

in the vicinity of Washington in May, 1884, and, judging from the worn condition of the plumage of one of the specimens shot—a female—he very naturally surmises that this species, hitherto considered an extremely rare and irregular winter visitant, breeds in this section. This season I was so fortunate as to substantiate this view in a most satisfactory manner. On the 17th of May an adult male and a young bird in the striped feather, barely able to fly, were seen by me in a pine sapling, a short distance beyond the city limits. Attracted to the spot by the call of the parent, uttered for the encouragement of the young, I approached within a few feet, and thoroughly identified the birds. — HUGH M. SMITH, *National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Non-appearance of Juncos at Montreal.—I am informed by Mr. Ernest D. Wintle that he did not see a Junco in the vicinity of Montreal during the spring migrations of the present year, a most unusual occurrence, as the birds are generally very abundant at that season, although but few of them remain there to breed. Mr. Wintle also writes to me that Mr. W. W. Dunlop and Mr. Paul Kuetzing, also of Montreal, had remarked the entire absence of this species. Mr. Wintle desires to know if anything similar has been observed by readers of 'The Auk.'—MONTAGUE CHAMBERLAIN, *St. John, N. B.*

Familiar Chipping Sparrows.—Miss Katie Hine, of Vienna, Virginia, has for several years past had Chipping Sparrows, *Spizella socialis*, visit her home each summer. The first year it was noticed that one of the pair had the claw missing from the middle toe. This bird came with its mate for three successive years and then ceased its visits. The second year there came also with them another pair, one of which, at least, was suspected to be the young of the first year. Now there are two pairs of adults so familiar that I observed them fly to her feet and clamor for crumbs of bread while we were at the dinner table. In the afternoon they frequently alighted near her and even fed from her hand. They know the window of her bedroom, and each morning they assail the panes of glass, making quite a noise to arouse her for their accustomed food.—L. M. TURNER, *Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D. C.*

Swamp Sparrows and Yellow Rumps.—As the "*Wintering of the Swamp Sparrow in Eastern Massachusetts*" has been made "a question of evidence," it may be well to give that evidence somewhat more in detail than was before thought necessary, and also to state the reasons for concluding that the birds did pass the winter in Cambridge.

On December 29, 1884, four Swamp Sparrows were seen by Mr. F. H. Hitchcock in a small tangle of weeds and alders on the edge of a stream which runs through the Fresh Pond marshes, but they were so shy and hard to approach that only one of them was shot; this was stuffed by Mr. C. J. Maynard of Boston, who told me that he had never before seen one from Massachusetts in winter. While taking a short walk on the after-