

investigation of the nests of the Redwings in the vicinity showed them to be either empty or only one or two young in the several nests which I located. This lead me to believe that the Grackles may have carried off some of the nestlings, for the Redwings usually have from three to five young to a nest.—J. A. WEBER, *Palisades Park, N. J.*

Rusty Blackbirds (*Euphagus carolinus*) **wintering in Essex Co., Mass.**—A flock of Rusty Blackbirds spent most, if not all, the past winter in Danvers, Mass. This seems remarkable considering the great severity of January and February, 1912.

Mr. Brewster records a flock of this species in Brookline, February 8, 1879. Mr. A. C. Conrey noted one on Concord turnpike, Concord, January 22, 1905. Howe & Allen, 1901, give February 20 as earliest, except the accidental February 8, and in Townsend's Birds of Essex Co., March 14 is given.

I first saw a flock of eight individuals during a snowstorm on January 29, feeding on a large pile of manure close to Burley St. On January 30, they were in the same place. I could not find out whether anyone had seen them before this. On February 6, Mr. G. A. Peabody saw twelve on his estate near the same spot, and on February 7, he counted eighteen. I looked up the flock again on February 18, and also counted eighteen birds. They were getting most of their food, apparently, from a large pile of horse manure. From that date until March 19, Mr. Peabody tells me he constantly saw the birds at the same place.—J. C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

Lark Sparrow (*Chondestes grammacus grammacus*) **in Cuba.**—On December 12, 1911, I took in a "potrero" on the San Carlos Estate, Guantanamo, Cuba, a female specimen of the Lark Sparrow in very fine plumage. This is the first Cuban record for this species. The specimen was kindly compared and identified for me by Mr. W. DeW. Miller at the American Museum of Natural History.—CHAS. T. RAMSDEN, *Guantanamo, Cuba.*

Unusual Nest Site of the Cardinal.—I have known of Catbirds, Phœbes, Robins and Hummingbirds building and rearing their young in vines on porches or verandas; but it was not until the other day (May 11, 1912) that my attention was called to the fact of a Cardinal Grosbeak (*C. c. cardinalis*) exhibiting such implicit confidence in man.

This spring, a pair of these birds built their nest in a small, white wisteria vine running up some wire-netting on the porch of Mr. G. W. H. Soelner at 3436 Seventeenth Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., very near my own home. On the morning of the 13th of May, they completed the somewhat flimsy nest, and one egg was laid. A Purple Grackle, which had undoubtedly watched the entire proceedings, stole the egg a few hours after it had been deposited, and I doubt whether the Cardinals will return.—R. W. SHUFELDT, *Washington, D. C.*