

In 1896 Mr. Ridgway (Man. N. A. Birds, 2d ed., p. 602) separated the Louisiana Seaside Sparrows from *A. m. peninsulae* as a distinct race, whose habitat is given as "coast of Louisiana (and coast of Texas during migration)." For this race he appropriates, in a subspecific sense, Audubon's name *macgillivraii*,—an obvious wrong, since the original description of *Fringilla macgillivraii* was based exclusively on South Carolina specimens.

The dark-complexioned Seaside Sparrows from the coast of Georgia and South Carolina are certainly very like those found on the western coast of Florida. If, as implied in the range accorded to *A. m. peninsulae* by the A. O. U. Check-List, they are identical, and if MacGillivray's Finch is to be revived, then the name *macgillivraii* will have to supplant *peninsulae*. In any case, the Louisiana Seaside Sparrow, recognized as a valid subspecies in the Eighth Supplement to the A. O. U. Check-List, remains without a name.—WALTER FAXON, *Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.*

The Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus*) at Middletown, R. I.—I shot an adult male Seaside Sparrow on the Second Beach Marshes at Middletown, R. I., on May 31, 1897, therefore confirming Mr. Reginald Heber Howe, Jr.'s supposition that they breed there. (See Auk Vol. XIV, page 219.) This makes three birds of this species that I have taken on these marshes.—EDWARD STURTEVANT, *Boston, Mass.*

Breeding of the Seaside Sparrow in Massachusetts.—On July 17, 1896, I took a set of four partly incubated eggs of the Seaside Sparrow (*Ammodramus maritimus*), together with the female bird, at Westport, Mass. The nest was cleverly hidden within a tussock of the salt marsh.

The Seaside Sparrow is not rare as a summer resident in the Westport River marshes. It is, however, rather colonial, and confines itself closely in the breeding season to certain sections of the marshes.—J. A. FARLEY, *Newton, Mass.*

Bachman's Sparrow in Virginia.—On May 12, 1897, while collecting on a slope along the Blackwater Creek in West Lynchburg, Campbell County, Mr. John W. Daniels, Jr., of Lynchburg, collected two specimens of *Peucaea aestivalis bachmanii*, together with the nest and five eggs well advanced in incubation. He writes: "The nest was on the ground among the roots of a tuft of grass and well concealed by the numerous grass tops which overhung it. It was quite domed, with the entrance facing the southeast and was composed chiefly of grasses, strips of weed bark and weed stalks, lined with fine grasses and a few light colored rootlets." Mr. Daniels kindly presented the male to me (No. 4571, W. P. Coll.). It is in very fair plumage, being very much less worn than the Maryland specimen obtained by Mr. Figgins, which is now in the U. S. Nat. Mus. Collection. This record adds a species to the Virginia avifauna and doubtless it will be found to occur in summer over most of the eastern portion of the State.—WILLIAM PALMER, *Washington, D. C.*