

A single Hermit Thrush (*Hylocichla guttata pallasi*) on the morning of July 22, was seen along the brook flowing south from Split-rock Pond, Morris County, (altitude 820 feet) toward Meriden, about five miles northwest of Boonton. This extends the summer range of the species southward from localities in which it has formerly been found though whether it occurred in this locality as a breeder or transient is uncertain.—CHARLES A. URNER, *Elizabeth, N. J.*

Records from North Beach, Barnegat Bay, N. J.—Running south from Bay Head, N. J., for twenty-five miles and separating Barnegat Bay from the Atlantic is a narrow strip of sand dunes and beach which offers attractive possibilities for the present-day ornithologist. Along the first fifteen miles of this strip at intervals are more or less well developed summer resorts, but the last ten miles, from Seaside Park to Barnegat Inlet, a stretch known formerly as Island Beach and today locally as North Beach, is most of the year uninhabited except for the crews of three coast guard stations and a few hunters and fishermen whose shacks are reached by boat or by following the beach.

From June to October, 1923, the writer made monthly trips over this sandy strip, starting at Seaside Park and following the ocean beach south to the Inlet, returning part of the way along the Bay shore. Two trips were made alone, one with R. H. Howland and Rudyerd Boulton and two with T. D. Carter of the American Museum of Natural History.

The location is well suited for the observation of ocean and bay bird life and at the southern end great sand flats, extending far out into the Bay at low tide, furnish an attractive resting or feeding ground for shore birds, Gulls and Terns. There are also a number of adjacent sedge-covered islands in the Bay which can be reached from the beach by boat.

The strip itself is partly covered with low growths such as bayberry, entwined with poison ivy and cat-brier. As to trees there are a few clumps of low cedars and scattering dwarf oaks and hollies. In spite of the poor sandy nature of the soil the place supports, judging from signs and tracks, a considerable number of mammals, chiefly rabbits, opossums and the smaller rodents, with a few muskrats along the Bay shore. At the southern end opossum tracks are found all about, from the ocean each far out onto the Bay flats.

Among the many interesting bird records five trips over this region have yielded, the following seem worthy of note:

Gavia stellata. RED-THROATED LOON.—An adult with red throat seen June 20, 1923. This species has rarely been recorded from New Jersey and never before reported in the state as late as the above date though one was reported from Grassy Sound, N. J., June 15, 1904. (Stone 'Birds of New Jersey'.)

Stercorarius parasiticus. PARASITIC JAEGER.—A single bird October 28, 1923 chasing Laughing Gulls just outside the surf. (T. D. Carter and the writer.)

Sterna caspia. CASPIAN TERN.—Four seen by the writer on the flats at the Inlet August 12, 1923 and a single seen by Carter and the writer in same locality September 16. The four birds were with Gulls, Shorebirds and other Terns. Relative size carefully noted at close range; heavy red bill well seen; also short-notched tail beyond which the primaries extended some distance when the birds were at rest. Harsh call notes heard. Only one previous definite record for the species from the state is reported in Stone's 'Birds of New Jersey' (a bird taken by G. N. Lawrence in 1850). However there are several records from points not far from the Jersey border.

Sterna antillarum. LEAST TERN.—A single bird July 29, 1923. (Howland, Boulton and the writer).

Sula bassana. GANNET.—A single bird in changing plumage September 16, 1923. (Carter and the writer). I can find no previous published September record for the state.

Rallus crepitans. CLAPPER RAIL.—Two nests, one containing 8 and one 12 eggs found July 29 (Boulton, Howland and the writer) are rather late.

Ereunetes pusillus. SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER.—A single bird October 28 (Carter and the writer) is abnormally late.

Pisobia minutilla. LEAST SANDPIPER.—A single bird with the above October 28 (Carter and the writer). This bird was slightly lame but apparently healthy and normal on the wing. It is a later record for the species than I have found for New Jersey.

Vermivora ruficapilla ruficapilla. NASHVILLE WARBLER.—One found near the Bay outlet October 28 (Carter). Griscom mentions only one later record for the New York City region—Nov. 16, 1907 at Englewood, N. J.

Geothlypis t. trichas. MARYLAND YELLOW-THROAT.—A single bird October 28 (Carter and the writer) seems unusually late.

Regarding the fall flight of ducks on the bay, Black Ducks were unusually abundant early in the season. Flocks of Brant were seen going south October 28, and the species was rather common on the bay during November. On November 13 Greater Scaups and Red-breasted Mergansers made up the great bulk of the flocks though there were a few flocks of Redheads. Several Canvasbacks were taken November 9. Buffleheads seem to show some increase. Several small flocks were seen November 13 and of 28 ducks killed from one point on that day three were of this species.—CHARLES A. URNER, *Elizabeth, N. J.*

Notes on Michigan Birds.

Quiscalus quiscula aenus. BRONZED GRACKLE.—In his 'Michigan Bird Life' Barrows states that, "We have never seen a nest less than eight feet from the ground" and then speaking of nests found low down in reeds in Minnesota and Iowa he adds "but we have been unable to find any record of such a habit" in Michigan. In view of these statements it may be worth while to record a nest of this species found June 9,