

GENERAL NOTES.

Migration of *Urinator imber*.—Seconnet Point, Rhode Island, April 16, 1892. Clear weather, sea calm, wind light, northwest. I saw twenty to twenty-five Loons today flying toward the east, on migration, at an elevation of about sixty yards; there were five in one flock, and six in another, the others scattering. April 17, I saw six flying east on migration, with a light west wind. April 18, wind east to southeast, I saw only two or three today flying east. April 19, I saw four flying east; they were well up; wind light, northwest. April 20, no air moving, vane pointed northwest, I saw six, four of which were in company, all flying east; they were up about seventy-five yards. April 21, I saw two flying east, about sixty yards up. I shot one, an adult in full plumage, weighing eleven pounds; I have shot them larger and heavier.

Loons fly in large numbers all through May up to June first, when the migration seems over for those going north, the height of abundance being from the fifteenth of May to June first. A southwest wind is particularly favorable for such northern migration. One of their principal lines of flight is up Buzzard's Bay, crossing the land (the narrowest part) to Cape Cod Bay. While making this flight a great many are killed between Tobey and Mashnee Islands. I have seen here years ago three tiers of ten or a dozen boats each (and I am informed such is often the case at the present time) stretched across the strait between the above islands. Fifty to sixty Loons are killed sometimes, on a good southwest morning (they fly again at about dark), and as many more wounded ones are shot down which are not recovered. When the wind is from any other quarter than southwest, they pass overhead very high up.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

***Pelecanus erythrorhynchos* in Maine.**—I have examined a magnificent adult male American White Pelican which was shot on May 28, 1892, at Saponic Pond by Peter Sibley, and was purchased by O. W. White of Burlington, Maine, for whom it has been mounted by S. L. Crosby of Bangor. This is a most interesting capture for this State and particularly so for a locality so far inland. Saponic Pond is situated on the line between Burlington and Grand Falls Plantation, about forty miles N. N. E. of Bangor, and some three miles east of Enfield and the Penobscot River.—HARRY MERRILL, *Bangor, Maine.*

The Spring Migration of the Scoters in 1892.—Seconnet Point, Rhode Island. The first week in April was hot, the thermometer rising to 71° on the 2d, and to 78° in the shade on the 3d.

On the 4th. there was rain in the early morning, with the wind east; it changed to southwest about eight o'clock A.M. From daylight until

eleven o'clock A. M., there was a very large and continuous migration of Scoters towards the east from the west. This movement is the earliest I have ever known or heard of. Among them were some Whitewings; the others were mostly Surf Scoters.

On April 7 the weather was clear, with light southwest wind, increasing to a strong breeze in the afternoon. There were no Scoters flying on migration.

On April 9, 10, 11, and 12, strong northwest winds; ice half an inch thick on the 10th, also cold on the 11th and 12th. No Scoters flying on migration.

April 14.—Light northwest wind until ten o'clock A. M.; then it changed to southwest, strong breeze. After three o'clock P. M. I saw a few flocks of Scoters flying east on migration.

April 15.—Wind northeast in early morning; very cold with snow which ceased about nine o'clock A. M., it being still cold. I saw three flocks, estimated to contain fifty birds in the aggregate, flying high up towards the east. They were either Surf or American Scoters, I think the former. In the afternoon the wind died away and came light south with some west, and warmer; no Scoters moving.

April 16.—Weather clear, sea calm, light air, northwest. A few Scoters flying towards the east, mostly Surf. At ten o'clock A. M. wind changed to southwest, but there was no movement as a result.

April 17.—A light breeze from the west in the morning; later there was some south in it and I noted quite a movement of Scoters towards the east. They were flying too far out from the shore to distinguish the species. I also saw several flocks of American Scoters.

April 18.—A very little air from the northwest early in the morning, sea calm. At about half past seven o'clock A. M. the wind changed to east, and later to southeast. I saw only an occasional flock flying towards the east until half past one o'clock P. M. when a considerable movement commenced towards the east from the west, and continued until dark. The birds flew high until towards the latter part of the afternoon. I saw some flocks estimated to contain nearly one hundred birds. It was impossible to distinguish the species as they were far out from the shore. I think they were mostly Surf Scoters, and I should estimate that about one thousand flew towards the east on migration after half past one o'clock P. M.

April 19.—A very little air from the northwest in the morning, light breeze, weather moderate and warm. No Scoters moving, absolutely no migration.

April 20.—A fine calm morning; the vane pointed northwest. I saw only a dozen flocks, of few birds each, mostly White-wings, flying towards the east, and they were far out from shore. The wind changed to southwest, light breeze, about eight o'clock A. M. There was only an occasional flock of Scoters flying towards the east; those seen were flying near the water.

April 21.—A quiet and warm, southwest morning, nearly calm. I saw only three or four flocks of White-wings, and the same number of Surf

Scoters, flying towards the east on migration. There has been no large, defined movement since the one on April 4.

April 22.—Rain in the night, cloudy in the morning, wind south-south-east, light fog all day, with rain from three o'clock P. M. until sunset, sea quite heavy. A large flight of Scoters flying towards the east on migration.

April 23.—Pleasant, wind southwest all day. A large flight of Scoters towards the eastward on migration.

April 24.—Very pleasant and warm, wind southwest, light air, until late in the afternoon; it then changed to north. Not much worth noting.

April 25.—Wind north in the morning, and cold, ice half an inch thick; calm during the middle of the day; in the afternoon wind southwest; a pleasant day. A large flight of Scoters took place, the birds going towards the east.

April 26.—Wind north in the morning, same weather as the day before; strong southwest wind in the afternoon. Nothing especial to note.

April 27.—Wind northeast in the morning; worked around to east and south, strong breeze in the afternoon. Nothing flying.

April 28.—Wind remained south all day, quite strong breeze, sea rough, cloudy. Nothing especial to note.

April 29.—Wind southwest in the morning; changed to northwest about noon; light rain all day. Nothing especial to note.

April 30.—Wind northwest all day, very pleasant. Only a few birds moving, nothing to note.

May 4.—While passing from Nantucket Island to Wood's Holl, Mass., I saw a good many White-wing, and a few Surf, Scoters.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

The Red Phalarope (*Crymophilus fulicarius*) at Nantucket Island, Massachusetts.—While driving in the western portion of this island on May 1, 1892, my attention was attracted while crossing the beach at the south head of Hammuck Pond to quite a number of small birds (about forty estimated) which, when flying on the waves, resembled the Sanderling (*Calidris arenaria*), and which were hovering just above the water and alighting on it amid the breakers which were rolling in on the beach. I at once recognized that that most graceful of the smaller water birds, the Red Phalarope, or Whale Bird as it is sometimes called, was before me. Never having taken them before, I filled my pocket with cartridges and, hastily jumping from my wagon (leaving my horse, who is accustomed to such proceedings, to take care of himself on the crest of the beach), I ran to the edge of the water and commenced firing; nor was my ardor dampened, although my legs and feet were, after the waves had twice washed over my rubber boots. There was a strong south by west wind blowing at the time, as it had been for a day or so previous, which drifted my dead birds on the shore. The weather for the past week, as it was that day, had been quite cool. The