

Florida line, approximately fifty Blackbirds were seen feeding about a number of hogs. Characteristically unsuspecting, they were easily approached and readily identified as Brewer's Blackbirds. As there was no previous record for the occurrence of this species in the State it was felt advisable to substantiate it with an actual specimen, and a single bird, a female in rather worn plumage, was taken. This Blackbird has likewise apparently never been definitely recorded in Florida, but in view of its relative abundance in recent years in western North Carolina (The Wilson Bulletin, XLV, pp. 111-113) it should prove to be a fairly common migrant not only in Alabama but in northern Florida as well.—THOS. D. BURLEIGH, *U. S. Biological Survey, Gulfport, Mississippi.*

Agelaius humeralis a new bird for North America.—In the course of my bird banding operations there were trapped at my station at Key West, Florida, two black birds, at the time unfamiliar to me. They proved to be Tawny-shouldered Blackbirds (*Agelaius humeralis* (Vigors)) which species is native to the island of Cuba, and has also been found on Haiti. These individuals were taken on February 27, 1936, on the Key West Lighthouse Reservation. They had been about for several days associated with Red-winged Blackbirds, of which there was a considerable number present at that time. They were kept in captivity until April 7, when they were shipped alive to the Biological Survey at Washington, D. C. There the previous tentative identification as *Agelaius humeralis* was confirmed by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser of that Bureau. They have been deposited as specimens in the Biological Survey collection in the United States National Museum, as proof of the record.

So far as we know this is the first occurrence of this species in the United States, and, of course, in North America, and these two specimens therefore form a very interesting addition to the North American avifauna.—WILLIAM W. DEMERITT, *United States Lighthouse Service, Key West, Florida.*

Eastern Henslow's Sparrow Breeding in West Virginia.—In a previous note (Auk, Vol. LIII, p. 91, Jan. 1936) we, together with James T. Handlan, Jr. and A. S. Margolin, recorded the collection of the first West Virginia specimen of Eastern Henslow's Sparrow (*Passerherbulus henslowi susurrans*). As the bird was taken in October, there was no evidence of its having bred in the state.

Since that time however a careful search has been made for summer residents of this species. On July 19, 1936, we were collecting in the neighborhood of Burlington, Mineral County, in some broad sedgy meadows along Patterson's Creek. Our attention was called to the "che-slick" notes of Henslow's Sparrows, and we found adults with at least three young. Since the young birds were still in juvenal plumage it seems a fair assumption that they must have been raised close-by.

The fields where these Sparrows were found lie at the foot of the "Alleghany Front." Conditions are decidedly Carolinian however. The previously collected specimen was from Preston County, on top of the Alleghany Plateau about fifty miles west of the Mineral County locality.—MAURICE BROOKS, KARL HALLER, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

Lincoln's Sparrow and Lark Sparrow in the Northern West Virginia Panhandle.—In my list of the birds of the northern West Virginia Panhandle (Cardinal, Vol. III, No. 5, January, 1933, 101-124) I do not name either the Lincoln's Sparrow or the Lark Sparrow. It is therefore desirable for me to report that on April 28, 1936, I collected a male Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza l. lincolni*) along

Buffalo Creek at Bethany, Brooke County; and that on May 2, 1936, Messrs. Edward Addy, Russell De Garmo and myself took a female Eastern Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes g. grammacus*), on the De Garmo farm about half a mile north of Fowlertown, Brooke County. These specimens are, to the best of my knowledge, the first of their respective species to be taken in the northern West Virginia Panhandle. Both are in my private collection at Bethany. The ovary of the Lark Sparrow was considerably enlarged, but no male bird was noted in the vicinity.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Bethany, West Virginia*.

Lincoln's Sparrow in Wise Co., Va.—On May 7, 1936, on Indian Creek in Wise Co., Virginia, I saw a Lincoln's Sparrow (*Melospiza l. lincolni*), it was in a growth of briars and sumac on a hill side at the foot of the mountain. As it did not seem inclined to leave the cover of the thicket, I got within twenty feet of it. It was seen in the same place on the following day.—F. M. JONES, *Wise, Va.*

Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*) in Central New York in April.—April 19, 1936, I was driving over the hills in western Yates County, N. Y., and at an elevation of 1240 ft. came to a shallow pond in a field. We had had a very wet season and water had settled in a depression near the road. Here I found a flock of at least 200 Lapland Longspurs busy feeding around in the weeds that were still standing around the pond. Most of them had changed into their summer plumage. In a few moments there were up and away.

There seems to be another April record for western New York: 150 seen near Geneva, April 19, 1934, by G. Van Esseltine (*Auk*, October, 1934).—VERDI BURTON, *Branchport, N. Y.*

Lapland Longspurs noted in West Virginia.—On March 7, 1936, the writer, accompanied by Dr. H. L. Knowlton, of West Virginia University, and Misses Henrietta and Nancy Leith, of Charleston, W. Va., visited the Federal Homestead Project at Red House, Putnam County, W. Va. Large flocks of Horned Larks and a few Pipits were feeding along the bottomlands of the Great Kanawah River. Our attention was called, however, to two unfamiliar birds, and when we examined them carefully they proved to be Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*).

They were feeding between the furrows of a plowed field, and allowed close approach, where we studied them with 8x glasses. They made short flights, whistling as they flew.

So far as I am aware, there are no previous West Virginia records for the species, although it might be expected more or less regularly in migration and in winter in the Ohio Valley. Comparatively little work has been done on the land birds of this territory, and our observation emphasizes the need for more study in southwestern West Virginia.—MAURICE BROOKS, *West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

Sanderlings and a Marsh Hawk wintering in New Hampshire.—On January 2, 1936, the following birds of special interest were noted at Hampton Beach, Hampton, New Hampshire:

Crocethia alba. SANDERLING.—Two birds were observed, at close range, as they fed along the sandy sea-coast. According to available information, there is no New Hampshire winter record for this species. In Massachusetts the Sanderling is an irregular winter resident north of Cape Cod.

Circus hudsonius. MARSH HAWK.—The winter records of this bird seem to be sufficiently scarce to record a male Marsh Hawk, we saw flying over a coastal marsh not far from the point where the Sanderlings were seen.—EUGENE J. GOELLNER AND MAURICE PROVOST, *St. Anselm's College, Manchester, New Hampshire*.