

the ventral and crural feather tracts and somewhat unevenly distributed on the capital, dorsal, humeral, and femoral tracts, and on the greater coverts. It is heaviest on the sides of the head and on the rump.

A description by Lewis (Auk 37, p. 588, 1920) of the living young birds in a nest at Yarmouth is as follows, "A stripe over each eye and one in the center of the crown were buffy; the rest of the upperparts were fuscous, the feathers were tipped with buffy, the sides of the throat were buffy, the sides of the breast whitish streaked with fuscous, and the sides of the belly whitish." This description does not correspond to Dwight's description nor with my specimens nor with my notes on the young in the nest, in several particulars, especially the underparts.

The date, June 12, 1920, on which Lewis found this nest with young "partly feathered and nearly ready to leave the nest" is also unusual, it being early for Nova Scotia.

At this stage in their development, they must have been about a week old. Allowing twelve days for incubation and three for nest building, the birds must have started building May 21st. At this date the Acadian Sharp-tailed Sparrows have ordinarily not yet arrived in the Province. The earliest first arrival dates which I have are June 3, 1923, and June 4, 1925. Quoting a letter from Mr. R. W. Tufts, who has been familiar with the birds in Nova Scotia for at least thirty years: "I never saw the Sharp-tail until so late that I always felt that I had missed the first one, and felt that the late 'first seen' was of no value. I have accurate and clear recollections of this fact and it was about June 1st that they showed up."

He visited the region about Yarmouth Harbor May 29, 1925, and spent part of two days searching for nests without even seeing a bird. Returning June 17 of the same year, he found the meadows containing the usual number of birds and found several nests with fresh or slightly incubated eggs. At Wolfville, from 1925 to 1928 R. W. Tufts has found quite a number of nests between June 20 and July 1, all containing eggs in various stages of incubation. Some sets June 29 and 30 were fresh or only slightly incubated. I found nests July 16, 1928 and July 20, 1928 and those out of the nest and with the tail partly grown are dated July 21, 1928 and September 8, 1928.

Savannah Sparrows are common over all these areas, arriving the first of April and raising several broods. Is it not possible that Lewis may have found a nest of this species since both the date and the description of the young fit it better than they do the Acadian Sharp-tailed Sparrow?—A. L. RAND, *Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University.*

Gambel's Sparrow in Illinois and Michigan.—In looking over the Gregory collection, Mr. A. J. van Rossem found two specimens which he believed were Gambel's Sparrow (*Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli*). A comparison of these with the skins in the Field Museum of Natural History proved that he was correct. One is an adult male taken at Waukegan, Lake County, Illinois, on May 14, 1922. The other, an immature male,

was collected at Huron Mountain, Marquette County, Michigan, on October 12, 1924.

An examination of the Field Museum specimens also disclosed the fact that No. 21447, a female collected by J. F. Ferry at Beach, Lake County, Illinois, on October 6, 1906, belongs to this subspecies and not to *Zonotrichia leucophrys leucophrys* as given on the original label.

We have not been able to find any other authentic record of the occurrence of this race in either Illinois or Michigan.—JOHN T. ZIMMER, *Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Ill.* and STEPHEN S. GREGORY, JR., *Winnetka, Ill.*

Haplochelidon, a New Genus of Swallows.—When Mr. Ridgway dismembered the old genus *Atticora* Boie some years ago (Bull. 50, U. S. Nat. Museum, pt. III, 1902, 27) he placed each species in a genus by itself with the exception of *Hirundo andecola* D'Orbigny and Lafresnaye, which he retained in *Orochelidon*, the type of which is *Petrochelidon murina* Cassin. He indicated, however, that it was different from the type species, and examination of specimens confirms his observations. "*H.*" *andecola* differs conspicuously from *Orochelidon murina* in its nearly even instead of forked tail, and particularly in its very long, full, and broad under tail-coverts, which fall short of the tip of the tail by only about 10 mm. These characters are in my opinion amply sufficient to justify the generic separation of this species under the name *Haplochelidon*, of which it is hereby made the type. It is certainly as good a genus, at any rate, as the others which Mr. Ridgway recognizes as composing the original group *Atticora*. I cannot follow Dr. Chapman (American Museum Novitates, No. 138, 1924, 12) in referring this species to *Petrochelidon*, the very points he brings up arguing against such a disposition.—W. E. CLYDE TODD, *Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

House Sparrow Adopts Unusual Method of Feeding.—On the morning of November 8, 1928, while walking along a street near the north edge of the city of Sanford, Florida, I observed a European House Sparrow (*Passer d. domesticus*) clinging to the front of the radiator of a Model T Ford car which was parked at the curbing. Curious to know what the bird might be doing in such a position I stopped a moment to investigate.

During the autumn season butterflies are common along the roads in this section of Florida and motor cars that have been driven through the countryside often present a gaudy appearance when viewed head-on; for, usually from two to a dozen or more lepidoptera of various hues have become caught on the radiators.

This car was no exception in that its radiator carried two butterflies between the leaves supporting the radiator tubes. The Sparrow was busily engaged in extracting therefrom what appeared to be a pierid butterfly, and having successfully accomplished its purpose it flew away with its booty.—DAYTON STONER, *U. S. Entomological Laboratory, Sanford, Florida.*