

Neumayer, *Intenr. Polar-forsch.*, I, 1891, Appendix p. 101). H. F. Moeschler brought it repeatedly into trade during most of the different seasons from Labrador (catalogues from 1854 to 1880). Macoun says that specimens are known from Davis Strait (I, p. 85), and Winge also states that this species has been taken many times in western Greenland (*Groenlands Fugle*, 1898, p. 78). On the other hand, Missionary Perrett

noted only one occurrence at Maggovik. I received the skin of a juvenile male of September, 1904, at Hoffenthal, the same place where Townsend and Allen also saw two specimens (1907, p. 328).

My specimen has the following measurements:
Wing: 257 mm. Tail: 125. Bill: 52. Tarsi 42. Middle toe including the 7 mm. long claw: 52 mm.

(To be continued)

NOTES AND OBSERVATIONS

FURTHER NOTE ON THE BRONZED GRACKLE AS A FISHERMAN.—I might add a recent observation to the interesting notes of Messrs. L. L. Snyder and P. A. Taverner which were in the February, 1928, issue of *The Naturalist*. On March the 24th, I saw some twenty Bronzed Grackles on the sandy bank of a small stream flowing into Grenadier Pond, High Park, Toronto. They were busily stabbing at something in the shallow water at the edge. Through my glasses I could see that each bird was making a little pile on the sand of that which he took from the water. I watched the nearest bird until he had gathered several together and was about to eat them, as I had seen his fellows do with their piles. Making a great commotion, I frightened all the birds away and examined the intended lunch. It consisted of several specimens of the Amphipod *Gammarus fasciatus* Say*. These are freshwater Crustaceans living on the bottoms of small streams. They are brownish in colour, about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch long, with laterally flattened bodies, and swim from the deeper water to bask in the sun in the shallower. And here they were interrupted by the Grackles.—LORUS J. MILNE.

Determined by Dr. E. M. Walker, Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology.

FURTHER NOTES ON THE STARLING IN ONTARIO.—The object of the following remarks is to place on record two instances of the occurrence of the Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) in Ontario, which extend considerably northward of the range of this species in this province.

On the map showing the distribution of the Starling in Ontario as known at May, 1926, appearing in Harrison F. Lewis's excellent and timely publication*, the most northern record of its occurrence in the province is given as at Orillia in Simcoe county. No further extension of its range northward was reported until February 15, 1927, when a notice appeared in the *Toronto Globe* of that date by Dr. J. W. Marshall of Thessalon, Algoma district, in which he reports a Starling

having been found dead at Thessalon about February 10. The bird was turned over to him for identification and was sent to the store of O. Spanner and Co., Toronto, where it was mounted and subsequently returned to its owner. Dr. Marshall stated that the bird was found on a day on which the thermometer registered 42° below zero. The appearance of this Starling in mid-winter so far north of the known range of the species (Thessalon being approximately 230 miles northwest of Orillia) is remarkable. Since no further reports of Starlings have been received from Thessalon or vicinity, the above occurrence can only be considered as accidental.

At North Bay, however, which is approximately 120 miles due north of Orillia, the Starling appeared for the first time in the spring of 1927 and by so doing constituted a clear case of a considerable northward extension of range. I am indebted to Mr. C. Ramsay, of the Normal School, North Bay, for the information which enables me to place this occurrence on record. Mr. Ramsay, in a letter to me dated April 2, 1928, says: "... during the spring of 1927 I came across seven pairs of Starlings, nesting in places just outside of the city. Two nests were in old flickers' holes in telegraph poles, the others in holes in old elm trees. I cannot say whether they have spent the winter here. I have seen none in the city..." Mr. William Ricker informs me that he and Mr. Ramsay saw a flock of 10 Starlings near North Bay in mid-September, after which none were seen.

Mr. Lewis (*loc. cit.*) has recorded a flock of 500 to 600 Starlings, noted at Beamsville, Lincoln county, on April 5, 1926, by J. I. Merritt, as the largest flock of these birds to be reported anywhere in Ontario up to that time. A flock of about the same size (estimated to contain approximately 500 birds) has been reported to me by Mr. Allan Twining and may be worth recording here in view of the fact that the bird was unknown in Ontario until less than 10 years ago. This



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