

Rare Birds near Springfield, Mass.—*Sturnus vulgaris*. In April, 1908, a Starling was taken in Agawam, near Springfield. It was with a flock of blackbirds. Eleven years ago about a hundred Starlings were liberated here, but they soon disappeared.

***Oceanodroma leucorhoa*.** The last of October a Leach's Petrel was captured alive on the Connecticut River, in the extreme southern part of Northampton. There are numerous records of the presence of this bird here, the earliest being previous to 1839, when W. B. O. Peabody stated that although this bird seemed so bound to the ocean by all its habits and wants, he had one brought him that was taken near Chicopee River, in Springfield, seventy miles from the shore. It has been supposed that these petrels were driven inland by storms, but in October of this year we had no severe gales in New England that were noticed inland at Springfield; in fact, generally currents in the upper air were so sluggish that the numerous balloons that were sent up from this point were unable to cover any great distance, and it is also singular that if the appearance of these birds inland depends on storms, that they should be found here only in autumn and usually in October.

***Ammodramus nelsoni subvirgatus*.** On the sixth of October last, an Acadian Sharp-tailed Sparrow was taken in Longmeadow, near Springfield. This is the first time the presence of one here has been proved, but I believe that its appearance in this vicinity is not so rare as is supposed.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

Notes from West Virginia.—*Sphyrapicus varius*.—On June 17, 1908, I found the nest of a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker in an old dead tree near 'The Sinks' in the southern part of Randolph County. As I watched the old birds, they went back and forth continuously, making very frequent and rapid flights from the nest to a large sugar tree that stood some rods away. When I examined the sugar tree, I found that they had filled with punctures a space on the side of the tree about a foot long and several inches wide. Insects were attracted to these wounds in the bark and the old sapsuckers made this their hunting-ground. They seemed to have no difficulty in finding abundant food for their young. Two days later I passed this nesting site again. The old birds were still carrying food to their young from the same place. Although I saw them make many trips, coming and going, not a single time did they bring food from any other place. On this same trip into the Spruce Mountain region, I saw great numbers of these birds in different places.

A young female of this species was taken at Horton, near the terminus of the Dry Fork R. R., on June 16. At this place old birds and their young were flying about in considerable numbers. The Yellow-bellied Sapsucker is by far the most common woodpecker breeding in the Alleghenies of central West Virginia at 4,000 feet altitudes.

***Corvus corax principalis*.**—Northern Ravens were seen and heard a