

easily recognized in life, after a few moments' observation through field-glasses. I have twice before taken this species on Long Island, and have twice seen it without harming it. The dates are: September 7, 1911, Easthampton; September 4, 1916, Bridgehampton; September 8, 1916, Montauk; August 28, 1920, Montauk, and the present record, as given above.

*Numenius americanus*. LONG-BILLED CURLEW. This species is now so rare on Long Island that it seems no waste of time or space to mention the occurrence of one of them at Mecox Bay, on August 24, 1923. I did not collect the bird, but as I am quite familiar with the Hudsonian Curlew (and its variations of bill-length, etc.), and have seen *americanus* once before on Long Island and twice in South Carolina, I think this "sight-record" may receive credence. The bird flew over my blind and set its wings to my decoys, but wisely refused to be fooled, and soared down to the beach about 200 yards away. I watched it for a few moments, until it began to peck lazily at the sand, and began to stalk it elaborately, but with poor success. The bird was very wild, I am glad to say, and permitted no familiarity. Its great size, disproportionately long bill, and the smooth uniformity of color under its wings (well-observed as the bird sailed over the blind), left me in no doubt as to what I had seen. I have one other record, August 26, 1910, and think I have seen another at Montauk, but could never be sure of this.

*Mimus p. polyglottos*. MOCKINGBIRD. I have two records for this species on Long Island in 1923, namely, September 6, at Montauk; and about September 20, 1923, at Easthampton. I regret that the exact date when the second bird was seen has been lost, having been noted in a "loose-leaf" book, the leaves of which proved to be all *too* loose! I believe that a few Mockingbirds occur every year, in August and September, in the vicinity of Montauk Point, for I have several other records, and know of still others, reported to me on excellent authority.—WM. TOD HELMUTH, 3RD, *New York City*.

**Some Bird Notes from Jaffrey, N. H.**—*Zenaidura macroura carolinensis*. MOURNING DOVE. On April 30, 1916, two of these birds, the first and only I have seen in Jaffrey, appeared near the village of East Jaffrey. On May 1, I heard a great commotion in front of the house I was living in, and on stepping out I saw a Short-eared Owl fly into the front yard with a Mourning Dove in its clutches. It flew against the side of the house and dropped the Dove, but was able to fly away again. On picking up the Dove it was found to be dazed, but not badly injured. For awhile I held it in my hands, but later it showed signs of wanting to escape, so I took it to a neighboring orchard and let it go. It was able to fly, though somewhat erratically. This occurred about the middle of the afternoon. Since then I have seen no Doves in Jaffrey.

*Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina*. EVENING GROSBEAK.—From August 25 to September 10, 1923, I frequently saw a flock of four Evening Gros-

beaks near the village, and Miss Lucia Cutter tells me that she saw them as early as the middle of August. On August 25, one of them was singing in a large elm tree. The song reminded me of a weak Purple Finch song, but less varied. The occurrence of this species in summer seems rather unusual.

*Vireosylva philadelphia*. PHILADELPHIA VIREO.—On August 25, 1923, I observed one flitting about catching insects in a birch tree at the edge of a swamp. It was observed at a distance of about fifty feet with 8 × binoculars. The all yellow underparts and *whitish* line over the eye were distinctly noted, also the absence of distinct wing-bars. Miss Nina G. Spaulding also observed this bird.

*Cistothorus stellaris*. SHORT-BILLED MARSH WREN.—Since about 1914, possibly earlier, one pair of this species has bred every year in the Cutter Meadow. This is a low, damp meadow with a small brook running through it. It is overgrown with meadowsweet, chokeberry, grasses and sedges with occasional small "islands" of blueberry, alder, *Viburnum dentatum*, meadowsweet and maleberry. I have never succeeded in locating the nest, perhaps partly due to the fact that I have never been so situated that I could observe the birds through the entire breeding season. In August the parent birds appear with young ones, and about that time the male stops singing, but they stay until the middle of September. During the latter part of August they can often be found scolding in the small "islands" just described. There are so few New Hampshire records for this species that I wish to place this on record.—STUART T. DANFORTH, *Mayagüez, Porto Rico*.

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### RECENT LITERATURE.

**Dawson's 'The Birds of California.'**—This long looked for work<sup>1</sup> has at last appeared. It has a history reaching back almost to the time of publication of 'The Birds of Washington' by the same author in collaboration with Mr. J. H. Bowles, for in his review of that notable work Dr.

<sup>1</sup> The Birds of California | A Complete, Scientific and | Popular Account of the 580 Species and Subspecies of Birds | Found in the State | By William Leon Dawson | of Santa Barbara | Director of the International Museum of Comparative Oölogy, Author of "The Birds of Ohio" | and (with Mr. Bowles) of The "Birds of Washington" | Illustrated by 30 Photogravures, 120 Full-page Duetone Plates and More Than | 1100 Half-tone Cuts of Birds in Life, Nests, Eggs, and | Favorite Haunts, from Photographs | Chiefly by | Donald R. Dickey, Wright M. Pierce, William L. Finley | and the Author | Together with 44 Drawings in the Text and a Series of | 110 Full-page Color Plates | Chiefly by | Major Allan Brooks | Format De Luxe | Large Paper Edition | Complete in Four Volumes | Volume One [—Four] | South Moulton Company | San Diego, Los Angeles, San Francisco | 1923 [= 1924] | Sold Only by Subscription. All Rights Reserved. | Quarto (9½ × 12¼ ins.) Vol. 1, pp. i-vii + 1-522. Vol. 2, pp. i-xii + 523-1034. Vol. 3, pp. i-xiv. + 1035-1548. Vol. 4, pp. i-xiv + 1549-2121. An unpagged subtitle page is