

blackbird has been found not uncommon in Georgia and has been noted with increasing frequency in Alabama, it is rather surprising that it has until now escaped observation in Florida. In southern Mississippi, where it is common throughout the winter and early-spring months, relatively little land is under cultivation, and apparently because of the scarcity of open fields and pastures the flocks observed were feeding to a large extent in the cut-over pine woods. There is a possibility that this is likewise the case in Florida and may explain why Brewer's Blackbird has until now been overlooked.—THOS. D. BURLEIGH, *Bureau of Biological Survey, Gulfport, Mississippi*, and GEORGE H. LOWERY, JR., *Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana*.

Brewer's Blackbird in Alabama.—In substantiation of the reports of Messrs. T. D. Burleigh and G. H. Lowery, Jr., on the Brewer's Blackbird (*Euphagus cyanocephalus*) in Alabama, I give my record of the bird as observed near Orion, Alabama (about fifty miles south of Montgomery), on March 16, 1939. A number of males and females were observed (8-power binocular) under excellent light conditions at a distance of approximately 200 feet between 5.00 and 6.00 p.m. They were in company of a flock of about forty Cowbirds, and their Rusty Blackbird shape with the distinct purplish reflections of the heads of the males was easily seen. Several females observed were slate-colored and possessed the distinct brownish eyes of the females of the species. The birds were feeding in the cow pasture of a dairy and remained until shortly before dusk, when all departed apparently for a nearby lowland wooded area.—FREDERICK J. RUFF, *U. S. Forest Service, Atlanta, Georgia*.

Dickcissel at Bar Harbor, Maine.—Mrs. Maurice Sullivan captured a Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) at Bar Harbor, Maine, on November 20, 1939. This bird was observed in company with Tree Sparrows and after identification it was trapped. This constitutes the first record for Mount Desert Island, Maine, as far as can be determined. Two other records for Maine are recorded in 'The Auk.' The first is of a young male shot on Job's Island, Penobscot Bay, September 29, 1884. The second specimen was a young male taken at Westbrook, Maine, October 10, 1888, by Ralph H. Norton. The specimen taken at Bar Harbor is a young male. It has been mounted and added to the Museum of Acadia National Park.—MAURICE SULLIVAN, *Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor, Maine*.

European Goldfinch in New York.—On May 27, 1940, Mrs. G. H. Russell reported a bird which had "red plush" around its bill. The writer went with Mrs. Russell to investigate this bird and, arriving at the very place where she had first sighted it, on Cornell Heights, Ithaca, New York, found it at once and heard it singing. It was a European Goldfinch, *Carduelis carduelis*, and a very gifted singer. Its song, which is unusually bright and clear, and very canary-like, was recorded the next day by Mr. Charles Brand, and is now in the files of the Albert R. Brand Bird-song Foundation collection. The bird has been very tame and has remained in approximately the same locality for nearly a week. Dr. Arthur A. Allen, Dr. P. P. Kellogg, and several student ornithologists from Cornell University have visited the place to see it.

It is unlikely that the bird is an escaped one, since it is in excellent condition; it is perfectly at home in the open; it knows where to find food; and it was seen associating with American Goldfinches. Then, the bird has survived through a week, more or less, of severe rainstorms which have lasted as long as two days and one night. A cagebird most likely could not endure such severe conditions.