

the remainder of October and throughout November and December. When in early January ice was forming on the pond, one of the two left on the third or fourth day; the other remained to January 17, when ice had covered all but a few small areas of the pond. These young males showed little or nothing of the creamy buff crown upon their arrival, but they gradually developed this feature. So at first their true identification was difficult, but the two-note call and chestnut color of the head clearly differentiated them from Baldpates. By December the plumage of the adult male European Widgeon was quite fully developed, and at the time they left they lacked little of its completeness. One gained the adult plumage somewhat earlier than the other, so they could readily be distinguished. A female Baldpate joined them about December 1 and left on January 16, one day earlier than the later remaining Widgeon. A cold wave had brought the temperature at the pond down to 13° below zero on the thirteenth.

In early December their companions on the pond were 400 to 500 Black Ducks, the number varying from day to day, several Mallards, a few Scaup Ducks, 90 to 100 Lesser Scaup, a young male Bufflehead, 3 Ruddy Ducks, 25 to 60 Mergansers, 8 Coot, and a few Herring Gulls, a collection of water fowl, the numbers of which had been steadily increasing during November and were decreasing in late December.

This occurrence of European Widgeon on Jamaica Pond was the first in Boston and its immediate vicinity, if I am not in error. Like other wild ducks which visit protected waters, these Widgeons soon become unsuspecting and allowed near approach. They were objects of interest and pleasure to many observers throughout their long visit.—HORACE W. WRIGHT, *Boston, Mass.*

An Egret on Long Island.—In connection with Mr. R. Heber Howe, Jr.'s note on the American Egret, in the April 'Auk,' and the one by Mr. G. Kingsley Noble to which he refers, I would like to report a single bird of this species which I observed at Mastie, Long Island, where it is very rare, on August 9, 1913. It was identified with certainty.—JOHN TREADWELL NICHOLS, *New York, N. Y.*

The Woodcock Carrying its Young.—It has been the good fortune of the writer to see recently two successive flights of our native Woodcock carrying its young nearly as large as itself, sitting upright, grasped and suspended by the claws of the mother bird. I am told that the sight is an unusual one, and that a brief account of it may interest your readers.

I was on a little botanizing trip near a river bottom, looking especially for Golden seal plants and flowers which were somewhat plenty in that vicinity; the season being late for the flowers, late May or early June. I have no record of the exact date.

Startled by a loud whirring of wings near by, very like, yet perceptibly different from that of the Partridge, I saw the slow flight of the bird with its