

while the lores are plain buff and the chin itself is paler in all cases. The piliu of the Mottled Ducks from Louisiana is more solid black and less streaked black than is the case with the Florida birds; if anything it is darker than in the Texas birds. On the upper surface of the Louisiana series and the Texas series the light edges of all the feathers (back, scapulars, rump and tail) are darker and richer brown, but especially is this so in the Louisiana birds. The speculum character noticed by Sennett does not seem to me to hold good. It was said to be more green and less purple in *fulvigula* than in *maculosa*.

To sum up, I should say that the only character which seems important in distinguishing *A. f. maculosa* and *A. f. fulvigula*, aside from the generally darker tone of the former, is the coarser and more consistently striped head and neck of *A. maculosa*. In all cases the feathers bordering the sides of the culmen, the lores, are dotted with black in *maculosa* and plain buff in *fulvigula*. I believe the richer and more ruddy ground color of the head and neck of *A. f. maculosa* from Louisiana is partly due to the color of the water and mud in the Vermilion Bay region. These Vermilion Bay ducks are certainly more highly colored than ducks from the Brownsville region of Texas. The form *A. fulvigula maculosa*, therefore, will probably remain as a valid race.— J. C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*

An Overlooked Specimen of the Trumpeter Swan.— When Mr. H. K. Coale was compiling the data on the Trumpeter Swan (*Olor buccinator*) for his paper in 'The Auk,' 1915, p. 82, I informed him that there were no specimens in the collection of the Philadelphia Academy. I recalled an old mounted specimen which was on exhibition when I first became connected with the museum but as no trace of it could be found I presumed that it had been wrongly identified. Recently, however, it has come to light having been boxed up with some other unmounted specimens. It is a typical adult specimen but unfortunately without data. The chances are, however, that it came from Delaware or Chesapeake Bays, as it bears evidence of having been mounted at the Academy.— WITMER STONE, *Acad. Nat. Sci., Philadelphia.*

Egrets (*Herodias egretta*) in Van Cortland Park, New York City.— Three individuals arrived on July 16 and have taken up their constant abode in the pond at Broadway and 242nd Street for the past week. They are attracting attention and admiration.

Great numbers of Kingfishers and Little Green Herons are also sharing the good fishing.— S. H. CHUBB, *American Museum Nat. Hist., N. Y. City.*

The Black Rail (*Creciscus jamaicensis*) at Chicago, Ill.— A fine male of this species was shot May 30, 1916, while collecting at Hyde Lake, South Chicago, Ill. The skin is in the Harris Extension collection. The specimen was first flushed in a small cattail growth, and flew rather strongly