

Bronzed Grackle (*Quiscalus q. quiscula*) adult female—A416853, banded April 22, 1931, returned May 14, 1938, and due to wearing, changed to new band 37-353168.

Bronzed Grackle adult male—A416864, banded April 25, 1931, returned June 14, 1933, May 23, 1935 (changed band at that date to 34-300364) May 14, 1937 and May 11, 1938.

Bronzed Grackle adult male—A416960, banded May 31, 1931, returned April 27, 1937 (changed band at that date to 34-355745) and May 29, 1938.

Bronzed Grackle adult female—B326515, banded June 12, 1932, returned April 27, 1934 and May 13, 1938.

Bronzed Grackle adult female—B326413, banded May 3, 1932, returned May 14, 1938.

Translated into years this means that three of the grackles were at least 8 or more years old, two more were at least 7 years old, and one Blue Jay also at least 7 years of age.—CHRISTIAN J. GOETZ, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Three Returns Killed by Automobiles in East Westmoreland, New Hampshire.—Along a stretch of road before my home in East Westmoreland, New Hampshire, three-fifths of a mile long, three returns of my banded birds were killed by automobiles between May 17th and June 14th, 1938. The first to succumb was a Least Flycatcher (*Empidonax minimus*), banded May 31, 1933, an adult female. She was a Return-1, June 25, 1934 and a Return-2 when killed. The second bird killed was a Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*). This bird was banded as an adult, September 6, 1935 and was a Return-1 September, 1936, and a Return-2 May 27, 1938. The third fatality was an Eastern Chipping Sparrow (*Spizella p. passerrina*) that was banded September 16, 1936 and found dead June 14, 1938, a Return-1.—LEWIS O. SHELLEY, East Westmoreland, New Hampshire.

Chimney Swifts in Buildings.—Since Chimney Swifts (*Chætura pelagica*) occupy a portion of our buildings, it is not surprising that they should more frequently be found in our living rooms, bed rooms, attics, and cellars than other species of birds. While we assume that in these cases they simply go too far down the chimney and gain access to the house through the fire-place or furnace, this may not always be the case.

Recently I watched a flock of Swifts going to roost in a chimney. It was a cool evening and a small fire had been lighted that day for the first time since the previous spring. When about twenty-five Swifts had entered, I saw a few fly out again. Then one by one they continued to emerge and fly away. At dusk the last one came out, but instead of seeking a new chimney, it fluttered against a window of the attic of the same house. If the window had been open, it would certainly have entered the attic and spent the night there.

I believe that this behavior is a relic of the Chimney Swift's former habit of roosting in hollow trees. It is likely that if a Swift found the main hollow overcrowded or unsatisfactory for any reason, it could often find lodging in one of the side branches. This hollow would probably communicate with the main central one, and the Swift would not feel cut off from the rest of the colony. How are Swifts to know now that our attics do not communicate directly with our chimneys?

The Swifts that I have found in cellars, furnaces, or at the base of ventilating shafts have usually been diseased. "Foot disease" may have robbed them of the ability to cling to the bricks and mortar by depriving them of most of their toenails, or other diseases may have weakened them until they dropped down exhausted.

But the Swifts that I have found in the upper stories of houses were usually healthy birds, and I believe, on the basis of the above observation and theory, that they had entered the houses intentionally.

Since many banding returns are derived from Chimney Swifts found in buildings, it would be worthwhile to ascertain in each case what part of the building was involved.—C. BROOKE WORTH, Department of Zoölogy, Swarthmore College, Swarthmore, Pennsylvania.