

described. On May 18, 1907, while with a class of students in bird study from the University of Chicago, an American Bittern was observed not seventy-five yards distant, in a marsh at Millers, Indiana. The white nuptial plumes were displayed in most conspicuous fashion so that the attention of all members of the party was directed to them at once.—R. M. STRONG, *University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.*

The Sandhill Crane (*Grus mexicana*) in Ohio.—The Carnegie Museum has recently acquired a fine specimen of the Sandhill Crane, shot on April 11, 1911, in the southwest corner of Huron County, near Plymouth, Ohio, by Mr. F. B. Lofland. It appears that Mr. Lofland first saw the bird a week or ten days previously and wounded it at that time, but did not succeed in capturing it. Upon the occasion of his next visit he again found the bird, which was unable to fly, and showed fight upon being approached, so that he was obliged to shoot it. The occurrence of this species in Ohio seems worthy of record, as it is certainly one of the rarest birds of the State, although Mr. Lofland thinks that he has seen other individuals at this same locality — an extensive swamp.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

A Woodcock in New York City.—On March 10, Mr. Louis H. Schortemeier brought into the office of the National Association of Audubon Societies a Woodcock, *Philohela minor*, which he had picked up in Maiden Lane, New York City, that morning (March 25, 1911). The bird appeared to be in good condition, save that it was probably weak from hunger. It was sent to the New York Zoölogical Park. Mr. Crandall informs me that the bird refused all food and was kept alive for about a week by stuffing it with worms and maggots, when it died. This has been the previous experience at the Park with these birds and is in line with one experience that I had. Although Mr. Crandall even secured earth worms for this bird, and buried them in soft earth, the bird refused to eat voluntarily.—B. S. BOWDISH, *Demarest, N. J.*

A Golden Plover in Massachusetts in April.—On April 8, 1911, while at Plum Island, Mass., with Dr. J. B. Brainerd, Barron Brainerd, and Richard M. Marble, I shot a Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus*). The bird proved to be a male with a single black feather near the center of his breast. He is now in my collection.

The bird had not been seen by members of the Plum Island life-saving station near which he was shot, neither were there any traces of old wounds. His body was entirely free from fat. Whether he was a straggling migrant or a bird which had been forced to winter is a question open to discussion.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Harvard, Mass.*

The Troupial at Santa Barbara, Cal.¹—Yesterday (April 30, 1911)

¹ Extracts from two letters written to the Editor, with permission to publish, dated respectively May 1 and May 4, 1911.—ED.

I think I made my best take in many a long day, in the shape of a magnificent male Troupial (*Icterus icterus*). The entire plumage is perfection, not a feather in tail or wings being frayed in the slightest, while the feet are in perfect shape. For these reasons I do not think it can possibly be a cage bird. It was in company with a large flock of Western Tanagers (*Piranga ludoviciana*) and Bullock's Orioles (*Icterus bullocki*) that were migrating through the upper part of Mission Cañon, one of the wildest localities near Santa Barbara. It was in good condition and seemed perfectly at home, the stomach being crammed with small green canker worms.

The plot in the Troupial situation is thickening. Yesterday (May 3) I remembered that a friend asked me some three weeks ago to tell him what some birds were that he described as being "about the size of a Meadowlark, but with a long black tail, black head, and a stripe around its back like a Holstein cow." I could not imagine what they could be and told him he must have been mistaken, although he is a good observer and has painted a number of birds very creditably. Yesterday, as I say, I remembered it and asked him to look over my birds and see if he could place it. He picked out the Troupial without hesitation, saying he would have known it anywhere by the stripe of yellow over the upper back, which, as he said, reminded him of a Holstein cow.

It would have been about the first week in April that he saw them, and three of them were together. This looks a good deal as if we had a small flight of *Icterus icterus* here at Santa Barbara this spring and, to my mind, quite eliminates the possibility of a cage bird theory.—J. H. BOWLES, *Santa Barbara, Cal.*

The Western Evening Grosbeak in Denver, Colorado.—The undersigned has to report the occurrence of two individuals of this species (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) in Cheeseman Park, Denver, Colo., on April 12, 1911, one having been secured, which proved to be a male. Three others were seen in the same locality on April 20, 1911. This Park is on the eastern edge of the city, about two and one half miles from its center. Both these dates are comparatively late ones for this species so far from the higher mountain regions, though Thorne recorded it as having occurred at Fort Lyons, Colorado, on May 11, which is nearly one hundred miles eastward on the Plains.—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver, Colo.*

An Unusual Occurrence of the Pine Grosbeak in Rhode Island.—Visitations of the Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator leucura*) into southern New England and the Middle Atlantic States have been probably more widespread during the past winter than at any other time since the severely cold season of 1903–04. In view of this fact the remarkably late northward flight of a flock of Grosbeaks observed at Providence, R. I., may be of special interest. Early in the morning of April 28, 1911, I saw fourteen Pine Grosbeaks on Neutaconkanut Hill, Providence. Several were sitting