

attempt to. When first seen they were on the upper limit of the beach in the lee of the beach grass. One of these birds was taken and sent to the State Museum at Augusta where it is preserved. Shortly after the disappearance of the birds from this place two were seen in Machias Bay, a dozen miles to the eastward.

Hon. Clarence H. Clark of Lubec, who is ever alert to preserve the rarities of his district for the benefit of students of Natural History, writes that he has added the three following specimens to his collection. An adult male taken at Lubec, Maine, September 1, a female from Jonesport, September 2, and an immature bird from Stonnington, Hancock County, about the same time.

Capt. Herbert L. Spinney of Bath informs us that three were seen by Mr. Hubert McCarty of that city at the Horse-shoe, a shallow lagoon at the western end of Popham Beach on August 30. On September 1, eight were seen together at the same place and on September 5 three were seen there by Mr. McCarty. They were actively feeding in the shallow water, and were observed at close range, enabling him to render a satisfactory description of the birds.

It seems that this species has not been detected in Maine since 1881, when one was shot near Matinicus and sent to Bangor where it was identified by Mr. Harry Merrill.¹

During the irruption which reached the Gulf of Maine in 1879, it has been shown that at least seven were shot about Grand Manan and Campobello New Brunswick, and that the birds were seen as far up Passamaquoddy Bay at St. Andrew's, N. B.²

It seems likely that it was to these New Brunswick examples that the late Mr. Everett Smith had reference in his statement, "a number were shot off our coast."¹ He adds this definite Maine record: "Mr. Ira Shalis of Wells shot one of two seen at a creek of Wells Bay, [= Wells Beach] August 28, 1879."

The status of a specimen rather questionably cited as probably seen off Saco Bay, August 31, 1879² will not be discussed at this time.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Museum of Natural History, Portland, Me.*

Wilson's Petrel in Maryland.—On June 21, 1924 I secured a male of *Oceanites oceanicus* one mile south of Chesapeake Beach, Maryland. The bird which, when first seen, rested on the shore, fluttered out across the water so feebly that I had no difficulty in seizing it in my hand. Its weakness was due apparently to lack of food as it had none of the fatty tissue beneath the skin usual in Petrels, though otherwise in good flesh.

The species though common at sea near the Virginia Capes has been found so seldom on Chesapeake Bay and the lower Potomac that the present bird seems to constitute the fourth inland record for the region in question. One was secured near Washington after a violent storm in

¹1883: Smith, *Forest & Stream*, xx, 205.

²1879: Deane, *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Cl.* iv, 243.

August, 1842 (Bull. Proc. Nat. Inst., 1845, p. 251, see 'Auk,' 1918, p. 85). There is a mounted specimen in the U. S. National Museum secured on the Potomac River in 1859 (catalogued on July 20, 1859), and a third, also mounted in the U. S. National Museum, was said to have been blown into a boat at Marshall Hall, Maryland on June 27, 1914.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C.*

White Pelican at Lawrenceville, Ill.—Two White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) were shot on Lake Lawrence about October 20, 1924. The fact was reported to me by a friend who saw the specimens the day after they were killed and who is familiar with the species in the South. Lake Lawrence is a very large gravel pit in the north-eastern part of Lawrence County. Absence from home at the time of the occurrence prevented me from examining the birds myself.—S. H. EATON, *Lawrenceville, Illinois.*

Notes on Texas Ducks.—HYBRID MALLARD (*Anas maxima* Gosse).—On November 1, 1924 Joseph P. Bell of Houston, while hunting near Brookshire, Wallen Co., Texas, shot two large ducks one of which I examined and identified as the so called "Violet Duck, *Anas maxima*" of Gosse, supposed to be a cross between the Mallard and Muscovy. There were five birds in the flock. The one I examined closely resembled the Mallard drake, the head being dark brown with a green sheen, throat and breast brown, under parts dull white with brown spots, flanks very similar to those of the Gadwall, back brown with green shading, tail coverts dark green, tail brown, primaries brown and speculum green with a faint white line inside and white border, wing coverts greenish brown. There was no white collar but two small white feathers on the right side of the neck where the collar would have been; the bill was yellow and the feet light orange. This bird weighed seven and three quarter pounds, spread 52 inches, length 36½ inches, wing 21½ inches. It has been mounted.

OLD-SQUAW, *Clangula hyemalis*. On January 12, 1925, Palmer Melton killed a young male Old-squaw at the mouth of Brazos River, sixty miles from Houston. The bird in fair fall plumage was given to me and has been made into a skin. It was alone and was brought to Houston for identification. I have a record of two birds of the year killed December 13, 1921, but have heard of none since in this vicinity.

CINNAMON TEAL, *Querquedula cyanoptera*. On January 27, 1925, a gunner named Harnion killed a full plumaged Cinnamon Teal at Cove near here and I am informed by Mr. Otto Sens of Houston that during the past season which closed January 31, 1925, he shot a pair of these birds at Sandy Point Lake, twenty miles from Houston. He is an old duck hunter and quite familiar with the species.—ROBERT B. LAWRENCE, *411 Westmoreland Ave., Houston, Texas.*

European Widgeon, *Mareca penelope*, at Niagara Falls, N. Y.—On the morning of December 25, 1924, Thomas L. Bourne of Hamburg,