

June 28 both parents were seen with bills full of food for young presumably not yet a-wing; on July 14 the male's flight song was observed and next day he was watched feeding two full-fledged young; and on July 24 the female was seen with one juvenile. Mr. Kraus is a teacher in the chemistry department of Rhode Island State College, and a bird student of eight years' experience in many parts of North America. His identification of the species on these four dates is unquestionable.—SAMUEL A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts.*

**Baltimore Oriole in Tompkins County, New York, in winter.**—On October 28, 1933, the late Victor Gould brought to me for preparation an immature male Baltimore Oriole, *Icterus galbula*, that he had collected that day near Ithaca, Tompkins County, New York. Gould informed me that he had seen one or two other "young-looking" Baltimore Orioles with his bird, so I am of the opinion that the little company were a late brood starting a much-delayed autumnal migration. The specimen was in good condition internally and externally. It weighed 42 grams.

On January 19, 1941, Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Vosbury found a female Baltimore Oriole dead in the snow near the door of their garage at 119 Ferris Place, Ithaca. This bird was in excellent feather so could hardly have escaped from a cage; but it was very thin, weighing but 25.3 grams. Mr. and Mrs. Vosbury said they had seen the bird alive about their feeding station one or two days previously.

Both specimens are now in the Louis Agassiz Fuertes Memorial Bird Collection at Cornell University.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.*

**A new series of *Habia rubica rosea*.**—In a recent collection, made by Chester C. Lamb at Sauta, Nayarit, two adult males and four birds in full female costume, one of them marked "male", have been found. These birds were secured apparently only about fifty miles north of the type locality, at Arroyo de Juan Sanchez on the coast of Jalisco, which was given in the original description by Nelson (Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 12: 60, 1898) as "fifty miles north of Ixtapa, Jalisco." Hellmayr (Birds of the Americas, pt. 9: 309, 1936) seems to be in error in recording this type specimen as having been taken in "Jalisco." A letter from Major E. A. Goldman confirms that his "Juan Sanchez" is in the State of Nayarit as at present known and is shown on Rand McNally's map as approximately thirty miles south of the capital city of Tepic. Mr. Lamb took his specimens south of it, but about fifty miles north of the type locality. I cannot seem to find any record of *rosea* having been obtained since the securing of the type series. It is for this reason that it seems worth while to record these specimens.

Although I have not seen the type, these Sauta birds are exactly like the description given by Nelson in his original paper and by Ridgway (Birds of North and Middle America, pt. 2: 147, 1902) and have been compared with the series of more than fifty specimens belonging to the various races of *Habia rubica*, all in the Moore collection. *H. r. rosea* is a very well-marked form.—ROBERT T. MOORE, *Pasadena, California* (Contribution from the California Institute of Technology).

**Second flight of the Sitka Crossbill to Massachusetts.**—In my monograph of the crossbills (Proc. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist., 41: 94, 95, 123-124, Jan. 1937) I sought to show that a great flight of the small, stubby-billed crossbill from the Alaskan coast crossed the continent and occurred in some numbers in the Atlantic seaboard States during the winter of 1887-88, and that vagrants were collected in 1900 and 1914.

1. On March 9, 1941, Mr. Nathaniel C. Nash IV found four Red Crossbills on his own lawn in Cambridge and kindly telephoned me. I went over at once and was convinced that they were in all probability Sitka Crossbills (*Loxia curvirostra sitchensis*). Then next morning, Chief of Police Timothy F. Leahy kindly gave me special permission to collect one, as did also the owners of all the local property possessing cone-bearing trees. The members of the Harvard Ornithological Club were especially helpful in patrolling the area and reporting to me when the crossbills made an appearance. On March 18, after several visits, a favorable opportunity occurred and a xanthochroistic adult male having a wing length of only 80.5 millimeters was collected. The flock steadily increased in numbers to a maximum of twenty-eight birds and they lingered till the last day of April, so Mr. Nash tells me. All observers including myself noticed the high percentage of 'orange' males, and I am convinced that every bird in this flock was of the same subspecies. They were frequently approached to within twenty-five feet.

2. On Tuesday, March 11, Professor L. F. Fieser, of Harvard University, most kindly brought me a very small adult male Sitka Crossbill, found dead on his place at Belmont on the 9th. A flock of seven appeared occasionally in that section of Belmont for several days.

3. On April 8, Mr. Francis H. Allen kindly took me to a certain 'pinery' in Dedham, where he had found about forty crossbills. We found some of these birds perching in some high pines, the males in song. There appeared to us to be two sizes, but the distance was considerable. These birds finally descended to some low Scotch pines to feed, and about eight birds were studied at very close range. None was collected as I did not feel sure that any were small enough to be Sitka Crossbills. The flock dashed off and disappeared, and Mr. Allen left. I remained another two hours. First a group of four birds returned which appeared to me to be Eastern Crossbills. Then a flock of twenty-six came flying in. These were studied at leisure, at very close range indeed on two occasions. All seemed to me to be Sitka Crossbills; about half the males were 'orange,' and I finally collected one that proved to be a typical *sitchensis*. Out of a total of thirty-seven birds, twenty-six were positively *sitchensis*, one was an adult male White-winged Crossbill, and ten were probably or possibly the eastern subspecies.

4. On Monday, April 7, Mr. Charles E. Clarke of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, found a flock of Red Crossbills at the Fay Estate in Lynn. Mr. S. Gilbert Emilio visited this locality on Wednesday, finding fifteen birds, of which fourteen were small with stubby bills, and one was obviously larger, with a bigger and heavier bill. One typical *sitchensis* was collected for the Peabody Museum at Salem. I visited this place on the 12th with Messrs. Bergstrom and Morgan of the Harvard Ornithological Club. Ten crossbills were found in some small pines, and studied at very close range. The larger bird was present and separable from the nine others to the naked eye, and I am positive that it was an Eastern Crossbill. These birds lingered into May.

5. On January 19, Messrs. Wendell Taber and Richard Stackpole discovered some Red Crossbills in a tract of hemlock woods at Prides Crossing, Essex County, where White-winged Crossbills were common and Pine Siskins abundant. Various observers including myself saw these birds on several occasions. They were obviously larger, with heavier bills, than the White-winged Crossbills and I am positive that they were not Sitka Crossbills. They disappeared long before the March flight began.

6. Various people have reported Red Crossbills to me at feeding stations in various suburbs south and west of Boston since the middle of March. They were able to be sure of the species only. Mrs. Dane of Lexington, however, had three birds on her window feeding-shelf with Purple Finches and was struck by their small size in comparison and their stubby bills. She really does know the Eastern Crossbill, and there is a good probability that her birds were Sitka Crossbills, as she suspected at the time.

7. On March 31, so Professor S. A. Eliot, Jr., advises me, a flock of crossbills appeared in the larches in Childs Park, Northampton. The extreme tameness of these birds permitted very close studies, and on at least one occasion White-winged Crossbills were present for direct comparison. Professor Eliot was convinced that they were Sitka Crossbills. He took eight of us there on April 20; we were within twenty-five feet of these twenty birds, and I am positive every one was a Sitka Crossbill. A few minutes later we were taken to a lawn on the main street of Northampton. Here, feeding on the ground under a hemlock tree, fifteen feet only from a sidewalk with Sunday crowds passing to and fro, were ten White-winged Crossbills and fifteen Red Crossbills. The majority of these were as small as, or even smaller than the White-wings, with stumper bills. It is just possible that three birds were a little bigger, but certainly the difference was not sufficient to make sure of two different subspecies, as in the case of the odd bird at Lynn. I might add that six out of the eight visitors from eastern Massachusetts had had recent experience with the birds where collected specimens had positively proved identity. No matter how desirable, it was of course out of the question to shoot a specimen at either place. I can do no more than give my opinion and the evidence back of it, but I think Professor Eliot is to be complimented on his diagnosis of these birds.

8. I have heard of flocks of Red Crossbills at two places on Long Island, New York, and Mr. Charles P. Preston just writes me of eleven Red Crossbills on April 12 at Westmoreland State Park, forty miles east of Fredericksburg, Virginia. It is to be hoped that specimens can be collected.

9. The evidence is that a very few Eastern Crossbills are present, and the assumption that all birds seen are the Alaskan race is unfortunately not justified.

10. For the benefit of readers in the eastern States, whose reference books do not mention the Sitka Crossbill, the following points may prove useful under the most exceptionally favorable circumstances. As many observers are aware, the White-winged Crossbill is a smaller bird than the Eastern Red Crossbill, with a smaller and slenderer bill, and these differences are obvious in life when the two species are together at close range. The Sitka Crossbill, as regards extreme or typical specimens, is just as small as a small White-winged Crossbill; the bill is equally slender, but not so long, giving a stumpy effect.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Massachusetts.*

**Early records of the Clay-colored Sparrow in Michigan.**—Except for A. B. Covert's unsupported statement in 1881 (*Hist. of Washtenaw County*, p. 181) that the Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) is "a very rare migrant" in Washtenaw County, the first Michigan record which we find in the literature is in Amos W. Butler's 'Birds of Indiana' (1898: 960). Butler said, "Mr. L. Whitney Watkins took several specimens from about forty seen at Manchester, Mich., September 3, 1894." A few years ago William G. Fargo presented the Watkins collection to the University of Michigan and we are therefore able to check these original specimens.