

**And Now the Devil-Wagon!**—Verily, the menaces of civilization to bird life move on apace; they multiply. The automobile, a menace to civilization itself, is proving very destructive to land birds of many species. I live in the country in Cohasset, Massachusetts. Near my house the road for two to three hundred feet passes the edge of a woods, and on the opposite side is a pasture having many Juniper trees. Autos speed along this highway at an unforgivable rate. During the last two spring seasons I have found dead and mangled birds killed by them in the section of the road referred to, and others have brought such birds to me. The species known to have been killed thus far consist of the Woodcock, Robin, Purple Finch, Yellow Warbler, and the Wood Thrush. Doubtless only a part of the birds so destroyed have come to my attention. In the State of Massachusetts alone bird fatalities from this source no doubt reach annually an alarming total. Such destruction I believe takes place in the main during the courting and egg-laying period, for at this season the jealous quarrels of the males and their feverish chasing of the females results in a total absence of the natural caution displayed at other seasons of the year; intent upon their quarrels or in pursuing the females, the birds may even be run over in the road or as they fly heedlessly into or in front of passing machines.—CHARLES L. WHITTLE

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**A Migrant Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*) Visits a Banding Station.**—My small drop-side trap on my window-shelf, with a contained Chickadee, was scarcely tripped (December 28, 1925) when a large bird (in comparison with the regular visitants) flew down to the trap, then flew about a foot above it and hovered on whirring wings. I opened the window to scare him away but he refused to be frightened. He would merely fly away a few feet and immediately return to within ten or twelve inches of my head.

I then thought that I might catch him by throwing a towel over him, but this plan proved unsuccessful, so I went outside the house. The instant that I withdrew from the window, the Shrike alighted on the trap and attempted to strike the trapped Chickadee through the wire. As I approached the trap from outside, the Shrike repeated the actions shown when I was attempting to frighten him away from inside the house. By manoeuvring I succeeded in driving him through the open window into the house. On entering, after closing the window, I found him clinging to a window on the opposite side of the room, where I caught him and placed him in a box for further study. He was given cooked beef and water. The meat was refused, but he drank much water. I kept the bird over night and was surprised in the morning to find it dead, so it was taken to the Boston Museum of Natural History, where Mr. John D. Smith identified it as a Migrant Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus migrans*), a male in fine plumage.

This species has been rarely taken in Massachusetts. Dr. Glover M. Allen and Reginald Heber Howe (see *The Birds of Massachusetts* p. 87) enumerated (up to 1901) one nesting pair and nine records of single birds.

Dr. Allen (see "Occasional Papers of the Boston Society of Natural History No. VII, Fauna of New England, List of Birds," p. 177) reports that at least one pair has been known to nest in three other New England States, Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont, and that this race of the Loggerhead Shrike is "very rare" in winter in Massachusetts.—Mrs. AMY E. MATHERS, North Middleboro, Mass.