

Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) in South Carolina.—On September 20, 1926, I found on the beach of Long Island (Isle of Palms), the wing of a bird that I at once recognized as a Petrel; it was under a pile of sedge at high water mark, near the spot where I found remains of the Bridled Tern (*Sterna anaetheta*), Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*) and Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*) after the West Indian hurricane of July 29 last.

After a study of the wing I concluded it was that of *Oceanodroma leucorhoa*, it was sent to the U. S. National Museum, and Mr. J. H. Riley, confirmed my identification, . . . and added "This is a record for South Carolina."

Mr. Arthur T. Wayne in 'Birds of South Carolina' places this bird in the Hypothetical List and says that "it appears to be well-known to the Charleston pilots, who state that it is often seen during the winter months."—EDWARD VON S. DINGLE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

The Blue Goose at East Goose Creek, Florida.—Somewhat by chance I was at East Goose Creek, Wakulla County, Florida, at midday November 25, 1926, and discovered that Mr. George E. Lewis, of Tallahassee, had that morning killed a Goose from his stand at the end of what is locally known as Patty's Island, about two miles out in front of the beach at this place, which I was informed was a Brant. My curiosity being aroused, I immediately went to his bungalow to examine the specimen. I found that it was an immature Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) in very good plumage but in rather an emaciated condition. I obtained the head, foot, and diagnostic feathers from various portions of the body, and sent them to the Biological Survey. The following is Mr. Lewis' written statement as to the capture of this specimen: "I believe I saw one other but not at the same time as the one I shot. This other one was some distance from me but flew like the one I shot and looked different from the Canada Goose. I do not know definitely of any other Blue Goose having been shot at Wakulla Beach (a rather pretentious name recently applied to East Goose Creek) but some of the fishermen told me they had seen several others. The one I shot was alone as was the other one I think was a Blue Goose. I had never seen one before to know it. I was standing on the S. W. end of Patty's Island using profile decoys for Geese when the Blue Goose came along. I had my boat along shore partly hid, but not well, in the grass only about 100 feet away and did not expect to get any shooting from the west on account of the boat being exposed from this side. However, the Blue Goose came from the west and I believe was decoying to my profile decoys when I noticed him. You remember how poor he was? The fishermen said the others they had seen were also very poor. I understood my father to say that he had never seen a Blue Goose and he has shot on the coast many times."

Mr. W. L. McAtee procured a Blue Goose at St. Vincent Island, Florida, November 1, 1910 (Auk, XXVIII, 273), and Mr. R. J. Longstreet recorded

one seen at Seabreeze, on the east coast of the State, on November 13, 1924 (Auk, XLII, 264). The first Florida specimen was taken at the Tortugas April 5, 1859, by Capt. D. P. Woodbury. St. Vincent Island is about 60 miles west of East Goose Creek, in Franklin County.—R. W. WILLIAMS, *Takoma Park, Maryland.*

Whistling Swan (*Olor columbianus*) at Cold Spring Harbor, Long Island, N. Y.—Whistling Swans on Long Island are exceptionally rare, if not accidental. Eaton in the 'Birds of New York' gives four authentic records for the island and Griscom in 'Birds of the New York City Region' gives several less definite for Orient in recent years. It was therefore with considerable pleasure that we observed, under most favorable conditions, five of these birds at Cold Spring Harbor on November 14, 1926.

At eleven o'clock in the morning the series of four small fresh water lakes situated near the harbor was deserted, save for a solitary female Scaup. On our return, about an hour later, the Swans had arrived, presumably from across Long Island Sound. Two were adults in immaculate plumage and three were juveniles with light grayish brown heads, necks and upper surfaces. The bills of the adults were black with an elongate yellow spot in front of the eye. This character was plainly visible and, coupled with the absence of a knob or "berry," served to eliminate the possibility of their being Mute Swans with which we are familiar. Occasionally, as they fed, indications of a pinkish or salmon-colored lining of the mouth were noticed. In the young birds, the bills were dark at the tip and base and mottled pinkish and bluish in the middle region. The neck was more thickly set and was carried somewhat straighter than is that of the Mute Swan. At frequent intervals a peculiar arching or bobbing of the neck was indulged in, accompanied by an indistinct musical note, barely audible at one hundred yards. On a previous occasion this fall, one of us (Bowen) whilst in the company of Mr. Charles Urner, had the pleasure of watching this species at Barnegat Bay, N. J., and was much impressed by this peculiar habit, although at the time no sound was heard, due, no doubt to the greater distance at which the observations were made.

Apparently tired and hungry, the birds were very loth to fly and fed ravenously near some lily pads in water about four feet deep, paying little or no attention to the close proximity of a well traveled highway and other evidences of man's activities. On one occasion, in its efforts to secure some particularly appetizing morsel, one of the birds almost toppled over backwards, but, by struggling and waving its black feet in the air, regained its balance and returned once more to a more natural posture. For half an hour they were observed through 8 × binoculars at approximately one hundred yards in clear, brilliant sunlight. Eventually they were startled and, stretching long necks to their fullest extent, pattered over the water for about ten yards and flew southward overland in echelon formation.—W. WEDGWOOD BOWEN and RUDYERD BOULTON, *New York City.*