

of the seeds. Almost at the same moment I heard a soft and very melodious *cheep*, and on looking up into the tree I beheld a flock of thirty-nine of these strangely beautiful birds. They were very silent and quite unsuspicious. Only now and then a soft *cheep-cheep* was uttered by one or the other of the party. When they were alarmed they uttered a rather sharp and quick *chip* and then all took wing. One morning I found a few on a mountain ash where they evidently were feeding on the seeds of the dry fruit. They were only seen early in the morning, never later in the day. In the West Park, a place where the birds are always protected, they were rather abundant during the months mentioned.—H. NEHRLING, *Milwaukee, Wisc.*

Feeding Habits of the Pine Siskin.—Mrs. W. C. Horton, president of the Brattleboro, Vt., Bird Club (a branch of the American Society of Bird Restorers), and a member of this Society's patrol, reports that on April 14 of this year, Pine Siskins (*Spinus pinus*) were observed feeding on the seeds of cones in a pine grove near her Brattleboro home. Two young Siskins were also noted, apparently just out of the nest. These youngsters were assiduously fed by at least one of the parents, but with *what* was not clear. Several feedings occurred and between them the parent procured no visible supply of food. To the observers it seemed highly probable that the feeding was done by regurgitation.—FLETCHER OSGOOD, *Boston, Mass.*

Large Flight of White-winged Crossbills on Long Island, N. Y.—The Red Crossbills, *Loxia curvirostra minor*, are more or less regular in their appearance on Long Island each year and occasionally breed there, but the presence of the White-winged Crossbill, *Loxia leucoptera*, is of such rare occurrence, that I consider their appearance in such large numbers during the past fall and winter worthy of note.

Capt. James G. Scott presented me with a fine adult male of this species that he shot on the 7th of November from a flock of seven or eight at Montauk Point, L. I. The next evidence of their presence that came to my notice was on the 20th of November, when I met with them in large numbers. Between Mount Sinai Harbor and Long Island is a long strip of beach and low sand ridges; on the harbor side these are covered with a scattering growth of bushes and dwarfed red cedars. The hills on the eastern side of the harbor are covered with a thick growth of red cedars, and it was in this vicinity that most of the birds were noticed. There was a strong northwest wind blowing at the time and the birds were flying very low, many of them just clearing the tops of the trees and bushes. Most of the birds were noticed between 9 A. M. and 12 M. During this time thousands of Pine Finches, Goldfinches and White-winged Crossbills were passing westward, occasionally in mixed flocks, but each species appearing to keep in groups by themselves. Between the hours men-



1900. "Feeding Habits of the Pine Siskin." *The Auk* 17, 295–295.
<https://doi.org/10.2307/4069125>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54122>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2307/4069125>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/89718>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.