

GENERAL NOTES.

The Brown Pelican in Illinois.—The writer is indebted to his friend and correspondent, Hon. R. M. Barnes of Lacon, Marshall County, Ill., for the facts concerning the following and to whom credit is due for giving us the first authentic record for the State, our evidence of this bird's occurrence within our borders having rested solely heretofore on the rather insufficient data furnished by C. K. Worthen of Warsaw (see Ridgway in Bull. Nutt. Ornith. Club, Vol. V, 1880, p. 31), who reported having seen one at Lima Lakes, ten miles below that place, in October, 1873.

He informs me that on May 27, 1903, a specimen of *Pelecanus fuscus* was killed off of one of the bridge-protection piers in the Illinois River at Lacon, by a local hunter or fisherman of the town, and brought to him for identification. (See Blatchley in 'The Auk,' 1907, Vol. XXIV, p. 337, for further evidence of the wandering of this maritime species far inland.)—
BENJ. T. GAULT, *Glen Ellyn, Ill.*

A New Bird for Illinois.—While passing through Burlington, Iowa, recently, I saw a mounted Man-o'-war-bird (*Fregata aquila*) in a store window. Upon inquiry I was told that the bird was killed in the spring of 1904. It was first noticed by some hunters as it flew along the Illinois shore of the Mississippi, who shot at it, when it turned and flew across the river into the heart of the city of Burlington where it struck an electric light wire and fell into the street. The next day it died and the man who picked it up had it mounted and exhibited in his window. This is the first record for Illinois and also for Iowa, as far as I know.—HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

The Black Duck Summering near Philadelphia.—We find the Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*) given in Stone's 'Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey,' in the list of birds found within 10 miles of Philadelphia (page 31), as a "species which occurs occasionally in winter, but are mainly transients"; yet there are subsequent records enough of its occurrence in summer on the Delaware River and its tributaries to enable us to regard it as a probable rare breeder, although no nests have been actually found.

The following records constitute all my knowledge of its occurrence in summer in this region, and they are all authentic as far as observation goes. Moreover, it is an impossibility for *all* of these birds to have been barren or wounded individuals, and surely none were belated transients or stragglers.

I have two summer records: on June 17, 1899, one was flushed on the Pensauken Creek at West Palmyra, N. J., and two were seen on May 27, 1903, at Bristol, Bucks County, Pa., flying down the river along Burlington Island.

My brothers have had better luck. On June 21, 1908, Mr. C. S. and G. E.

Miller observed one on the Delaware River at Essington, Delaware County, Pa.; on July 26, 1908, George noted 3 on the river behind the dyke at Fish House, Camden County, N. J., and on July 26, 1909, he saw a pair at Lardner's Point, also on the Delaware, and near Riverton, Burlington County, N. J.

At Essington, where my brothers saw one, Dr. J. P. Ball, of Frankford, Philadelphia, saw a pair in June, 1908, and a reliable resident of that place told him that Black Ducks occur on the river meadows there all summer, and was of the opinion that they bred sparingly in them. Near this locality, at Tincum, Delaware County, Mr. L. I. Smith has seen them as late as May 15, 1902.

Reliable gunners have also informed me of this bird's occurrence in summer on the Tincum marshes, where it is undoubtedly a rare breeder.

In his excellent paper, 'A Pensauken Diary,' published in 'Cassinia,' XI, 1907, Mr. C. J. Hunt mentions having seen one, as follows (page 49): "July 9 (1907).—Flushed a Black Duck on the upper creek. Can this bird nest among these marshes?"; and in the same paper (page 51) he includes it in his list of 'Summer Residents of the Pensauken Creek,' probably on the ground of seeing the foregoing bird.

However, the Black Duck is undeniably a rare summer resident on the upper part of this creek and I have the assurance of reliable farmers and gunners of its regular occurrence in summer upon it. It behooves the ornithologist to confirm these reports by finding a nest, but unfortunately the ardor of our ornithologists is deteriorating as regards swamp and marsh nest-hunting and it may be years before any of them will succeed in discovering a nest.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Harrowgate, Philadelphia, Pa.*

Ducks at Monroe, Michigan.—Possibly some of the readers of 'The Auk' are not aware that the range of the Black Duck seems to be extending steadily westward, and to demonstrate this fact I quote some statistics from the score book of a Duck Club at Monroe, Michigan, at the western end of Lake Erie. Those who shot there from 1865 to 1880 tell me that the taking of a Black Duck was then so uncommon as to be a matter of comment. These figures are the percentages of Black Ducks to the aggregate number of Black and Mallard taken, fractions omitted.

1885...6%	1891...24%	1897...13%	1903...48%
6...7	2...12	8...21	4...40
7...14	3...7	9...9	5...33
8...14	4...8	1900...20	6...37
9...17	5...11	1...6	7...49
1890...20	6...14	2...10	8...41

This percentage increase in the Black Ducks is not due to any diminution in the number of Mallards, they being as abundant now as twenty years ago. There has, however, been a diminution in the annual take of late years, due to several causes: Fewer gunners through a reduction in the club's membership; the daily bag limit law enacted in 1905; and the fact