

very pale yellow (approaching massicot yellow), which was of so pale a tint that it could easily be overlooked.† Whether this color is really unusual or is so ephemeral that bird-skins do not show it, is an interesting question.

Other cases of color-distribution noted, perhaps worth mentioning, occurred on the heads of three birds-of-the-year seen at our Cohasset station during late June and July. On July 2nd a female showed a squarish patch, extending from the forehead along the crown and occiput, of white faintly speckled with black, the blended color appearing light grayish or nearly white.

During July two other young birds at this station had the crown and occiput bright scarlet. Attention is called to the intensity and the extent of the color. A close view showed a sprinkling of black feathers among the highly-colored ones. These patches of color were worn into September, the first evidence of molt being noticed on September 10th, when shrinkage of the crown scarlet area was observed, the loss of feathers taking place laterally. Our notes at a later date in September read: "Young male Downy at station with scarlet crown-patch reduced to an occipital fringe with nape assuming the color of maturity."—C. L. WHITTLE, Cohasset, Mass.

Birds of New York.—The State Museum of the University of the State of New York announces a reprint edition of the 106 colored plates of the "Birds of New York," by Fuertes, in portfolio form. The set of plates can be bought for \$1.20, of which 20c. is for postage, (in Canada \$1.40.) All banders should have this portfolio.

Address: Finance Division, The University of the State of New York, Albany, New York.

The picture on the cover of this number shows an adult Common Murre (above) and several young ones at a characteristic breeding-place in the open.

The photograph was taken on an island about twelve miles southwest of Harrington Harbor, Saguenay County, Quebec, on August 12, 1923, by Harrison F. Lewis. Published by courtesy of Canadian National Parks.

Notes at a Connecticut Banding Station.—November 22, 1925, marked a three-year period of bird-banding for me, a wonderfully interesting three years. This work, with the aid of good text-books, is a wonderful education in ornithology and a delightful sport as well.

Of the 519 birds banded during this period, including 49 species, I have had returns from 24 birds, in part shown below. The Wood Thrushes show one of the largest percentages of returns. These were practically all banded during the first summer season: for some unknown reason they do not frequent my yard now. The White-throated Sparrows, which are common with me during the fall, winter, and spring, and repeat in considerable numbers, show the smallest percentage of returns. It was inter-

† This species occasionally shows, in particular during winter and spring, a darkening of the plumage, noticeable on all the white areas easily observable, a phenomenon probably due in part to contact with the bark of trees. The color disappears with the postnuptial molt. It may be urged that the yellow color in question is likewise due to contamination of some sort, but it seems unlikely that its distribution, including even the under-wing lining, and its uniformity can be accidental.