

Terns of Muskeget Island. — A Correction. — In my article on the Terns of Muskeget, published in 'The Auk' for January (p. 35, 17 lines from top) for "On May 19, 1893," read, On June 19, 1893. The first eggs observed in 1893 were 35, on May 26; on the 28th, 130 were noted. — GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

Breeding Habits of Terns. — I am glad to be able to corroborate two statements in the January number of 'The Auk' in the article entitled 'Terns of Muskeget Island.' It is generally accepted, I believe, that two Terns sometimes lay their complement of eggs in the same nest, although, so far as I know, it has never been proved. I have several sets of eggs of *Sterna hirundo* and *S. paradisæa* that may add a little to the evidence in favor of this belief. They were collected by myself June 28, 1891, on Egg Rock, Popham, Maine, where these two species were nesting alone. First, four eggs taken from same nest. Two eggs are long, narrow and were nearly fresh. The other two are much like Sandpiper's eggs in shape and the incubation was far advanced. Second, five eggs taken from one nest. Three are long, narrow, similar in coloration and were *much* incubated. The other two are similar to each other in every respect, but they are larger than the others, noticeably different in coloration, similar to a Sandpiper's egg in shape, and were fresh. I think that part of these eggs were laid by *S. hirundo* and the rest by *S. paradisæa*. Third, six eggs taken at one time from the same nest. These were all fresh and differ mainly in coloration. There are three eggs of each bird apparently. Those of one bird are as similar to one another as a Tern's eggs ever are, but clearly different from those of the other bird. I believe that Terns very rarely lay more than three eggs.

On page 46 of the same article is given a description of a Tern's nest consisting of a hollow lined with small stones. I have seen several, perhaps five or six, nests of this kind. In every case the stones formed the only lining to the nest and were evidently collected by the birds as any other material might have been for the same purpose. — AUBREY B. CALL, *Townshend, Vt.*

Diomedea exulans on the Columbia in 1813. — In preparing for publication the MS. Journals of Alexander Henry, Junior — a fur trader, who lived for some years at Astoria, and who was drowned there — I find the following entry, under date of Feb. 13, 1813:

"We were visited by some natives who came to trade with us. Among other things they produced an Albatros they had just killed. The body and head were white, the tail and wings gray, the bill pale pink, and the legs pale blue. The bill was 7 inches long, formed somewhat like an Eagle's; the wings were very narrow, but measured from tip to tip seven feet ten inches." This description is somewhat equivocal, as the alar extent is rather that of *D. albatrus* than that of *D. exulans*; but Mr.

Henry may not have stretched the wings to their fullest extent; also, this discrepancy is more than offset by a bill 7 inches long, and especially by the blue color of the feet. I think this may be safely accepted as an authentic record of the occurrence of *D. exulans* at the mouth of the Columbia River. I may add that Mr. Henry is a very well-known person in the annals of the famous old North West Company, to whose credibility no shadow of suspicion has ever attached.—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

The Black-capped Petrel (*Æstrelata hasitata*) in **Ulster County, New York, in January.**—A partly mounted specimen of this species was shown to me on February 4 of this year by Mr. Arthur Barker, taxidermist, of 16 North William Street, New York City. He remarked that he had killed it two days before in order to mount it. Later on I received from Prof. Henry L. Griffis of the State Normal School at New Paltz, Ulster County, New York, an interesting account of its capture there by Mr. August Vradenburgh, on January 26, 1895. It was found by the roadside in the snow and was easily taken by hand, appearing to be in an exhausted condition; yet it lived seven days in captivity before being killed, having been sent, alive, to Prof. John I. Hover, of Brooklyn, N. Y., in whose collection the mounted bird now is.—L. S. FOSTER, *New York City.*

The European Widgeon (*Anas penelope*) in **Indiana.**—Although this Duck is not an infrequent straggler to North America, it has usually been recorded from localities on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, and rarely in the interior, two instances being on record for Illinois and one for Wisconsin. The specimen in question was taken on the Kankakee River, at English Lake, Ind., on April 13, 1893, by Mr. Landon Hoyt of Chicago, Ill., and is now in his possession. When shot it was in company with a flock of Baldpates (*Anas americana*).—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

Baird's Sandpiper on Long Island Sound, N. Y.—Dr. E. H. Eames and I shot two Baird's Sandpipers (*Tringa bairdii*) Sept. 29, 1894, at Seaside Park, on Long Island Sound. There were ten or more in the flock, also a few Semipalmated Sandpipers. They were very unsuspecting and the whole flock might have been taken. Mr. J. B. Canfield, also of this city, secured a fine male a few days later.—H. H. TAYLOR, *Bridgeport, Conn.*

The Golden Eagle in New Jersey.—The publication of Mr. Stone's excellent list of 'The Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey' reminds me of an unrecorded adult *Aquila chrysaetos* taken at Vineland, New Jersey, February 19, 1868, and now in my collection. It was sent to me in the flesh by a relative living in Vineland. My notebook says the bird was killed with a club, having gorged itself with portions of a deer recently shot.—JNO. H. SAGE, *Portland, Conn.*