

As *Ereunetes occidentalis* is of frequent occurrence in the Atlantic coast States, particularly in Florida, and evidently also in Cuba, and as the name *mauri*, as given standing by Gundlach, antedates *occidentalis* by eight years, it appears that Dubois (Synopsis Avium, p. 949) was quite justified in bringing *mauri* forward as a substitute for *occidentalis*, and the form should stand as *Ereunetes mauri* Gundlach.—J. A. ALLEN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Additional American Records of the Ruff.—In 'The Auk' for October, 1905, pp. 410, 411, Mr. Ruthven Deane published a list of 16 American specimens of the Ruff (*Pavoncella pugnax*). To this list at least six additions should be made, one for South America, two for Barbados, two for Rhode Island, and one for Massachusetts. Five of these records have already been published and for the privilege of recording the sixth bird, a specimen from Massachusetts, I am indebted to Mr. Deane and Mr. John E. Thayer. This specimen, a female, shot by Alfred Dabney on Nantucket, late in July, 1901, was mounted, and is now in the Thayer collection at Lancaster, Mass.

The data for the early records of the Ruff leave much to be desired in the way of completeness. Giraud in 1844 mentioned the fact that "the Ruff, Wheatear, Skylark, and other foreign species have been found on Long Island," but apparently thought that they were birds which had escaped from captivity (Birds of Long Island, p. 309). The first positive record of the species in America is probably that for Barbados, noted by Schomburgk in 1848, instead of that for New Brunswick, published by Boardman in 1862, as stated by Mr. Deane, but in neither case is the exact date of capture known. The first record for North America is apparently the Long Island note published by Lawrence in 1852 in the 'Annals' of the Lyceum of Natural History. Prof. Baird in referring to the species in 1858 said: "The ruff has been so frequently killed on Long Island as to entitle it to a place among descriptions of North American birds, although it can not be said to belong to our fauna" (Pac. R. R. Reports, IX, p. 737). But the only bird in the list which represents those 'so frequently killed on Long Island' prior to 1858, is the Lawrence specimen now in the American Museum of Natural History.

The southernmost record for the species is indefinite both as to date and locality. It was based on 'an abnormally colored specimen' collected by H. Munzberg in 'Spanish Guiana' and submitted for examination with other specimens to Pelzeln, by H. E. Hodek, a taxidermist of Vienna. Pelzeln's notes on Hodek's specimens appeared in 'The Ibis' for 1875, but how much earlier the bird was killed is not known. In the Catalogue of Birds in the British Museum, Vol. XXIV, p. 506, Sharpe gives the locality as 'Dutch Guiana,' but Pelzeln, who uses the term 'Spanish Guiana,' states that it probably refers to the territory between the Upper Rio Negro and the Orinoco or the adjacent part of New Granada.

Careful search will probably bring to light several other records, especially of some of the birds taken on Long Island. For convenience of comparison the data for the six additions to Mr. Deane's list are appended in the same form as that adopted in his table:

| Sex | Locality | Date | Collection | References |
|-------|------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--|
| ♀ ad. | Barbados, W. I. | Before 1848 | British Museum | Schomburgk, Hist. Barbadoes, 1848. |
| — | Spanish Guiana | " 1875 | H. E. Hodek, Vienna | Feilden, Ibis, 1889, p. 494. |
| ♂ ad. | Graeme Hall Swamp, Barbados, W. I. | 1878 | British Museum | Pelzeln, Ibis, 1875, p. 322. |
| ♀ | Sakonnet Point, R.I. | July 30, 1900 | | Feilden, Ibis, 1889, p. 495. |
| ♀ | Nantucket, Mass. | July, 1901 | John E. Thayer | Hathaway, Notes R. I. Orn., I, p. 20, 1900. |
| ♀ im. | Point Judith, R. I. | Aug. 31, 1903. | Le Roy King, Newport, R. I. | Palmer, Auk, XXIII, p. 98, 1906. King, Auk, XXI, p. 85, 1904. |

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Prolific Duck Hawks.—In the spring of 1898 Mr. George H. Burge of this place, at that time actively interested in the collection of eggs of our local birds, took two sets of eggs of the Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) which seem worthy of record. In the preceding years he had taken several sets of four eggs each of this species at various places along the palisades of the Cedar River, five miles southwest of Mt. Vernon, and had even collected a set of five on April 12, 1895. This last nest-site was a small cavity, three and a half feet in length, and twenty feet from the top of a hundred and ten foot cliff. In 1898 this site was again occupied and on April 5 of that year Mr. Burge and an assistant took therefrom a set of six eggs, slightly advanced in incubation. One egg, and possibly two, appeared to the collector to be infertile. They are quite uniform in size and shape, averaging 49×39 mm., a little smaller than the average as given by Bendire. In color they are nearly typical, though perhaps somewhat light. A pinkish suffusion gives a peculiarly rich appearance to several of the eggs. About three weeks later the same collector took another set of six eggs from a narrow ledge on a sixty foot cliff a half mile farther down and on the opposite side of the river, the aerie being about thirty feet above the water. The eggs were fresh and without much doubt were from the same pair of birds which had shortly before produced the first set of six, the old site having been abandoned. The collector had the misfortune to find two of the eggs of this set crushed slightly in the nest, which probably explains his lack of interest in preserving the exact date of collecting. The eggs were saved in good, whole condition, however, and are the lightest colored specimens of this species which have ever come