

that time there has been further increase, and the birds formed a great multitude during the late summer and the early autumn of 1923. Even the busiest streets of the city were visited by them at times. On September 10 the writer noted a small flock on the roof of a building at the corner of Congress and Park streets, from which several birds descended to the sidewalk to pick up fragments of food fallen from some person's lunch-basket. I saw others elsewhere in the heart of the city at other times. When I left Portland for the season, on October 10, hundreds of Grackles were still frequenting the suburbs.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine*.

Redpoll (*Acanthis linaria*) in Alabama.—Mr. Arthur H. Howell in his 'Birds of Alabama,' just published by the State Department of Game and Fisheries, gives (on page 223) but two records of the occurrence of the Redpoll within the boundaries of this State. Both of these were made in extreme northern Alabama—Stevenson and Florence—and the validity of the first is questioned by Mr. Howell because September, the date of the reported capture, seems too early for such a boreal species to appear so far south. Therefore the following recent record, which I publish through the courtesy of Mr. Lewis S. Golsan, of Prattville, is of especial interest.

On February 13, 1924, Mr. Golsan was driving in a buggy along the Prattville-Booth road when, about three and a half miles west of Prattville, he saw a Redpoll in a roadside hedge. The bird, described by Mr. Golsan as a "fine male", was in company with three or four Pine Siskins and might have been passed unnoticed but for its bright red cap. Mr. Golsan stopped his horse and inspected the bird at a distance of about fifteen feet, noting plainly the small size, sharply pointed bill, and reddish breast-patch, as well as the red crown-cap. As Mr. Golsan has been a life-long student of birds and is thoroughly familiar with the Purple Finch, the only species that, in this locality, could possibly be confused with the Redpoll, I unhesitatingly vouch for the accuracy of his diagnosis.

That northern birds should appear farther south than usual this year should not occasion surprise when it is remembered that the closing months of the past winter were extremely severe.—ERNEST G. HOLT, *312 Bell Building, Montgomery, Ala.*

Breeding of MacGillivray's Seaside Sparrow in South Carolina.—On the afternoon of May 16, 1924, the writer had the pleasure of discovering the first nest and eggs of MacGillivray's Seaside Sparrow (*Passerherbulus maritimus macgillivrayii*) ever found in South Carolina. The details of this discovery may be of interest.

On May 13, together with Mr. E. B. Chamberlain, I left Charleston for a collecting trip for the Charleston Museum, with which we are both connected. Our destination was about thirty-six miles south of this city, and our route lay over the Charleston-Savannah Highway. About fifteen miles out from Charleston, this highway crosses a wide tract of salt marsh, and the causeway just completed over this waste was the situation that