

but as all of the dark specimens of *Puffinus* that I secured proved to be *griseus*, I had about concluded that I was mistaken.

I am now convinced that I was correct, and that the Slender-billed Shearwater, if not of regular occurrence, is periodically common along our Southwestern coast to Lower California.—A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego, Cal.*

The Skull of the Young Cormorant.—The rapidity with which changes take place in growing birds has often been noted, and a remarkable instance of this is found in the Cormorants.

As is well known, Cormorants are among the best examples of desmognathous birds, premaxillaries, anterior palatines, and maxillo-palatines being completely fused. There is also no trace of narial openings in the adult and no hint of basi-ptyergoid processes. Yet the nestling of *Phalacrocorax urile* is schizognathous and holorhinal, the narial openings being large, while the sphenoid bears good-sized basi-ptyergoid prominences.

Any one who has the good fortune to be located near a Cormorant rookery has a splendid chance to ascertain just when the narial openings close, or, if he be charitably inclined, he might collect for the United States National Museum, which would furnish alcohol and a can, a series of young taken at short intervals from the time of hatching to the time of leaving the nest.—F. A. LUCAS, *United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Clangula hyemalis at San Diego, California.—On January 13, Mr. L. Belding handed me a fine specimen of the Old-squaw that he had shot in the harbor of San Diego, but a few hours previously. He informed me that the bird was alone near one of the city wharves, no other ducks of any species being in the immediate vicinity.

This record somewhat extends the range of the species on the Pacific Coast, there being but few records for the State and none from south of Santa Cruz Island, where Mr. Belding informed me that a specimen was taken several years ago and recorded in Wheeler's Surveys West 100th Meridian.—A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego, Cal.*

Occurrence of Great White Heron at Escondido, California.—A little while ago I accepted an invitation to see a Heron, which had been killed and mounted for a parlor ornament. I was told that the bird had been killed during April, 1895. It proved to be a fine specimen of the *Ardea occidentalis*.—J. MAURICE HATCH, *Escondido, Cal.*

Note on the Flexor hallucis brevis in the Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*).—While dissecting the muscles of the foot of a Night Heron I was surprised to find that the *flexor hallucis brevis* was perforated at its insertion by the *flexor hal. longus*, thus becoming a *flexor perforatus dig. I*, similar to the *flexores perforati dig. II, III, IV*.