

Compared with five Brazilian males the Aplobamba male has fewer bars below and less yellow on the throat, while the specimen labelled as female resembles the male below, the abdomen having only a few black streaks, the lower tail-coverts being unmarked. The bars on the breast, however, are as narrow as in the female, and the upperparts agree with those of two Brazilian females. Possibly this specimen may be an immature male or it is not impossible that the differences shown by the Bolivian birds may be racial.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Early Flight of Snow Bunting and Lapland Longspur in Connecticut Valley.—An early record for the Snow Bunting (*Plectrophenax n. nivalis*) occurred for this vicinity when we found a flock of twenty to twenty-five of them at the Ashley Ponds Reservoir on October 31, 1925, the day following our first real snow-storm of the season. The Snow Buntings were feeding and resting on a warm, sunny bank facing the sun. After circling about once or twice they returned to nearly the same spot beside a grassy road.

In the horse-path of this road, we nearly overlooked an immature Lapland Longspur (*Calcarius l. lapponicus*) busily picking up small seeds. Twice we distinctly observed the bird take a seed in the bill and roll it between the mandibles, cracking it open in the same manner as a canary opens millet seed. The bird hugged the ground closely and walked along with shambling gait a few feet at a time. It allowed us to approach within fifteen feet several times. In rising for flight, it uttered a rapid, chattering "chiprr-chiprr-chiprr," ending in a clear Canary-like note with rising and falling inflection. It flew a short distance away and settled down close by the Snow Buntings on a stone-strewn shore.

On the same occasion we noted the White-rumped Sandpiper (*Pisobia fuscicollis*) feeding on a mud flat exposed by the low water of the reservoir. The bird showed very little fear, even of a nearby dog. It was intent on feeding in the thin mud with rapid bill thrusts.

The early snow-storms in northern New England apparently were instrumental in hastening southward Fox and Tree Sparrows. The former were noted on October 20, and the latter we observed in numbers on October 27 in the vicinity of Holyoke.—A. C. BAGG, 70 Fairfield Ave., Holyoke, Mass.

Gambel's Sparrow in South Carolina.—On October 23, 1925, I shot within a few hundred yards of my home an immature male of Gambel's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*). This bird was among a lot of Song and Swamp Sparrows, and as soon as I saw it I knew that it was a White-crowned Sparrow and the second one I had ever seen in South Carolina. After collecting it I hastened home to compare it with the specimen shot here on October 26, 1917 (see 'Birds of South Carolina'), but as I was unable to decide positively whether the two were identical

or the latter one of the western races, I wrote to my friend Mr. J. H. Riley, to send me three immature birds of the several members of the *leucophrys* group. Mr. Riley sent the birds and, as I suspected, the one just taken proved to be *Z. l. gambeli*. The capture of this far western bird makes the forty-seventh species I have added to the fauna of South Carolina since 1885.

In the Canadian Alpine Journal for 1912, pp. 66-67, Mr. Riley states that he found *Z. leucophrys* and *Z. gambeli* breeding together in British Columbia and regards them as distinct species in which view I concur.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

Dickcissel at Sea.—On September 8, 1925, I was on board the steamer "George Washington," bound from Norfolk, Va. to New York. At about eight o'clock in the morning while the boat was somewhere off the South Jersey or Delaware coast and nearly out of sight of land I noticed a small bird flying alongside of the vessel. The shape and manner of flight placed it among the Fringillidae but the only other definite characteristics I could make out at the time were an apparent reddish brown cast on the upper parts and light underparts. The bird flew with great upward and outward swoops which with the vibration of the vessel made it impossible for me to focus my ten-power glasses on it for more than an instant. Once it lit in the rigging but it was off again before I could reach a point of vantage. Finally, at about ten o'clock, it lit on a canvas covering near the stern of the vessel. After securing permission I mounted the upper works and identified the bird at once as a Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*). As I had never met this species in life before I studied it most carefully with my 10 × 46 binoculars at a distance of about 30 feet. The bird was about the size of the English Sparrow, the bill appearing somewhat larger. The back was streaked and not unlike that of the English Sparrow. There was an indistinct yellowish or light superciliary line. A large distinct yellow area covered the middle of the breast and belly, the yellow blending into the grayish throat and flanks. The wings appeared to be dull reddish brown, the tail dark, the outer tail feathers being the longest.

The bird seemed exhausted but when I made an attempt to capture it, it launched off again returning in a short while. I last saw it toward noon when the ship was approaching Sandy Hook. A short time later I could not locate it. It had probably made for the coast or for another vessel.

How this bird found itself so far from its normal migration course and thirty miles off shore it is impossible to say. Its northward flight of perhaps eighty miles during the fall migration showed how completely it had lost its bearings.—EDWARD FLEISHER, *Eastern District High School, Brooklyn, N. Y.*

First Record of Macgillivray's Warbler in Indiana.—In 'The Auk' for April, 1925, p. 277, Dr. Earl Brooks records trapping a MacGillivray's