

GENERAL NOTES.

Great Black-backed Gull in Oneida County, N. Y.—An immature female Great Black-backed Gull (*Larus marinus*) was shot in the southern part of this town, the latter part of February, 1903. This is the first recorded occurrence of the species in this county.—W. S. JOHNSON, *Boonville, Oneida County, N. Y.*

Additional Records of the European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) in Indiana.—My last record of this duck for Indiana was noted in 'The Auk,' Vol. XVI, 1899, p. 270.

An adult male was killed March 27, 1903, on the Englis Lake marshes by Mr. James M. McKay and the mounted bird is now in his possession. While he came to the decoy alone, there were several flocks of his American cousins on the marsh at the time, in whose company he had undoubtedly been.

Mr. Harry Ehlers of Chicago, has in his collection of mounted ducks, an adult male which he shot April 7, 1898, and a female shot March 28, 1898. This pair was taken on the Kankakee marshes near Thayer, Indiana. Another male was killed by Mr. Peter Willem of Chicago, near the same locality on March 31, 1902, and the mounted specimen is in his possession.

As a specimen was captured on Licking Reservoir, Ohio, in 1902,¹ and three others on the Monroe marshes, Michigan, in 1900 and 1902.² These records bring the number to seventeen for the interior and nine for the State of Indiana. It is not a little strange that all these Indiana birds should have been taken along the Kankakee River during a period of twenty-two years.—RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

Hybrid Duck—Mallard (*Anas boschas*) + Pintail (*Dafila acuta*).—Eight or ten years ago there was killed in this vicinity by Mr. George Lower (since deceased) a hybrid duck—*Anas boschas* (Mallard) + *Dafila acuta* (Pintail)—which specimen has just been placed in the Colorado Museum of Natural History in this city. I have recently had an opportunity of making a detailed study of this specimen and have carefully compared it with typical *A. boschas* and *D. acuta*, the results of which comparison I here give.

Bill plumbeous with black stripe on culmen as in ♂ *D. acuta*, but in measurements showing tendency toward *A. boschas*, being .75 broad at base and having culmen of 2.25; forehead and crown grayish brown streaked with black as in *D. acuta*, this well defined stripe merging into plain light cinnamon upon and terminating in a blunt point at the pos-

¹ The Wilson Bulletin, New Series, Vol. IX, p. 71.

² The Auk, Vol. XIX, p. 284.

terior extremity of the occiput; rest of head showing blending of brown of *D. acuta* with brilliant metallic green of ♂ *A. boschas* with strong tendencies toward the latter, the postocular region, extending from the eye backward across the head and from the stripe on the upper head diagonally downward to a point opposite the base of the lower mandible, bronze-green, which in the remaining portions of the head and neck shades into more definite bronze; open collar of lower neck .50 wide in front, widening to .75 on sides, and in rear extending upward into points, and here being 1.50 wide, thus showing a clear and very interesting combination of the regular narrow open collar of ♂ *A. boschas* and the long white stripes of the hind neck of ♂ *D. acuta*; upper chest, covering an area 4 in. across from neck collar, light cinnamon showing a blending of the dark chestnut of ♂ *A. boschas* with the white of ♂ *D. acuta*; lower chest, breast and abdomen grayish white (not as dark as in ♂ *A. boschas* nor as light as in ♂ *D. acuta*), lower chest covering an area 2 in. wide without zigzag markings but mottled with half concealed circular brownish spots (the terminal portions of shaft markings as in ♀ *D. acuta*); remaining lower parts with faint zigzag dusky markings as in ♂ *A. boschas*; sides and flanks as in ♂ *A. boschas*; back and rump very much as in ♀ *D. acuta* but markings narrower and white much less prominent; tail 5.75, the four middle feathers (which are not as pointed as in ♂ *D. acuta*) forming the 'pin,' one feather of each of the middle and second pairs overlapping the other along the midrib, the middle pair dishing up at an angle of 45° and the second pair at an angle of 20°, thus showing a tendency to curl as in ♂ *A. boschas*; two middle tail feathers iridescent green, two second feathers bronze-green narrowly edged with white, remaining tail feathers with gray centres and white edgings as in ♂ *D. acuta* but edgings broader; upper and under tail-coverts as in ♂ *D. acuta*; scapulars brownish gray, darker than in ♂ *D. acuta* and lighter than in ♂ *A. boschas*, with zigzag markings finer than in ♂ *D. acuta* and a trifle coarser than in ♂ *A. boschas*, with jet-black scapular patch corresponding to that of ♂ *D. acuta* but of less extent, being only 2.50 in. long by .50 in. broad; speculum brilliant metallic green like that of head of ♂ *A. boschas* in marked contrast with the metallic violet speculum of ♂ *A. boschas* and the purplish bronze speculum of ♂ *D. acuta*, also differing from both these species in its anterior bordering, which in this hybrid is bicolored—grayish brown posteriorly and grayish white anteriorly; remaining wing markings as in ♂ *A. boschas*; legs and feet same size and color as in *A. boschas*.—A. H. FELGER, *Denver, Col.*

The King Rail in Plymouth County, Massachusetts.—On January 20, 1903, an adult female, *Rallus elegans* was shot by Mr. Clarence Chandler at Ellisville, Plymouth County, Mass. The bird was at once sent to me and proved to be quite fat and in fine plumage. When shot the rail was skulking among some low bushes and dry grass near a salt marsh.—ARTHUR LINCOLN REAGH, M. D., *West Roxbury, Mass.*