

Griscom returned at 10 a.m. with Mr. Francis H. Allen, having secured special permission from the owners of the property to collect it. It was found after a two-hour search, promptly shot, and presented to the Boston Society of Natural History, where it is now mounted and on exhibition.

This bird is new to the State, and emphasizes a most unexpected condition of affairs. Forbush gives several sight records of 'Yellow-throated' Warblers for Massachusetts, but in no case is there any evidence that the subspecies was competently identified or that the attempt was made. Indeed, the assumption that such stragglers would be the southeastern rather than the Mississippi Valley race would almost seem justified as a matter of common sense. Nevertheless the facts are that the two specimens in existence from New England are Sycamore Warblers (cf. the Connecticut record in Forbush)! There is consequently no definite record of the Yellow-throated Warbler for Massachusetts, and we have here an ideal example of the advantage of collecting an accidental straggler, and the disadvantage attached to sight records, no matter how honestly and conscientiously made.—RICHARD H. TOUSEY AND LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Yellow-headed Blackbird at Monomoy, Massachusetts.—On Sunday, August 30, 1936, a large party explored Monomoy, hoping for a shore-bird flight after the violent east and southeasterly gale of the preceding day. Present besides the writer were J. A. Hagar, the State Ornithologist, Oliver K. Scott, John P. Bishop, David L. Garrison, Mr. and Mrs. Richard C. Curtis, Mrs. Malcolm Maclay and Mrs. Fuller. Across a certain sand flat the water's edge was obscured by some patches of tall Spartina grass, and dodging in and out were a small flock of sandpipers, which we were studying, hoping to find an unusual species. The incident is of interest psychologically, as we were 'shore-bird minded.' All but Mr. Garrison, therefore, overlooked a pile of straw topped by a piece of driftwood on the flat half-way to the water's edge. Sitting on top of the driftwood, in plain sight and close range, was an adult female Yellow-headed Blackbird (*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*), just beginning to moult! It was rather tame and approached still closer, so that everyone had a perfect observation of a striking and conspicuously colored bird. According to Forbush, three specimens have been collected in this State, and there is another unquestionable sight record. The date of our observation is quite reasonable, since New England occurrences run from July to mid-October.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.*

Dickcissel at Ipswich, Massachusetts.—On January 5, 1936, a Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) appeared at the feeding-boards of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Dubois, in Ipswich, Massachusetts, with House Sparrows, and was a daily visitor there until April 19. The Massachusetts Audubon Society was notified of the strange visitor, and at the suggestion of Mr. Francis H. Allen, the writer visited Ipswich on January 26 and identified the bird. This was confirmed the following day by Messrs. Ludlow Griscom and S. Gilbert Emilio. In Nuttall's time, a century ago, the Dickcissel was a rare visitor and for the last fifty years has practically passed out of the record east of the Allegheny Mountains. The Ipswich bird proved a popular attraction, for during the period that it remained, 275 visitors from Massachusetts and points at greater distances, registered in Mrs. Dubois's guest book.—GEORGE BAKER LONG, *11 Beacon St., Boston, Mass.*