

A Raven in Baltimore County, Maryland.—On November 8, 1929, a Raven was shot by Oliver B. Eckhart, at his home at Sunnybrook, Baltimore, Md., as it was feeding on a Pigeon. I did not hear of it until the 22nd and by the time I saw it the carcass had been dragged around and most of the body plumage stripped from the skin. The skeleton was however intact, and most of the wing and tail quills in position, while the bill and bristles at its base and the feet were in perfect condition.

I have been studying the birds of Maryland since 1880 and this is the first Raven I have come across although I am aware that they have been recorded from the mountains in the western counties.

On November 8, near my home, I saw a large bird flying over with a sailing and flapping flight which I supposed must be a Turkey Vulture although its outlines seemed different, and a day or two later I saw what I took to be the same bird. The idea of its being a Raven never occurred to me but this may have been the same bird that was shot by Mr. Eckhart.
—FRANK C. KIRKWOOD, R. S, Monkton, Maryland.

An Unusual Flight Manoeuvre of the Northern Raven.—While botanizing in the inland region of Holstensborg on the west coast of Greenland (1927) I had occasion to witness a clever flight manoeuvre of the Northern Raven (*Corvus corax principalis*). The Raven had aroused the wrath of a pair of Gyrfalcons (*Falco rusticolus islandus*) which were nesting in a nearby cliff, and was beating a hasty retreat accelerated by the repeated attacks of one of them.

It was flying toward the hill upon which I was standing and almost at my own level whereas the Falcon kept to a much higher altitude except when swooping down to attack. When the Raven had approached very near to my point of vantage (about thirty feet) the Falcon stopped its screaming and swept downward so swiftly that the air whistling through its wings could be heard distinctly. Much to my astonishment, just before it reached the Raven, the latter turned completely over on its back and glided upside down, with claws and beak extended toward the down-rushing Falcon. The birds met with a great confusion of sound and feathers only for a moment and then the Falcon flew skyward again. The Raven immediately righted itself and energetically made up for its small loss in altitude. That this defence manoeuvre was a normal tactic was shown by the Raven repeating the performance on three subsequent attacks.—CARL O. ERLANSON, Botany Department, University of Michigan.

Starlings in Western Illinois in Quantity.—It will be of interest to those who are recording the western migratory movement of Starlings to know that on September 21, 1929, a flock of black birds settled in the park lawn across from my home. Upon examining them with my glass, I found that sixty-three were Starlings. On more than a dozen other occasions I have seen individual birds or small flocks. Since winter has set in there have been Starling records every week. Just yesterday a

telephone call told of a flock of twenty-seven, one of which was caught and carried off by a Sharp-shinned Hawk, and on February 24, 1930, one was sent to me from Rutledge, fifty miles northwest of Quincy, by R. H. Ripperdam.

As yet I have been unable to record the nesting of this species in Adams County, but feel confident that with the increase in numbers as evidenced through the late summer and fall, I shall probably have this opportunity shortly.—T. E. MUSSELMAN, *Quincy, Illinois*.

Starling in Arkansas.—A European Starling, (*Sturnus vulgaris*) was observed on the University campus at Fayetteville January 25, 1930. The bird was secured for a specimen.

This appears to be the first record for Arkansas.—W. J. BAERG, *University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark.*

The Starling in Kansas.—The first authentic record of a Starling in Kansas came to us this month in the form of a bird that was found frozen to death in a silo on a farm in Allen County, just west of the town of Bronson, Kansas.

A student of this institution, O. Ireland, brought it here February 10. It was found at his home about February 1, after an extremely cold spell. The bird is preserved in our collection in the form of a skin.—C. D. BUNKER, *University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas*.

Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) on Long Island, New York.—While cooking lunch on the Long Island Sound beach, below the high sand banks of Wildwood State Park, Wading River, Long Island, on January 1, 1930, I heard a none too familiar whistle, and turned to see a pair of Evening Grosbeaks alight in the scrub growth above. The birds remained quiet, but watchful, while I clambered up toward them and examined them through glasses. Later they flew to the topmost twigs of a tall bare tree, where Mrs. Murphy and I watched them for some minutes.

The Evening Grosbeak has been recorded on Long Island before, though not for a considerable number of years. Moreover, in the visits of this species, "it never rains but it pours," and I suspect that this note will be but one of many sent in from the Eastern States.—ROBERT CUSHMAN MURPHY, *American Museum of Natural History, New York*.

Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona vespertina*) at Cape May, N. J.—On January 14, 1930, an Evening Grosbeak was found dead in a garden in Cape May, N. J., by Mr. Otway H. Brown of that place. He gave it to Mr. H. Walker Hand for transmittal to the Academy of Natural Sciences. Although it had evidently been dead for some days, Mr. Hand was able to skin it and it is now preserved in our collection.

This is not only the first record for the bird for Cape May but apparently a farthest south record for the species in the East, since Cape May is a trifle farther south than Washington, D. C., which so far as I am