

about apparently unconcerned at their presence. When they flew up, startled at my appearance, the Grebe dived, but by a little patience I was later able to get close enough to see the salmon-buff throat. This, I believe, is characteristic of the Horned Grebe.

The February record is the more important, for winter records, according to Mr. Bent (1919), are for the most part from the Great Lakes Region.—GORDON ALEXANDER, *Marshall, Mo.*

King Eider at Waterford, N. Y.—On April 30, 1922, I observed in the Mohawk River, three miles west of Waterford, N. Y., a pair of King Eiders (*Somateria spectabilis*). The male appeared entirely black except for a pyramidal patch of white covering the breast, point upward; and two large white rump patches, although the head when examined closely proved to be an indefinite grayish color on the crown. Later the bird rose and flapped its wings causing a white collar two inches wide at the base of the neck and four inches wide in front, to spring into view. At all other times the duck was plain black with a conspicuous red "shield" on its forehead and a white patch on the breast and rump.

The female was a typical Eider with head, neck and breast buffy, the rest of body much darker and heavily barred.

Never having seen an Eider in this plumage, I drew several carefully executed sketches and sent them to the American Museum of Natural History. Mr. Ludlow Griscom in reply said that undoubtedly the ducks were King Eiders, the male having not yet completed molting into the breeding plumage. I consulted a dozen authorities, but could find no description of this plumage except in Bulletin 12, 1899, of the American Museum of Natural History, wherein Dr. Frank Chapman describes a specimen taken March 19, on Long Island, N. Y., which is practically the same as the one I saw.

The pair were very tame and were within fifty feet at one time. When I walked toward them, they merely swam slowly away, neither diving nor flying during the hour I watched them.

Eaton's 'Birds of N. Y.,' gives no record within 150 miles of here and no spring records in the State, except "to April 27" on Long Island.

There were no abnormal weather conditions at this time.—EDGAR BEDELL
Waterford, N. Y.

Woodcock Carrying its Young.—On the morning of Saturday, June 10, at Milford, Connecticut, I saw a Woodcock carry off a young one from before me.

I was walking up a slight hill through a short lane bordered on either side by loose undergrowth, when a woodcock rose from the grass on the north side of the lane, twelve or fifteen feet from me, flew a few feet out to the middle of the lane, and then turned and flew directly away from me, disappearing over the hill fifty or sixty yards ahead. As it rose, I had a clear view of the bird in profile and again, as it turned and went away,