

Evening Grosbeak at Brantingham, Lewis Co., N. Y.—Early on the morning of May 20, 1916, Mr. C. F. Stone and myself saw a female Evening Grosbeak in the woods near the hotel at Lake Brantingham. When first seen it was on the ground where it soon picked up a small twig in its bill, flew with it up into a beech tree, and we had hopes of finding the nest. However the twig did not seem to suit, as it was soon dropped to the ground and the Grosbeak flew off through the woods and we could not again locate it.—VERDI BURTON, *Branchport, N. Y.*

The Evening Grosbeak in Monte Vista, Colo.—In order to add to the fullness of the records concerning the great wave of Evening Grosbeaks (*C. vespertina*) which seemed to have been widespread over a large part of the United States this winter, the following notes are here recorded: The Western Evening Grosbeak (*C. v. montana*) was first seen in Monte Vista, this year, on October 17, there being three females. They were eating buds from the willow trees in my yard. On October 21, a flock of more than twenty-five males and females was noted in the yard. Many more were seen thereafter, from October 24 to October 28, inclusive. They left the vicinity of my house on October 28, just before a severe snowstorm, which occurred the next day. These birds seemed to prefer the buds of willow trees, and it also seemed to me that at first the males and females kept apart, though the sexes mingled later on; the females arrived first. Because of their extraordinary tameness they could be studied at close range and to great advantage, hence the relative ease in determining the sexes.—MRS. JESSE STEPHENSON, *Monte Vista, Colo.*

Some Sparrow Notes from Madison, Wisconsin.—On May 17, 1919, I collected a typical specimen of Gambel's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia l. gambelii*) in the vicinity of Madison. My identification was later affirmed by Dr. Oberholser. The bird was unaccompanied by any other sparrow. A point of passing interest may lie in the fact that I obtained this spring only one record, May 4, of the White-crowned Sparrow (*Z. leucophrys*) during the course of forty extensive field trips. The status of *Z. l. gambelii* in the middle-western states, east of the Mississippi, follows: There are no records for Ohio through 1919 (Lynds Jones), for Indiana through 1897 (Butler), for Michigan through 1912 (Barrows), or for Illinois through 1909 (Cory). For Wisconsin a typical specimen dated April 20, 1871, was taken by Dr. Hoy, and a further entry in the Kumlien-Hollister State List adds, "Specimens have been taken a number of times about Lake Koshkonong which are almost, if not quite, typical *gambelii*."

The writer has two spring observations to record of Le Conte's Sparrow (*Ammodramus leconteii*), both singing males from the vicinity of Madison. The birds in each case were relatively easy of approach, in moist prairie fields, and were studied under ideal conditions. The first sparrow was observed while the writer was in company with Norman DeW. Betts on

April 16, 1916; the second by the writer alone on May 10, 1919. There are apparently no other spring records for Wisconsin, only one record—time of year not stated—for Michigan, while most of those from Illinois seem to be in the fall. The writer took two specimens of the Clay-colored Sparrow (*Spizella pallida*) in a dry, shrub-covered field, remote from the city, on May 8, 1919. In the same field on May 30, a nest with three eggs was found on the ground at the foot of a bush. In May of 1918, in the same area, I recorded twenty males on May 4. This sparrow is not rare in southern Wisconsin but is eccentrically local.—WARNER TAYLOR, *Madison, Wisconsin*.

Zonotrichia albicollis Again in Colorado.—Since writing 'The Birds of the Clear Creek District,' published in the last issue, the writer has had the good fortune to secure a specimen of the White-throated Sparrow, which is not only a new species for this region, but is also the fourth record for Colorado.

The specimen, C. M. N. H. No. 7490, is an adult male, and was taken in the Clear Creek Valley, Colorado, Nov. 2, 1919. It is preserved in the collections of the Colorado Museum of Natural History.—F. C. LINCOLN, *Denver, Colorado*.

The Proper Name of the West African Serin.—The bird figured and described from Cuba by d'Orbigny as *Linaria caniceps* without any reason whatever referred by Gundlach (*Jour. f. Orn.*, 1871, p. 276) to the Nonpareil, *Passerina ciris* (Linné), which it does not resemble in any way. Later Ridgway (*Birds of North and Middle America*, Part I, 1901, p. 589) includes the name, with a query, in the synonymy of *P. ciris*.

As d'Orbigny's work on Cuban birds was based in part on specimens from Cuba in the Lafresnaye collection—Lafresnaye's written labels for his specimens bearing testimony to this in more instances than one—we have had, in the course of our work on the Lafresnaye collection, to study critically all species described as new by d'Orbigny. It was at once evident to us, as soon as we saw Plate 16 of the Atlas, that it represented an African *Serinus* and not the Nonpareil. We therefore searched among the specimens of this genus in the Lafresnaye collection for one that might possibly have been the subject of this plate and found number 6785 with a label in Lafresnaye's handwriting, which reads as follows: "Crithagra chrysopyga Sw. W. af. 1. 206 pl. 17. junior? Cuba. an e Senegarabia allatus?" The specimen agrees minutely with the original description and with the plate, except that the gray of the head has faded from long exposure to direct sunlight, as a mounted bird, to a dull, dirty grayish. It is thus in all probability the type of the species.

We identify both bird and plate positively as the species which Reichenow (*Vög. Afr.* III, (1), 1904, p. 272) calls *Serinus hartlaubi* (Bolle).