

GENERAL NOTES.

Name of the Large-billed Puffin.—The A. O. U. Committee (Check-List N. A. Birds, No. 13 *a*) seems to have been misled in quoting Temminck in connection with this bird, and also in citing Stephens, 1826, for the original description. The bird appears to have been first named by Naumann, Isis, 1821, p. 782, pl. 7, fig. 2, credited to Leach. Stephens's Continuation of Shaw's Gen. Zool., as quoted of 1826, XIII, p. 40, I have not verified, but believe the correct citation to be 1825, XIII, p. 40, pl. 4, fig. 2.—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

[*Cf.* Auk, XIII, p. 189, April, 1896.—EDD.]

Record of a Fourth Specimen of the European Widgeon (*Anas penelope*) in Indiana.—A fine adult male of this Duck was killed on the marshes of the English Lake Shooting and Fishing Club at English Lake, Indiana, by Mr. John E. Earle of Hinsdale, Ill., on the 23d of March, 1896. It was flying in company with a small flock of Baldpates when shot. Mr. Earle has had it mounted and it is now in his possession. This specimen makes the eighth record for the interior, including the one cited by Mr. Frank S. Wright of Auburn, N. Y., in the 'Ornithologist and Oölogist,' Vol. VII, p. 133, as taken on Lake Cayuga, N. Y., in May, 1880. This record I had previously overlooked. In a recent letter from Mr. Wright he informs me that he still has this Duck in his possession.—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago Ill.*

Recent Occurrence of the Florida Gallinule in Southern Maine.—Two immature male specimens of the Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) have recently been taken on the 'Dyke' marsh in Falmouth, near Portland. The first was shot on September 20, 1894, and is preserved in the collection of Mr. W. H. Rich, of Portland. The second was shot on September 30 of the same year, and is in my own collection. Both of these birds were seen by me before they were preserved.—HENRY H. BROCK, *Portland, Me.*

Baird's Sandpiper in Michigan.—In 'The Auk' for April (Vol. XIII, p. 174) I find mention made of the taking of *Tringa bairdii*, Baird's Sandpiper, at Grand Rapids, Michigan, the writer stating that it was the second or third, or perhaps the first ever taken in the State. During the past few months a number of letters have reached me, making inquiries in regard to this bird, to which I wish to make the following reply through 'The Auk.'

In 'Birds of Michigan' by A. J. Cook (second edition), page 59, I find the following: "*Tringa bairdii*. Baird's Sandpiper. This species is embraced in Covert's 'Birds of Michigan.'"

Where the *author, editor*,⁶ or *compiler* got authority for the above statement is to me a question. In 1876 I published a list of Michigan birds; it is not included in this list. In 1878 I prepared a MSS. list; it is not in this list. In 1881 I published my last list, and it is not in this. Will some one tell me where the aforesaid author found his authority for the above statement? Now the fact is, I did kill *Tringa bairdii*, in Michigan, on Aug. 15, 1893,—a male bird, at 'The Over-flow,' four miles east of Ann Arbor, which specimen was presented to Michigan University Museum, and can be seen there at any time.—ADOLPHE B. COVERT, *Ann Arbor, Mich.*

The Belted Piping Plover in Massachusetts.—During a trip to Marshfield, Mass., on April 20, 1896, I started two small Plovers from a sandy beach. They were very wild and difficult to approach but after several attempts I managed to secure one of them.

The bird proved to be a male Belted Piping Plover (*Ægialitis meloda circumcincta*), the band across the breast being very dark and well marked. This is the first time I have met with this bird in the spring, although it occasionally occurs during the fall migration.—FOSTER II. BRACKETT, *Boston, Mass.*

Discovery of the Eggs of the Belted Piping Plover.—As I am not aware that the nest and eggs of this species (*Ægialitis meloda circumcincta*) have been previously recorded, perhaps the following notes will be of interest to oölogists.

Mr. Oliver Spanner of Toronto after reading 'Bird Nesting in North West Canada' decided to make a trip to Lake Manitoba and while there secured eggs of this species. On June 19, 1895, he found a nest on Birch Island near the west shore of Lake Manitoba. The nest consisted of a depression in the sand lined with bits of drift weed, and contained three eggs which are similar to those of the common Piping Plover; the ground color is pale buff and they are finely spotted with black and purple gray, averaging in size 1.25×1.00 . Both eggs and skin of the parent are now in my collection. Mr. Spanner also obtained young birds in the down at the same time, and as he saw several pairs of these Plovers, together with solitary Sandpipers, no doubt these were nesting in the vicinity.—W. RAINE, *Toronto, Canada.*

Recent Capture of the Golden Eagle near Portland, Maine.—The Golden Eagle (*Aquila chrysaëtos*) is so rare in the neighborhood of Portland that a recent capture should be recorded. I have an adult male specimen, sent to me in flesh, which was shot at Duck Pond, Windham, October 14, 1891.—HENRY H. BROCK, *Portland, Me.*

Golden Eagles in Virginia.—Mr. David N. McCadden, taxidermist at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences, received three Golden Eagles