

as they were rolled about by the waves, and all appeared to be in an exhausted condition. The birds seen on the Keys were, of course, of this species.

This is a parallel case to the Dovekie invasion of south Florida in December, 1932, but differs in that there has been no stormy period which would have brought these far-northern birds to the tropical zone. The writer knows of no record about Charleston, South Carolina (where he resides), and none for Georgia, though there may be some unreported. There was a report made to the Charleston Museum that many Dovekies had been seen off Cape Hatteras in December, 1936, but this is some hundreds of miles north of Charleston and far indeed from the lower east coast of Florida. The occurrence of the Dovekie in the latter locality is no less than phenomenal, and constitutes an amazing circumstance.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R.F.D. 1, Charleston, S. C.*

Simoxenops proposed for Anachilus.—My colleague, Dr. W. Meise, of the Staatliche Museen für Tierkunde und Völkerkunde, Dresden, kindly calls my attention to the fact that my *Anachilus* (*Amer. Mus. Novitates*, no. 332, p. 11, Oct. 31, 1928) proposed for a new genus of furnariine bird from Perú, is preoccupied by *Anachilus* Leconte (*Smithsonian Misc. Coll.*, vol. 3, no. 3, p. 175, 1861) in Coleoptera. I therefore propose to replace *Anachilus* with **Simoxenops**.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

Arkansas Kingbird on Matinicus Isle, Maine.—From September 1 to 3, 1936, I visited Matinicus Isle, which is twenty miles out at sea from Rockland, Maine. Matinicus is a famous center for the study of sea birds; William Dutcher, H. K. Job, T. Gilbert Pearson, and others have made observations there. Apparently rare species not maritime may also blow in. It is interesting to note that Ernest Young of Matinicus says that he and a few others saw a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) there in June, 1936. Mr. Young says it was observed for several hours, and he accurately describes the snapping of the scissor-tail.

On September 1, I found an Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) on a wire fence by the shore with five Eastern Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). For about fifteen minutes I observed the bird with eight-power binoculars, from a distance of twenty feet. When I came nearer the Eastern Kingbirds flew away, but the Arkansas Kingbird remained; so I walked up to within eight feet and took a picture of it. The camera was a miniature, a Kodak Vollenda. The enlarged print shows the bird very plainly, making identification certain from the photograph alone. After the bird left the fence it would no longer allow a close approach. It was still in the vicinity on September 3.

Arthur H. Norton of the Portland Society of Natural History has very kindly provided me with the records of the Arkansas Kingbird in Maine. It has been collected three times: at Eliot in October, 1864 (*Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club*, vol. 1, p. 73, 1876); at Woolwich on November 24, 1925 (*Haven, Auk*, vol. 43, p. 371, 1926); and at Biddeford Pool on November 3, 1935 (*Robbins, Bull. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.*, no. 78, p. 74, 1936). There have been four sight records: at Hallowell from November 12, 1920, to January 15, 1921 (*Miller, Auk*, vol. 38, p. 603, 1921); at Cutt's Island, Kittery, on August 25, 1925 (*Townsend, Auk*, vol. 43, p. 99, 1926); at Saco from December 1 to 6, 1925 (*Abbott, Maine Naturalist*, vol. 5, p. 166, 1926); and at Somesville, Mount Desert Island, on September 10, 1934 (*Tousey, Bird-Lore*, vol. 36, p. 369, 1934). A record substantiated by a photograph seems to fall in a class by itself.—ARTHUR W. KUSCHKE, JR., *181 North Franklin St., Wilkes Barre, Penna.*

The Status of *Telmatodytes palustris iliacus*.—A few years ago while working on the natural history of the Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Telmatodytes palustris*) the

writer attempted to establish the ranges of the various forms. In studying skins of these races it became apparent that *T. p. dissaëptus* Bangs could be divided into two readily recognizable groups. The western birds have lighter-colored upper parts and much brighter cinnamon-buff to cinnamon flanks and sides than the eastern birds. In winter plumage the 'foxy' brown is a very good distinguishing mark as it is strikingly different from the russet or wood brown of the eastern group. The western birds were described by Ridgway as *T. p. iliacus* and this form unquestionably should be recognized as distinct from *T. p. dissaëptus*.

Summer specimens of *T. p. iliacus* were examined from: English Lake, Indiana; Lake Koshkonog, Wisconsin; Staples, Verndale, St. Cloud, and Minneapolis, Minnesota; Rock Lake, North Dakota; Omaha, Lincoln, and Jamaica, Nebraska; Charleston, Missouri; Shoal Lake, Manitoba. Summer specimens of *T. p. dissaëptus* were examined from: Wayland, Massachusetts; Ithaca, North Spencer, Fairview, and Montezuma, New York; Erie, Pennsylvania; Perry and Fairfield Counties, Ohio. The average measurements of twenty-nine adult males of *T. p. dissaëptus* were: wing, 52.01 mm.; tail, 41.88; exposed culmen, 14.50; tarsus, 19.79. The average measurements of fourteen adult males of *T. p. iliacus* were: wing, 51.14 mm.; tail, 42.15; exposed culmen, 14.43; tarsus, 19.82. *Iliacus* is a slightly smaller bird as is also indicated by body weight. Thirteen specimens of *dissaëptus* averaged 12.98 grams while eight specimens of *iliacus* averaged 12.52 grams.—WILFRED A. WELTER, *State Teachers College, Morehead, Kentucky*.

Notes on Starling spread and migration.—Much has been written on the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in America. One of the most interesting problems it presents is the development of definite migratory movements correlated with its spread and increase in numbers. We have here set before us a large-scale experiment bearing on the origin of bird migration such as is not likely to be repeated for many years. The more attention the problem receives at this time, the more fully shall we have availed ourselves of this opportunity. Not only should more data be gathered but the facts already assembled should be fully discussed, so that none that is pertinent will be overlooked.

A most significant contribution to the understanding of Starling migration is to be found in a map of recoveries of Starlings banded at a concentration point in Ohio (Thomas, *Bird Banding*, vol. 5, p. 121, 1934) from which we see that there is a considerable inland movement in a northeast-southwest direction. It is at once apparent first, that this migration does not follow any probable line of invasion by the bird in its spread from New York City; second, that it does follow the common direction of European migration.

To understand Starling spread and movements, relative numbers at all points in the bird's range are important. We fortunately have some such winter data for the past in 'Bird-Lore' census reports, and these have been compiled for me in tabular form by Hope R. Bennett, and are now being studied. Furthermore, the Starling is so conspicuous and easily identifiable, that the estimated numbers per mile noticed over any considerable distance (say 100 miles) travelled by rail or road at various seasons should give a fairly reliable index of comparative abundance in different sections. The winter concentration as shown in 'Bird-Lore' Christmas Census reports in the early stage of the bird's spread is of much interest. Its numbers expanded in a northeast-southwest direction. It invaded Connecticut, Long Island and New Jersey almost simultaneously and was delayed in its advance up the Hudson Valley. It appeared in Connecticut and New Jersey in the 1904 Census and had reached Pennsylvania in that of 1908.