

GENERAL NOTES.

The **Double-Crested Cormorant** near **Springfield, Mass.**—A male Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax dilophus*) was taken at Long meadow, four miles from here, May 6, 1887, in full breeding plumage. I have not known of one in this vicinity at this season of the year before, and only twice before in the autumn.—ROBERT O. MORRIS, *Springfield, Mass.*

The **Florida Gallinule** in **Nova Scotia.**—Mr. Watson Bishop, of Kentville, has in his collection a Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) which was taken near the Cornwallis River, N. S., on September 20, 1886, by Mr. E. F. L. Jenner. Mr. J. M. Jones reports that three other examples of this species have been taken in that Province.—MONTAGUE CHAMBERLAIN, *St. John, N. B.*

The **Middletown, Conn., Glossy Ibis** of 1850.—In reference to the Middletown specimen noticed by Mr. Browne in his paper on the 'New England Glossy Ibises' (*Auk*, April, 1887), I would say that the original announcement by Dr. Barratt appeared in the Middletown, Conn., 'Sentinel and Witness' for Tuesday evening, May 21, 1850 (Vol. XXVIII. No. 1430), and is as follows:

“[For the Sentinel and Witness.]

“BLACK EGYPTIAN IBIS (A RARE BIRD).

“CALLED ALSO GLOSSY IBIS, *Ibis falcinella*.

“One of these rare birds, *Ibis falcinella*, was shot at Middletown, on the banks of the Connecticut, May 9th, time of a high flood. It is a male in full plumage. Its length is twenty-eight inches,* and stands eighteen inches high, bill five inches long, which is slender and curved. It has been carefully preserved, and is now in the cabinet of Dr. J. Barratt.

“By the papers we learn that a similar bird was shot at Freshpond, near Cambridge, Mass., on the 8th inst., and has been presented to the Harvard Cabinet of Natural History.

“It is highly probable that these birds belonged to the same flock, and may have been driven to the south by the late storms, after crossing Behring's straits — having left the valley of the Nile in March, as we suppose.

“The *Ibis falcinella* is very rarely seen in the United States. This is the first that has come to our notice on the Connecticut, and has not been known in this country many years.

“The Prince of Musignano was the first to show that the bird called *Tantalus Mexicanus* by Mr. Ord (the continuator of Wilson's Ornithology), was the *Ibis falcinella* of Europe, a bird common in Egypt.

*NOTE.—Mr. Nuttall says length 23 inches,—that, I apprehend, is a typographical error for 28. Turton in *Brit. Fauna*, p. 55, says length 2 ft. 6; extent of wings, 3 ft. 2; weight, 18 ounces.”