

GENERAL NOTES.

Black Tern near New York City in Spring.—On May 13, 1923, Dr. Ellsworth Eliot, Dr. E. R. P. Janvrin, Mr. J. M. Johnson and I made a long, all-day spring census in the Englewood region, Bergen County, New Jersey. We were fortunate in striking the biggest wave of migrants of the season and recorded 99 species, many in great abundance. The famous Overpeck Creek Marshes produced an unusual number of water-birds. A pair of very belated Mallards, some Black Ducks, seven species of Shore-birds, including the first inland record of the White-rumped Sandpiper for the State, and all five Swallows were welcome additions after ten hours in the field. Utterly unexpected, however, was the sight of two Black Terns in full breeding plumage hawking gracefully over the waters of the creek, at times passing very close to us. I was consequently much interested to learn from Mr. George E. Hix a few days later, that he saw two Black Terns in full breeding plumage at Long Beach, Long Island on May 16. The birds were tame, conditions were ideal, and this bird is, of course, practically unmistakable. There are only three previous spring records for the Black Tern in this region, all from Long Island. It is perhaps significant that two of these records were in 1921 and 1922 respectively, and it will be interesting to see whether spring records become more frequent and regular.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *American Museum of Natural History, New York.*

A Specimen of Thayer's Gull from New Jersey.—A specimen of *Larus thayeri* in the collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences was taken by Mr. Samuel N. Rhoads at Mt. Ephraim, N. J. near the Delaware River, March 9, 1888. It had long passed as a Herring Gull until a recent examination of the specimens of this species by Dr. H. C. Oberholser brought out its true relationship.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.*

A Second North American Record for *Puffinus assimilis*.—Among the birds in the collection which Mr. William Brewster bequeathed to the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy is a mounted specimen of a small black and white Shearwater bearing two labels. The original, in Mr. Arthur T. Wayne's handwriting, is as follows: "Puffinus auduboni, Summer, ♂, Sullivans Id., S. C. Disabled and exhausted but not dead. Taken after a storm on the Florida coast." Mr. Brewster's label is, of course, essentially the same, omitting the details of capture and carrying in addition his catalogue number 20051.

With a view to obtaining a little more of the history of this specimen, I wrote to Mr. A. T. Wayne asking him if he could not supply a few additional details; this he very kindly did, partly from his remarkable memory and partly from his records. From him I learned that the specimen was