

An Abnormal Purple Finch (*Carpodacus purpureus purpureus*).—I shot on March 6, 1923, an adult male Purple Finch that has the under tail coverts conspicuously streaked like Cassin's Purple Finch (*Carpodacus cassinii*). The streaks are very broad and long and identical with the streaking in *C. cassinii*, but the rest of the plumage is typical of *C. p. purpureus*.

Purple Finches were abundant from February to late in March, 1923, which is the first time I have seen them in numbers since 1907.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

Seaside Sparrow in Central Park, New York City.—Early on the morning of May 16, 1923, I was crossing the bridge over the Lake leading to the Ramble on my daily tour of inspection, and was astounded to see a perfectly good Seaside Sparrow running down the rain gutter about ten feet ahead of me, in its characteristic crouching and secretive manner. Apparently it imagined that the salt marsh grass was there, as it stopped and permitted a leisurely observation in full view. A few minutes later I spied Dr. Ellsworth Eliot in the distance, who correctly interpreted my violent signals, and came running up, also to gaze upon the sparrow now crouched under a scraggly bush on the bank. A half hour later I returned with Mr. and Miss Capen, members of the Linnaean Society. The Sparrow was under the same bush, and was apparently bewildered and dumbfounded. The salt marsh grass was lacking, and it did not seem to know what to do, so it did nothing. We were able to walk up to within 15 feet, and if it ran three feet to another bush, it would run back again in a few minutes. This was sufficient to start the Park "bird-telegraph" going, and when I dropped in again at noon several people kindly informed me that there was a Seaside Sparrow in the Ramble! No bird is more strictly confined to its chosen habitat than this Sparrow, which is really accidental anywhere except in the salt marshes where it breeds. There was a colony in a marsh containing salt springs at Piermont, N. Y., on the west bank of the Hudson, just north of the New Jersey State line, but it has not been visited for many years, and I do not know whether it still exists. There is no record in the New York City Region of the Seaside Sparrow anywhere away from its breeding grounds. The preceding night was cooler than normal, with dense fog the first half.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *American Museum of Natural History*.

Albinism in the Sharp-tailed Sparrow (*Passerherbulus caudatus*).—In 'The Auk' for October, 1921, pp. 604-605 and again in Vol. XXXIX, 1922, p. 265, I have recorded numerous specimens of this bird taken or seen within a short distance of my house ever since 1900 and in each consecutive year.

On November 16, 1923, I visited the place for the first time that year and saw three albinistic birds, one of which I shot. I visited the place again on November 26 and saw the two remaining birds, one of which I collected,