

age, was able to fly perfectly, and showed no signs of being an escaped cage-bird, a contingency indeed as remote as its occurrence on the Atlantic Coast. It is a very interesting coincidence that Mr. Henry E. Childs ('Auk,' April, 1923, p. 330) records a Dickcissel in Rhode Island last December, also associating with English Sparrows. In this region occasional specimens were recorded between 1875 and 1890. Fourteen years later Mr. Waldron De Witt Miller made the astonishing record of a breeding pair near Plainfield, New Jersey, which ended the local history of this species.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *American Museum of Natural History*, N. Y.

Habits of the Northern Shrike in Captivity.—Bird banding is proving to be a medium through which the bird bander is securing facts and enjoying intimacies with birds that might otherwise not be obtained.

The following experience of Miss Lottie M. Smith of South Sudbury, Mass. is illustrative of the delightful, unexpected experiences that go with the work.

Like others who operate a banding station throughout the entire year, she has had one or two visits from Northern Shrikes (*Lanius borealis*) that were attracted to the trap by the Juncos, Tree Sparrows, Purple Finches, Chickadees and other winter birds who enjoy her food and protection. On two occasions, due to a scarcity of food in the severe winter just past, Shrikes entered the trap in pursuit of birds, and were removed and despatched. Upon the third occasion the Shrike, finding itself trapped, bent all its energies to escape and, contrary to the actions of the other two, did not molest the banded Tree Sparrows which it entered the trap to seize.

This Shrike was removed, placed in a cage three feet in height and set in a large unused room with a southern exposure beside the window. Unless the day was unusually cold or stormy, the window remained open and this was the home of the bird from March 1, to April 7, 1923.

The first food offered the captive was flies and meal worms but these it spurned and would not touch. Two dead Juncos were readily devoured with most of the feathers but when a dead Shrike was offered the head was snapped off and the body remained untouched. It was observed that when the bird was hungry it consumed more of the feathers and undigestible parts of its victims than when its hunger was not so keen. Raw beef, of course was quite acceptable and this at first was chopped into small bits but later was fed in bulk. Before partaking, the Shrike pulled off the fat and deposited it in a saucer that contained its drinking water. This trick appeared intentional for while it ejected pellets about the floor of its cage the fat was always deposited in the saucer. Pork and lamb were as unacceptable as beef was acceptable and the Shrike preferred the latter uncooked but if sufficiently hungry would eat the cooked meat. This and all other food was impaled on its cage and torn bit by bit. Mice were its favorite food and the heads were devoured first—the remainder was left hanging from the cage, sometimes all day, before it was touched

again. Rats were tried but the largest frightened the Shrike and the smallest remained unnoticed until cut into pieces and the skin removed.

The Shrike became gentle, could be handled and at times was permitted to fly about the room though if anyone but its keeper came near it showed signs of excitement and fright. As the weather grew warmer and the time to migrate approached the bird's restlessness increased and on April 7, wearing band number 69316 on its leg, it was taken to Devereau Beach and released.—CHARLES B. FLOYD, *Auburndale, Mass.*

The Prothonotary Warbler at New York City.—On the afternoon of May 13, 1923 I observed a Prothonotary Warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*) in the Botanical Garden, Bronx Park, New York. I saw the bird again about six o'clock the next morning as well as shortly before sundown the evening of the same day and I also saw it on both of the following days early in the morning. I observed the bird for long periods at a distance of only thirty-five feet with a pair of twelve diameter binoculars so that there was absolutely no question of the identification. In addition to this, I pointed the bird out to several other observers and during the course of the four days, it must have been seen by twenty or more all of whom concurred in the identification. I think that this is the first record of the Prothonotary Warbler in Bronx County.—CLIFFORD PANGBURN, *New York City.*

Bay-breasted Warbler at Atlanta, Ga.—On May 6, 1923, I had under observation for some time, a Bay-breasted Warbler (*Dendroica castanea*). Under powerful field glasses at a distance of only about thirty feet the chestnut markings of the throat, upper breast and sides, the dark forehead, light colored cheeks, wing bars, and white belly were all plainly seen and examined. There was also a Black-poll Warbler, its close relative, not far away. As the Bay-breast is supposed to migrate farther west, up the Mississippi valley, and supposed to be rare south of Virginia, I take pleasure in adding this species to my Atlanta and vicinity list.—EARLE R. GREENE, *108 Orme Circle, Atlanta, Ga.*

Yellow-throated Warbler again at Cape May, New Jersey.—On May 30, 1923 a number of members of the Delaware Valley Ornithological club including the writer went to Cape May on the annual Memorial Day field trip. We were approaching a small group of pine trees near Cape May Point when we were attracted by a song coming from among the trees which might be described as being half way between that of a Yellow Warbler and an Indigo Bunting. We searched some time for the songster without result and had about decided that it really was a Yellow Warbler with a freak song when Mr. John Gillespie, a member of the party, found the bird and announced that it had a back about the color of a Myrtle Warbler. At this moment the bird flew out and lit in another group of pines on the far side of a little lake where it continued to sing as before. Hurrying around the lake we soon located the bird, which proved to be a Yellow-