

On Friday, December 13, after adjournment of the Union, Messrs. Stewardson Brown and George Spencer Morris conducted a party to the historic Bartram's Garden so intimately associated with the life of Alexander Wilson, and on the 14th a "pilgrimage" was made to Mill Grove, on the Perkiomen, the former home of Audubon.

The next meeting of the Union will be held in Cambridge, Mass., commencing November 16, 1908.

The attendance of members at the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Union was much larger than at any previous Stated Meeting — the Pacific Coast and Canada being well represented.

JNO. H. SAGE,  
Secretary.

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### GENERAL NOTES.

**The Canvasback at Bridgewater, Mass.** — For many years until the 19th of October, 1907, there is no record of the Canvasback (*Aythya valisneria*) at Nippenickett Pond, Bridgewater, Mass. Upon the above date Elbert L. Hall and Irving Hall shot six birds of this species from a flock of thirteen. All the captured ones, and as nearly as could be learned all those escaping, were in either the female or immature male plumage. — ARTHUR C. DYKE, *Bridgewater, Mass.*

**Capture of a Tagged Canvasback Duck.** — On October 25 there was killed in Manahawkin Bay, New Jersey, a hen Canvasback Duck with an aluminum band on its leg containing the initials and number "T. J. O. D. 48." It would be interesting to know who banded this duck and for what purpose. — HENRY OLDYS, *Acting in Charge of Game Protection, Bureau of Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**An American White-fronted Goose and Wilson's Phalarope in Essex County, Massachusetts.** — At Great Neck, Ipswich, Mass., early in August, 1907, an American White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons gambeli*), in a wounded condition, was caught by Mr. A. B. Clark, and confined in his yard. I saw the bird on August 25. It was an adult in full plumage, and appeared to have been wounded in one wing and in the leg on the same side.

This is the first definite record for Essex County, although in the early days this goose is believed to have been a not uncommon migrant. Howe and Allen in their 'Birds of Massachusetts' give only two definite records for the State. One of these was shot in Quincy about 1849, the other at Plymouth on November 26, 1897.

On August 18, 1907, a young female Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) was shot at Salisbury, Mass., and sent to Faneuil Hall Market, Boston. Here it was identified by Mr. John H. Hardy, Jr., and kindly given by him to the writer, in whose collection it now rests. This is the second instance of the capture of this western Phalarope in Essex County, and the fourth for the State. One of these was taken near Boston about 1833; one was taken in Essex County, at Nahant, on May 20, 1874, and one was taken at Nantucket on August 31, 1889.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, M. D., *Boston, Mass.*

**Rallus virginianus a Delaware Valley Breeder.**—In my numerous explorations of the Pensauken Creek marshes during the past four years I failed to find this bird until June, 1907. It was on the morning of the 15th that Mr. B. W. Griffiths and I were standing in front of our woodland cabin looking out over the marsh when a Virginia Rail came to the edge of the ditch which divides the marsh here and is used to get our boats from the house to the creek. The bird crossed the ditch and disappeared among the vegetation whence it uttered a number of clucking notes and, to our surprise, there appeared at the ditch's edge four black, downy young rails. One after another they took to the water in the ditch and swam across disappearing among the spatter-docks and water-arum. This was on the Camden County side of Pensauken Creek, N. J., and about seven miles from the Philadelphia City Hall.—CHRESWELL J. HUNT, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

**The Florida Gallinule, Stilt and Buff-breasted Sandpipers near Portland, Me., in 1907.**—On October 15, a female Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) was shot at Atlantic House Pond, Scarborough Maine. It passed into my collection. Its gullet contained three specimens of *Planorbis campanulatus*, and its stomach another. In the gizzard were a number of seeds. I am not aware of the previous capture of the bird at Scarborough, though two are recorded from Falmouth in 1894 (*cf.* Brock, Auk, XIII, p. 255).

The only Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*) that I have heard of in this vicinity this fall was taken near Pine Point, Scarborough, a day or two previous to September 26. It passed into the collection of Bowdoin College.

On September 5, a beautiful male Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) was taken in Scarborough, near Pine Point. It is now in my collection. Mr. Blanchard Pillsbury who brought it to my attention,