

(*Picoides arcticus*) in the white pine grove on the old Phelps estate near Englewood, N. J. The bird was feeding quite actively, scaling off the bark of a dead conifer which was riddled with wood borers. He took no notice of us and we were able to study him at leisure with our binoculars.

The black back was easily discernible as were the five rows of white dots which we counted on the primaries. The head of course, lacked the patch of yellow seen in the adult but it appeared to have a decidedly bluish tinge while the edges of the crown seemed darker than the center, caused possibly by the contrast of the white border.

After a half-hour's study of the bird we passed on and, upon returning in about twenty minutes, found that he had gone. Fellow students, however, reported the dead conifer stripped of almost all its bark a week later, so that it seems reasonable to infer that he had remained in the vicinity for several days at least.

This is the second record of the species for New Jersey, the first being a specimen collected a mile or two from where our bird was seen ('Auk,' 1924, p. 343).—RICHARD J. HERBERT, JOSEPH J. HICKEY AND IRVING KASSOY, *New York, N. Y.*

The Arkansas Kingbird, (*Tyrannus verticalis*) in Maine.—On August 25, 1925, I saw at Cutt's Island, Kittery Point, Maine, an Arkansas Kingbird. It was perched on a telegraph wire by the roadside and Professor F. A. Saunders, who was with me, and I were able to approach within thirty feet. Its gray upper parts, yellow lower parts and the narrow white lateral edge of the tail made its identification easy and certain.

This is, I believe, the third record for Maine. The first recorded was taken by Mr. Geo. E. Brown, at Eliot in 1864. The second record is of a bird seen in November and December, 1920, and in January, 1921 by Mrs. C. W. Alexander, at Hallowell, Maine.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND *Ipswich, Mass.*

Phibalura flavirostris Vieill. in Bolivia.—*Phibalura flavirostris* is a distinguished member of that group of birds which our manuals record as "known only from the wooded region of southeastern Brazil." We have, however, long had in the American Museum a pair of birds of this species presented to us by Mr. R. S. Williams, the well-known botanist, and taken by him at Atten, near Aplobamba, Bolivia, the female on August 6, the male on August 20, 1902.

Mr. Williams recently called at the Museum and confirmed the data on his field labels attached to the birds, both of which were shot and skinned by himself. Unless, therefore, we should consider them as accidental visitants to Bolivia, which seems unlikely, these specimens extend the known range of the species across the South American continent, a distance of some 1400 miles, and thereby add another form to the list of those which occur in southeastern Brazil and the Andean region but are unknown in the intervening area (e. g. *Scytalopus* and *Pyroderus*).

Compared with five Brazilian males the Aplobamba male has fewer bars below and less yellow on the throat, while the specimen labelled as female resembles the male below, the abdomen having only a few black streaks, the lower tail-coverts being unmarked. The bars on the breast, however, are as narrow as in the female, and the upperparts agree with those of two Brazilian females. Possibly this specimen may be an immature male or it is not impossible that the differences shown by the Bolivian birds may be racial.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Early Flight of Snow Bunting and Lapland Longspur in Connecticut Valley.—An early record for the Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax n. nivalis*) occurred for this vicinity when we found a flock of twenty to twenty-five of them at the Ashley Ponds Reservoir on October 31, 1925, the day following our first real snow-storm of the season. The Snow Buntings were feeding and resting on a warm, sunny bank facing the sun. After circling about once or twice they returned to nearly the same spot beside a grassy road.

In the horse-path of this road, we nearly overlooked an immature Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius l. lapponicus*) busily picking up small seeds. Twice we distinctly observed the bird take a seed in the bill and roll it between the mandibles, cracking it open in the same manner as a canary opens millet seed. The bird hugged the ground closely and walked along with shambling gait a few feet at a time. It allowed us to approach within fifteen feet several times. In rising for flight, it uttered a rapid, chattering "chiprr-chiprr-chiprr," ending in a clear Canary-like note with rising and falling inflection. It flew a short distance away and settled down close by the Snow Buntings on a stone-strewn shore.

On the same occasion we noted the White-rumped Sandpiper (*Pisobia fuscicollis*) feeding on a mud flat exposed by the low water of the reservoir. The bird showed very little fear, even of a nearby dog. It was intent on feeding in the thin mud with rapid bill thrusts.

The early snow-storms in northern New England apparently were instrumental in hastening southward Fox and Tree Sparrows. The former were noted on October 20, and the latter we observed in numbers on October 27 in the vicinity of Holyoke.—A. C. BAGG, 70 Fairfield Ave., Holyoke, Mass.

Gambel's Sparrow in South Carolina.—On October 23, 1925, I shot within a few hundred yards of my home an immature male of Gambel's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*). This bird was among a lot of Song and Swamp Sparrows, and as soon as I saw it I knew that it was a White-crowned Sparrow and the second one I had ever seen in South Carolina. After collecting it I hastened home to compare it with the specimen shot here on October 26, 1917 (see 'Birds of South Carolina'), but as I was unable to decide positively whether the two were identical