

strength to endure privations; and many years thereafter, when his fine business ability and absolute integrity became a matter of common knowledge he was offered the post of Secretary of the Treasury, which he also declined.

A mutual friend¹ whom I had notified of Don José's death writes me as follows:—

"Don José C. Zeledón was one of those choice spirits of whom Latin America has given far more than its share to civilization.

. . . Of how highly the *naturalista* is regarded throughout the length and breadth of Latin America you know as well as I . . . The first I knew of his work was an acknowledgment of contributions received [at the Smithsonian Institution] from him during the incumbency of Professor Henry."

Mr. Zeledón was married, at San José, on May 8, 1895, to Señorita Amparo Lopez Calleja, who with two adopted daughters, two brothers, and other relatives survive him, and to whom are extended deepest sympathy and condolence.

Olney, Illinois, August 21, 1923.

GENERAL NOTES.

The Sooty Shearwater (*Puffinus griseus*) on the New Jersey Coast.

—On June 1, 1923, I picked up a Sooty Shearwater which had been cast up on the sea beach near Cape May Point, N. J. The plumage was slightly soiled by oil but apparently there was not sufficient to have caused its death. It was in good condition and had evidently been dead but a short time.

Mr. Wharton Huber spoke of this occurrence to a fisherman of his acquaintance at Corson's Inlet a few miles further up the coast and was informed that these dark birds were then quite common near the fishing banks and in confirmation of his statement he later brought him two that were caught on June 4 with hook and line a few miles off shore. All three specimens are now in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

The Sooty Shearwater in New Jersey.—On June 17, 1923, Mr. Turner E. McMullen and the writer examined two dead Sooty Shearwaters (*Puffinus griseus*) which we found on the beach, above high water mark,

¹ Mr. James Henry Rice, Jr.

at the lower end of Seven Mile Beach, below Stone Harbor, Cape May County, N. J. The birds had been dead for a long time as decomposition had begun, and they were unfit for preservation.

There are no recent records of the occurrence of this species on the New Jersey coast, to our knowledge, the last record being in 1898, according to Stone's 'Birds of New Jersey' (p. 68).—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

Downy Young of the Greater Snow Goose. A Correction.—

During the past winter Dr. Witmer Stone was kind enough to loan me, from the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, one of those historic Greater Snow Goslings taken by Mr. Langdon Gibson in North Greenland on July 11, 1892, and mentioned by him in his interesting paper, 'Bird Notes from North Greenland' in 'The Auk' for July, 1922.

In this article Mr. Gibson writes that: "The birds were on the nest at the time of capture" and they were "about two weeks old."

Upon examination and comparison with some downy young of the Lesser Snow Goose, of known age, in my collection, this gosling appears to be not over a day old, taking into consideration its size, freshness of natal down, etc., and if it had been two weeks old it seems doubtful if the young would still have been found near their nest.

Upon writing to Mr. Gibson and calling his attention to this apparent discrepancy, I received a very prompt and courteous reply in which he writes in part, as follows: ". . . Considering what I know now of the breeding of geese, it is hard to explain to you now why I transcribed into my published notes what must have been an error at the time it was made, i. e., placing the age of the goslings at two weeks. You are unquestionably right in your assumption that the young birds had just hatched, for they were on the nest when taken and the gander was standing by doing sentinel duty, just as you describe.

"Don't you think it would be a good idea for you to write a letter to 'The Auk' calling attention to what should unquestionably appear as a correction."

Mr. Gibson's error was one of those to which we are all liable when specimens are not at hand for purposes of comparison.—FRED H. KENNARD, *Newton Centre, Mass.*

Piping Plover and Black Tern nesting at North Pond, Lake Ontario.—Mr. Neil Hotchkiss and I found the Piping Plover nesting at North Pond on the shore of Lake Ontario on July 14, 1923. The nest was located on the point of a sandspit which reached for a mile or so from the mainland, so that it was in an extremely isolated spot, and contained four eggs.

The adult birds showed very little fear and tried all of the usual tricks, such as feigning a broken wing, etc., to lure me away from the nest. Frequently they approached within thirty feet of where I was sitting and I