An Unusual Recovery.—R. J. Middleton, of Jeffersonville, Pa., a member of this Association, reports that on January 31, 1925, he captured a Tree Sparrow (*Spizella m. monticola*), No. 125969, banded by Miles D. Pirnie at Ithaca, New York, on February 29, 1924. Jeffersonville is approximately 180 miles a little east of South of Ithaca.

Bicknell's Thrush.—R. N. Berry of Rutland, Vermont, reports taking a Bicknell's Thrush (*Hylocichla aliciae bicknelli*) on May 18, 1925. On account of the difficulty in identifying this species, confirmation was had by George L. Kirk of that city.

Chewink Returns.—On Saturday morning, May 25, 1924, at 7.30 A.M. two male Chewinks (*Pipilo e. erythrophthalmus*) were found together in the trap at our banding station in the pines about four miles south of Manchester, N. H. They were given bands Nos. 27676 and 27677.

On May 30th, June 2nd and 3rd, and on July 16, 1924, Chewink No. 27677 repeated. No. 27676 repeated on June 7, 1924. These dates indicate that both birds were on their nesting grounds and were probably breeding.

The first Chewink trapped in 1925 was No. 27676, captured on June 21st, a return. A second return was captured on July 2nd, No. 27677. Both birds repeated during early July, but were not seen again after July 4th.

On July 18, 1924, one female Chewink was banded, which was probably the mate of one of the above birds, but she did not repeat. Still other male Chewinks were banded, but only two return records have been secured to date.

Both returns were originally banded with the soft, thin aluminum bands furnished at the time. In case of Chewink No. 27676, we found the band flattened a year later, so as to pinch the tarsus, causing a swelling, so the band was replaced with No. 68516, with the result that the swelling had subsided after a lapse of twelve days.—HERBERT G. SARGENT, 31 Hanover Street, Manchester, N. H.

Regarding Downy Woodpeckers.—Downy Woodpeckers (*Dryobates p medianus*), young and adults, have been banded at Mrs. Whittle's station in Peterboro, N. H., and at our station in Cohasset, Mass. Among these birds and others frequently visiting the stations, several have possessed feather coloration possibly not previously noted, and pretty surely not previously described from live birds.

The first case of interest was the trapping of a young male on July 7, 1924, in Peterboro, still being fed by its parents, having its entire under parts uniformly of a distinct yellow color identified as "Chalcedony yellow."* Other young Woodpeckers taken about this time did not show this color, but a freshly-killed Downy brought to the station on the same date, July 7th, which probably belonged to the same brood, also had chalcedony-yellow under parts. Several young birds of this species seen at our station in Cohasset during the month of July did not show any yellow below; at least none was detected at a distance of ten feet. That a yellow color of the feathers of the under parts is not confined to birds in juvenal plumage is shown by our records at Cohasset, where during November and December, 1925, two adult female Downies were banded having these parts of a

* See Ridgway's "Color Standards and Color Nomenclature," plate XVII.

very pale yellow (approaching massicot yellow), which was of so pale a tint that it could easily be overlooked.† Whether this color is really unusual or is so ephemeral that bird-skins do not show it, is an interesting question.

Other cases of color-distribution noted, perhaps worth mentioning, occurred on the heads of three birds-of-the-year seen at our Cohasset station during late June and July. On July 2nd a female showed a squarish patch, extending from the forehead along the crown and occiput, of white faintly specked with black, the blended color appearing light grayish or nearly white.

During July two other young birds at this station had the crown and occiput bright scarlet. Attention is called to the intensity and the extent of the color. A close view showed a sprinkling of black feathers among the highly-colored ones. These patches of color were worn into September, the first evidence of molt being noticed on September 10th, when shrinkage of the crown scarlet area was observed, the loss of feathers taking place laterally. Our notes at a later date in September read: "Young male Downy at station with scarlet crown-patch reduced to an occipital fringe with nape assuming the color of maturity."—C. L. WHITTLE, Cohasset, Mass.

Birds of New York.—The State Museum of the University of the State of New York announces a reprint edition of the 106 colored plates of the "Birds of New York," by Fuertes, in portfolio form. The set of plates can be bought for $1.20, of which 20c. is for postage, (in Canada $1.40.) All banders should have this portfolio.

Address: Finance Division, The University of the State of New York, Albany, New York.

The picture on the cover of this number shows an adult Common Murre (above) and several young ones at a characteristic breeding-place in the open.

The photograph was taken on an island about twelve miles southwest of Harrington Harbor, Saguenay County, Quebec, on August 12, 1923, by Harrison F. Lewis. Published by courtesy of Canadian National Parks.

Notes at a Connecticut Banding Station.—November 22, 1925, marked a three-year period of bird-banding for me, a wonderfully interesting three years. This work, with the aid of good text-books, is a wonderful education in ornithology and a delightful sport as well.

Of the 519 birds banded during this period, including 49 species, I have had returns from 24 birds, in part shown below. The Wood Thrushes show one of the largest percentages of returns. These were practically all banded during the first summer season: for some unknown reason they do not frequent my yard now. The White-throated Sparrows, which are common with me during the fall, winter, and spring, and repeat in considerable numbers, show the smallest percentage of returns. It was inter-

† This species occasionally shows, in particular during winter and spring, a darkening of the plumage, noticeable on all the white areas easily observable, a phenomenon probably due in part to contact with the bark of trees. The color disappears with the postnuptial molt. It may be urged that the yellow color in question is likewise due to contamination of some sort, but it seems unlikely that its distribution, including even the under-wing lining, and its uniformity can be accidental.