

edge of Portland where grassy fields, wet thicket, the steep wooded slope of the Western Promenade, old gardens, and a sunny old burying ground make admirably diversified territory for birds, bringing us into the midst of spring and fall migrations.

The other Carolina Wren, a male, was discovered some time in August, 1908, at Falmouth, Maine, by Mrs. Ernest Brewer, who observed it throughout the remainder of the summer, until October 3 when Mr. Norton shot it for the Portland Society of Natural History, at whose museum the skins of both these wrens are now kept.

Records of Mrs. Brewer's Carolina Wren are to be found in 'The Auk,' XXVI, p. 82; and in an article by her in the Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society, XI, pp. 4-10.—CAROLINE M. STEVENS, *Portland, Me.*

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus ludovicianus*).—On January 16, 1911, I heard the familiar notes of a Carolina Wren coming from the rear of my home on Grosse Isle, and I soon detected him perched on my vine-clad ice house, scolding and singing pretty constantly. It was a sharp clear day (11° F.), and the bird was still present when I left for Detroit at 3 p. m. This was the first Carolina Wren that I had seen or heard of on Grosse Isle. During the summer a Mrs. Donaldson told me that a pair had bred on Hickory Island immediately connecting Grosse Isle on the south, but this I have not been able to verify to date. On September 3, 1911, I noticed a Wren singing gayly from the top of a shed near my place, and this bird remained around for several days, generally frequenting an old chicken shed. I am entertaining hopes that a pair may return here next spring. P. A. Taverner secured a female May 16, 1909, near Rockwood, a few miles further down the river. These instances seem to indicate, together with the Detroit records, that the Carolina Wren is gradually working up into southeastern Michigan as it has in Essex County, Ontario. Here on June 6, 1909, about three miles below Amherstburg, W. E. Saunders heard one singing, and another about three miles from the base of Point Pelee where it is common, and resident. On October 6, 1909, Mr. Jas. S. Wallace saw one on the roof of the Manning House, Windsor, directly across the river from Detroit. North of Detroit there is a mounted specimen in Mr. Samuel Spicer's collection taken at Goodrich, Genesee County, a number of years ago in spring.—B. H. SWALES, *Grosse Isle, Mich.*

Waterfowl Nearly Drowned.—In the Aviary building of the Chicago Lincoln Park Zoo is a cage about 40 × 15 feet enclosing an island, surrounded by water—which is the home of over 200 wild Ducks, Geese, Swans, Pelicans and other birds from different countries, representing 60 different species. Mr. Ryan, the assistant keeper, told me of a singular mishap, through which the water birds nearly lost their lives by drowning. The pond is 30 inches deep, and once a month the water is run out,

and fresh water supplied from Lake Michigan, on which occasion all the waterfowl have great sport in the clean, fresh water. Last February the new system of supply was forced by suction through a screen, by a very powerful steam pump. After the pond was filled it was noticed that the water was thick and oily and instead of "running off the duck's back" as usual, soaked right into his feathers. In a few minutes the birds became literally water-logged, and were floundering around, unable to keep on top of the water, and too weak to crawl up on the island. Boards were floated on the surface, on to which some of the birds climbed, while the water was being run off, which took about an hour. It was found that the bottom of the pond was covered to a depth of several inches with a thick pulp of pulverized fish, which had been ground up by being sucked through the fine screen. Several wagon loads were removed, and it took a long time to clean the pond and the birds which were soaked with the oily moisture.— HENRY K. COALE, *Highland Park, Ill.*

Shore-bird Notes.— Last September, Wilson's Phalarope appears to have been not uncommon along the Atlantic Coast. I have never seen this species before, although I shot a Northern Phalarope at Quogue, L. I., during the month of August, 1907. I have the following records of the occurrence of Wilson's Phalarope. Adult female shot by Mr. Whitlock at Quogue on September 4. Immature in winter plumage were shot near Currituck Light House, North Carolina, by Mr. Whitlock and Mr. Nourse on September 7, September 8 (two), and September 12. A well-marked female was seen by me September 14. This bird was so tame that it allowed me almost to touch it before it flew away in a zigzag manner. An old gunner at Currituck had never seen these birds before.

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper seems also to have been unusually common along the coast. Mr. Whitlock shot a specimen at Quogue, L. I., on September 4, and three at Currituck on September 12. I saw a flock of six at the same place on September 14. This species was also unknown to the local gunners.

On September 11, at Currituck, I shot a Solitary Sandpiper on a sandy beach. I have frequently seen this bird in woodland streams but never near salt water.

On September 12, two Marbled Godwits were shot by Mr. Whitlock and myself at Currituck. The female was the smaller, measuring 17.00 and the male 19.25. The absence of bars on the underparts would indicate that they were young birds.

I trust these records may be of interest, both as individual records and also as showing the tendency of certain western Shore-birds to follow the same line of migration to the shores of North Carolina as is later followed in far greater numbers by the Canvas-back, the Mallard, and the Whistling Swan.— FREDERICK WM. KOBBE, *New York City.*