

referring the Ptarmigan of Anticosti to *Lagopus albus*. My single adult specimen from that Island was a female, which, of course, lacked the black loral stripe so diagnostic of the male of *L. rupestris*. Upon comparing it with some Rock and Willow Ptarmigan from Newfoundland (the only material available at the time) I found it resembled the latter rather closely in general coloration and in this respect differed very decidedly from the former. Accordingly I concluded that it must be *L. albus*, quite overlooking certain important discrepancies in size and proportions. To tell the truth, the comparison was made very hastily, for, from the fact that the bird had been shot in a dense forest, miles from any open rocky country such as the Rock Ptarmigan is said to inhabit, I had already quite made up my mind regarding it.

A re-examination, however, convinces me that the specimen in question is really *L. rupestris*; indeed, Mr. Ridgway, who has kindly compared it for me with the material in the National Museum, decides that it is indistinguishable from the bird found on the mainland of North America at large.

It has further transpired that the Willow Ptarmigan of Newfoundland is varietally separable from true *albus*, while the Rock Ptarmigan of that island is apparently even specifically distinct from *L. rupestris*. Thus I was misled by material which, to say the least, was far from typical.

Of course it is by no means settled that all the Ptarmigan on Anticosti are *L. rupestris*, but in view of these developments Verrill's record of *albus* there (he saw no specimens) requires confirmation.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, Cambridge, Mass.

A Blue Heron's Meal.—There is a herony not far from my home, and during the breeding season the great broad-winged birds can be seen day and night flying between their nests and the seaside. I once surprised one ready to start back with its finny burden, and becoming alarmed it disgorged ten good-sized fish before it mounted into the air. Is this not an unusual load for this bird to carry?—FRANCIS BAIN, North River, P. E. I.

Wood Ibis (*Tantalus loculator*) in Eastern New York.—Mr. Howard Burhans, of Glasco, Ulster County, N. Y., informs me that he had a fine adult Wood Ibis sent to him for mounting. The bird was shot by the late Howard Tipp, on July 8, 1884, near Glennie Falls, which is west from Glasco, and about one and a half miles from the Hudson. It was discovered in a low swampy meadow, and was so tame that it was easily approached.—A. K. FISHER, M. D., Sing Sing, N. Y.

Wilson's Plover in Nova Scotia.—I shot on Brier Island, April 28, 1880, a female *Ochthodromus wilsonius*, and have the same in my collection. The wind was blowing very hard from the southeast, and I think carried the bird off the shore by and beyond her intended destination; at any rate she appeared tired, alighting directly on reaching the shore, resting