe in assuming that we had banded these birds. If we had had more time to devote to trapping we would doubtless have secured more returns and our data would be more conclusive.—THELMA R. PERINE AND KEBLE B. PERINE, *Berkeley, California*.

Vireo bellii bellii at Detroit, Michigan.—In 'The Auk,' XLII, 1925, p. 277, Mr. Josselyn Van Tyne records an adult female of *Vireo bellii bellii* that he found in the William Brewster collection, now in the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts. This specimen was obtained by Mr. Brewster from Charles K. Worthen, and bears the latter's label, Detroit, Michigan, May 26, 1885. No collector is given. This apparently adds this species to the list of the birds of the state. We have recently examined this specimen and feel certain that a mistake in locality has occurred. Mr. Worthen always removed the collector's label and substituted one of his own, and it is highly probable that in making this substitution an error in locality was made. We are aware of no one that made bird skins in Detroit, Michigan, in 1885. Again, it is very improbable that Mr. Brewster would have failed to record this specimen, as he was extremely acute in placing on record the birds of the United States that came into his hands. Mr. Brewster was perfectly familiar with Bell's Vireo in life from his visit with Mr. Ridgway at Wheatland, in southwestern Indiana.

Under the circumstances it seems to us that Bell's Vireo should not be