

I was away from home for the day, following a threshing crew. The day had been a hot one, and returning to my home about 9 o'clock my wife greeted me thus: "I've got a rare bird for you now I know." Unwrapping the bird the reader can imagine my feelings when I saw the prize. It had been left for me by a party who has repeatedly refused to give me any information as to who shot it, fearing to do so because it had been killed out of season — nor can I learn anything as to whether the bird was alone, flying over decoys, on lake shore, or anything further than that it was shot at Fox Lake. Being about worn out by the hard and hot day's work I could not muster enough courage to mount the bird, so hurriedly I skinned it and that night drove to town and left the skin, duly packed for shipment, with a friend, with orders to mail it on the early morning train, to my friend, the skilled Chicago taxidermist, Mr. Karl W. Kahmann, who has done an artist's job on the bird.

I have carefully compared the bird with descriptions of the species as given in the works of Coues, Ridgway and many other ornithologists. The culmen measures 2.50 inches, wing 9 inches, tarsus 2.62, neck and breast marked evenly and densely with dusky streaks, primaries uniform dusky.— W. E. SNYDER, *Beaver Dam, Wis.*

**Hudsonian Curlew on Long Island in Winter.**— On the evening of December 24, 1912, during a heavy snow and wind storm, a Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*) was found in an exhausted condition in the backyard of an apartment house at Rockaway Beach, Long Island. After spending the night in a basket it recovered sufficiently to fly away at seven-thirty o'clock the following morning. The owner of the house who discovered the bird would not allow it to be taken but it was identified beyond question.

I have not been able to find any previous record of the occurrence of *Numenius hudsonicus* at this time of the year on Long Island.— CHARLOTTE BOGARDUS, *Coxsackie, New York.*

**A Peculiar Hudsonian Curlew.**— I had supposed that a Curlew with a bill less than 3 inches in length might safely be put down as an Eskimo, but it seems that this is not the case. A bird was shot at Northeast Harbor, Me., September 5, 1912, by Mr. Lynford Biddle of Philadelphia, which was supposed by several persons who saw it in the taxidermist's shop to be an Eskimo Curlew. Upon writing to Mr. Biddle for information he very kindly presented the specimen to the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. It proved, as he himself had determined it, to be a Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*) but with the bill, which appeared perfectly normal in other respects, only 2.25 inches in length. This is three quarters of an inch shorter than the minimum given in Ridgway's 'Manual,' and exactly equals the minimum for the Eskimo Curlew. This incident emphasizes the importance of making a careful ex-

amination of supposed Eskimo Curlews and not depending too much upon bill measurements.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia*.

**Hudsonian Godwit on the Magdalen Islands.**—The Hudsonian Godwit (*Limosa hæmastica*) is becoming so rare that every occurrence is worth publishing, particularly as it seems to be following the Eskimo Curlew into oblivion.

On the 18th of February, 1911, a hunter got after a flock of six birds, presumably all of the same species, and of these he secured four. Three of these were eaten but the fourth was mailed to me by my friend Mr. J. B. Boutilier with the above information. It was a new bird to him and was also new to my collection.

The specimen is now No. 2570 in my cabinet.—W. E. SAUNDERS, *London, Ont.*

**The Golden Plover (*Charadrius dominicus dominicus*) Again on the Coast of South Carolina.**—In 'The Auk,' Vol. XXIX, 1912, p. 101, I recorded a specimen of this bird taken by me on November 4, 1911. I now wish to announce the capture by the writer of two birds taken on November 27, 1912, on Oakland plantation, Christ Church Parish.

According to Prof. Wells W. Cooke (Distribution and Migration of North American Shore Birds, Bull. No. 35, Biological Survey, 1910) this date of capture is the latest for the United States. Since I obtained the first specimen in December, 1880 (Birds of South Carolina, 1910, p. 59) only four more have been seen, three of which I secured.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**On the Occurrence of *Columba squamosa* (Bonnaterre) in Cuba.**—During the first days of December, 1912, I was advised by a native that there was good 'Torcaza' shooting on the 'Sierra del Maquey' Range five miles to the east of the 'San Carlos' Sugar Estate near Guantanamo. I was unable to get away till the 10th, by which time the natives had had a good ten days' start, having shot probably an average of 300 pigeons a day. Still I found plenty of pigeons, *Columba squamosa* (Bonn.), and got 69 specimens in a few hours, unfortunately very few were worth keeping as great quantities of feathers were knocked off by the branches while falling. In fact only one specimen turned out really good. The pigeons, were feeding on the berries of 'Come-Cara' and 'Juan Perez'. By keeping still I could hear the berries dropping through the leaves to the ground when they slipped from the pigeon's bill, as also their soft, low 'cooing,' thus indicating where to find them.

During their stay on the 'Sierra del Maquey' — some three weeks — I can safely say that over 5000 pigeons were shot by natives for eating and selling. The custom is to cut out the breasts, fry them slightly and put them away packed in lard in earthenware vessels when they will 'keep'