

Ornith. Club, 12, 1902:25) and Trent (Brit. Birds, 7, 1914:268). These records are noted by Witherby *et al.* (Handbook British Birds, 3, 1939:296) with the following comment: "These may have been wild birds, but since 'water-fowl' are kept in semicaptivity sometimes without even being properly identified, it seems inadvisable to admit this duck to the list . . ." At the time our specimen was taken, it is safe to say there were no estates with semicaptive waterfowl within even a very great distance of "Oregon."

The specimen is somewhat foxed and the skin apparently was stretched over too large an amount of stuffing originally, causing the brown basal areas of the feathers of the underparts to show more extensively than in any of the others with which it has been compared and giving it a more brownish, less whitish ventral aspect.—HERBERT FRIEDMANN, *United States National Museum, Washington, D.C., July 26, 1948.*

The Dickcissel in California.—The Dickcissel, a species indigenous to the midwestern United States, has not previously been recorded in California. There are, however, records of accidental occurrence in New Mexico, Arizona, and Lower California.

On September 29, 1948, Mrs. Norris Kittinger of Santa Monica, California, inquired by telephone about the identify of a strange bird which had come to her feeding station. I was unable to identify the bird from her preliminary description and called her again the following day. At this time she informed me that not only was the bird still there but that she had succeeded in capturing it alive. According to her, the bird first made its appearance at 5 p.m. on September 29, 1948. It was observed sitting near the feed box and did not appear to be wary, but it refused to enter the box until all the other birds had left. It preened itself for a while and then entered and fed.

On September 30, 1948, at Mrs. Kittinger's request, I went to Santa Monica and closely examined the captive. It proved to be an adult male Dickcissel (*Spiza americana*) in beautiful, fresh-fall plumage. Its legs were fresh and clean in appearance and gave no sign of having been confined in an aviary. The bird was extremely wild and refused to sit still upon the perch for even a second, another characteristic which would seem to indicate that it had not previously been confined in a cage. The freshly molted plumage was typical of the male of the species except that the black throat patch, instead of being very pronounced, consisted of a scattering of black-tipped feathers. The supraocular stripe was very yellow. During the course of my half-hour study of the bird, it hopped continuously from one perch to another, uttering a solitary, sharp chirping note every few seconds.

On October 9, 1948, Mrs. Kittinger informed me that she had changed her mind about keeping the bird and had liberated it, thus closing the story of the first Dickcissel for California.—KENNETH E. STAGER, *Los Angeles Museum, Los Angeles, California, October 14, 1948.*

Eye-color of the Green Jay in Mexico.—Three Green Jays (*Xanthoura yncas*) which we collected in Mexico in 1947 throw further light on the distribution of the yellow-eyed and brown-eyed forms discussed by Sutton (Condor, 49, 1947:196-198). A male which Edwards took approximately four miles northwest of Potrero, which is near Córdoba, Veracruz, had bright yellow irides. This substantiates Sutton's belief that Fuertes may have had experience with yellow-eyed Green Jays in the vicinity of Córdoba. In plumage coloration our Potrero specimen is intermediate between *X. y. luxuosa* and *vivida*. Also yellow-eyed was a male which Edwards collected in Chiapas near the Hacienda Monserrate, about forty miles north of Arriaga. It appears to be *vivida* in the decidedly yellowish tinge of the belly and reduced amount of green in the under tail coverts.

Lea secured a brown-eyed male along the Rio Sabinas near Gómez Farias, Tamaulipas. It is the least yellowish of our three specimens, appearing to be typical *luxuosa*. Individuals which we were able to observe closely in the field at this locality were all dark-brown eyed.—ROBERT B. LEA, *Northwestern University Medical School, Chicago, Illinois*, and ERNEST P. EDWARDS, *Laboratory of Ornithology, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, July 24, 1948.*

The Oven-bird and the American Redstart in Imperial Valley, California.—A female Oven-bird (*Seiurus aurocapillus*) was collected by us on October 3, 1948, near the southern end of Salton Sea, Imperial County, California. The bird was first observed in a tamarisk tree. The specimen is now no. 676 in the Cardiff Collection and is the third thus far taken in southern California.