

lemon colored or whitish iris extending from the then thick edge at the pupil entirely to the black sclera under the edge of the lids and orbit. This investigation of numerous Purple Grackles examined under a microscope definitely explains numerous contentions which have been debated at some length in 'The Auk.' All trapped birds with white irides were fully grown and with complete adult plumage. One male Grackle, A 361356, with coarse brown dots on the white iris was full size but had immature plumage—lesser wing coverts purple, median brown and the greater with tips purple iridescent. Measurements show the smaller birds to have more pigment and the larger birds a greater degree of whiteness. In banding at my residence there have been three per cent trap returns of Grackles banded as adults but no returns of birds banded when having a brown iris.—HAROLD B. WOOD, M.D., *Harrisburg, Pa.*

**The Summer Tanager Nesting Near Washington, D. C.**—During the course of our work on the early stages of the Gold-banded Skipper (*Rhabdoites cellus*) we visited once a week from May to the middle of July the woods just north of the unpaved section of the Conduit road about half a mile beyond the point where the paved road turns abruptly north up the hill to reach Great Falls (Md.) by a circuitous route.

In this general region we noted three pairs of Summer Tanagers (*Piranga rubra rubra*) constantly present and undoubtedly breeding.

The birds were not at all shy, and kept down in the lower branches of the trees in contrast to the Scarlet Tanager (*Piranga erythromelas*) which, though more numerous and constantly heard singing, was seldom seen.

Another interesting bird nesting in this region in fair numbers is the Kentucky Warbler (*Oporornis formosus*).—AUSTIN H. AND LEILA F. CLARK, *U. S. National Museum.*

**Eastern Evening Grosbeak (*Hesperiphona v. vespertina*) at Williamstown, Mass.**—The Evening Grosbeak was recorded for the first time in Williamstown, Mass., on March 19, 1916. Since then it has been a very occasional winter visitor till this year. During the extreme cold spell in the last week of December, 1933, a few appeared and were attracted to a feeding station at the home of John Treadway. The flock soon grew in numbers till forty were counted at one time. They came every day to feed on sunflower seeds and raw peanuts. By early February some also appeared at other feeding stations being seen chiefly in the early mornings. They continued to make daily visits in large numbers till the end of April, when the size of the flocks gradually diminished and they made their final visit May 24. As spring weather came on they uttered their call-notes with louder voice, were rather pugnacious among themselves and showed some courtship actions. They also made soft notes and trills that seemed like attempts at song. The yellow of the males became brighter and they were less conspicuous in leafy trees. In 'Birds of Massachusetts' Forbush gave May 20 as the last date of their appearance in this

state. Other authorities also class the Evening Grosbeak as an irregular winter or early spring visitor, so that this late record and their winter's residence seem worthy of note.—WM. J. CARTWRIGHT, *Williamstown, Mass.*

***Pinicola enucleator eschatosus* in Michigan and Ohio.**—In his recent revision of the Pine Grosbeaks of eastern North America (Proc. New England Zool. Club, 14, pp. 5–12, Feb. 12, 1934) Ludlow Griscom has greatly extended the range of *Pinicola enucleator eschatosus* Oberholser. But his statement that “the larger, interior bird [*leucura*] is the only form in the interior of the continent in winter, from western Ontario west to Alberta, and from western Pennsylvania to Nebraska” is apparently incorrect. A couple of years ago Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd called to my attention the fact that *eschatosus* is a valid form with a larger range than that indicated by its describer (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash., 27, 1914, p. 51) and, not knowing of Mr. Griscom's undertaking, I made a rather extended study of the species in Michigan and Ohio and was surprised to find *eschatosus* the more common winter visitant to this region.

In at least the southern part of Michigan and in Ohio Pine Grosbeaks are rare, but I have had for study forty-six specimens from this area in the collection of the University of Michigan Museum of Zoology. In addition I am indebted to Mr. Charles F. Walker, of the Ohio State Museum at Columbus, for the use of six specimens in that collection, and to Mr. A. D. Tinker, Dr. Max M. Peet, Dr. Miles D. Pirnie, Prof. J. W. Stack of Michigan State College, and Mr. Colin C. Sanborn of the Field Museum of Natural History for the use of additional material in their respective collections.

I have examined the following skins of Pine Grosbeaks from Ohio and find that they all belong to the subspecies *eschatosus*:

- 1 ♀ Fulton Co., Port Clinton. March 19, 1904. Dr. A. Hitchcock.
- 1 ♀ Fulton Co., Royalton Township. Nov. 16, 1933. Milton B. Trautman.
- 2 ♂, 1 ♀ Lucas Co., Swanton Township. Nov. 27, 1933. Bernard R. Campbell.

In order to determine the status of these subspecies in Michigan I have examined specimens from the following collections: University of Michigan (46), Max M. Peet (4), A. D. Tinker (3), Michigan State College (2), Miles D. Pirnie (1), Ohio State (1), Field Museum (1). Of these fifty-eight specimens, thirty-nine are referable to *eschatosus*, fifteen to *leucura*, two are intermediate, and two are immature. On the basis of these specimens I find no geographical segregation of the two subspecies in Michigan in winter. We have fair evidence that the Pine Grosbeak breeds on Isle Royale (Peet—Rep. Mich. Geol. Surv. for 1908, p. 364) and in Ontonagon County (Koelz—Wilson Bull., 35, 1923, p. 58). Specimens taken at both of these points in mid-August are in the University Museum, but both are immature females, making subspecific determination difficult. Also both birds are full-winged and could conceivably have flown some distance.