

*Pinicola  
enucleator*

By 97.41.9 (18)

v. 20

Correspondence relating to the Great Flight of  
1892-1893.

April 3-93

Wm. C. Cott

Water

Sask. N. W. 3

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes they were quite plenty  
about the Timbes on the  
Saskatchewan River

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

About the first of Jan  
on the flight South

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

25 to 30

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small flocks as a rule  
8 to 12

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

about one quarter

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Box Elder Seeds

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

about the 10<sup>th</sup> of Jan. &  
the last I saw was on the  
14<sup>th</sup> the spring flight has not set in yet -

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Acknowledged  
17 Feb 1893  
J. H. H. H.

March 4<sup>th</sup> 1893.

Wm Brewster, Esq.

Dear Sir:-

At your request I have been trying to gather what information I could concerning Pinicola enucleator this winter, and to obtain better results, I read your printed circular, before a recent meeting of the Ornithological Subsection of the Canadian Institute but as I have been engaged so steadily for some time past I have not been able to answer you, but I trust what little I have to say may be of some use yet. For my own part I have seen none at all this season

Feb. 10 - 1893

-with letter of  
same date

Prof. John Macoun

Ottawa

Ont. Canada

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

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1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Only one has been seen or heard  
of this winter.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
  
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
  
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
  
6. What was their principal food when with you?
  
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

ansd

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA

Alfred R. C. Selwyn, C. M. S., L. L. D., F. R. S.

DEPUTY HEAD AND DIRECTOR,

MUSEUM AND OFFICE, SUSSEX STREET, OTTAWA.

Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> 1893

Dear Mr. Brewster

I take the liberty of writing a line in connection with my shoot note.

As you may not be aware that I have been gathering material for an annotated list of our Canadian birds I may mention incidentally that I now know and have skins of all the birds passing north from Manitoba to the Pacific.

In 1889 I had a man at Hearings B. L. while Strata was at Westminster Junction and I advised Mr. Strata of Ashcroft and Ouelks. My points at the same time were Spence's Bridge and Hearings. I obtained more birds (species) than he did. In 1890 I had the same man three months at Revelstoke B. L. from early in April. In 1891 the same man spent four months at Banff. and last year was three months at Indian Head west of Manitoba. This year he starts in March at Victoria on Vancouver Island. I have done this so as to get the early and late migrants and now know most of them. If you will see them that I have not been asleep but botany was my

Postmarked Feb. 9

J. W. Banks

Summer St.

St. John N. B.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

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1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen

Dec' 11<sup>th</sup> saw 2 feeding on the berries of the bush honeysuckle (*Lonicera tripartita*)

Most numerous Dec' 18<sup>th</sup>

Dec' 18 I saw a Butcher-bird  
pounce into a flock of about  
25- (He missed)

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Between 40 and 50 in a walk  
of a mile and a half

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

As a rule the flocks were  
small but on several occasions  
I saw flocks of 25-

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Not more than one in 10  
of old males

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Rowan berries (Mountain Ash)

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

about the 15<sup>th</sup> of January they had  
disappeared but on Jan' 28<sup>th</sup>  
I saw 3 (last seen)

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Postmarked! Feb. 9)

A. A. P. Smith

Digby

Nova Scotia

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes an <sup>un</sup>usual number

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen about 15<sup>th</sup> December  
Most numerous about same date

Three Saw-whets were very tame even more than usual. I noticed they fed on the buds of the Sycamore as well as those of the maple. Not in one instance did I see a full-plumaged male, though there were quite a lot of young males among them.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

About Fifty

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In flocks of about 20.

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

Very few males, mostly young and females

6. What was their principal food when with you?

The buds of the white maple

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

They remained here about two weeks—

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Acknowledged)

7.8.13

Ernest D. Mintle

11 Hospital Street

Montreal, Canada

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Have not seen or heard of any occurring this winter (1892-3) in or around the City of Montreal, a remarkable absence as they are generally common during the winter months in the city.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

About a half dozen were seen by a friend of mine (Mrs. Anetha Inglis of Montreal) at St. Columban P.Q. 40 m. N.W. of Montreal, January 28/93.

This winter has been remarkable for the long spell of cold weather during the months of January and February.

Twenty-two consecutive days in fact zero to 18° below in the city and much colder in the District.

I am inclined to think that the Pine Grosbeak is not deterred from visiting this district on account of severe cold winters, but through the scarcity of their favorite food here, the Mountain Ash berries. The Great Horned Owl has been plentiful here this winter, and I have procured some very dark specimens which I presume are "saturatus" but on the other hand, the Snowy Owl is very scarce, only one seen, 20<sup>th</sup> Dec last, last winter the latter were plentiful here also Pine Grosbeaks, Purple Finches, Redpolls Cedar Waxwings, and Robins, but it was a prolific season for Mountain Ash berries. W.B. Feb 13/93.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

About half dozen.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small flocks, 1/2 doz.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

1 or 2 red.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Mountain Ash berries, but no berries on the trees this winter which probably accounts for their absence here this season.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Winter of 1892-3

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Unusual abundance of the Grosbeak  
in Eastern Massachusetts.

By J. A. Bowles, Ponkapoag, Mass.

See article on the above in "Science".

January 13/93.

EDM.

Dear Sir,

I hope to see an article  
on the unusual numbers of the Pine  
Grosbeak this winter in Mass, by  
you, published in "The Auk".

Yours respectfully  
Ernest D. Mittle.

Wm Brewster Esq

P.S. Many thanks for your  
subscription to "The Birds of Montreal."

EDM.

Postmarked, Feb. 22

PL 9

Harry Piers,  
"Stamyan", Willow Park,  
Halifax, N. S.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

They were most numerous about November 28, 1892 — were here some time before and some time after. Were very tame, about thirteen being captured in a short time with a net at the extremity of a long stick.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock? *Only one flock came under my own observation, but the ~~birds~~<sup>species</sup> were also fairly common at other places near Halifax. The flock I noted consisted of about thirty birds.*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*Most of them were females or young — only one or two full-plumaged males.*

6. What was their principal food when with you? *The flock I observed, was to be seen day after day in the same tree — an ash (*Fraxinus*) bearing a great number of seeds.*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*They disappeared a good while ago, but unfortunately I did not record the date.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Washington, Ont.

Feb 27<sup>th</sup> 1893

Wm. Brewster Esq.

Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir,

In response to your enquiries in forest and stream of Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 93 I beg to state that the Pine grosbeak is to be seen here at present. They are very unusual visitors in this neighbourhood, Blenheim Township, Oxford County, Ontario. I have twice noticed them during the past week, about two miles from my place. The first

I know. Perhaps the unusually hard winter has something to do with their appearance this time.

Am sorry I cannot give you better and more minute details concerning them.

I remain

Yours respect<sup>ly</sup>

W. S. Wilkinson

time I could not see more than half a dozen of them; the second flock was much larger upwards of fifty.

Very few full plumaged males, perhaps one in ten.

There was one in the small flock. On enquiry was told that they had been around for about a month.

Both these flocks were in an orchard surrounded by a plantation of pines and spruces, and were feeding on the old frozen apples still hanging on the trees.

I have seldom seen them here before, and may now be plentifully distributed through this section for aught

Washington, Ont.

Apl 4<sup>th</sup> 1893

Wm. Brewster Esq.

Dear Sir,

In answer to  
yours of Mch 9<sup>th</sup>, I might  
say that the Pine Grosbeaks  
left this neighbourhood  
during the first week in  
March.

Would have writtew  
before, but thought I might  
see or hear something more  
of them. However they  
seem to have disappeared  
about that time for good.

Yours truly

W.S. Wilkinson

Rep. Sub Section March 4-1893  
Canadian Ins.  
by  
Hubert H. Brown (with  
Toronto. letter)  
Canada

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

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1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Toronto, Georgetown, Port Sydney and  
Waubanshene — but not numerous

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

For Toronto evidently most numerous  
first two weeks in Jan'y.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Twelve

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Twelve but very scarce

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I think mostly the latter, although the collections were nearly all red - except Jan 11 - when 9 shot were ♀ or young

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Not ascertained this year but ~~last year~~ during 89-90 - they fed on Rowan Berries with the Evening Grosbeaks

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Should you ever write again to Canadian  
correspondents, no use in affixing U.S. postage  
stamps <sup>for reply</sup> as they are not accepted for  
postage in Canada. N.A.C. p69

[ Napoleon A. Comman  
Godbout

Prov. Quebec

Canada

March 10

1893

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

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1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Pine Grosbeaks are residents & breed here & some are observed all through the year, but most numerous in fall & winter as a rule. This winter they have been around in about same numbers as usual

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Probably a couple of hundreds

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small flocks of ten to twenty as a rule, some times only three or four. Largest flock about one hundred seen in Dec.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Did not observe them sufficiently to give any reliable data on this point

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Mountain ash berries, & the buds on Spruce tops -

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Less seen in Feb, but no great diminution fairly abundant at time of writing  
March 10th/93

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Hoping this may be of some  
 use to you - with best wishes  
 remain  
 Yours Truly  
 Wm. A. Couneau

Thank you  
for the  
copy of  
the  
letter

Dexter Me Feb 14. '93

Mr William Brewster

Dear Sir:

In reply to your request in the  
"D & S" of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst, I will state what  
I know regarding Pine Grosbeaks in this  
vicinity -

1<sup>st</sup> Question 1<sup>st</sup> - Yes.

2<sup>d</sup> - About Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, probably before.

3<sup>d</sup> - Thirty to forty -

4<sup>th</sup> - From six to twenty

5<sup>th</sup> - From casual observation,  
I judge the males exceed the  
females in number.

6<sup>th</sup> - Mountain ash berries, frozen  
apples. Saw six yesterday  
feeding on a rock-maple -

7<sup>th</sup> - They have not disappeared -  
May have decreased in number

My attention was called to the Grosbeaks  
about Christmas time - Desirous of ex-  
perimenting upon English Sparrows as a  
substitute for red birds, I sent my  
10 yr old boy out to shoot a dozen with  
his air-gun - You can imagine my dis-  
appointment was great when he returned  
with a bag of nine birds - all Grosbeaks -  
Three of these were young birds, two adult fe-  
males, and four were ~~adult~~ adult males - He  
said there were twenty five or thirty birds in  
the flock, ~~and~~ feeding on several mountain  
ash trees.

I had no "red birds" then, nor have  
I experimented since -

Yrs truly

H. K. Thatcher, M.D.

Postmarked Feb. 10

Geo A Boardman

Calais

Maine

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

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1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

About the 20 Nov  
began to come - most numerous  
early in January

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

*about twenty*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*In flocks of about a dozen  
not more than twenty*

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

*Should say not one fourth.  
Some flocks no full plumage birds.*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

*High bush Cranberries and crab  
apple seeds, apples left on trees and the  
leaves of fir trees in the gardens*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*Have seen none for two weeks*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

*over*

The pine Grosbeak often  
remains with us all Summer  
or did some years ago. I have  
not been much in the woods  
of late Summers collecting. I  
once found a nest and could  
not get the bird sent nest and  
Eggs to Dr Brewer and he sent  
I think he said to Europe and  
reported it as the Eggs of the  
pine grosbeak and the nest of  
one was said to be found down  
the province near Nuisquash by  
H. E. Dresser's brother - The note  
of the bird we hear early in the  
winters morning is very pretty.

A  
farmer Mr Lewis Wilson told me of  
some Cedar birds in his garden and I  
gave him some fine shot & shoot some  
He did not see them again I think they  
were Bohemian Chatterers from his description  
of size &c. E. A. B.

Postmarked Feb. 12.

J. Y. Stanton

Lewiston

Name

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Pine Grosbeaks have appeared here  
this winter in abundance

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

They were seen first <sup>the</sup> last of Nov.,  
and in greatest numbers three weeks  
later, I should think.

The students of Bates College are greatly interested in the birds, many of them have been teaching this winter, in different parts of the State. From their reports I infer that these birds have been unusually abundant everywhere in the State

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Early in Dec. I took two morning walks (one week apart) in this neighborhood and on each occasion I saw 75 Grosbeaks I should think

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

On the second walk mentioned above I saw three flocks, the largest numbering 40 birds perhaps.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

About one fifth of the birds were <sup>adult</sup> males

6. What was their principal food when with you?

I saw them eating Mountain Ash berries and on one occasion the seeds of apples partially frozen

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers about when did this occur?

Their numbers have certainly decreased

But few flocks have been seen recently  
Two or three times within a week I have seen a single bird.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Postmarked) March 20-93

John Clifford Brown

85 Vaughan St

Portland, Maine.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I can not tell you about the earlier part of the winter as I was away until Jan 23.

2. When were they first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen on Feb. 10. Their number is always about the same.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Ten (10)

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In small flocks (8)

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

All were brown or gray birds

6. What was their principal food when with you?

They fed principally in hark trees  
in mountain ash trees and in the  
pines

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

They are still here in the same  
number.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

OFFICE OF  
**Bowler & Merrill, Bankers**  
 AND PROPRIETORS OF THE  
 Bangor Safe Deposit Vaults.

Bangor, Maine. Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 1893

Wm Brewster Esq  
 Cambridge Mass

Dear Sir - Your inquiry relative to Pine Grosbeaks at hand and noted - I regret that my world is very narrow at present - the only path leads from the office to my place of residence - and from place of residence to office - so I have had no means of observation respecting these most interesting birds

They have been with us this winter and I have seen scattered specimens - and have heard of flocks being about - Their food here appears to be found in the mountain ash berry and in the apples - (particularly crab apples) left on the tree after harvest - and where these are, there will the Grosbeak be found gathered together - Unfortunately there is no food supply for them along the route daily travelled in my "little world" - and consequently I have not been in a position to note arrivals or numbers

Regretting that I can simply furnish information that they have been present

"These other birds have seemed to me"

(Abbie P.)  
Mrs. George F. Godfrey,  
Bangor,  
Me.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I believe so.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

I think about the  
middle of January  
should think none were left  
after the middle of February.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Perhaps twenty by me,  
and more by a friend.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

I do not know what constitutes a large flock. I have never learned to count or "estimate" birds -

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I did not distinguish varieties in one flock - probably because I was not looking for varieties in that way.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

I believe that to have been the sort of bird of which there were six or eight on our sumpachs, and the same of which a friend reported a very great number on

If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Late Jan. or early February

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

an entire  
apple tree  
with six  
fruit had  
not been  
gathered  
in the fall.

On a day, I believe rather early  
in January, as I started out from  
my suburban home to ride <sup>down into</sup> the town.  
I saw one little bird (but not so very little)  
wh was red all-over, ~~sitting~~ on the path  
or sidewalk under the hemlock tree.  
Whether he was picking up anything I  
did not notice. I noticed his beauty &  
wondered at it. He made me think  
of a linnet wh I had seen in Summer-  
time. [I have rarely seen Winter-birds, ex-  
cepting Snow-birds and woodpeckers.]

These other birds have seemed to me  
mostly to be brown with red heads.  
& saw a great number of them at once,  
at sunset, in the roadside trees - Elm or  
maple - They were up in the very tops:  
I thought it was for getting the last rays of  
the sun - then their red heads showed.

Postmarked - Feb. 7

Mary Hardy

Greene

Main

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

yes

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

About Dec 15

Most numerous in last of Dec  
or sales were more noticed as  
when food failed they sought  
other places

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

about 20 in a flock but no one  
could tell whether same flock was  
seen several times or not

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Usually - 5 to 20 in a flock - sometimes  
scattered

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

This varied greatly - some large flocks  
had no red ones - some had one  
fourth red ones

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Mountain ash berries & Crab apples  
as long as they lasted also black  
alder & hemlock buds & pine buds

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

only as they  
have moved to the woods  
were here the last of last week

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Brewer 7 Feb 1893

Friend Brewster

I have answered your questions as fully as space permitted - They are so quiet when in the woods and usually so scattered that few notice them - I have often seen them feeding on seeds of spruce - but they prefer the seeds of morulium ash & cefflas to any other food. When these fail they eat the seeds of ash - also black alder & birch - and then will live entirely on maple buds - in some localities, and in others wholly or in part, on the end buds of white pine - Would be glad to visit you but it makes my arm pain me so I must stop - We counted 6 fully ad. ♂ out of one flock of perhaps 20 -

Very truly  
O. Hardy

so I should be obliged to have under this  
 have sent me a pair of shufeldts - ♂ & ♀  
 differ more than any kind I have ever  
 seen except thunders - I have never seen dumplings  
 or whymays - I ever see a cutting from leaf  
weko cratom (weko about yellow green)  
 I have mentioned the parus where he speaks  
 of their having shot thistles on their tree on thistles  
 I would like your opinion on this subject -  
 I have shot them many of all sorts every day in  
 every one of the thistles hurdles and of they over  
 like any such thistles I have failed to observe them

Brewer 18 Feb 1893

Friend Brewster

As you may wish to hear  
farther about the glass snakes, will say that they  
are still here, although mostly in the woods  
I saw quite a flock yesterday and this week  
heard a fine old male come nearer singing  
than I ever supposed one could - his note was  
wild reminding one strongly of a gold robin  
but though not prolonged was sweet and musical  
it was quite a surprise to me - In regard to  
largest numbers. My family counted 32 in  
one flock when they were in our garden with  
7 adult males - I have been urged very strongly  
to take the office of State game Commissioner  
and think I could without any effort on my part  
obtain it as two of them must likely to get to have  
offered to give up and work for me, but it is  
so mixed up with frauds & rascalities that I  
do not feel that I can afford to risk my  
reputation in company with such associates

Dreuer Feb 26 1893

Friend Dreuer

Your favor of 22 came duly  
 I see an article in the last Forest & Stream  
 by J. G. Rich on pine grasshoppers, which is not  
 in accordance with facts or at least with my  
 observations. Mr Rich has had a long experience  
 in the woods but evidently has either forgotten  
 what he saw, or else did not see what was before  
 him. He says that he never saw one in the  
 dense woods. (I quote from Memory) In October 1859  
 I saw three all old males feeding on high bush  
 Cranberries on head waters of Cauwungomuck  
 in 1861 in August while on State scientific  
 survey We took one at our camp near mouth  
 of Alliquash and I skinned the same. This is the  
 only one which I ever saw in Aug. He says they  
 eat apples. With us they eat the seeds and reject  
 the pulp. They also spit out the Mountain ash berries  
 & high bush Cranberries only swallowing the seeds

Now, also two are called *Callinura vultur*  
 You can see the Minnesota State report on birds  
 entitled "Notes on the Birds of Minnesota"  
 p. 50 I hope that you or Mr Allen will give  
 the birds a notice in the "Auk" - There are one  
 two a right to look a gift horse in the  
 mouth, "it seems to me to be a common  
 addition to mythology, more especially in  
 a state to Britain - That he says about the  
 variety of "his" given by the Smithsonian  
 people to collectors here but hardly in place  
 in a like history of the bird - Allegation it

He says that they prefer the buds of poplar -  
Now he may have written maple and the  
printer changed it - but if he wrote poplar I  
very much doubt if one was ever seen to touch  
a poplar bud - Pigeons are very plenty near us  
for now & winter I have had men at work  
among them cutting more or less of them  
and I have seen among them nearly every day  
and never saw a grouse eat over a light on  
me - This winter my men have worked cutting  
it for fire wood - The grouse feeds have been on  
the same lot - the rejected parts of the buds  
on the snow would show at once if a bird touched  
them - but I never saw a trace in my life of one  
ever touching these buds - I have for many years seen  
whole flocks eating buds of rock maple also in  
October eating the keys or fish tails, as they are  
called, of the larch and fish tailed, maple but  
have never seen them touch a bud of any other  
kind of deciduous tree - Thank you for saying to get  
birds for me some today we at Mariani's Marsh were  
Should you ever know of any one who has any of Kinds?  
back for sale it will be a favor if you will supply - or if you  
get any duplicates which you could sell I would like to buy  
I will try to see how long grouse buds stay, are here now feeding  
on maple buds when near houses - Very truly M. H. H.

Now, also has an adult California Nuthatch  
seen you seen the Minnesota state report on birds  
called - "Note on the birds of (Minnesota)"  
If so I hope that you or Mr. Allen will give  
the bird a notice in the "Auk" - While no one  
has a right to look a gift horse in the  
mouth, still it seems to me to be a curious  
addition to ornithology, more especially for  
a note to be taken - What he says about the  
savage of the gentleman by the Smithsonian  
people is doubtless true but hardly in place  
in a like history of the bird - altogether it



Manly Hardy  
June 5-1893

Greensboro June 1893

Friend Brewster

Although I believe I wrote  
last I thought you would like to know about  
the rails - I unwound them a few days ago  
and find white spots on both through out so  
distinct on the ♀. I had a Belding's rail  
later and compared with that. But it differs  
as much from them as the Long rail  
does. I think a series will prove it to be as  
valid a variety as any now listed. May 17  
I saw what I believe were a flock of some  
20 Bob O'leuts, all males and all singing  
at once making a perfect babel - The situation  
was also singular they were in the tops of some  
apple trees on a high hill - Usually they are not  
seen here till about June and then it is rare  
to see two miles near each other - They were  
gone the next day and I have not in all  
seen half a dozen since though I have  
rode hundreds of miles since - Walter

Charles B. Sherman.

Ayton, Oxford Co.<sup>5</sup>

Maine

Feb. 19<sup>th</sup> 1893

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes, noticed very few in last of Nov. or after middle of month. Less than usually. When still hawking on 31<sup>st</sup> Feb. I noticed a great many not in one large flock but scattering.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

All that I saw if I remember right were seen after the middle of Nov. Were not numerous. Regret I did not have it on my mind to take close notice. I am so used to seeing them that I took very little notice, but I think I missed them in the first of Nov.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Do not remember. Most often see one male and 4 or 5 dull plumage. Sometimes two bright males, and about eight in whole flock. This is all poor testimony, from impressions.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Ans: from memory. Should say small. As to greatest number, could not say and should not trust any man who did not have his thoughts on it and held land push round in black growth and look up the flock.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

About one to four. I think on most years, dare not say for this year.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Regret I never gave thought to it.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Do not think they have decreased in numbers, for I have been asking Avo G. he says he saw none during the very first of winter; then he began to see them, two or three at a time (he meant males) a few days ago.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

\* since last of Nov.

Postmarked Feb. 18

[From J. G. Rich

Bethel

Maine ]

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Bethel Maine Feb. 17. 1893

W. Brewster

My Dear Sir

The Pine Grosbeak is a constant winterer in Oxford Co.

Some years more abundant than others - They do not occur in summer but make their appearance in October each season, sometimes in great numbers, and other years in small squads -

I think they do not inhabit the dense forests about the Lake Country, but occur more in the open country.

They feed on the buds of the poplar and other trees, preferring the former. For several weeks last past several pairs of them have lived in our village - feeding in the apple orchards on remaining apples etc -

Respectfully J. S. Rich

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 28

Elliott Rich

Lakeside

N. H.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes. About the same quantity  
as usual

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Some time in November. I do  
not remember the exact date.  
And have seen them every day or  
two since. Until very lately.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

*Between 20 & 30*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*Small, <sup>2</sup> About 20*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*About 1:5<sup>th</sup>*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

*Seemed to feed mostly on spruce*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*About middle of February.  
Have seen very few since*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Pottamack Rd Feb 15

James P. Melzer  
Milford,  
N. H.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> or later. I cannot  
tell exactly, - it may have <sup>been</sup> the  
middle of month. A large flock  
50 or so. - A few males - red.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

This flock mentioned as large as any,

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

I have heard of large flocks during the last two months, - have myself seen single birds several times

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Cannot tell, as I have only had it mentioned that flocks were seen by parties who have brought in specimens.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Seeds from rotten apples and maple buds.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Have not seen or heard of any for just two weeks,

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Milford, N. H. Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> '93

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

East Sandwich, Mass.  
Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> / 93.

Dear Sir,

I have been kept at home  
so much this winter that my observation  
is of little acct.

(About the middle of  
January, my man reported  
seeing a flock of red birds (about  
the size of grosbeaks) in the firs  
around my house. He did not  
tell me soon enough for me to see  
them; but I think they were probably  
grosbeaks.

On Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> I saw a flock  
of about a dozen birds that were  
unfamiliar to me. I did not think of  
grosbeaks at the time; but I now think  
that was what they were. There were  
no males among them. They were  
flying overhead from one part of a swamp  
to another. Swamp maple & alder, with  
some pines around.

Truly yrs.

John W. Barletton.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Woody Hill, Mass Feb 7, 1893.

Vinal N. Edwards.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

First seen here the 10<sup>th</sup> of January  
Yes.

2. When were they first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Jan 10<sup>th</sup> 1893

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

*about 100*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*Both large and small, 4 and 5 in some flocks  
the largest number was 15 in one flock*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*I have not seen a red one this  
winter although I am out every day  
looking for them as I wished to get 6 red ones  
I could get a hundred females if I wished*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*They are just as plenty as when  
they first appeared, now.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Orew Durfee

Fall River, Mass.

February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1893.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes, the first time I have  
ever seen them here.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

a. Jan'y 1<sup>st</sup>, 1893.

b. Jan'y 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>.

1893

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> - Saw a flock of about a dozen flying <sup>about 2 P.M.</sup> over. These were seen about 1/2 mile up the road, the others noted below were all within two squares of those seen the 10<sup>th</sup> inst., and as a rule in the same yard.

" 8<sup>th</sup> - Saw four resting on a high tree A.M.

" 10<sup>th</sup> - Saw a flock of about a dozen feeding in a black ash tree <sup>A.M.</sup>. Noted them again at noon both on way home and re- turning from dinner.

" 11<sup>th</sup> <sup>A.M.</sup> - Saw about six on way downtown.

" 26<sup>th</sup> <sup>A.M.</sup> - Saw and heard two as I left the house.

" 27<sup>th</sup> - A.M. About twenty seen in a scattered flock, two or three showing a reddish tinge on breast as they flew over.

" 28<sup>th</sup> - A.M. Six to eight feeding on lawn where dressing was showing through the snow. On way home at noon noted about 12.

" 30<sup>th</sup> - A.M. Saw 5 or 6. On way home noon saw three, on way down again saw 6 to 8.

" 31<sup>st</sup> - A.M. Saw a few. On way home 6 to 8. On way down saw at least 25.

Feb 1<sup>st</sup> - A.M. A flock reported to me at old stand.

" 2<sup>nd</sup> - A.M. Saw 6 to 8.

" 4<sup>th</sup> - A.M. Noted a few.

" 7<sup>th</sup> - A.M. Saw seven at old stand.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Twenty five - making allowance for seeing same birds twice.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

a. Small as a rule, when large generally very straggling.

b. Twenty-five.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

No full plumaged birds noted. Saw two flying Jan 27<sup>th</sup> showing some reddish on breast, and as a rule about one in six showed bright colors on rump and reddish tinge on crown, the others showing only dull tints.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

When first noted Jan 10<sup>th</sup>, they were in a black ash tree feeding on the winged seeds, the hulls of which they scattered in abundance on the snow below. Several birds were also on the sidewalk beneath the tree picking up the loose seeds.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur? <sup>See below - low.</sup>

See opp. page for full data.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

# 6 low - After this tree was stripped, I noted them feeding in the same yard on the lawn which had been well sprung with dressing a few weeks previously. Later still feeding among the seeds of the long grass and weeds at the lower end of same yard.

My dear Mrs. Miller  
your kind note  
and card received.

Today I have had  
another chance to  
study the birds;  
but I know no  
better what they  
are. I am afraid  
the bills are not  
crossed, for I had  
very near them and  
though they were  
busily eating the  
honey-suckle berries.

Middleboro' Mass  
Feb. 24. 1893.

Robinson:-

I have  
seen several of the birds  
of which you speak. I  
am quite sure of  
the time I saw them  
first, but think it was  
sometime the last of  
December or first of  
January. Our attention  
was first attracted to  
them, on account of  
the peculiar note or

I think the birds would now look crossed if they were anything like the pictures I have seen.

The description in Appleton of the pine grosbeak I can not make fit my birds, <sup>one thing</sup> as it says the prevailing color is bright carmine.

The birds are gray birds not as dark as juncos.

but plainly gray. The wings and tail darker. In the male the head is reddish and the spot at the top of the tail, when the wings part, is a bright brick red. In the males the white on the wings makes the distinct bar, and the long feathers of the wings next to the back are edged with white. Looking at the birds

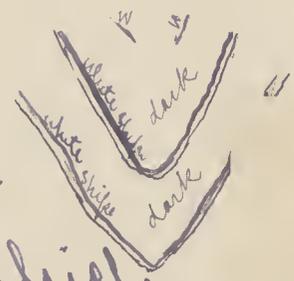
Middleboro' Mass  
Feb. 24. 1893.

Robinson:-

I have  
al of the birds  
you speak. I  
quite sure of

the time I saw them first, but think it was some time the last of December or first of January. Our attention was first attracted to them, on account of the peculiar note or

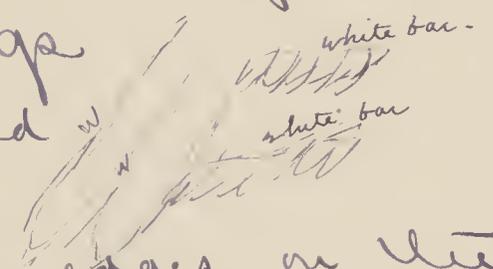
from the back, the white of the wings make a design like this showing plainly on the gray which dark on the back.



The birds are large and hard and come very near the house and eat the honey suckle

berries. The females<sup>5</sup> (21) now greenish on heads and top of tails and the white shows less plain

wings  
 tried to show white edges on the also wings here.



This is about size and shape of bill. But I could not see that it crossed but it was very like a parrot's - As they

Middleboro' Mass  
 Feb. 24. 1893

Robinson:-

I have seen several of the birds - you speak. I am quite sure of the time I saw them first, but think it was sometime the last of December or first of January. Our attention was first attracted to them, on account of the peculiar note or

all we could almost believe that the bills were crossed. but when still we could not feel that they were. Their breasts were gray, only a little lighter than the rest. The gray is not as blue as a cat birds lighter and browner. a <sup>or quite</sup> fat bird almost as big as a robin. Head is large also neck.

Bill for head. There is that is the best description I can give. <sup>the description</sup> of the bills crossed but not perpendicular. Some marking the birds brought the top of the bill projected over a long ridge or as for as this? - but it was found to be exactly - the bill was dark colored - perhaps darker than I now make it. The lower neck and short thick throat

Middleboro Mass  
Feb. 24. 1893

Robinson:-  
I have  
of the birds  
- you speak I  
I quite sure of

the time I saw them first, but think it was sometime the last of December or first of January. Our attention was first attracted to them, on account of the peculiar note or

was very noticeable  
I hope this long  
letter will not  
marry yr. very large  
bright eyes. birds  
seemed tame, hopped  
about on the vines  
and ground - came  
in flocks - Thanking  
you again for your  
kindness

Yours sincerely  
(Miss) Elizabeth Robinson  
Middleborough, Mass.  
February 12<sup>th</sup> '93

Middleboro' Mass  
Feb. 24. 1893

Miss Robinson:-

I have  
seen several of the birds  
of which you speak. I  
cannot be quite sure of  
the time I saw them  
first, but think it was  
some time the last of  
December or first of  
January. Our attention  
was first attracted to  
them, on account of  
the peculiar note or

was very noticeable

I hope this long  
letter will not  
marry yr. very large  
bright eyes. Birds  
seemed tame, hopped  
about on the vines  
and ground - came  
in flocks - thanking  
you again for your  
kindness

Yours since

(Miss) Elizabeth R

Middleborough

February

call that they gave.

We always saw them  
on the evergreen trees  
at the corner of the  
house, they were evident  
- by very tame for we  
could all stand at  
the windows and look  
at them with out dis-  
turbance in the  
least. They were hop-  
ping around from  
branch to branch eating  
off the buds.

They generally came  
in small numbers

perhaps six or eight  
at a time and almost  
always in pairs. One  
time I saw quite a  
large flock, I could  
not count them quite  
correctly, but there were  
somewhere between  
fifteen and twenty.

We noticed them only  
in the morning, and  
I do not think they have  
been around here recently.  
I have not seen them  
since these last few  
snow storms.

was very noticeable

I hope this long  
letter will not  
marry yr. very large  
bright eyes. Birds  
seemed tame, hopped  
about on the vines  
and ground - came  
in flocks - Thanking  
you again for your  
kindness

Yours sincerely

(Miss) Elizabeth R  
Middleborough  
February

Sometime in the early  
winter, about Thanks-  
giving time I believe,  
there was an article  
about them in the  
Boston Transcript. There  
is always a column of  
the paper called The  
Listener, and it was in  
that, that I noticed the  
description of the "pine  
grosebeaks". It said that  
they were northern birds,  
I believe, gave a description  
of them, and their habits  
and several personal  
anecdotes. I am sorry I did  
not save it as it <sup>might</sup> be interesting  
to you. Sincerely Elizabeth E. Eaton

Mr. William Brewster,

Dear Sir; yours  
received, I have

answered the questions

as well as I could

and now add a

few details.

I never heard of, or  
saw these birds, until

one day the last

of January our

servant told me

that she had seen

or twelve big  
of birds as large

robins on the

of a young

in tree in the

re yard. were

\* eating, she

id but sitting

it "humped up".

I told her they

st be English

none as other

do rarely venture

the house, but

said she was sure  
they were not.

I spoke to my  
friends about the  
birds, they had never  
noticed them before  
and so watched  
them sometime. Saw  
no red ones, all  
gray with red or  
greenish spots

2  
ten or twelve big  
gray birds as large  
as robins on the  
top of a young  
elm tree in the  
side yard. were  
not eating, she  
said but sitting  
still "humped up".

I told her they  
must be English  
sparrows as other  
birds rarely venture  
near the house, but  
she said she was sure  
they were not.

I spoke to my  
friends about the  
birds, they had never  
noticed them before  
and no watched  
them sometime, saw  
no red ones, all  
gray with red or  
greenish spots

Mr. William Brewster,  
Dear Sir; yours  
received, I have  
answered the questions  
as well as I could  
and now add a  
few details.

Before she told me  
they had all flown  
away.

That day or the next  
I called at a house  
about quarter of a  
mile away, and  
saw several large  
gray birds on the  
vine on the piazza  
eating the honeysuckle  
berries. The piazza  
floor was strewn with  
the skins. I had  
before noticed many  
berries and skins  
on the piazza.

2  
or twelve big  
of birds as large  
robins on the  
of a young  
in tree in the  
re yard. were  
& eating, she  
id but sitting  
3rd "humped up".

I told her they  
st be English  
none as other  
de rarely venture  
the house, but  
said she was sure  
they were not.  
spoke to my  
inde about the  
de, they had never  
ied them before  
& no watched  
a sometime. Saw  
red ones, all  
my with red or  
enish spots

Mr. William Brewster,  
Dear Sir; yours  
received, I have  
answered the questions  
as well as I could  
and now add a  
few details.

I never heard of  
saw these birds  
one day the la  
of January our  
servant told us  
that she had a

or twelve big  
of birds as large  
robins on the  
of a young  
in tree in the  
re yard. were  
+ eating, she  
id but sitting

The side walk under  
a row of maple trees  
before my friend's house  
was strewn with maple  
buds picked open  
showing the green.  
Perhaps the birds  
did this.

I spoke to my  
friends about the  
birds, they had never  
noticed them before  
and we watched  
them sometime. Saw  
no red ones, all  
gray with red or  
greenish spots

My friends saw these birds several times afterwards. When they flew away they would go to the maple trees, often to a large pine or fir tree across the street. Never saw any red ones. often ten or twelve in a flock.

After this first call, the next day I think I saw the birds on our piazza eating the berries. I never saw them around the house again except February 3<sup>d</sup> when they came (a few) to

small cherry or plum in the side yard for a minute. live very near street, on one of busiest streets of town so see few. Large garden orchard, the may have been, but the snow & two friends living a mile out of both have large side and gardens many birds. you see inquire if these birds have been around these houses at your know.

I hope what I have written will be of interest and use, but I feel that I have not had a very good chance to observe the birds but have been greatly interested in them - yours truly

(Miss) Elizabeth Robinson  
Middleborough, Mass. Feb. 23<sup>d</sup> '93.

a small cherry or plum<sup>s</sup>  
tree in the side yard  
only for a minute.

We live very near  
the street, on one of  
the busiest streets of  
the town so see few  
birds. Large garden  
and orchard, the  
birds may have been  
there, but the snow  
was too deep for me  
to go down to see.

February 12<sup>th</sup> I  
called again at my  
friend's the birds  
soon appeared, but  
only five or six (at the  
most)

I hope what I  
have written will be  
of interest and use, but  
I feel that I have  
not had a very good  
chance to observe the  
birds but have been  
greatly interested in  
them.

Yours truly  
(Miss) Elizabeth Robinson  
Middleborough, Mass. Feb. 23<sup>d</sup> '93.

My friends saw these birds several times afterwards. When they flew away they would go to the maple tree, often to a large pine or fir tree across the street. Never saw any red ones. often ten or twelve in a flock.

After this first call, I am not sure there were more than four. were very tame, sitting on the pine not a yard from the windows, and hopping about on the ground where the snow had melted. We had a fine chance to see them. The honeycreepers are the common Japanese one which have yellow and white flowers. and black berries. Neither my friend nor I have seen the birds since  
February 12<sup>th</sup> '93.

5 have cherry or plum in the side yard for a minute. live very near street, on one of busiest streets of town so see few. Large garden orchard, the may have been, but the snow too deep for me to go down to see.

February 12<sup>th</sup> '93  
ed again at my side the birds appeared, but five or six (at the most) hope what I written will be interest and use, but feel that I have had a very good see to observe the but have been very interested in

Yours truly  
Elizabeth Robinson  
Boston, Mass. Feb. 23<sup>d</sup> '93.

a small cherry or plum<sup>s</sup>  
tree in the side yard  
only for a minute.

We live very near  
the street, on one of  
the busiest streets of  
the town so see few  
birds. Large garden  
and orchard, the  
birds may have been  
there, but the snow  
I have two friends living<sup>s</sup>  
about a mile out of  
town both have large  
orchards and gardens  
and many birds, so they

I will inquire if these  
queen birds have been  
seen around these houses  
and let you know.

I hope what I  
have written will be  
of interest and use, but  
I feel that I have  
not had a very good  
chance to observe the  
birds but have been  
greatly interested in  
them - yours truly

(Miss) Elizabeth Robinson  
Middleborough, Mass. Feb. 23<sup>d</sup> '93.

Mr. William Brewster,

Dear Sir; I have  
heard a little more  
about the birds.

They have been seen  
in Falmouth, if you  
have not heard about  
them there, I think  
Mr. Solomon W. Robinson  
Falmouth, Mass.

would fill out a circular  
if you wished. I only  
know that he saw them  
during the coldest weather,  
they new new to me.

Mr. Edward F. Tinkham  
Middleborough, Mass.

have seen the  
, I do not know,  
know birds  
with more  
some there or  
to the country  
miles from Falmouth  
they are here.  
now seen large  
of snow  
ridge there, I  
saw any snow  
except June's  
and those not  
are.

Yours truly  
Elizabeth Robinson  
Middleborough, Mass.  
March 1st '93

with some of the manuscript

had seen the birds four times  
during the winter. Some birds  
were at about one mile, etc  
Honeycreepers berries. Some had red  
throats like blue birds. We even  
saw them in an orchard one  
day eating what appears that  
was left in the tree one mile -  
Dart, about the middle or east of  
Lynn - fifteen or twenty in a  
flock. I enclose a letter from

who lives a mile  
north of the village <sup>center</sup>,  
has seen these birds  
several times during  
the winter the last  
time, <sup>that I heard he saw them</sup> was Feb. 19th  
I hear also that he saw  
some red ones. He is  
interested in all out  
door life and very  
likely could tell a  
good deal about the  
habits of the Pine  
 grosbeak around his  
place; <sup>answer the questions in the</sup>  
<sup>enclosed at least.</sup>  
A friend living  
a mile south from  
us. Note me that she

<sup>2</sup> have seen the  
I do not know,  
know birds  
much more  
some time or  
to the country  
miles from Hartford  
they are here.  
I have seen large  
amounts of snow  
in the state, I  
saw any snow  
except June's  
and those not  
seen.  
I am truly  
Elizabeth Robinson  
Esborough, Mass  
March 1st '93

I wish to see the manuscript.

Miss Eaton, a near  
neighbor of my other  
correspondent. I think  
her date may not be  
just right, as the  
houses are so near  
(of these two people) that  
I think the birds would  
have been there at  
about the same time.  
The "resqueen trees" are  
arbovitae.

Mr. Edmund G. Macomber.  
Portsmouth, R. I.  
lives on a large  
place where there  
are many trees. He

may have seen the  
birds, I do not know,  
but I know birds  
are much more  
numerous there or  
far into the country  
(eight miles from Newport)  
than they are here.

I have seen large  
flocks of snow  
bunting there. I  
never saw any snow  
birds except junco's  
here and those not  
for years.

Yours truly  
Elizabeth Robinson  
Middleborough, Mass  
March 1st '93

with a  
copy  
of  
manuscript

Postmarked March 7

.....  
.....  
.....

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

They appeared in  
and were seen in the city last year, also the present

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

They first appeared in the city about the 1st of Dec. and were most numerous in the latter part of the winter.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Seen at one time, the greatest number  
was the least seen, 28 were counted.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

I think as a rule they were in a flock  
of about thirty.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

The greater proportion were plain.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

For food they sought the seeds of the juniper,  
vine, and at intervals hopped higher and sang.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

After spending a fortnight in our locality  
they disappeared rather suddenly.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

7-1-23-1893

Miss Elizabeth Robinson.

Middleborough.

Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.) *yes, never saw them before.*

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none). *Last of January, more than that date.*

C

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?  
*ten or twelve*
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock? *perhaps twelve.*
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)? *None.*
6. What was their principal food when with you? *Black berries of the honey suckle.*
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur? *decreased. Last time seen. February 12<sup>th</sup> '93 July 5 or 6.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

March 15. 1893

7 Bradford A. Scudder ~~(with letters)~~

Taunton

Mass.

m

7  
Acknowledged  
Notes of Daily Records of the  
Pine Grosbeak during its  
visit here.

Tuesday Jan. 10 - Two Grosbeaks  
seen this morning in a fir.

Monday Jan. 16 - Saw one Gro-  
beak this A.M.

Thursday Jan. 20 - Saw a large  
flock of Grosbeaks this A.M.  
which contained nearly fifty  
individuals

Friday Feb. 24 - Saw six Gro-  
beaks this A.M. feeding on  
buds of the maples.

Tuesday Feb. 28 - Saw one  
Grosbeak late in A.M. & a  
flock of sixteen feeding on  
maple buds, early in the P.M.

Wednesday Mar. 1 - Saw one  
Grosbeak feeding on decayed  
apples in an orchard this  
A.M.

Tuesday Mar. 7 - Saw a flock  
of thirty Grosbeaks feeding  
in the tops of some large  
maples.

Wednesday Mar. 8 - Heard  
several Grosbeaks whistling  
early this A.M.

With one exception, all the  
birds seen were females, or  
young of year, that is in  
the ash-brown plumage  
with saffron-tinged rumps  
and crowns.

Their food was princip-  
ally maple-buds, although  
some feed on the seeds of  
apples left in the orchards  
and on the "keys" of the  
ash.

The one male seen  
in a small flock, disappear-  
ed suddenly, probably having  
been shot as the remain-  
der of the same flock were  
run afterwards.

## Plymouth Electric Light Company,

Wm. E. Hawkins, Superintendent.

Plymouth, Mass., Feb. 7, 1893.

My dear Mr. Brewster:

I enclose your circular letter with questions answered to the best of my ability. I am a very busy man & do not have much time to devote to my favorites, the birds. My line men for the above company have plenty of opportunities for observations & one of them, who is quite an ornithologist, just called my attention to the Grosbeaks on Jan. 14, & he always tells me now when & where he sees specimens. I have no doubt the birds are here now & will remain here nearly through March, as they did in '84, when they were last here. I have shot some males in the gray plumage & am inclined to think they do not begin to acquire their adult red plumage until February & March. What is your experience or opinion on this?

Very truly yours

A. C. Bent

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

The first seen of them here was a large flock, which appeared on January 14<sup>th</sup>, & have been seen almost daily since in large numbers.

Feb. 7 '93

Arthur C. Bent

Seymour

Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

They have been very abundant about here since middle of Jan. & have also been common in Taunton, Mass.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

The first seen of them here was a large flock, which appeared on January 14<sup>th</sup>, & have been seen almost daily since in large numbers.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

On Jan. 22 I saw about 40 birds in the course of an hours walk.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In small flocks, 15 to 20 birds being the largest numbers noted.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Nearly all gray birds; only one full plumaged male positively identified. I think it is rather early yet for full plum.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

I think they prefer buds of maples + other deciduous trees; but they also subsist largely on the seeds of spruces + larches here.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

To far as I know they are here in full numbers now; a flock of 8 was seen in my yard Sunday morning. Have not had time to

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings. *look for them yesterday or today.*

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 10

Mr. J. C. Merriam

246 Western Ave

Lyons Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

They have been quite plenty since Dec 20th just past

2. When were they first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

They have been most numerous during Jan

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

I can't give the number as  
I rely on my own observations  
then

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

quite large flocks have  
been seen

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

In a flock of 20 to 25 there  
will not be more than  
one or two old birds

6. What was their principal food when with you?

mountain & s&s and  
other berries

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Large flocks are now plenty  
in Denver. As a matter of fact  
it is that has stayed in  
the area

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 9

A M Crafts,

160 Oxford St

Lynn Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Have heard of them, said to  
be quite plenty

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

They were reported several times  
in January

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

25 or so in one flock

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

mostly gray

6. What was their principal food when with you?

were in a locality where there are plenty of Birch trees & some Mountain Ash

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

I got this account from several parties. Some of them did not know the bird, & came to me to find out.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Julius Ross Wakefield

Dedham

Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.) *Have seen them repeatedly since the middle (approximate) of December '92 — even Sunday in fact — probably two or three times a week, in the early morning.*

2. When were they first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

*First seen about Dec 20. Have been uniformly common since.*

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

possibly a dozen — not more.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small flocks, not exceeding six or eight.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I have not seen a red male this winter, nor have I heard of any one seen in Dedham.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Frozen apples & pine seeds.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

They are still common. Heard a flock this morning (Feb 7.93)

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Postmarked) Feb. 22

Herbert H. Sargent

Plumouth,

Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

From the first to middle of Nov. '92.  
up to early part of Feb.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

*Eight.*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*Small.*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*Very few males.*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

*I did not observe, but some of them, the birds, were perched on elm and others on apple trees, from which they flew to evergreen trees.*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*Have not seen any for a week or more.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Andover, Mass.

March 8, 1893

Dear Sir, -

Having heard that you were trying to find out about the "Pinegrossbeaks," I write this from A.

They have been here from time to time in large & small flocks. There has been a flock of 20 or 25 here the last three days. I saw 9 today. Will send full notes as soon as they leave. Excuse haste. Yours truly, W. R. Webb.

Mass.

Cambridge

Harvard College

Prof. Brewster



(Postmarked) Feb. 10

John H. Sears.

7 Orr Square.

Salina, Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have not seen any in Salina this season

2. When were they first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

one flock of eight in Danvers October about the tenth I am very sure

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

8 seen in Middleton and Topsheld  
quite numerous in Manchester by the sea  
and Beverly Farms

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

7. Seven in one flock in Topsheld as a rule not more than that number together except in Manchester where there seemed to be more

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I should say about one in five

6. What was their principal food when with you?

(White Ash) *Fraxinus americana* -  
(White Pine) *Pinus strobus* fruit

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

They were numerous in January in the Beverly and Manchester Pine woods I have not been out since

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

George Welch.

Salern.

Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Abundant

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*One in fifteen -*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

*In the city. Mountain Ash.*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*The last brought to me was Mar 13<sup>th</sup>  
Their food had been Barberry.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Synn, Feb. 20, '93

William Brewster  
145 Brattle St.  
Cambridge,  
Mass.

Dear Sir:

Seeing your piece in the Forest and Stream of Jan. 25th. in regard to Pine Grosbeaks, I see that you want to know something concerning them in different parts of Mass. I think I can send you a few lines which may prove of assistance to you. I will answer your questions, the best I can and try to give you some idea of them in Synn. Although my notes may be somewhat misleading I hope you may get some information from them.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? Yes.

2. When were the first seen and when most numerous?

Mr. Vickary, one of the taxidermists here, had some to mount as early as Dec. 1. The first ones that I saw were about Jan. 20. One friend of mine shot some about Dec. 25th. They were the most numerous through the month of Jan.

~~My own notes on this subject~~  
was of some use to you. Since then I have found out a little more.

Three were shot, out of a flock of between 20 and 30, on the outskirts of Synn on March 2d.

There were a few red ones in the flock; I could not find out how many.

Mr. F. A. Bates wants to

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen on any one day?

The greatest number was on a Friday that I have any knowledge of was about 20.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks and what was the greatest number seen in one flock?

They occurred mostly in small flocks. One flock containing between 15 and 20 was in the habit of visiting a locust tree on Franklin St., three or four times a day, for about a week. The greatest number seen in any one flock was about 20.

5. What proportion of red ones to the females and young?

In the flock that visited Franklin St. there were not more than 3 or 4 red ones. From inspection I find that the red ones were in the minority.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

They were seen feeding on Norway Spruce, Spruce and Mountain Ash.

7. If they have disappeared or increased when did this occur?

The last that I can find any trace of was seen by myself on Jan. 30th. I do not know

whether they were left or not as I have not been in the woods lately.

If I see or hear of any being seen I will let you know. If I have not made my answer clear to you let me know and I will try to do better. Or if you want to know anything that does not come under these questions I will try to find out for you. If you want to know about any other birds in this vicinity and I can be of any assistance to you let me know.

Excuse the delay in writing these answers but it took me quite a while to make my inquiries.

Several people told me that the Grosbeaks had not been so numerous before for a number of years.

Hoping my answers may be of some use to you I remain

Yours Rlyt.

Robert A. Sewall

20 High St.

Sym.

Mass.

P. S. Pine S. Grosbeaks have also been quite numerous in Swampscott.

My answer was of some use to you. Since then I have found out a little more.

Three were shot, out of a flock of between 20 and 30, on the outskirts of Sym on March 2d. There were a few red ones in the flock; I could not find out how many. Mr. F. A. Bates wants to

Lynn, Apr. 20, '93

William Brewster  
145 Brattle St.  
Cambridge,  
Mass.

Dear Sir:

I was glad to know that my report on the Grobeake was of some use to you. Since then I have found out a little more.

Three were shot, out of a flock of between 20 and 30, on the outskirts of Lynn on March 2d.

There were a few red ones in the flock; I could not find out how many. Mr. F. A. Bates wants to

know how you are.

I meant to have written  
to you sooner but I did  
not get round to it.

Any time you want any  
information concerning the  
back here I will furnish  
it for you if possible, if  
you will let me know.

Hoping this may be of  
some value to you I  
remain

Your humble servant

St. A. Brewell

28 Apple St.

Synn,

Mass.

[Postmarked Feb. 7]

J. H. Bowles,

Conkafog,

Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

(a) Flock of 6 on Dec. 19, 1892.

(b) Most numerous between Jan. 28 and Feb. 2, 1893.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

100, at lowest estimate, on Jan. 28, 1893.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

(a) Occur, as a rule, in flocks of from 6 to 15.

(b) 25, at lowest estimate, is the largest number seen in any one flock.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

1 red bird to 32 dull-plumaged birds.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Buds of maple, walnut and ash trees.  
Seeds from cones of spruce and pitch-pines.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Have not materially decreased in numbers.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 13

J. A. Farley

433 Washington St.

Newton.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

Was in Lynfield last fall until Dec. 10 - In Malden mostly since then.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Have seen Grosbeaks in Lynfield, Malden, Sorell, Newton, Worcester, Hattick, and Andover.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Noticed the first Grosbeaks in Lynfield on Dec. 1. Saw them from then until the 10<sup>th</sup> (when I left) but in no great numbers. They were in small parties or single birds. They were abundant in Malden and

~~3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?~~

Everett from Dec. 15 to the last of January.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In Malden and Everett they occurred as a rule in flocks of about 50 to 75. The largest flock seen may have numbered 150.

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

Can't say as many flocks were on the wing and sexes were not distinguished. Saw 2 red birds in a flock of 15 or 20 and 2 more in a flock of 15 or 20.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Have seen none in Malden since last of January. Saw a few in Worcester (feeding on larches) on Jan. 26; and a small flock in Andover on Feb. 2.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 8.

H. G. Nichols

Newton Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

There have been a number of them around us every day since they first appeared.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen Dec. 28. — Flock of about 40, later divided into 2 flocks and during their stay the two flocks located in places half a mile apart & some of them could be found in these 2 places during their stay in our vicinity. Most abundant Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

70 (about) They certainly have not been as abundant <sup>in this locality</sup> as they were when they were here 7 or 8 years ago.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In small flocks which came together frequently into one large flock

Greatest number in one flock 40.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

about 1 to 15

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Buds of the coniferous trees.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

About Jan. 10 they decreased.

Saw my last flock of 8 on Jan. 14.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 8

F. C. Brown

Franklin

Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

within abundant

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

first reported Dec 2

" I saw Dec 17

most numerous " to Jan 12

Have been confined to the house most of the time this winter. Personal observation therefore limited. Had reports from them, tho' quite often

A flock of 12 to 15 visited my apple orchard every day during the cold snap in Jan

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

vising 50

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small -  
as above

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

not well ascertained. from obs & reports shot day not more than 1 in 10

6. What was their principal food when with you?

I saw them only at frozen apples remaining on trees. Other reports on snapple nuts

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

as far as I can learn very few seen since abt Jan 24

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(attached)

(Postmarked)

Feb. 14

(with letter)

Francis H. Allen,

West Roxbury,  
Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen Dec. 20th, I  
have had no time to make careful  
observations and cannot say when  
they were most numerous.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

25(?)

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Have seen ~~but~~ on flocks, I think ~~to~~ ~~which~~ ~~number~~, perhaps 25, but they were not always all

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged to <sup>60</sup>males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Quite say.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Have seen them feeding on ~~various~~ ~~things~~ ~~probably~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~woods~~.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Saw only one <sup>one</sup> Sunday, Feb. 12th in a place which was formerly a haunt of the flock.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

West Roxbury.

Feb. 13, 1893.

Mr. William Brewster,

Cambridge.

My dear Sir:

A propos of  
the pine grosbeak, it seems  
to me that a few notes on  
one which I kept in  
captivity for <sup>about</sup> ~~a half~~ over  
a month, in 1884 may  
possibly be of interest to you,  
though there may be nothing  
new in them.

I shot it on Dec. 27th of  
that year, <sup>in the woods near Brook Farm,</sup> and, as a broken  
wing was its only injury, I  
took it home and placed it  
in a cage. It was a female  
or young male with no trace of  
red in the plumage. It squawked

vociferously and picked vigorously at my hands, when I picked it up, and its outcry drew the attention of another bird of the same species, which approached quite near. I saw no others about them.

Under Mar. 9th, I find the following entry in my diary: Have now kept my P. ruf. Clector 11 days. He is as well as now except that he cannot fly more than 5 or 6 inches into the air. I feed him chiefly on oatmeal (uncooked), which he seems to like. He will also eat cedar-berry and hemlock seeds, but will not touch pitch pine cones or larch twigs. His usual note, which he utters very often, is a short, low whistle, but he has also a

longer, higher-pitched note,  
which he sometimes utters.  
He modifies the ordinary  
musical call of the species  
by muffling all the notes  
except the first, making  
them sound as if "swallowed".

Under Mar. 30th, I find the  
following:

Have now kept my P. r. un-  
cleator over a month. He  
can now fly quite well  
and sometimes flies of his  
own accord to the upper  
sashes of the windows. He  
does not seem to like oat-  
meal as well as he did, but  
is very fond of cedar berries  
and spruce seeds. The  
latter I have to remove from  
the cones for him, as his beak  
is not strong enough or  
sharp enough to do it alone.  
He will also eat larch buds

He has now become very tame, hopping about all over me, when I have any thing for him to eat.

On Apr. 12<sup>th</sup> I gave the bird to a friend, from whom he escaped after a day or two.

Regretting that my notes on the present visit of the pine grosbeaks (which I send in another envelope) are so meagre I am

Yours very truly,  
Francis H. Allen

12 Jan. 1893

Dear Brewster:

It has been such a  
 cheerless day that I have given  
 up my projected Grosbeak  
 hunt. It may interest you  
 to know that, while we were  
 looking over the Brattle St.  
 birds (i.e. between 3 & 4 o'clock),  
 Hoffmann was watching a  
 flock of seventy or more in <sup>the</sup>  
 College Yard. It would seem  
 that there were at least three  
 flocks in Old Cambridge at  
 that time. When I went to  
 dinner to-day (about 1 o'clock)  
 there were 70 to a hundred in  
 the College Yard near Sever Hall.

Herbarium of Harvard University,

BOTANIC GARDEN, CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

Jan. 10.

1893.

Ten male grosbeaks with about three times  
 as many females have been here all  
 day -

Previous to this I have heard of only two  
 males -

Yours

W. L. Fernald.

Newtownville, Mar. 12 - '93.

Dear Sir,

Early in February I saw 6 or 8 female  
 pine grosbeaks in the tops of some maple  
 trees (I am not quite sure that the trees were not  
 evergreens of some kind - there are both maples &  
 several evergreens on the street) one morning as I  
 was hastening to take my train to Boston. This  
 small flock - seen but once - comprise all  
 I have seen this winter. With I could give  
 you more data. I saw only female birds.

Yours truly, C. H. Amel.

Postmarked Feb. 9.

Fred. H. Sherman.

Brookline.

Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

*They have been with us more or less every day, since their first appearance.*

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

*Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. Saw about 30 birds  
Jan 15<sup>th</sup>. A flock of perhaps 150,  
outside my windows. Could not  
examine closely, as I was at dinner,  
consequently saw no red ones.*

My dear Mrs. W. H. Packard of  
Brunswick, N. H.,  
writes as follows.

"We are visited daily by a flock  
of Grosbeaks, passing the woods from  
the shore a trifle, no  
nearer among them."

She knows the birds well; but  
inadvertently used the word "birds"  
unthinkingly.

F. H. K.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

In the 15<sup>th</sup> saw birds all day,  
but made no estimate, except as  
above, in one flock.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

With the exception of the above flock,  
I have seen flocks every day, ranging  
from 6 to 30 birds.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I have as yet seen no red males.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Maple buds, (*Prunus americana*.)

Larch buds (*Larix laricina*.)

Maple buds (*Acer saccharinum*.)

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

I had once some migratable buds

The flock has since dwindled up gradually.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Stanford Torrey

Wellesley Hills

Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen Dec. 4 (16 birds, inc 6 set ones)

Most numerous apparently Dec. 23-25

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Dec. 25 I counted 255, but was certain that a considerable part of the principal flock eluded count.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Mostly in small flocks, I think (20 or less).  
On Dec. 25 one flock possibly contained more than 150.

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

Have seen red ones on only four or five occasions, mainly Dec. 4 and 25. Whole number of red ones not more than 15 at the most.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Ash buds, then maple buds (sugar maple), Norway spruce (buds?) and apples.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Fall W after Xmas, but have remained constant this far (Feb. 4) ~~Feb~~ Jan. 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 20, Feb. 7 (since this not counted).

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

..... Ralph Hoffmann

..... Arlington

..... Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

I have given all my dates and counts on the next page.



Walter Faxon

Arlington

Mass. Mar. 1893

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Nov. 27 (Hingham), Dec. 11 (Arlington), Dec. 21  
(Cambridge).

Birds Ash seeds they ate =  
Norway Spruce buds  
Rotten apples  
Stilanthus seeds (once)  
seeds of Ragweed (*Ambrosia artemisiifolia*)  
(once)

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

255, Jan. 11.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In large flocks. Greatest no. seen in one flock, about 225 (Cambridge)

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

1:70

6. What was their principal food when with you?

White Ash seeds

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Great decrease about Jan. 15. Last seen Feb. 12.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

THE ELMS,  
WEST MEDFORD.

Mass

Feb. 16/93

William Brewster

Dear Sir:

your letter in 7.

A stream was handed to me yesterday and as I have had of flocks of P. frobeakes on place ever since the 1<sup>st</sup> I send you a notice of them.

1. a flock of 36 appeared one morning in an English Hawthorn that was covered with berries. In a short time they had completely stripped the tree and in order to

Keep them I find them on  
hemp seed. one day when I  
had neglected to feed them  
I found they had eaten all  
the seeds of a Norway  
maple. They also eat  
the seeds of the Norway spruce  
but now confine them  
almost to hemp seed. There  
was one male young with  
the flock - all the rest  
were old & young & males  
about 50% of each. The  
male staid but one day  
and was shot I fear as  
I hear a gun shot near  
their feeding place on the  
2<sup>d</sup> day after they arrived  
my flock has diminished

to 18 now but they are as  
tame one can stand within  
in 1 foot of the pan while  
they are feeding. after they  
have fed they collect on  
an elm for a while & then  
I catch each bird perching  
on some high tree and  
uttering their soft notes.  
I have seen the flock col-  
lecting in pastures over a  
mile from my house  
and when all came to  
gather they would fly to  
their feeding place. They  
feed on the top of a  
bush surrounded by 20  
feet and do not in the

must  
run to mind the  
noise the dogs make  
they find 4 times a day  
morning, noon, 4 P.M.  
& at sun down. How long  
I shall be able to keep them  
I can not say but I have  
had them 10 weeks now.

your truly

Henry Brooks

They eat ten pounds of  
kump a week

They eat the bones of  
hunts & such

THE ELMS,  
WEST MEDFORD.

Mar 12/93

William Brewster

Dear Sir-

Has our strike  
any song? There is a grey bird  
the color of the strike with the  
same flight, that comes every  
day and perches on the highest  
limbs of a tall elm in front  
of my house. He sings the  
time and has notes much  
like a mocking bird - and then  
will end his song with a  
coo laugh. He is the size of  
the strike but I never remem-  
ber having heard any bird the  
same like this before. He was

The birds he was on.

Yours very truly  
Henry Brooks

to command my own  
They eat the berries of  
D

here two years ago but not  
last year. My flock of four  
birds still remain with me  
and now number 28 in all  
no males but some handsome  
marked females. I am glad to  
see that they drive away  
the English sparrow and will  
not allow them to eat in  
the same place with them.

I wish I could give you  
a more clear description  
of the bird mentioned in  
the first part of this but he  
sings so high up I can not  
obtain him even with a  
glass. I nearly had him  
down with a rifle today after

I shall be glad to hear  
I can not say but I have  
had them to wash more  
your boys  
I have 3 or 4  
They eat the bones of  
hump & milk

THE ELMS,  
WEST MEDFORD.

Friday

William Brewster

Dear Sir-

yours of the  
21<sup>st</sup> to hand. I will keep an  
set of notes for you on the  
habit of the Goshawks. I do not  
find them at certain times.  
I keep a bread pan filled  
with Hemp and and they  
come at the hours I stand.

I have one female in a cage  
now. my man caught her  
in his hand. Unless I  
can get a male I will let  
her go - yours truly  
Henry Brooke

Postmarked Feb. 11  
1893

Harry D. Eastman,  
Framingham,  
Mass.

Question 1—

A great many Pine Grosbeaks have appeared in this and adjoining towns during the last two months.

No 2.—

From notes "Dec 2, saw one Pine Grosbeak, also a flock of 6 or 8 birds which I suppose were the same kind"  
Dec 8 Mr. F. C. Brown shot an Ad. ♂ in full plumage which he very kindly gave me.

Dec 20 saw a flock of 50 or 60 birds feeding in a

Spence Tree, from this flock  
I secured 1 ad ♂ and 3

juv. ♂s.  
Dec 22 "Great numbers" An Ash  
Tree in the heart of the  
Village was filled with  
the birds and although they  
were shot at many times,  
continued to come back  
day after day until  
they exhausted the food  
supply.

Dec 26. Saw a flock of 60  
or more birds, all of which  
were on the snow gathering  
the seeds from the different  
grasses. I thought I would  
try and see how near I  
could approach one and  
I think I came within  
5 or 6 feet, before he rose  
to a fence close by.

No 3

Have seen flocks of 5 or 6  
to 100 or more birds

One day they seemed to  
go and come. I could  
not say whether they  
were the same birds or  
not.

No 4 From Dec. 20 to 30.

they were here in greatest  
numbers. then they were  
in large flocks.

No 5

When they first arrived  
there was about one full  
plumaged ♂ to 30 or  
40 ♀s or juv. of both  
sexes. But now there  
are very few full plum. ♂  
Flock of Dec 26 had no red  
birds in it that I could see

00  
No 6

From the Ash, Spruce,  
Maple trees & seeds  
of Grasses. also Apples.  
The Family about a  
mile out of town keeps  
a flock about their  
place for winter (and may  
be there now) by putting  
apples and pieces of  
bread in the trees.

No 7

Their numbers decreased  
at the beginning of the  
very cold weather about  
Jan 5.

FEB 6 saw a flock of 20  
or 30 birds all in the  
gray plumage, as far  
as I was able to judge.  
This is the last flock

00

5

seen.

I have made up about  
20 skins & add to the  
balance 4s and young of  
both sexes. Have found  
young ♂ & ♀ just alike  
one ♀ has a good deal  
of red on the head and  
yellow turning to orange  
red on the rump.

Have seen but one ♂ when  
the red feathers were  
mixed with the gray.

Hoping the foregoing will  
aid you remain

Very truly Yours

A. D. Eastman,

(Postmarked) March 6

M. B. L. Bradford  
Concord

Mass Providence

Massachusetts

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>, first seen.  
Abundant, from the 15<sup>th</sup> to after the 25<sup>th</sup>.  
Great numbers on the 25<sup>th</sup> Dec.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

About 50 - in one flock - at one time

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Generally in large flock: Sometimes singly, giving their peculiar note from a tree top: sometimes in 3's & 4's.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

In a flock of 50, assembled on a piazza roof, & on an adjoining American Ash tree, all within 15 ft., and some within 2 ft. (!) of me, just the other side of window) there were only 2 bright red birds. - they were smaller than the others.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

The seeds from the above mentioned Ash tree, which had collected in the trough & crevices of the above roof, & still hung on the tree. They came quite regularly, many mornings between 9 & 10 to feed here. There had been snow.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

My attention was first called to them by their faint, <sup>distinct</sup> flute-like call "ra-up" in the sky, and walked to the 8 o'clock am. train. This occurred some morning before I saw any. Then on Sunday noon I saw 3 females under a pine in a yard. The next Sunday, I saw my flock as above, and

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly, above, some with 2 ft of our faces, Mrs. Bradford & I standing inside the closed window and the birds, as said  
WILLIAM BREWSTER.

The evidently saw us, but were fearless, even when we pressed our faces on the panes, and made motion with our hands, & some noise.

Mrs. Bradford was Miss Florence Starn, whose father Edward Starn you knew, and at whose house you have been. It was at his house that this happened - the tree (you may remember) always grows out by the back door leading into the garden.

We left Concord June 4, before the birds left: of course, they were left still. For about July 14, I went to Concord, and was that day in Concord station. The birds were still around their place.

In Providence, I have heard of 3 seen together in a back yard in June.

I heard one night here, on my way to the car, so that I could not follow it up, about the first of July.

I would be delighted to hear of yours -  
My sincerely  
Wm. Brewster

I have a farm in the south west part of  
Belchertown, I can not learn that any  
Pine Grosbeaks were seen in that vicinity.

A. M. Loperland Postmarked

Springfield

March 3

Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have been informed of their appearance, but have seen none

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

I am unable to give any valuable information upon this point

*I unable to answer these questions*

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

[Reply postmarked Feb. 7]

Charles Bill,  
Springfield,  
352 Main St. Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

In Washington, Mass. quite numerous. Have not been about here.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

~~Mid. Early Nov.~~ Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>  
Largest number seen last  
of Dec. 1892

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

*To say Dec 31. 92*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*Mostly in pairs or small flocks. Perhaps 20 to 25.*

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

*Did not make a note*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

*Large flock about beeches.  
Pairs on spruce, maple and birch.*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*Small and large flocks  
more restless than usual.  
Pairs not so easily approached.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Postmarked) Feb. 13

(with letter 78)  
Plan

Robert C. Morris

Springfield

Massachusetts

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.) *Yes*

2. When were they first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none). *First seen Jan. 14 - Most numerous Feb. 1st.*

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

*In one flock of fifteen seen about Agawam Centre, from Jan. 15 to 25, there were three full-plumaged males.*

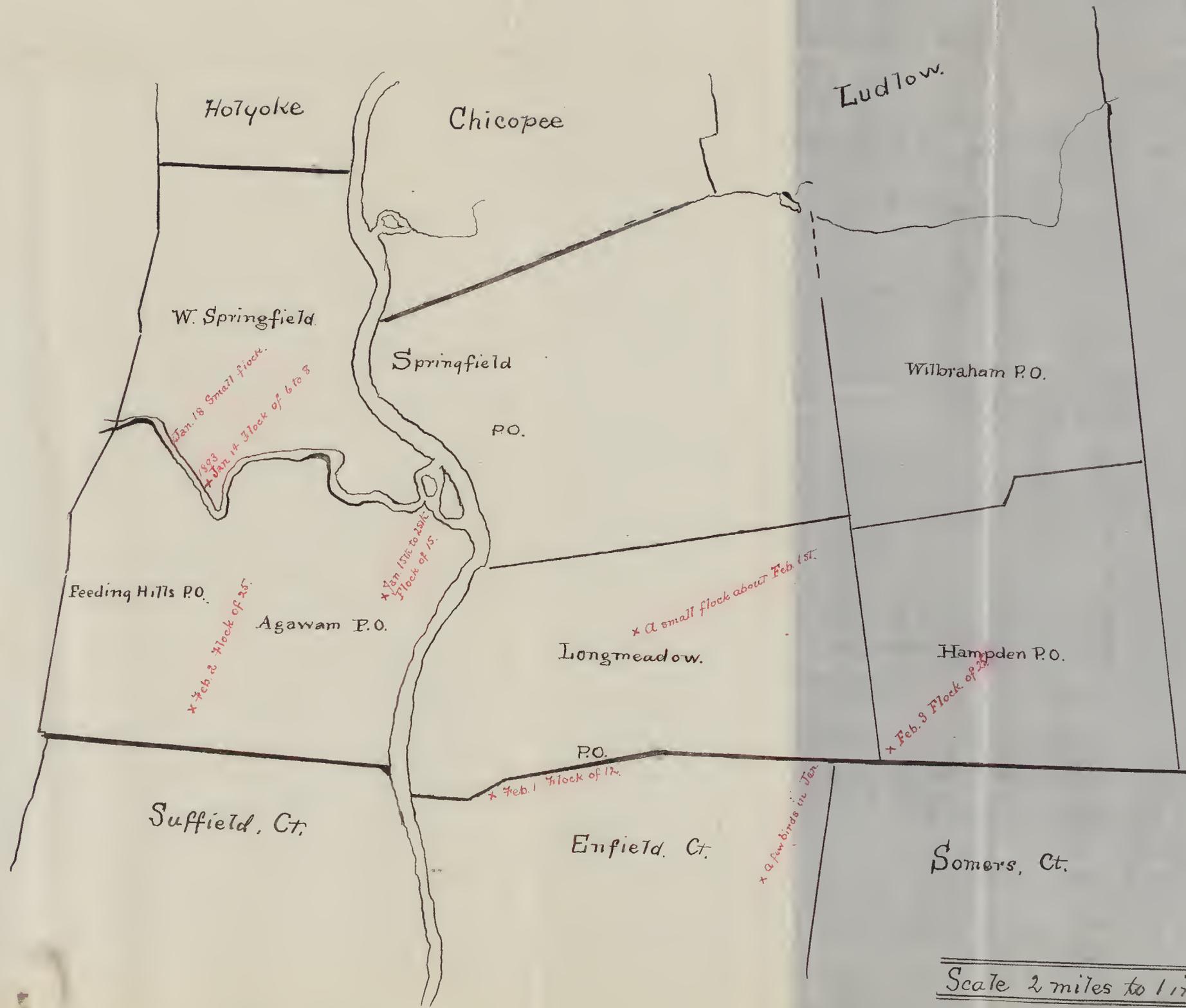
6. What was their principal food when with you? *The last mentioned flock fed in the orchards upon the apples remaining on the trees.*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur? *None seen since Feb. 3rd.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.



Scale 2 miles to 1 inch.

Postmarked Apr. 10. 93

Margaret Denny  
Et. Barrington  
Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

March 6. I saw a flock  
of seven feeding on the  
seeds of the Sumach and

on March 17 I saw two  
in another part of the  
town evidently picking up  
seeds from the ground  
by a hedge of hemlocks.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

Seven Mch 6.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

All of the nine birds which  
I saw only one was a full  
plumaged male.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Have not seen any since  
17 Mch - 17.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked March 2

Postmarked  
Hilltown  
Mass.  
No. 12  
No. 12

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes - as usual - we have nearly every winter

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

About December 12-16

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

ten or twelve

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5 or 6 in a flock -  
also some single birds.

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

About 1 male to 4 or 5 others

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Ashburnham, Mass.,

Feb 17

1893.

Wm Brewster

Dear Sir

In reply to your questions in  
Forest & Stream about the  
Pine Grosbeaks. Would say they  
have been unusually plenty in  
this section. Noticed them first  
quite early in Dec & they  
increased in number till about  
the 20 of Jan since which time  
I have not seen so many  
though there are some still  
here. Saw a flock of eleven  
just now on the apple trees  
near my house which put me  
in mind of your request in  
F. & S. Most of the birds seen by

• H. C. NEWELL •

Ashburnham, Mass.,

189

the were young & females would  
lay at least  $\frac{4}{5}$  There has been  
a lot of Apple pomace thrown  
in a field near the Smith  
Village & I have seen from  
10 to 50 there every time I have  
passed it. The food here is  
principally obtained from  
apples left on trees & in  
the woods all I have seen  
seemed to be at work on  
the cones of the Spruce  
They have seemed to grow more  
plenty every season for the  
last 10 years before that  
I had never noticed them

Yours  
H. C. Newell

(Postmarked) Feb 13

Mr. E. Inghall

East Templeton

Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

They have been common all winter

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

A male and female were brought to me the former in full plumage Nov 27<sup>th</sup> and the female a few days later. They were shot from a flock of six seen in the same place on both occasions. I had reports of their appearance fully a week earlier although I made no record

There is near this village a large swamp bearing a thick growth of Black Alder (Ilex) (which is a favorite food of the Pine Grosbeak) and they are sure to be found there when they are in the vicinity. I visited the swamp early in December without seeing any however, but during the week between Jan 14<sup>th</sup> + 21<sup>st</sup> <sup>in person</sup> a student-home on a vacation visited the swamp and saw large numbers of them. He estimated the number to be about 200. Since then I have no knowledge of them there. I have made two attempts to get in there since receiving your circular in order to get some definite information and figures for you but owing to the recent thaw the ice is unsafe and covered with water so that I had to give it up. I will however make other attempts and if I find them there will convey to you such information as may be of use to you.

I have many notes in my books regarding this species covering 12 or 15 years which I shall feel honored to copy for you if you wish to use them.

For a full account of the Grosbeak in the swamp in the winter of 1878 I would refer you to Forest & Stream Vol 16. page 206 Some of the

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

[about 200]

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small flocks as a rule of from four to twenty

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Possibly one in twenty, this is a mere guess however

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Berries of the Black Alder Ilex, Apples left hanging on the trees and buds of the Maple

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

There has been no decrease in their numbers that I have noticed.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

statements made then I would modify  
now, I have found buds in the snow and  
fruit buds too.

A few years ago I watched these birds strip  
a maple on the main street of our village of  
buds. They came to it every day for several  
days till it seemed that they must have  
taken every bud on the tree and they did  
not seem to molest any other tree  
although there were long rows of them  
apparently just as good as the one they affected.  
As the tree leaved out and blossomed like the  
rest in the spring I have always regretted that  
I did not shoot one or two of that flock and  
find out just what portion of the bud they really  
took from that tree.

J. J. Cobb.

West Brookfield, Mass.

Sept. 17 / 1893.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

The latter part of December, and sometimes in January—cannot give dates they were most numerous.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

About thirty - the  
same flock three different times  
the same morning.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Generally in flocks from fifteen to twenty,  
about thirty - largest number seen in one  
flock

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Full-plumaged males in the minority - but  
cannot say in what proportion.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Frozen apple seeds - particularly of the crab-apple -  
and something they gathered from evergreens  
and birches.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

They have not been seen since last  
Sunday - the 12<sup>th</sup>. I have sought them  
all through their roosting places as early  
as seven

<sup>o'clock</sup>  
in the  
morning.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

LOVELL DIAMOND.



In Solid, Pneumatic and Cushion Tires.

I. C. GREENE,

DEALER IN

Shot Guns, Rifles and Supplies,

AND

BICYCLES.

BOX 386.

PARKER GUN.



HAMMER AND HAMMERLESS GUNS.

Amherst, Mass., Apr. 3

1893.

Mr. J. H. Sage -

I saw the note in *Pinicola enucleator* in the *Observer* and would say that they have been common here in Amherst from Jan 18 one or two were seen that day. Jan 25 saw a flock of 20 or more, they were seen till Feb 20. then again Mar. 6. In Jan. they feed on the buds of the maple trees and in some places they covered the snow to quite an extent with the scales of the buds. Feb 11 shot three and of a small flock the stomachs of them contained the pulp & seeds of the apple. and some small black seeds that I could not identify.

Apr. 2. - I saw a flock of 20 or so at Fitchburg Mass. they were very tame & I could get as near as 6 feet to them, they were feeding on the seeds of the white ash which were on the ground. Saw two male birds in the flock. Spent about 1/2 an hour with them & examined the condition of the seeds. I made up my mind that they had been there at some other time and that since that time there had been a rain or a snow on the seeds that



LOVELL DIAMOND

BICYCLES

SHOT GUNS, RIFLES & SUPPLIES

I. C. GREENE



PARKER GUN

LOVELL DIAMOND.



In Solid, Pneumatic and Cushion Tires.

I. C. GREENE,

DEALER IN

Shot Guns, Rifles and Supplies,

AND

BICYCLES.

BOX 386.

PARKER GUN.



HAMMER AND HAMMERLESS GUNS.

ack.

Amherst, Mass.,

189

were cracked open had been spotted with  
shit while those that they were feeding on  
were comparatively clean.

Have taken notes on the feeding in the  
case of the Maple trees and if you wish will  
report how the trees blossom & leaf out this spring.  
I saw the *Sturnella magna* (501) here on Feb 14  
& Mar 20. also saw 5 on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Dec. 1892. & the  
winter has been cold & much snow.

Mar-12 noticed that the *Corvus americanus* (488)  
were migrating from the south up the valley  
& in a N. W. direction, about 400 passed over moving  
in a steady stream at the rate of 10 every 5 min-  
utes. This was in the afternoon.

Mar-13. This fore noon they continued and  
about 600 passed over here at Amherst.

Yours very truly  
I. C. Greene.

You may hand these notes to Mr. Brewster if you  
think it worth while. He has not sent to me for  
notes.

Postmarked March 2

Nelson B. Hale

9 Chadwick St.

Worcester, Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Nov. 24	4 ♀		
Dec. 18	flock of 56	8 bright plumaged ♂	
Dec. 20	" " about 50	1	" "
Dec. 25	" " " "	1	" "
Dec. 26	" " " "	1	" "
Dec. 27	" " " "	1	" "
Dec. 31	small flock		
Jan. 19	1 ♀	Feb. 14	small flock.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

56

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

About 1 to 6 or 7

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Those seen Nov. 24 were eating red berries sometimes called "American Holly", Ash-buds, pine & spruce cones, weed-seeds etc.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 9

BIRDS' EGGS, EGG DRILLS,  
Naturalists' Supplies & Books.  
Illustrated Catalogue 2 Cent Stamp  
CHAS. K. REED, WORCESTER, MASS.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

*quite common.*

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

*all through Dec. & Jan  
Most, early in Dec. =*

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*Small flocks 6 to 12  
few flocks of perhaps 20 or 25*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*Very few old males  
1 in 10*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

*Mountain Ash & pine*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*Had more brought in to be mounted  
the first 2 weeks in Dec than the  
past 6 weeks*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked March 5

Erace B. Long.

Anna Street.

Worcester Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

yes

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Nov 25  
Jan 22

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

115

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Small  
50

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

15%

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Rotten apples in an orchard  
and picking in the roadways.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Have yet.  
March 5<sup>th</sup>

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Pine Grosbeak.)

(1)

(acknowledged  
July)

Mr William Brewster:

Dear Sir:

Some time ago I saw an enquiry in the "Forest and Stream" about the places visited by the Pine Grosbeaks, the time, their food, numbers &c., over your signature, and, as I note down in my diary each evening what I have observed about birds through the day, will send you a copy, so far as it relates to the bird in question. As I am a night watchman in a factory, and have to sleep daytimes, I do not have the opportunity to observe what I otherwise should, but as I seldom go to bed before 10 o'clock A.M., and many times later, I use what time I do have to the best advantage, and other peoples eyes so far as I know them to be accurate.

In our part of the town, we have a great many white ash trees growing by the roadsides, ~~and~~ by the fences in the mowing lots, and in the pastures and woods; and last autumn these trees were pretty well loaded with seeds.

Nov. 22- 1892. Saw 5 birds that were new to me, in an ash tree just outside of a small white pine grove; three of them were eating ash seeds; approached very near and watched them hull the seeds with their strong bills, and swallow the meats, which looked at a short-distance to be about the size and shape of an oat. Went to the house only a short-distance, and got the gun, returned and shot one of the birds which my son said was a pine grosbeak, examined the plumage with a Coues key and found it to be a female.

Nov. 27. Saw 12 Pine Grosbeaks feeding on ash seeds in trees near the roadside.

Dec. 1. Saw 15 or more Grosbeaks, some of them eating ash seeds.

Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> to 31 We saw from 25 to 50 every day, one day my son saw 150, but I have not its date.

I often saw them <sup>long</sup> before sun-rise fly from the direction of the pine grove and light in the ash trees by the roadside and feed upon the seeds. A few birds would occasionally appear to be eating the buds in maple and elm trees, and my wife saw <sup>some</sup> of the birds eat the buds in a pear tree that stands where some of its branches touch our kitchen

and chamber windows, but not enough to damage the tree, although it was repeated several different days. Some of the Grosbeaks were seen hopping on the ground under the trees and in the road picking up something to eat, and this every day and in greater numbers toward the last of December, so that some people thought they were eating the same kind of food as the English sparrows, and my brother who lives only a few ~~steps~~ rods from our house, thought to induce the birds to make his grounds their headquarters, threw down some oats for them to eat, but the birds he said, would walk over the oats without eating any or even noticing them. I watched the birds upon the ground 5 or 10 minutes at a time on a good many different days, and in every instance they were picking up and eating the ash seeds that had fallen on the ground; and in the latter part of the month there were more seeds ~~up~~ on the ground than upon the trees. The birds were very tame, and there was no difficulty in approaching within a few feet of them and observing every movement. They were very conspicuous, and were welcomed by every body as they were here.

at a time when there were but few birds except chickadees and tree sparrows. Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> there were a number of females, one young male and one beautiful old male, were feeding close around our house in company with tree sparrows and chickadees in perfect friendliness, perhaps without their even knowing it was so near Christmas. One day I had been away on business and was coming home about 3 o'clock P.M., when within a half mile of home I saw grosbeaks in every ash and maple tree beside the road, whether it was a young sprout or a large shade tree, a few birds in each, and I counted 50 birds in going that half mile, and could see that there were more birds in the trees beyond. It was a beautiful sight and a great addition to a winter landscape to see them eating the seeds and buds.

From Jan. 1<sup>st</sup> 1893, to the 4<sup>th</sup>, we saw the grosbeaks in constantly decreasing numbers, as the seeds on the trees were all gone and the supply on the ground was diminishing.

On January 9<sup>th</sup> we had our first real snow storm of the season and the ground was covered.

Jan. 10. Saw a number, did not count them.

Jan. 12. Saw one grosbeak, which was the last.

We have a great deal of white pine woods around us, but I had no opportunity for observing the birds among them, or of finding out what proportion of their food ~~was~~ consisted of the seeds from the pine cones.

My brother saw 3 old males at one time, and that is the most that any one saw at once ~~time~~ that I can find out.

The young males were in proportion to the females of about 3 in 12.

As a rule the flocks were small, 10 or 15 I should think, but occasionally one of 20 or 25 or even 50 were seen. (See not over.)

I believe this answers your questions so far as I am able to do.

Our Village is Greenville, in the south part of the town of Leicester, about 7 miles south west from the city of Worcester.

Yours Respectfully,

F. S. address —

R. H. Newton

Rochdale, Mass.

June 29 - 1893.

From diary Dec. 3-1892. "Saw 25 or 30 pine  
grosbeaks in 3 or 4 flocks, some feeding on ash seeds."

This would make it about 8 or 10 birds in a  
flock; ~~that is~~ ~~the~~ ~~number~~. My son  
says that the 150 he saw in one day,  
were in one flock. He says it was difficult  
to tell just how many birds there were, as they  
were flying, but in no particular direction.  
But he estimated there were 150 or 200 birds in  
that flock.

R. H. N.

Winter Birds at Newton Highlands  
Mass.

Dec 4

1916 Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*  
*leucura*) Mrs George S. Mellen.

Auk xxxiv. Jan. 1917. p. 92-93.

Postmarked Feb. 16

Wm H Lewis

215 Boston Road  
Pawtucket, R. I.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Saw one Jan 27<sup>th</sup> 93

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

*Two*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

*Two*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?

*They were both Females or Young*

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

*Last seen Feb 3*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmark: March 3

Southwick & Crotchley

258 Westminster St.

Providence R.I.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Small flocks of Pine Grosbeaks have been in this neighborhood about a month.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

First seen Jan 29, 1893. Most numerous Feb 3. a large flock and a few small ones seen, and a few specimens shot.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

About 150 birds. one flock of nearly 100. Several flocks of 8 to 15

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Generally small flocks. largest of perhaps 100.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Have seen only one male in adult plumage. other females or young males in gray plumage

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Fed in Evergreen trees. fir, pine & Cedar. seldom alighted in any other kind.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Remained with us about a month. have not seen any since the last week in Feb.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Inverlodge  
Portland, Conn.,  
Feb. 7, 1893.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes a few.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

The first ones seen was Jan. 2, 1893. <sup>at peak of 16.</sup> Most numerous Jan. 17.

Portland, Conn., Feb. 13/93  
A small flock Pine Grosbeaks  
was seen here on the 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Have not been found since.  
J.K.S.

No red ones

Portland, Conn., Feb. 13/93.  
The Pine Grosbeaks were  
here today. J.K.S.

A flock of about fifteen Pinicola enucleator were seen nine miles east of me yesterday, one being shot. No red ones among them. J.K.S.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

20 (Jan. 17.)

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

In flocks from 5 to 20. I doubt if more than three or four flocks have been seen in all. All were at one locality from Jan. 2<sup>d</sup> to Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> inclusive - except one flock of 5. 20 was the greatest number in one flock.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Have seen no full plumaged males - several of the yg. ♂ were noticeably red on rump & top of head.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

only seen feeding on hemlocks & Norway spruces. I have the stomachs of mine in alcohol.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

Six were seen Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> this is my latest date. The locality has not been visited since.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Portland, Conn., Feb. 13/93.  
The Pine Grosbeak were here today. J.K.S.

A flock of about fifteen unicola unicola were seen nine miles east of me yesterday one being shot. No nest seen among them. J.K.S.

Portland, Conn., Feb. 13/93  
A small flock Pine Grosbeaks was seen here on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Have not been found since.  
J.K.S.

No nest seen

Portland, Conn., Feb. 13/93  
A small flock Pine Grosbeaks  
was seen here on the 9<sup>th</sup>.  
Have not been found since.  
J.K.S.

No red ones

Portland, Conn., Feb. 14/93  
A flock of about fifteen Pinicola  
enucleator were seen nine  
miles east of us yesterday,  
one being shot. No red  
ones among them.  
J.K.S.

Portland, Conn., Feb. 15/93  
The Pine Grosbeaks were  
here today. J.K.S.



*Mr. Wm Brewster*



*Mr. Wm Brewster,*



NOTHING BUT THE ADDRESS TO BE ON THIS SIDE.

*Mr. Wm Brewster,  
14 Middle St.,  
Cambridge*



Portland, Conn.,  
Mch. 3/93

Dear Mr. Brewster:

A few Pine  
Grosbeaks were seen  
here Feb. 25<sup>th</sup>. They  
were not in their  
favorite feeding ground  
yesterday.

Sincerely,

W. H. Sage  
Portland, Conn.,  
Mch. 28/93.

Dear Mr. Brewster:

My latest  
date so far for the

Pine Grosbeak is Mch. 4 of Am. Crossbill  
25<sup>th</sup>. Two were shot on the 14<sup>th</sup>,  
on that day by my  
man (who lives with  
me). He only saw  
the two. They were in  
a cedar grove. I  
supposed they had gone.  
I found three on the  
16<sup>th</sup>. These birds

Portland, Conn.,  
Mch. 13/93.

Brewster:

The Pine  
is were here

Blackbirds  
Today.

I have been  
see Jan. 22  
in great

I have  
of them in  
different parts

town.  
I have not been  
find them since.

of them included  
in my tin can  
Sincerely,

W. H. Sage

Portland, Conn.  
Mich. 13/93.

Dear Mr. Brewster:  
The Pine  
Grosbeaks were here  
yesterday.

Crow Blackbirds  
appeared today.

I have been  
see Jan. 25

in great  
I have  
of them in  
different parts

Portland, Conn.  
Mich. 28/93.

Dear Mr. Brewster:

My latest  
date so far for the town.  
Pine Grosbeaks is Mich. 4 of Am. Crossbill  
25<sup>th</sup> - Two were shot on the 14<sup>th</sup>,  
on that day by my have not been  
man (who lives with find them since  
me). He only saw of them included  
the two. They were in in my tin can  
a cedar grove. I nearly  
supposed they had gone. (No. 1 Sage)  
I found three on the  
16<sup>th</sup> - These birds

Portland, Conn.  
Mich. 13/93.

Dear Mr. Brewster:

The Pine  
Goswicks were here  
yesterday.

Crow Blackbirds  
appeared today.

I have  
seen to have been  
here since Jan. 20  
- but not in great  
numbers. I have  
heard of them in  
four different parts  
of the town.

A flock of Am. Crossbills  
were here on the 14<sup>th</sup>,  
but we have not been  
able to find them since.

Eight of them concluded  
to rest in my tin can.

Sincerely,  
W. A. Sage

Portland, Conn.  
Mich. 13/93.

Dear Mr. Brewster:

The Pine  
Gosbrake were here  
yesterday.

Crow Blackbirds  
appeared today.

Sincerely,  
J. W. Sage

(Postmarked) Feb 17

H. W. Fisher

New Haven

Conn

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Yes, probably only one flock  
however

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Jan 28

Dear Mr Brewster I have not  
offered my bird skins to anyone  
and if you don't take them later  
on thank I will keep them myself

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

About a dozen

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

one flock of 12 or 15 individuals seen  
three days consecutively in some locality

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

no red ♂♂ were observed

6. What was their principal food when with you?

This flock fed exclusively upon the berries  
of a species of honeysuckle growing upon the porch of  
a house giving good opportunities for observing the birds

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

Only seen on the three days mentioned  
from Jun 28 to 30 inclusive

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 13

Feb. 12 - 1893

Mr. Brewster: -

Dear Sir: -

I have been  
unable to get into the  
woods this winter.

I am however from Mr. Flint  
that the Pine Grosbeaks  
have been here, and he also  
says he will send you  
full notes of their occurrence.

Regretting my inability to  
assist.

Yours sincerely

Louis B. Bilep

Louis B. Bilep

77 Westway Ave.

New York Conn.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR: -

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

[Postmarked Feb 7]

From Chas E Perkins

Hamden Conn

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have not seen or heard of any so far this winter - last winter I saw several bunches -

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
  
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
  
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
  
6. What was their principal food when with you?
  
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

13. Tamarack / Feb. 13

Willard E. Treat

East Hartford

Conn.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

Have not found them here  
this winter. Sorry don't give any  
time.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Mr. Sage has found them at Portland  
and will undoubtedly give you con-  
siderable information W. E. Treat

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
  
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
  
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
  
6. What was their principal food when with you?
  
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Hartford. Ct  
Apr 11<sup>th</sup> 1893

Mr Brewster

Dear Sir

You may wonder at  
my delay in answering  
yours of Jan 25.

I now hasten you an answer  
I have been in Florida since  
Jan 27. arrived home 3.05 P.M.  
yesterday, I am sorry I could  
not assist you in the migration  
of Pine Grosbeaks for they visit  
at my Uncle's place 16 miles  
west of this city ever severe  
Winter. I have seen them a  
number of times there. Yours Truly  
Clifford M. Case.

54 Babcock St Hartford Conn.

Postmarked Feb. 10

C. N. [unclear] M. L.

Bridgeport

Conn.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

None seen this winter.  
(over)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Have some little collecting this winter. None of our collectors have seen them. Birds that usually are seen, seem to be less common than usual.

Jan 3, '93, a pleasant day, 31° F. but not a single (Chickadee) seen in an all day's outing: at later dates but few hardy species, in small numbers. In previous years, Pine Grosbeaks were always seen in Seymour, Conn, when they invaded southern New England at all. Have no data, however, for this year.

Will try to get some information from there, and, if of any value, will forward.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked - Feb. 13

W. Linfred Sumner,  
Public Library  
Bridgeport, Ct.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

*I have searched diligently for them this winter but have failed to find any as yet.*

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
  
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
  
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
  
6. What was their principal food when with you?
  
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 8

C. K. Cornell Jr.

235 Myrtle St.

Bridgeport, Conn.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

(over)

Have had no opportunities  
for observing birds this winter.  
Have not heard of the occurrence  
of the species.

Very truly  
O. M. Arnott, Jr.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Stanford Ct

Feb 23<sup>d</sup> 1893

Mr William Brewster

Cambridge  
Mass

Dear Sir:

On Jan 23<sup>d</sup> Mr  
John Chace, a man of  
intelligence saw a flock of  
birds with which he was  
not familiar. From his  
description I at the time  
pronounced them Pine Grosbeaks.  
There were less than a  
dozen birds. I am quite  
sure that they were of  
the species in question.

There are four young  
men here interested in  
ornithology. They have  
been out a good deal

all winter but have observed  
no freshets. This is all  
the data I can give you.  
If there had been many  
birds I should have been  
sure to have heard of it.  
For every thing unusual is  
reported at my place -

I shall look forward  
with great interest to your  
report upon this species.

Very truly yours

Wm. H. Hoyt.

John N. Clark  
Daybrook

Down Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> 1893

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

No - We have <sup>no</sup> coniferous trees in this section except a few larch trees - supposable attraction

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

I have heard brief reports of their appearance within 25 miles North of here and have watched with interest for their appearance here as I wanted a good red one having never yet taken a full plumaged bird

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
  
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
  
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
  
6. What was their principal food when with you?
  
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

(Postmarked) Feb. 11

Chas. E. Woodcock,  
Auronia, Conn.

Feb. 11, 1893.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have not seen any this year.  
After making inquiries I can not hear  
of any Pine Grosbeaks in this locality this year.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
  
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
  
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
  
6. What was their principal food when with you?
  
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 21

From

Paul A. Staffan

Rockville, Ct. - Lolland Co.  
Town of  
Vernon.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

None, but I noticed, immediately about here, that my brother, Theo. Staffan, secured some specimens about 4 miles north of here in Town of Ellington, this County. I forward this paper to him for this reply please.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Shot four Grosbeaks (Pine) Dec. 31  
in Ellington, Conn. two females, one old male  
adult, full plumaged; one young male, about  
advanced in red plumage.

About Andover Mass. they have been very common.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

I never saw more than 20 but some of my companions have seen more.

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

Flocks varied from four to fifteen and twenty even.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

Some males in my possession are red all over head neck breast, rump, but wings gray, tails gray, and parts about legs - and belly - gray.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Buds of white pine and tree-seeds, maple buds.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

About four weeks ago near Jan 29th apparent departure, although a flock was seen Feb 15th and last week Tuesday Feb 14 I noticed about four or five about here And over.

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

There would have been an irregular distribution within a few years, and I always watch their appearance with much interest. I think much could be said regarding them, that would be instructive.

Mr Charles Woodruff of this place, a student, has collected and valuable notes of you could interest him.

I stuffed three taken shot about here, altogether about 35 birds in every stage. Young males with only a slight tint, others farther advanced about  $\frac{1}{4}$  red, some  $\frac{1}{3}$  there almost full - and a few what one might say as near ~~as~~ red as Grosbeak will become.

Yours respect

Theodore C. Hoffman.

Andover Mass.

Feb. 10 - 1893

James E Smith  
East Killingly  
Conn

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

none seen within 10 or 12 miles  
of here

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Dec 30<sup>th</sup> 1892

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

150 to 300

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

fair sized flocks should say  
60 to 80

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

they appeared to be mostly <sup>young</sup> ♂ + ♀

6. What was their principal food when with you?

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

only seen once Dec 30<sup>th</sup>

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 8

Chas E Bailey  
Walden  
Mass

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have seen more pine grosbeaks than I have seen since 1880 the first I saw was on Feb 1 1892 in Weymouth the next birds I saw was in Nov 14 in Marblehead

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none.)

and there was a few birds to see every day after but on Jan 7 till Jan 22 they were very plenty and high in my neighborhood for 5 days I should think I saw 1/2 birds each day and I have not seen any since Jan 28

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

I think 75 is a safe No to estimate

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

They have been in flocks of from 4<sup>or</sup> 17 they seem to be broken up more than in 1879 at Gardner, Mass & Oak 27  
Birds in 2 apple trees Jan 15

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I have only seen 3 full plumaged males all winter

6. What was their principal food when with you?

Frozen apple seeds of hedge I do not think but it is as yet a flock berry will think soon

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

I have not seen a yr so far since Jan 27

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

[Postmarked Feb. 7]

Mr. W. C. C. C. C.

72 Mulberry St.

Springfield, Mass.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.

January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have seen none  
this winter.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Am greatly interested  
in your circular.

Have observed this Grosbeak  
at irregular intervals in this  
state and in New Hampshire  
since 1865, when I first saw  
them in the latter state.

They appeared again in con-  
siderable numbers in the winter  
of 1868-9. In the summer  
of 1869, I found a pair on <sup>the</sup> Moose  
Lake, N. H. in the latter part of  
July, as I remember the fact.

The male was in full song.  
This is the only instance, within my  
knowledge, of their occurrence  
in New England in the breeding  
season.

During the last 18 years I have  
lived here and have seen the  
Pine Grosbeak several times in  
this vicinity. In the winter of  
1874-5, many of this species were  
seen in this city feeding on the berries  
of the mountain ash.

I expected to see more of our winter residents here  
this winter on account of the severe weather, but have been  
disappointed. Saw a King-fisher on the 5th inst.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

East Templeton, Mass.

Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>, 1893

Mr William Brewster,

145 Brattle St.,

Cambridge, Mass.

Dear Sir,

Enclosed

I send copies of my notes on the  
Pine Grosbeak from 1878 to date  
which you are at liberty to use as you  
like

Very respectfully yours  
Geo. C. Angell

1878

Nov. 14<sup>th</sup>

Saw a number of <sup>(Grosbeaks)</sup> strange birds feeding on the berries of the black alder in the "swamp"

1879

No notes regarding this species from which I infer that it was absent

1880

Dec. 12

Saw several Pine Grosbeaks in the swamp of which I shot and mounted a female. Did not see a single male in full plumage. These birds did not come at all last year.

Dec. 19

Saw more of the Grosbeaks in the swamp. There are fully 100 there and not one in the full male plumage.

While feeding on the berries of the black alder they are quite tame.

but perched on trees and not feeding  
they are shy + + + —

Dec 25

The flock of Pine Grosbeaks in the  
swamp is constantly receiving additions.  
There are now several full plumaged  
males of which I shot two to day.  
I also fired at the Hawk mentioned  
before which has been their constant  
attendant. The position of the Hawk  
may be determined at any time by  
the movements of the Grosbeaks.  
They are very uneasy when he is about  
but I frequently see them alight on  
the same tree with him.

1881

Jan 2<sup>nd</sup>

Have been in the swamp among  
the Grosbeaks. Noticed more males  
Some in perfect plumage others  
with but very little red. They

seem to have but little fear of man allowing me to walk among them so near that I can almost touch them with the muzzle of my gun when they shift their position they all at once without any warning start into the air actuated by no perceptible cause fly for a short distance and alight on a neighboring tree from which they fly often one or two at a time back to the spot from which they started.

Males are in the proportion of 1 to 10

Jan 11<sup>th</sup>

† Went among the Grosbeaks they are constantly receiving additions and must now number between four and five hundred

Notes are frequent all through this month but contain nothing unusual

The flock remained with about the same numbers throughout the month.

There was an abundance of snow and several stormy days when the Grosbeaks kept in the shelter of the pines bordering the swamp nearly or quite all day.

Average temperature 83 observations was  $16^{\circ}$ .

Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>.

Saw a small flock of Grosbeaks feeding on seeds of pine and spruce near the "river" x x —

Feb 20<sup>th</sup>.

Went into the swamp to look after my little friends the Grosbeaks being the first ~~time~~ visit for two weeks owing to the difficulty in getting about in the deep soft

been there several days.

Black Alder berries are very abundant. Shot a sharp shinned hawk in the swamp near the Grosbeaks. The contents of the crop consisted wholly of the remains of Grosbeaks.

Dec. 17

Went to the swamp. Caught two female? grosbeaks with wire noose on a pole. Was unable to catch a full plumaged male although saw several.

Saw a Shrike laboriously flying about 2 or 3 feet above the snow carrying a Grosbeak.

Mink tracks are found all about the swamp and Red squirrels are very abundant the latter feeding on the alder berries and the Weasels on the Squirrels probably.

snow

Although I searched through their  
favorite haunts I did not see a single  
bird of any kind

March 6<sup>th</sup>

Saw a small flock of Pine Grosbeaks  
near the house feeding on frozen  
apples

Mar. 18<sup>th</sup>

Saw a small flock of Grosbeaks  
feeding on larch trees on Main St.  
where they remained nearly all  
day

In the winter of '81-82 none were  
seen

1882

Dec 10

Visited the swamp this morning  
and found a large flock of  
Grosbeaks which judging by  
the waste under the bushes have

7

Dec 18

A small flock of Pine Grosbeaks have been about the pond at the Toy Factory to day drinking water when it came through some holes in the ice

Dec 19

One of my Grosbeaks died last night probably owing to injuries received from the wire snare. The others are perfectly tame already manifesting no fear whatever at a close approach of even the cat. They eat canary seeds and black alder berries without the least concern for the spectators. They drink frequently from a shallow dish.

Dec 21

Took a drive through Hubbards —  
— Saw several flocks of Pine Grosbeaks — — Of the Grosbeaks

there were nearly as many old males  
 a females and young males together + +  
 + + The flocks of Grosbeaks men-  
 tioned Dec 18<sup>th</sup> have been feeding on the  
 Crab apple in front of the house  
 of Edwin Wright Main St. where they  
 have covered the snow with the  
 remnants of their feast on the frozen  
 apples ungathered in the fall  
 I have also noticed that they have  
 been feeding on the buds of a maple  
 tree near by nearly stripping it

Dec. 24

Went into the swamp this P.M. + + +  
 shot 4 Grosbeaks of which I  
 mounted 3

Dec 28<sup>th</sup>

Went to ride this P.M. x + + -  
 saw a flock of Grosbeaks on  
 Templeton Common the latter  
 are very abundant every where

this winter

I have a Pine Grosbeak which when caught last winter had a fine scarlet plumage which during the summer moult changed to the usual plumage of the female and young of the year of the wild birds

Feb. 7

Boys and others have caught on to the trick of catching Grosbeaks with a noose and there are several in captivity in the village

1883-84 About

1884

Dec 30

Saw a flock of 6 Grosbeaks feeding on a Maple tree beside the Gardner road this morning

Jan 26

~~75~~ Saw a few Pine Grosbeaks in the swamp

Jan 12

~~Pine~~ Riding through Hubbardston and Williamsville saw a large flock of Pine Grosbeaks of which I shot the only full plumaged male

Jan 14

Pine Grosbeaks have made their appearance in the village streets feeding on the seeds of the maple which are left hanging on the trees there are very few males about 1 in 20

They were absent from 85 to —  
Dec 29<sup>th</sup> 1889

About two weeks ago a fine male Pine Grosbeak was brought to a local taxidermist to be mounted the first

to show up this winter to my knowledge  
 there were 20 or 25 in the flock from  
 which this one was taken

The weather has been very mild thus  
 far all the fall

1890 Feb. 14

Saw a solitary Pine Grosbeak on  
 the road from Otter River to Temperance  
 The only one I have seen this winter  
 Very mild winter up to this date  
 ice has not formed to the thickness of  
 over 4 inches

March 26

Saw a flock of 10 Pine Grosbeaks +  
 --- ice is all out of the river ---

'90-'91 Absent

'91-'92 Absent

\* JAMES \* E. \* SMITH, \*

DEALER IN

\* FURS \* AND \* SKINS, \*

\* EAST \* KILLINGLY, \* CONN. \*

EXPRESS AND FREIGHT ADDRESS; DAYVILLE, CONN.

NO COMMISSION OR EXPRESSAGE CHARGED. PROMPT RETURNS ASSURED.

To warrant satisfaction all consignments are kept separate until you receive my remittance.

(Probably I might have seen no more than 150 or there were close together in position a year ago at the time I might have been some of them twice I think however they were 3 or 4 ft from)

NO. 1. LARGE.	NO. 1. MEDIUM.	NO. 1. SMALL.	NO. 2. LARGE.	NO. 3.	NO. 4.	REMARKS.
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Feb 18 1893

Mr Wm Brewster  
Cambridge Mass

Dear Sir I would say that I would remove blocks of pine wood a little south of Sterling Depot 15 mile N.E. of Norwich Conn on Dec 31 1892 should think I would need 300 wide in place 1.60 to 80 each. There are all I have been this winter & as I have been on the road collecting furrierly every year or day & travel 15 to 20 miles in all directions I do not think they have appeared near here in very large numbers, at least they are in length of time. I was down through where I

Raccoon,  
Skunk,  
Red Fox,  
Gray Fox,  
Mink,  
Muskrats,  
B. Bears.  
Cubs,  
Rabbits,  
Wildcats,  
Wolf,  
Otter,  
Beaver,  
" Cubs,  
Lynx,  
Cross Fox,  
Silver " Kitt " Marten, Dark Pale Fisher, Dark Pale Badger, Wolverine, Antelope, Buck skin, Deer "

can these birds I can 7 but did not see any when I go again I will inquire of the hunters & they send a report if I get any information with it

ALLENDER & KNOUS,  
GREYSTONE NEEDLE WORKS,

MANUFACTURERS OF THE

CELEBRATED STAR



CROCHET NEEDLES.

PATENTED.

ALSO, NICKEL PLATED GOODS, LIGHT HARDWARE, ETC.

Estimates Cheerfully  
Furnished.

Greystone, Conn. Feb 14<sup>th</sup> 1893

Mr Wm Brewster

Sir

In answer to  
Enquiries made in Forest and Stream of  
Feb 9<sup>th</sup> would say that a flock of Pine  
groshakes made their appearance in this  
vicinity about Jan 8<sup>th</sup>. The flock consisted  
at that time of eleven birds; two males  
They staid here about two weeks, feeding upon  
the seeds of the maple tree almost exclusively  
and the flock varied in number during that  
time from three to fifteen. The largest number  
of males seen at one time being four. I shot  
two, one male and one female and sent  
them to Watbury to a funder to be skinned  
and I presume if you care about information

CELEBRATED STAR



CROCHET NEEDLES.

PATENTED.

ALSO, NICKEL PLATED GOODS, LIGHT HARDWARE, ETC.

Estimates Cheerfully  
Furnished.

Greystone, Conn. April 12<sup>th</sup> 1893

Mr Wm Brewster

Sir

Four female  
Pine groshakes passed through here  
Feb 24<sup>th</sup> stopping for about two  
hours in the maple trees, and seeing  
a short article in the "Popular Science review"  
that asked for information on the same  
point, and thinking it may have escaped  
your observation. I send it with the  
article marked in to days mail. All the  
groshakes upon leaving this locality flew  
in the direction named in this article

Yours truly

Henry Allender

## The Hammer &amp; Forbes Co.

Manufacturers of Manilla Paper.

Telegraph Address,  
HARTFORD, CONN.,  
Care Telephone Co.

Burnside, Conn., July 7 1893

Miriam Brewster Esq  
Georjia:—

Your circular in reference to the Pine Grosbeak was recd. this am. and I reply that I had seen none since about 1883. Since writing you I was in the woods for a few minutes and much to my surprise a flock of about a dozen showed very affraid, lighting in some tall trees directly over me. Having nothing but a rifle I was of course unable to secure any. They appeared to be very wild and wary, and of course leaving as soon as I fired at them.

I thought I would write you about the above, and should I succeed in getting any, or seeing them again I will if you wish let you know. I remain

Truly yours  
W. Hammer

[Postmarked Feb. 7]

C. S. Hammer,  
Burnside,  
Conn.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

HAVE BEEN NONE HERE  
SINCE ABOUT 1883 (?)  
- C. S. H.

899

East Killingly Conn.  
Mr Wm Brewster

Dear Sir: I write  
say that I saw a flock of 5  
Pine Grosbeaks 1 1/2 miles  
Putnam on the banks of  
Swinnebang River today  
When first seen they were  
on a field beside the river  
where grain had been sown  
& appeared to be feeding.  
soon flew into some apple  
trees that were near & I could see  
them picking the old rotten  
apple presumably after  
seeds. The whole flock eventually  
settled into some evergreen  
around a farmhouse & we  
there as long as I staid & we

& then perhaps 5 minutes  
these evergreen trees are  
the kind that has a long cone  
5 or 6 inches long & I suppose the  
birds were feeding on the seeds  
These birds may have been  
more plenty in the river  
valley than I supposed when  
I wrote you a few days ago  
& if I get any further information  
concerning their presence in this  
section this season worthy of  
notice I will let you know

Respectfully yours  
James E. Smith  
East Killingly  
Conn

P.S. they seemed to be about 1/4 old ♂  
& 3/4 full plumaged birds

Canaan Conn.  
Feb. 10<sup>th</sup> 1893.

Mr. Brewster.

Dear Sir

I saw your letter published in this weeks issue of Forest & Stream in regard to pine grosbeaks. I never have seen any until this winter. I first saw them on Sunday, Jan. 8<sup>th</sup>, although I heard of a flock of six being seen two or three days before. I think there were ten in this flock which was the largest I have seen. I saw a number of flocks afterwards of from two to seven, but have seen none or heard of any since about

Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>. I did not see  
more than one full-plu-  
maged male in a flock  
and some of the smaller  
one had none. They fed  
mostly on seeds of the Norway  
spruce, coming very close  
to the houses and being very  
tame. We have been having  
an unusually cold winter.  
We are in the northwestern  
corner of the state. Hoping  
this will be of some use  
to you I remain

Yours resp<sup>ly</sup>  
F. F. Stevens.

Point of observation, Southern part of Enfield Ct

Monday.

[Robert O. Morris Esq]

Dear Sir:-

The last week in Jan., a doz' or so of the Birds were here feeding on frozen apples and apple pomace. My neighbor Thompson got all he wanted as they were all birds of the first year and not a red male in the flock. The name given Pine Grosbeak, is entirely misplaced, they are a Spruce Bullfinch, no more nor less. They live and breed in the Spruce belt above the Pine and as I have fully verified in northern Vermont, often dash down to the valleys for berries and to dwellings for cherries, and after feeding, wheel off to the mountain tops. Some three years ago, the Evening Grosbeak paid us a visit. I got one, the first and only one I ever saw,- to me, invaluable.

I have 20 quail under my special care this winter doing finely. A 50 acre swamp on the farm gives us exclusive privileges in regard to partridge, quail, pigeons, rabbits, hawks, owls &c &c. P. S. And truest respects to Mr. Colburn.

Yours,

B. Horsford.

PINE GROSBEEKS. — Saw six Pine Grosbeaks, Dec. 17. They were very tame—almost touched one with my hand—no old ones among them—these are the first specimens noted this season.—*John H. Sage.*

*Portland, Conn.*

O. & O. VIII. Mar. 1888. p. 24

**Brief Notes.**

*Pinicola enucleata*  
C. M. Jones, Eastford, Conn., writes that birds have been very scarce in his locality this winter. He has observed a few Grosbeak

O. & O. Vol. 18, Feb. 1893 p. 31

(Postmarked Feb 8)

Joseph L. DeLafield

475 Fifth Ave.

N. Y. City

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I have ~~at~~ seen only one  
at New Rochelle, N. Y.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

About Dec 14<sup>th</sup> '92

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Brooklyn, N.Y., Feb. 22/93.  
Mr. Wm Brewster,

Dear Sir,

I regret that I can give you no information regarding the Pine Grosbeaks. I have spent no time in the field this winter, so I sent your circular to a friend who lives in the pine region of Long Island. Selden is about 50 miles from N. Y. and about 7 miles south of Port Jefferson. I have never seen any Pine Grosbeaks on Long Island, and from reports should consider them of very rare occurrence.

Very truly yours  
Arthur A. Howell.

212 Madison St.

Lucius Mearns Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 1893

C. M. Merriam

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.) *yes*

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

*first seen Dec 10<sup>th</sup> saw 12 birds at  
Fish creek. most numerous Jan 20<sup>th</sup>*

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?  
*I counted 40*

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock? ~~12~~  
*Small flocks  
greatest number 40*

5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?  
*did not see any old male birds.*

6. What was their principal food when with you?  
*Maple buds.*

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?  
*remained here till June 24<sup>th</sup>  
have not seen any since.*

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Postmarked Feb. 7

Florence A. Merriam

Leicester

Leicester, U. S.

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

DEAR SIR:—

During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly answering the following questions in the spaces left for that purpose. Please write your name and address on the dotted lines at the head of this page.

1. Have any Pine Grosbeaks appeared in your neighborhood this winter? (Reports of their apparent absence will be quite as useful as records of their occurrence.)

I saw several squads - on the same run - about the house in Nov. & Dec.

2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

My statistics are in my note book at home. If not too late, I can send them to you in June. If I remember correctly I saw the first on

Thanksgiving day, and we  
left December 17<sup>th</sup>.

If you will send a circular  
to our farmer--

Frank Wetmore  
Locust Grove N. Y.

He can watch for the birds  
the rest of the winter. You can  
depend on his statements.

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?

4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and  
what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?

I remember counting twelve --  
There may have been more.

5. About what was the proportion of red (i.e. full-plumaged  
males) to the females and young (i.e. plain brown or gray birds)?

I think perhaps two males in  
a flock of twelve.

6. What was their principal food when with you?

I saw one flock eating ash  
seeds.

7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in num-  
bers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may  
enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In  
size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with  
short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy  
red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less  
yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both  
sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Mr. O. T. Miller, 244 Macaen St  
Brooklyn - has had grosbeaks reported to him  
recently.

Chatham

New York

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
January 25, 1893.

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2. When were the first seen and at what date were they most numerous? (Approximate dates will be much better than none).

Flock of 7 seen Nov. 22  
1892. (See next page)

the first sound I hear as I step out into the frosty morning air is their pleasant notes, and I am sure to find flocks every morning feeding on the juice of crab-apple trees near the house, or over in the tangle along the river; later they feed on the ash, maple and tamarack.

Binghamton Feb 20 - 1893

William Brewster Esq.,  
145 Brattle St.

Dear Sir:-

Your circular,  
about (*Pinicola enucleator*) was forwarded to me, as I have been absent from home (Pittsfield Mass), since the twenty second of November I am indeed, very sorry to inform you that I had no chance to make any observations about the named specimen but can inform you this much that I saw seven specimens on some kind of weed, about three feet from the ground near the rail road track near Chatham N.Y. on the twenty second day of November 1892 but could not see whether they were male, or female or young or what kind of plant, as the train was moving fast.

Very Respectfully,  
Wm. Brewster

3. What was the greatest number of birds seen in one day?
4. Did they occur in large or small flocks, as a rule, and what was the greatest number seen in any one flock?
5. About what was the proportion of red (*i.e.* full-plumaged males) to the females and young (*i.e.* plain brown or gray birds)?
6. What was their principal food when with you?
7. If they have disappeared or materially decreased in numbers, about when did this occur?

The following brief description of the Pine Grosbeak may enable those unacquainted with the bird to recognize it. In size a little smaller than a Robin, plump, well-feathered, with short, stout bill. Old males with most of the plumage rosy red. Females and young males ashy brown with more or less yellowish, saffron or dull red on the rump and top of head. Both sexes have two conspicuous white bars on the wings.

Yours truly,

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O. & O. Vol. 18, April, 1893 p. 58

Chatham

New York

145 Brattle Street, Cambridge, Mass.  
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During the early part of the present winter Cambridge, Massachusetts, was visited by an unusual number of Pine Grosbeaks (*Pinicola enucleator*) which, after exhausting the food supply, departed very suddenly. I wish to trace, if possible, the routes which they followed and the total area covered by their migration. You can aid me in this by kindly

Cold Weather Notes, Stephentown, N. Y.  
Benjamin Hoag

Pine Grosbeaks are in abundance ; I have never recorded them here in such numbers before. First seen December 7, a single female feeding on a big white-ash ; next record December 19th, a flock of six, four fine red males and two females. Since December 19, flocks of from eight to fifty noted daily. Grateful indeed I am for ample opportunity for observations on these beautiful birds ; the first sound I hear as I step out into the frosty morning air is their pleasant notes, and I am sure to find flocks every morning feeding on the juice of crab-apple trees near the house, or over in the tangle along the river ; later they feed on the ash, maple and tamarack.

Twin Oaks.  
Port Henry, N.Y.

Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 93

Mr Brewster.

Sir. I have read  
in "Forest and Stream" of Feb 9<sup>th</sup> inst  
your enquiries, with regard  
to the Pine Grosbeaks.

In reply to your questions  
1<sup>st</sup>. I noticed a flock of ten  
or fifteen. I should judge  
probably the middle of November  
flying in our yard, and lighting  
on the elms, walnuts and maples.

I have seen them several times  
since, within three miles of here,  
six or eight of them, flying in  
and out of different varieties  
of trees. My son saw a group

Twin Oaks.  
Port Henry, N.Y.

April 1<sup>st</sup> 93.

Mr Brewster.

Sir. In reply to  
your request, that I would  
notice if there were any  
Grosbeaks about until  
the first of April, I would  
say, that we have seen none  
since I last wrote, nor have  
I heard of any, since my son  
saw five, of which I wrote.

My husband thinks  
that I put the time of first  
seeing them, two weeks too  
early. I have been much  
interested, to ascertain

of them, first in number a short distance from here feeding on apples which had been left, on the trees.

There was only one bird with dead upon it, in that flock. There were not more than two or three bright plumaged ones, in the flocks I saw.

I first noticed these birds here four years since, and there seemed then, to be more bright birds than now.

I should judge the flocks did not at any time exceed twenty. They seemed to be feeding on the buds of the evergreens, and other trees.

I noticed last winter and this, a small trim bird

very like the little shipping bird, or hair bird, but more slender and trim, and with the breast and under throat nearly white, slightly greyish.

It was evidently one of the sparrow family, and I thought might be a tree sparrow, which I find is occasionally a winter bird here.

This town is situated on Lake Champlain, Essex Co. about one hundred and twenty miles north of Albany, and forty miles south of Waterbury.

Respectfully

Mrs Wallace T. Hook.

I noticed the greatest number on

Twin Oaks,  
Port Henry, N.Y.

April 1<sup>st</sup> 93.

Mr Brewster.

Sir, In reply to your request, that I would notice if there were any Goosbeaks about until the first of April, I would say, that we have seen none since I last wrote, nor have I heard of any, since my son saw five, of which I wrote.

My husband thinks that I pet the time of first seeing them, two weeks too early. I have been much interested, to ascertain

the first flock. the middle  
of November. The largest  
flock I have seen was. Last  
winter, when there seemed  
without counting - 1 to be forty  
or fifty, and there were more  
bright ones among them than  
I have since noticed. It might  
have been later in the season  
and the plumage of the young  
birds more developed.

Twin Oaks,  
Port Henry, N.Y.

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Mr Bree  
in "Forest  
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In sep  
1st. I di  
or fifteen  
probably  
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on the  
I have  
since, &  
six or  
and out  
of trees.

if possible, the name of  
three birds I saw, on  
March 10<sup>th</sup>. They were  
about the size of the snow  
bunting, with large strong  
looking black feet, and be  
long, round black bill,  
somewhat like the hairy  
woodpeckers, only not as pointed,  
and I should judge an inch  
in length. The very curious  
part of them, was the head  
which was a little like a bat.

It had this appearance, as  
well as I can represent it.

 as if small protuberances  
were raised at each side of

the top of the head.  
The color was slightly rufous  
with a tinging of greenish  
yellow, with it, making the  
bird quite light, and having  
some resemblance to a cherry  
bird, in color, if that color  
were mixed in with a light  
Colorado sparrow. This is not  
very definite, but it is difficult  
to describe. We were not  
more than twelve or fourteen feet  
from two of them, the third  
having, as I noticed them  
flown away, with a long  
undulating flight.

Of the two remaining, one  
was pecking at droppings

the first flock. the middle  
of November. The largest  
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or fifty, and there were more  
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have been later in the season  
and the plumage of the young  
birds more developed.

in the field, while the other  
sat undisturbed, by our  
presence, upon the uppermost  
rail of the fence, and sang  
a song with two syllables  
which was sweet and pleasant.  
I observed them as carefully  
as possible, but as they were  
both fronting me, I could not  
see as well at the backs.

They seemed mainly of one  
color, upon head, back & tail.

There was a large, decided  
black crescent, extending  
about the under part of the  
throat, like the representations  
of the Shore lark. Below, the  
under parts were greyish white.

I have looked through  
Cours, and Sarnells, books

of birds, and can find  
nothing, which is at all  
like them. I saw them  
in Bridport, N. about  
eight miles back from the  
lake. All the common

varieties of birds, have appeared  
as if by magic, within a  
couple of days. A pair of  
Robins were seen here the 4<sup>th</sup>  
of March. A Tit was the 10<sup>th</sup>.

I shall be much obliged, if  
you can tell me anything  
of the birds I have attempted  
to describe.

Respectfully  
Mrs Wallace T. Hoob,

WILSON BROTHERS & CO.,  
Civil Engineers and Architects,  
ROOM 1036. DREXEL BUILDING.

Beverly N.J. Feb 13<sup>th</sup> 93  
Philadelphia,

William Brewster Esq.

145 Brattle St

Cambridge Mass.

Dear Sir:-

In reply to your circular of recent date, I would say that I have not met with or heard of the occurrence of any Pine grosbeak in my locality this winter; but on the 5<sup>th</sup> of January, while in a gun store in Philada, I heard an unknown man say he had seen a number of them near Doylestown Pa about that date. I am unable to give any further particulars, but hope it will serve to put you on their track.

Very respectfully

W Harris Reed

Have never within  
the 23 years time spent  
in this County observed  
a single specimen of  
Pine Grosbeak.  
Sincerely yours  
Saml. B. Ladd  
West Chester, Pa.  
[Postmark Feb. 13]

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Yours truly,

WILLIAM BREWSTER.

Edgemere, Pike Co Pa

February 27<sup>th</sup> 1893.

William Brewster Esq  
Cambridge Mass.

Dear Sir,

Noticing a Statement that you are making  
a study of the routes followed by the pine Grosbeaks  
in their migrations & I beg leave to state that I  
have noticed these birds in my neighborhood  
(in the hills of Pike Co 7 miles west of the Delaware  
river at Dingman's Ferry Pa) almost every winter  
usually in small flocks of 5 or more they seem  
to follow a southern direction in their flight  
I have never seen them in the summer - this  
winter the snow has been too deep for excursions  
and I have not yet noticed any. - I am not up  
in bird lore only admire them and can set up  
a specimen for amusement as this wilderness  
affords some fine examples.

Respectfully  
Justin Niles



REMOVED TO  
3971 FRANKFORD AVE.

Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 1893

Wm. Brewster Esq  
Cambridge  
Mass

Dear Sir

Yours received, I regret that I am unable to give you any information as to the Pine Grosbeak. My time has been so taken up with my business that I have been unable to get into the woods for nearly a year.

Under ordinary circumstances this bird is exceedingly rare in this immediate neighborhood. In 30 years I have never met <sup>with</sup> one nearer than 30 miles from Philada.

Yours Truly  
W D Daffin  
938 Silver St.