

estimate. The birds seemed to say *ipter-ipta, ut, ut, ut*. I have also written it down on different nights, *whipter-ipta, ha, ha, ha*, and *upter-upta, ha, ha, ha*. There was nothing indefinite or variable about the wording. It suggested a college yell of nocturnal sprites.

Another song, less complicated but of considerable interest, was heard several times and was called to my attention by Mr. Ernest Joy, one of the Life Saving men, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, a member of the New England Bird Banding Association and a keen and accurate observer. The song may best be described by saying that it resembles the trilling of a toad. One that I traced to its source came from a burrow, where, besides the trilling, could be heard a gentle cooing or clucking sound which appeared to come from a second bird. The sounds ceased abruptly when the light of a lantern was flashed in the hole. Mr. Joy called this the mating song, and in this I think he is correct, for he said the trilling was heard much more commonly earlier in the season, and on several occasions when he had investigated, he had found two birds in the hole.

These songs are certainly among the weirdest and most unusual of bird songs, and, coming out of the darkness often from birds close at hand, the effect is indescribable.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, 98 Pinckney St., Boston, Mass.

**Bonaparte's Gull Summering near Perth Amboy, N. J.**—A flock of about thirty Bonaparte's Gulls (*Larus philadelphia*) was seen on the Raritan River near Perth Amboy, N. J., by R. H. Howland, Rudyerd Boulton and the writer on July 28, 1923. I am informed by Ludlow Griscom of the American Museum of Natural History that other observers have reported them in the same locality in June, July and August.—CHARLES A. URNER, Elizabeth, N. J.

**Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) in Michigan.**—Doctor Christofferson and myself spent Sept. 1-3 at Brevort Lake, Mackinac County, Mich. Immediately on our arrival we were attracted by a loud squawking and on investigating we discovered a flock of more than twenty Caspian Terns, old and young, on a sand bar just off the shore of the lake and almost directly in front of our cabin. We watched them every day and the old birds were continually bringing fish which they were feeding the young.

On September 2 on a sand bar farther up the lake we found another flock of more than thirty and here also the old birds were bringing food to the young. On this same bar were also nine Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*); three Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*); three Ring-billed Gulls (*Larus delawarensis*); one Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) and one Least Sandpiper (*Pisobia minutilla*).

A farmer living at the lake informed us that the Caspian Terns had been there all summer. Brevort Lake is about a mile from the north shore of Lake Michigan.

Returning to the Soo Sept. 3, we stopped at Carp River and at its mouth saw one Caspian Tern with two Common Terns. Carp River is about ten miles from Brevort Lake across the St. Ignace Peninsula and empties into Lake Huron.—M. J. MAGEE, *Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.*

**Note on the Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*).**—Any evidence of the breeding of this vanishing bird on our coast is worth recording. On February 7, 1923, Mr. Allen T. Moses of North Head, Grand Manan, New Brunswick, shot one at that place and reported that a flock of about two hundred wintered there and that he believed they bred at White Horse Island at the mouth of Passamaquoddy Bay, north of Campobello Island. In July we were informed by a Passamaquoddy Indian that Cormorants still nested at this island although much less in numbers than in former days. Without being prompted, he said there were two kinds there, one having a white patch on the flank.

On July 25, 1923, we visited this island and found the sea cliffs painted white with Cormorant droppings, and we saw about twenty-five Cormorants. All flew away but two before we could identify them. One of these was plainly a Common Cormorant as it showed the white feathers on the lower sides of the face although no white spot on the flank was visible. The other bird was of the same size but devoid of markings.

The island is about three hundred yards long and half as broad, with cliffs of basaltic rock seventy or a hundred feet high, well adapted on the sea side for nests as there is a succession of shelves and flat-topped columns. When we climbed about the cliffs, an adult Cormorant, apparently without markings, flew near us, and, later, an immature bird flew out of a cleft. Its breast was turned away so that we were unable to determine the species.

No Cormorant nests were found, although a few sticks and weed-stalks in places suggested nests of former years. A cloud of two or three hundred Herring Gulls rose over the island on our approach, but only two or three young Gulls on an outlying rock were to be seen. There were nesting depressions in the turf of the summit of the island, but no eggs or young. It was evident that the island had been repeatedly raided for eggs and young birds.

The keeper at Head Harbor Light, Campobello, some two miles to the south, told us that over a hundred Cormorants spent the winter about the island. These, like the birds at Grand Manan, were probably *carbo*, for *auritus* is not found in winter north of New Jersey.

It is well known that sea birds often return for some years to a former breeding place, even when persecution has prevented their nesting. Steps are being taken to guard this island, and it is to be hoped that the Common Cormorant may in time nest there undisturbed.—ROBIE W. TUFTS, *Wolfville, Nova Scotia* and CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *Boston, Mass.*

**A Florida Flamingo.**—One day in company with Mr. Charles Dury I was looking through the interesting collection of birds in the Cuvier