

The colony of Dickcissels seen on May 25 and 26, 1928, was located just beyond the out-skirts of Columbia in a young pecan orchard on the Taylor plantation. The orchard occupies a portion of a large and ancient flood plain of the Congaree River and in this favorable situation a cover crop of rye and vetch, planted between the rows of young trees, had made a very luxuriant growth. Here the Indigo Buntings and Goldfinches liked to settle to feed. Here, too, were to be found the brilliant Painted Buntings. In fact this was the only place in the vicinity of Columbia where I found the Nonpareils and in 1927 they were particularly abundant. This plain also seemed to be the favored haunt of the Blue Grosbeaks when near Columbia. And it was here that the Dickcissels established their settlement. One nest containing five pale blue eggs was found about a foot from the ground in its hiding place in the vetch. As there was not much time for making observations on the day of discovery I returned early the following morning and spent about two hours with the colony. The males were singing all about me, having selected the tops of the little pecans as points of vantage. Unlike traveling Bobolinks, the rules of the society apparently permitted only one musician to occupy the top of a tree at a time. The birds were not particularly tame, usually flying when one reached the second or third tree from them. In the morning light as they sat on the tops of the branches with the black patch on the lower throat and the yellowish cast to the ventral feathers they reminded me of rather diminutive Meadowlarks. I fear the colony did not prosper long for a start had been made at turning under the rye-vetch cover crop on the 26th. I had to leave the city a few days later and did not see the birds again.

On June 5, 1928, while on the road between Winnsboro and Charlotte, I heard a Dickcissel singing just about a hundred yards over on the South Carolina side of the state boundary line. I have no doubt but that there was a nest in the vicinity. Mr. Arthur T. Wayne, in his 'Birds of South Carolina,' p. 135, quotes Mr. R. Henry Phillips as authority for the statement that the Dickcissel nested near Winnsboro over twenty years ago.

Mr. Bernard H. Stevenson, who had been out to see the colony I had found in 1928, wrote to me the following year that he had been over the plantation on May 18, 1929, and had found only one Dickcissel.—THOMAS SMYTH, *Indiana, Pa.*

Blue-winged Warbler in Barry County, Mich.—Late in the afternoon of May 9, 1930, a male Blue-winged Warbler (*Vermivora pinus*) was observed south of Hastings in Barry County, Michigan. He was on the edge of a rich swampy woods. When first observed he was preening his feathers in a low bush. He flew to another bush nearby and by the aid of binoculars at a distance of ten or twelve feet all of the markings were distinctly noted.—LAWRENCE H. WALKINSHAW, *Battle Creek, Michigan.*

Maryland Yellow-throat in Pennsylvania in Winter.—In 'The Auk' for April 1930, page 261, Mabel and John A. Gillespie record a Maryland Yellow-throat in winter in Pennsylvania and state that they are not aware

of a previous record for this season. On December 18, 1927 I observed an adult male in Whitemarsh Valley feeding in an old water filled quarry along the half melted edge among a mixture of ice, muck, and decayed leaves.—LEWIS MACCUEN SMITH, *Germantown, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Two North American Migrants on Las Tres Marias.—I can establish the presence of two North American migratory birds on the Tres Marias Islands, during my stay there, from December 26, 1929, to January 12, 1930.

I found a specimen of *Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli* on the morning of December 28, as I was walking along the east coast of Maria Madre. It was sitting on an almost defoliated Manzanillo-tree, near a lime kiln, and was accompanied by a Zenzontle or Mocking-bird (*Mimus polyglottos*). While the latter immediately left on my approach, the Finch stayed there, and I was able to shoot him. It was a lean juvenile male and its skin is now at the U. S. National Museum at Washington. This finding is important, because it represents the southernmost spot at which this Finch has been taken although its presence had been established for Mazatlán and San Luis Potosí. If this specimen came from the mainland, or from the peninsula of Lower California, is an open question. The place at which it was found points toward the first possibility. Besides this the dominating north winds from November to February are very favorable for a direct south flight (Mazatlán is about 150 km. distant). I was unable to locate any further specimens of this species.

A brown young female of *Circus hudsonicus* was flying about on the same day in front of the cactus covered slope behind the saltworks. The presence on the islands of this bird, which is so prevalent as a winter guest in Mexico and Guatemala, is not very remarkable.

As the Tres Marias Islands are not a very good winter resort for North American migratory birds (it is only during the two passage periods, especially during the spring migration, that a greater number of species visit the islands as already recorded) it could mean, at least in the case of the *Zonotrichia*, that these birds had been driven off their usual course.—FRITZ HEILFURTH, *City of Mexico.*

Notes from Madison, Wisconsin.—*Micropalama himantopus.* STILT SANDPIPER.—On September 14, 1929, I noticed two Stilt Sandpipers and a Baird's Sandpiper among some shore-birds feeding on a pond near Madison. While deciding which species to collect, a hog dashed into the water and put all the birds to flight. The case appeared hopeless, when an incident occurred that seldom happens in field work. Of all the birds to leave the pond, only the three desired returned. I was able, by careful herding, to drop the three in one shot; however, while in the act of recovering them, a wounded Stilt Sandpiper escaped.

Pisobia bairdi. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.—A male was taken September 14, 1929. (*vide supra*).