

In 'Birds of New York' (vol. 2, 1914), Eaton says of the European Goldfinch: "This old world species was introduced at Hoboken, N. J., in 1878. The following year it appeared in Central Park, New York City, and soon spread over the northern portions of Manhattan island and the surrounding country. Locally not an uncommon resident (Adney, Auk, 3: 409). The winter of 1889, Mr. Hendrickson reported three specimens from Long Island City. In the winter of 1891 many were noticed flocking with the American goldfinches at Dobbs Ferry, but several were found dead in the snow, evidently the severity of the winter proving too much for this species (Dr. A. K. Fisher).

"I am not aware that the European Goldfinch has increased, or even held its own in this State since the brief records rehearsed above were published. In the spring of 1900 I noticed several pairs that were endeavoring to build their nests in Central Park, and in the country about Kings Bridge and Spuyten Duyvil, New York City; but from all reports it seems that this beautiful species is not likely to become established so easily as the obnoxious European sparrow."

In the leaflet published by the American Museum of Natural History, in 1925, 'Bird Hunting in Central Park,' by Ludlow Griscom, the European Goldfinch is not mentioned, even in the 'rare-bird list.' So the goldfinches did not get established in Central Park. When in Bermuda in March, 1932, I saw several of the goldfinches there.—DORIS HUESTIS MILLS, *Hanover, New Hampshire*.

An Ohio invasion of Leconte's Sparrows.—During early September, 1936, the writer received field reports from Louis W. Campbell of Toledo, which indicated that an unusual migration of Leconte's Sparrows (*Passerherbulus caudacutus*) through Ohio was in progress. This species was unknown to Ohio previous to 1936 except for an adult male specimen taken April 5, 1880, by Mr. Charles Dury in a swampy meadow at Ross Lake, Hamilton County, near Cincinnati (L. Jones, *Wilson Bulletin*, 19: 20, 1907) and a sight record on September 3, 1932, near Toledo, Ohio, by John H. Ritter (*Wilson Bulletin*, 45: 29, 1933). Accordingly, the writer spent most of the time available over weekends from September to December 1936, checking on this invasion in different parts of the State.

Enough evidence was obtained to indicate that at least several hundred Leconte's Sparrows passed through the State. The birds, where found, were usually in compact little groups of from two to thirty-five birds each and definitely confined to certain ecological habitat conditions, apparently in only a few widely scattered stations. Hence it is not surprising that they were missed by most observers. The only known Ohio records for 1936, in addition to those listed below, were obtained by Louis W. Campbell and others in the Toledo region and by Karl Maslowski, Woodrow Goodpaster and others in the Cincinnati region. The first 1936 record for the State was a specimen taken by Campbell along the Maumee River above Toledo on August 30, and the last one was taken by the writer north of Buckeye Lake on November 23, 1926.

The writer succeeded in recording the species on eight dates from October 17 to November 23, 1936, in seven localities of five counties of northwestern and central Ohio. In all, 54 birds were seen, of which nine specimens were taken, representing seven localities in five counties. Of the specimens, two are now in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History collections, three in the Ohio State Museum collection, one was destroyed and three are in the writer's Fringillidae collection. The six females ranged from 11.4 to 14.0 grams and averaged 12.3 grams. The three males ranged from 13.1 to 14.1 grams and averaged 13.7 grams. All had completed their moult and were in excellent plumage and good body condition. The skulls seemed to indicate that all were immatures.

Specimens observed and taken were as follows: October 17, in a marsh in Jerusalem Township, Lucas County, Ohio, 35 seen, two males and a female collected, all in blue-joint-grass marsh (*Calamagrostis canadensis*); October 31, a mile east of Worthington, Franklin County, six seen and a male and a female collected in an old weedy red-clover meadow; November 7, two birds seen in the same meadow; November 10, a mile east of Westerville, Franklin County, two birds seen and a female collected in a swampy area covered with sedges and common rush (*Juncus effusus*); November 12, 1936, two birds seen and a female collected among driftwood trash at shoreline of O'Shaughnessy Reservoir, near Rathbone, Delaware County; November 17, Liberty Township, Wood County, three seen and one female collected in an old weedy alfalfa field; November 22, two miles southeast of Utica, Licking County, three birds seen feeding on seeds washed up with drift at water's edge along the margins of a peat bog; November 23, a mile northeast of Hebron and just north of Buckeye Lake, one female collected in swamp of sedges (*Carex* and *Cyperus*).

Probably none of the Leconte's Sparrows seen was in actual migration at the time as repeated visits were usually rewarded by the finding of birds each time in the same field. Some individuals appeared to have selected a definite territory and refused to range beyond definite limits. The species is known to have been present in a limited area of Little Cedar Point Marsh for a period exceeding six weeks.

That this invasion was not confined to Ohio is indicated by records obtained by Dr. J. Van Tyne and others in southern Michigan, the observation of birds at Lebanon, Missouri, by G. E. Moore until November 8, 1936 (Bird-Lore, 39: 172, 1937), the collection of a specimen on February 20, 1937, at Lakeview, Mississippi (Ben B. Coffey, The Migrant, p. 15, March 1937), and the taking of a bird by Dr. George M. Sutton at Beech Bottom near Bethany, West Virginia, on September 19, 1937 (one also seen on September 8) (The Redstart, 4: 118, Jan. 1937).

The late fall dates in Ohio, the record of February 20, 1937, near Memphis, Tennessee, and the further collection of the species in March 1937, near Cincinnati (K. Maslowski and W. Goodpaster), indicate that birds participating in the invasion may not have reached their normal winter range and may have succeeded in wintering from southern Ohio southward.—LAWRENCE E. HICKS, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*

Lapland Longspurs in Wisconsin in summer.—On July 17, 1937, I visited a shallow lake near Madison, Wisconsin, which was in the process of drying up and on which there was a remarkable concentration of shorebirds, numbering several thousand. On and about what had once been the shore, but which now was a partially dried mud flat, I was amazed at seeing a flock of 30 or 40 Lapland Longspurs (*Calcarius lapponicus lapponicus*). They were under observation for a quarter of an hour, sometimes standing or walking within twenty feet of me, so near that it was not necessary to use my binocular. In fact, if I had held them in my hand, as I have often done, I could not have been more certain of their identity. I believe the latest spring date for them here is May 5, and the earliest fall record September 25, which was very exceptional.—JOHN S. MAIN, *Madison, Wisconsin.*

Records from the Isles of Shoals.—During the summers of 1935 and 1936 while doing thesis work at the Isles of Shoals under the direction of Professor C. F. Jackson of the University of New Hampshire, I collected three specimens of particular interest. The islands lie about ten miles off the coast of Maine and New Hampshire, and since the state line runs between the islands both Maine and New Hampshire records are included. Mr. Arthur H. Norton, of the Portland Society of Natural History, has very kindly furnished the available Maine records.