

northern Hamilton County.—CHARLES E. JOHNSON, *Roosevelt Wild Life Station, N. Y. State College of Forestry, Syracuse, N. Y.*

The Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*) at Washington, D. C. in Winter.—While I was approaching the Harvard Street Entrance of the National Zoological Park on December 30, 1924, I was astonished to hear the mewing of a Catbird. Further investigation showed the bird to be feeding on the berries of a honeysuckle vine. I saw this bird again in the same place January 6, 1925. This was rather remarkable, since there was four or five inches of snow on the ground. The previous records are: December 6, 1917 (B. H. Swales); December 25–31, 1883 (H. W. Henshaw); January 1, 1921 (L. D. Miner).—WILLIAM HOWARD BALL, 1233 Irving St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Late Nesting of Golden-crowned Kinglet.—On Aug. 30, 1926, I noted a very unusual thing in this part of the country at least, a nest of the Golden Crown Kinglet (*Regulus satrapa*) with four young. One week later I returned to the nest and found that they had all left. To me this is quite a late nesting for this bird.—A. R. MCCRIMMON, *Montrose, Colo.*

Records from the Coast of Maryland.—From August 12 to 14, and December 3 to 5, 1926, I visited Ocean City, Maryland, to examine the bird-life of the vicinity and to find, if possible, certain coastal forms that, from geographic range, were expected to occur in that vicinity, but that had not been recorded definitely from the state. On the second trip I was accompanied by Mr. E. A. Preble. Following are important records.

Alca torda.—On December 4, Mr. Preble and I saw a Razor-billed Auk two miles south of Ocean City in the wash of the waves where it was attempting to come ashore. We supposed that the bird was sick or injured. After watching it for a brief space I walked up to capture it and was astonished to see it rise and fly a short distance and then drop back again into the water. Unfortunately I did not succeed in taking it as there seems to be no definite record of the species for Maryland, though it has been collected a short distance farther south in Virginia. There was no question as to the identity of the bird as we were both within a very short distance of it and observed it for some time after it had again taken to the water.

Melospiza melodia atlantica.—Since the description of the Coast Song Sparrow by Mr. Todd¹ it has appeared to me certain that the Song Sparrow of the coast of Maryland must be this form, and I was therefore gratified on August 13 and 14 to find it fairly common as a breeding bird amid the bayberries and baccharis bordering the salt marshes back of the beach at Ocean City. Apparently this form may be sedentary since Mr. Preble and I found it during our visit in December. In addition to the grayer, less rufescent coloration, pointed but in the original description, the bill of

¹ *Melospiza melodia atlantica* Todd, Auk, 1924, p. 147. (Smith's Island, Virginia.)

the Coast Song Sparrow, viewed from the side, appears distinctly larger and heavier than that of *M. m. melodia*. The exact range of this form, which has not previously been reported from Maryland, is still to be ascertained. It is probable that it is confined entirely to the outer coast line.

Chondestes grammacus grammacus.—On August 13, while crossing through a dense growth of bay-berries near the inlet I was astonished to have a Lark Sparrow fly out before me and alight on a low bush. This bird, which I collected, proved to be an immature individual fully grown. Eifrig¹ has reported this species in July, 1901, in the highlands of western Maryland between Accident and Cove, where the birds were common and were breeding. He collected a specimen July 24, 1901. The bird taken at Ocean City is in a region so far distant from the normal breeding haunt of the species that it seems logical to suppose that it was a wind blown vagrant from some more distant region, possibly a survivor of the recent tremendous gale that had swept out of the Gulf of Mexico and up the east coast leaving various waifs in the form of southern birds in its wake. My specimen appears to be the second taken in the State.

Passerculus princeps.—As the Ipswich Sparrow has been reported common in winter as far south as Pea and Bodie Islands, North Carolina,² it was to be expected on the coast of Maryland, and was one of the objectives of our December excursion. It was therefore with delight on December 3, almost as soon as we began our observations a short distance north of town, that we saw two of these birds in an open space among the dunes. Others were encountered on the following day near the inlet, until nine in all were recorded, so that the species seemed to be fairly common. Specimens were taken.

With a specimen definitely in hand I feel at liberty to announce a sight record for the Ipswich Sparrow made several years ago in a locality out of the regular habitat of the species. On March 24, 1920, near Hardge and Basts' oyster wharf on West River, south of Annapolis, Maryland, I saw one of these birds in a growth of weeds near water in company with other Sparrows. I watched it for some time but had no means of collecting it. The region was far from the normal home of this Sparrow so that the bird must be regarded as a stray.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum*.

Notes from Washington, D. C.

Sterna hirundo. COMMON TERN.—I saw fifteen on May 25, 1926 over the Potomac River near Columbia Island, D. C. and again on May 26. A small flock was seen at Alexander Island, Va., on May 27 and 31.

Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis. BLACK TERN.—A small flock was seen at Alexander Island by Mrs. T. M. Knappen and the writer. I saw seventeen at Marshall Hall, Md. on July 22.

¹ Auk, 1902, p. 84.

² Pearson, Brimley, and Brimley, Birds of North Carolina. North Carolina Geol. and Econ. Surv., vol. 4, 1919, p. 235.