

is not *Lanius cristatus* Lin. (*Otomela cristata* Bp.), but a nearly allied species, viz., *Phoneus brachyurus* of Pallas, the oldest name of *Lanius bucephalus* Temm. & Schleg. (Fauna Japonica), as I have pointed out in Cabanis's 'Journal für Ornithologie' (1876, p. 215). The occurrence of this Japanese Shrike in Wrangel Island is of great interest. In a little account of this bird (Journ. f. Orn., 1881, Meeting of the Germ. Ornith. Soc. of Febr.) I have referred to the specific differences between *Otomela cristata* and *Phoneus brachyurus*. The Gray Shrike noted by Nelson and named *Lanius borealis* Vieill. (p. 67), I suppose to be not this bird, but probably *Lanius major* of Pallas. The great gray *Lanius*, which has been collected by Dr. A. Krause, near the mouth of the Chilcat, Alaska, now in the Berlin Museum, which has been described, too, by Dr. Hartlaub as *L. borealis* (J. f. O., 1883, p. 270) is certainly *L. major* Pall. Professor Cabanis has confirmed my opinion (cf. J. f. O., Meeting Germ. Ornith. Soc., March, 1881).—HERMAN SHALOW, M. G. O. S., Berlin.

Probable Breeding of the Red Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra americana*) in Central Maryland.—May 23, 1884, Mr. George Marshall shot two Crossbills, a male and female, from a flock of five, near Laurel, Maryland. The female showed unmistakable evidence of having recently incubated. Two days afterward another male was shot in the same locality. The three specimens are now in the National Museum collection, two of them having been mounted for the exhibition series. Their measurements are as follows:

Mus. Register and No.	Sex and Age.	Locality.	Date.	Wing.	Tail.	Culm.	Depth of Bill.	Gonys.	Tars.	M. t.
97967	♂ ad.	Laurel, Md.	May 25, '84.	3.60	2.30	.68	.40	.50	.67	.60
97972	♂ ad.	" "	" 23, "	3.60	2.25	.65	.40	.45	.65	.60
97968	♀ ad.	" "	" 23, "	3.40	2.00	.65	.40	.41	.65	.50

From their dimensions they would therefore be referable to *americana* proper, although representing about the maximum of size in this form. (See Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, Vol. II, pp. 101-107.)

This species probably sometimes breeds in various portions of the State of Maryland. In fact, I have been assured by Mr. A. Wölle, an experienced and reliable collector and bird-fancier of Baltimore, that he had, on several occasions, found the nest of this species in the immediate vicinity of that city.—R. RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

The Probable Breeding-place of *Passerculus princeps*.—The National Museum possesses a considerable series of eggs labeled "*Passerculus savana*, Sable Island, Nova Scotia, July, 1862; J. P. Dodd," which are uniformly so much larger than those of the Savannah Sparrow as to strongly suggest the probability that they may be in reality those of the