

The Cinnamon Teal in Louisiana. — There are three comparatively late records of the occurrence of the Cinnamon Teal (*Querquedula cyanoptera*) in the State of Louisiana; all of these are from the southeastern part of the State, though the bird might be reasonably expected to be much more frequent in the western parishes. The first record was of a pair taken in December, 1884, on the western shore of Lake Pontchartrain, close to New Orleans. They were collected by a professional hunter, at that time in the employ of Prof. G. E. Beyer, of Tulane University. These specimens were sent to the State University at Baton Rouge, and have since been lost sight of.

In December, 1893, Mr. A. Perilliat shot two females on Lake Catta-watchie, about fifteen miles from New Orleans. These were mounted by Prof. Beyer, and are now in Mr. Perilliat's possession.

The third record, of a single male, was obtained at St. Malo, on Lake Borgne, the first week in January, 1900. This specimen, a very dark one, shot by a hunter named Rafael Robin, passed into the hands of Mr. G. A. Nelson, and was donated by him to the Tulane University Museum. — ANDREW ALLISON, *Tulane University, New Orleans, La.*

An Interesting Hybrid. — An exceedingly interesting hybrid between a Mallard (*Anas boschas*) and Pin-tail (*Dafila acuta*) was shot near New Orleans on February 18, by a professional hunter. It was presented to the Museum of Tulane University, and is now mounted and incorporated into the ornithological collection.

The specimen is not only unique on account of the distribution of the external male characteristics of the two species of ducks, but also on account of the perfect development of the sexual organs themselves, which, especially at this time of the year, should hardly be expected in the normal male of any species of duck. The testes were exactly five-eighths of an inch in length, by three-sixteenths of an inch in diameter. Microscopic examination of both the testes as well as the seminal ducts revealed apparently normal and fecundising fluid.

The general outline of the bird itself is that of the male Pin-tail with the exception of the length and thickness of the neck, which is more like that of the Mallard.

The head in general is rather heavy and compact; in color it is a mixture of the violet iridescence of the Pin-tail with the green of the Mallard; the crown and bill, however, in color as well as shape, are strictly Pin-tail, as are the wings, on which the speculum is rather of a brighter green than is ordinarily found in that duck, and resembles more the speculum of the male Green-winged Teal.

The rest of the upper parts are those of the Pin-tail also, whereas the lower parts are those of the male Mallard. The distribution of colors on the neck, however, is not symmetrical, for the right side is Pin-tail, and the left exhibits the characteristic chestnut of the Mallard, extending from the chest up to the somewhat broader white ring.

The tail presents the most curious blending of the two species, the two middle curled tail-coverts of the male Mallard, while still curled, are enormously lengthened, and now resemble the two long middle tail feathers of the Pin-tail; the middle tail feathers themselves are nearly as long as in the latter duck, but the rest of the tail is really Mallard. The crissum, again, is Pin-tail, and the orange-red feet are, in shape and color, as in the Mallard.—GEO. E. BEYER, *Tulane University, New Orleans, La.*

The Roseate Spoonbill in Kansas.—A specimen of this Southern bird was captured by a party of gentlemen from Wichita who were fishing on the Walnut River near Douglas, Butler County, Kansas, in April, 1899. The specimen is in the collection of Mr. Gerald Volk, of Wichita. It has not previously been reported from Kansas.—D. E. LANTZ, *Chapman, Kan.*

Breeding of the Little Black Rail (*Porzana jamaicensis*) at Raleigh, North Carolina.—In view of Dr. Allen's account of this rare bird in the last number of 'The Auk' I was interested to see recently a set of eggs in the collection of Miss Jean Bell of Ridley Park, Pa., which seems not to be recorded. Inquiry as to the history of these eggs brought from the owner of the collection the following manuscript notes of Messrs. H. H. and C. S. Brimley, which I was urged to publish. In doing so I wish to express my obligations both to Miss Bell and to Messrs. Brimley, to whom of course all credit belongs, my idea in publishing being merely to add to our knowledge of the bird in question.

"The Little Black Rail nests regularly here [Raleigh, N. C.] in the wet meadows lying along Walnut Creek, choosing for that purpose only those portions of the meadows covered with long grass, and building its nest in such situations in a grass tussock, either where the water actually stands among the grass or close to such a situation. The nests have never been found among cat-tails or bull-rushes or in the dryer portions of the meadows. The nests are found by the farm hands when cutting grass in the meadow, the nest being usually cut into and the eggs more or less injured before the cutter sees the nest. One such nest we found ourselves, all the others have been found and the eggs brought to us by farm hands. The following is a list of sets found at Raleigh:

"1. May 26, 1890. Five eggs in the nest and three of them broken; eggs fresh, nest of grass.

"2. June 8, 1892. Eight eggs, one destroyed; incubation advanced.

"3. June 16, 1892. Seven eggs, one broken; incubation about half completed.

"4. June 3, 1893. Eight eggs, two destroyed; incubation half completed. Nest cup-shaped, of dead cat-tail leaves and coarse grass.

"5. June 28, 1894. Eight eggs, one destroyed; fresh.