

It may be stated as certain that the Dickcissel did not nest at this point in 1926 or 1927, as we have had the area concerned under such observation that so conspicuous a species would have been certain of detection. After some discussion we did not collect specimens as they were not required for definite identification, and we did not care to disturb the possibility of establishment of a permanent colony of a highly interesting bird.

In the sixties of the previous century, Coues and Prentiss¹ wrote of the "Black-throated Bunting," as they termed the Dickcissel, "abundant, especially in the spring" in the District of Columbia. Within fifteen years the birds became rare, and finally disappeared. The latest records known to us for this vicinity are those of Kirkwood² who reports a specimen taken by Mr. Resler at Back River, Maryland, October 2, 1880; of H. W. Henshaw, who saw one near the Soldier's Home in Washington, May 31, 1887; of J. D. Figgins, who collected three, two of which are now in the National Museum, at Jefferson, Maryland, August 4 and 5, 1890; of C. W. Richmond, who recorded one near Brookland, a suburb of Washington, in May or June, 1894, and of Col. Wirt Robinson (then Lieut. Robinson), who recorded one near Fort Myer, Va., in June or July, 1894.—ALEXANDER WETMORE AND FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Washington, D. C.*

Dickcissel in New Jersey.—On June 11, 1928, I received a letter from Mrs. Hermione Baker Warner of Sharptown, N. J., informing me that her husband, Leland I. Warner, had observed a Dickcissel apparently at home in his alfalfa field on June 10 and 11, 1928, and as I had stated that the species was now rare in southern New Jersey, she thought it worthy of record. This would appear to be another indication of a return of the Dickcissel to its former habitat on the Atlantic coast during the past spring.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Spizella taverneri on Migration in Montana.—I spent the month of September, 1927 at the Montana Ranch Club near Cameron in Madison County, about seventy-five miles south of Bozeman. The ranch was situated on the upper benches of the Madison River valley about nine miles from the river and a half hour's ride below the nearest tongue of Canadian Zone forest at the base of the mountains. Just below the ranch house was a dried-up irrigation ditch which supported a dense growth of rose bushes and willows. On September 4, I flushed some small Sparrows from this place, which were obviously *Spizella*, but I was unable to identify the species positively even with protracted study through high-powered field glasses. They were not Clay-colored Sparrows, which occur only in eastern Montana, nor was I satisfied to call them Brewer's Sparrows, a species with which I was familiar in life, and which also was not supposed to occur in this section of Montana, above the sage-brush belt. In the meantime I was having great difficulties with the State Game Warden in securing

¹ Ann. Rep. Smiths. Inst. for 1861 (publ. 1862) p. 413.

² Trans. Maryland Acad. Sci., 1895, pp. 340-341.

a collecting permit, and prayed that it would arrive before the Sparrows had departed southward. They were studied almost daily, and while consorting with other species were noticeably wild and shy. The call note was a weak one for a Sparrow, and I should describe it as about halfway between that of the Savannah and Field Sparrows. My permit finally arrived on September 14, and I proceeded at once to the spot. Only four could be found, and after twenty minutes careful stalking I was finally able to collect an immature female in perfect condition. Two were left on the 15th, and these disappeared the next day. It was not until the specimen was compared at the American Museum of Natural History that it could be identified as *Spizella taverneri*, recently discovered by Swarth and Brooks in the mountains of Northern British Columbia. I do not recall having seen a published record as yet of this very close relative of Brewer's Sparrow away from its breeding grounds.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Museum of Comparative Zoölogy*.

Goldfinches Summering in Central South Carolina.—On July 2, 1928, while sitting near a sunflower stalk, I was surprised to see a male American Goldfinch (*Astragalinus tristis tristis*) alight upon one of the flowers and begin his evening meal. The next day two males and a female came to the same flower and since then they have returned almost every day.

I attempted to find their nest and followed them for about a mile and a half to a swamp but without result.

Later, on a peach farm about six miles from Chesterfield I saw three Goldfinches and at McBride's Pond about seven miles in the other direction I saw another. All were in full summer plumage. My last record was on August 21, 1928.

As Mr. Arthur T. Wayne gives July 8, 1903, as the latest date for the bird in South Carolina and Mr. A. L. Pickens regards it as a winter visitor, my observations seem worthy of record.—H. B. STEVENSON, *Chesterfield, S. C.*

Lawrence's Warbler near Norristown, Pennsylvania.—On May 7, 1928, I saw a Lawrence's Warbler near Norristown. The Warbler wave on that day was not unusual but during the afternoon I saw five Golden-wings which I consider noteworthy as I do not see them in this vicinity every year. In a small clump of oaks and beeches bordering a stream the Lawrence's appeared. It was in full sunlight and was an adult male in beautiful plumage. It did not bear any close resemblance to any other species that I could think of. It was feeding in the top of an oak and minutely examining the oak blossoms in that pretty fashion that Warblers have. Occasionally it would sing, much like the Golden-wing I thought. It remained in the same tree until I had completed a sketch of it and was tired of watching it. The black on the throat made a conspicuous triangle when seen from below.—CONRAD ROLAND, *Norristown, Pa.*