

A Return Song Sparrow a Victim of a Return Sparrow Hawk.—

At the Austin Ornithological Research Station, hawks are occasionally taken in the traps, lured by other birds already captive. An interesting case of this sort occurred on March 21, 1932, when a Sparrow Hawk and its victim both proved returns. The hawk, an adult female, was banded September 27, 1931. In a corner of the trap was a mass of Song Sparrow feathers. The sparrow had been completely eaten, except, fortunately, for its banded right leg, which showed it to have been banded on May 4, 1931, and last taken on July 27, 1931. The hawk was released on the spot, and has given no further trouble up to the time of publication.—MAURICE BROWN, A. O. R. S., North Eastham, Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

Osprey Notes.—In *Bird-Banding*, Vol. III, April, 1932, Mr. John A. Gillespie gives some notes on the migration of Ospreys. He believes that the immature birds probably make the initial southward migration by an inland route and cites three recoveries to substantiate the theory.

I have banded immature Ospreys on Long Island as follows: twenty-five in 1928, six in 1929, and forty in 1931. Of the seventy-one banded I have had only three recoveries, as follows: 422611, banded June 30, 1928, and shot by S. S. Holland Master, sixty miles east of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, on September 20, 1928; A700416, banded July 3, 1931, and shot at Middle Island, Long Island, on August 12, 1931; A700412 banded July 3, 1931, and caught in a steel trap on September 27, 1931, eight miles north of Hancock, Maryland, which is about one hundred and eighty miles from the coast.

It is only by banding a considerable number of these birds annually on the Atlantic Coast that the actual route of these birds can be found out. There are two large colonies of Ospreys on Long Island that could be well worked by banders who had the available time to band these birds—one colony of forty pairs at Orient and another colony of about two hundred pairs on Gardiner's Island—besides scattered pairs on the eastern end of Long Island. All the nests at Orient are built in the tops of cedar and oak trees, ten to twenty feet high, except two which are built on the ground. All nests on the northern end of Gardiner's Island, which is the only part I have worked, are built on the ground, so it is very easy to band the young birds. Three seems to be the usual number of young birds in a nest, though nests with two young are common. Of those that I banded there were six nests with one young bird each, nine nests with two young, fourteen nests with three young, and two nests with four young.—LEROY WILCOX, Speonk, L. I., N. Y.

An Old Song Sparrow.—At my station in Sanbornton, New Hampshire, a Song Sparrow banded July 4, 1925, was recovered in a barn in Sheffield, Massachusetts, by M. Martin, April 3, 1932. The Biological Survey, in reporting this recovery, incorrectly gives July 9, 1925, as the date of banding, and states that the bird was probably released unharmed. The age of the bird is, therefore, at least seven years.—E. C. WEEKS.