

No Mans Land. They were shy and rose from the water and flew off to the northwest when our sail boat approached within a third of a mile.

These birds are rare winter visitors here, but summer records, I believe, are lacking.—STANLEY COBB, M.D., *Harvard Medical School, Boston, Mass.*

**King Rail Capturing a Common Crab.**—While looking for birds near a tidal pool at Cape May, N. J., September 4, 1927, a King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) suddenly appeared from the grass and deliberately walked out to the edge of a shallow stream which traversed the muddy bed of the pool. Slowly and with mincing step the Rail made his way down the middle of the stream swinging his bill from side to side in the water as he moved along. At intervals, he stopped and swallowed any morsel captured.

Just as the Rail reached the center of the pool bed, he suddenly jumped back and at the same moment I saw a common blue crab throw up his claws in defense. The Rail eyed the crab a moment and then to my surprise gave the crab a vicious jab and then jumped back as before. These tactics were repeated until the crab had lost one claw and was very much subdued.

The Rail then deliberately picked up the weakly protesting crab and laid it on its back in the mud. As it did this I could see that the crab measured about three inches across the shell.

After placing the crab on its back, the Rail raised himself on his toes and lifting his bill as high as possible came down with all the force that he could muster, striking the crab in the middle of its lower shell. Repeated blows rendered the crab inert.

Apparently satisfied that the crab was completely subdued, the Rail lugged it off to a place near the edge of the grass, battered it to pieces and consumed it. The carapace was left intact.

The meal seemed to satisfy the Rail for he afterwards stood about for some time pluming and arranging his feathers.

About fifteen minutes elapsed between the first blow struck and the final knockout.—JULIAN K. POTTER, *Collingswood, N. J.*

**The Red Phalarope, (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) in Ohio.**—A fine young male specimen of this species was taken on the Scioto River, several miles north of Columbus, in Delaware County, Ohio, on the evening of September 29, 1927. The specimen was first seen by Charles F. Walker and was collected by Milton B. Trautman. From all reports examined it is the first Ohio specimen of the species to be preserved in any scientific collection. In the 'Ohio Agricultural Report' for 1861 Dr. J. M. Wheaton stated on the authority of Mr. R. K. Winslow of Cleveland "that two or three specimens had been taken on Lake Erie." Every statement made since, concerning the species as an Ohio bird, has been based on this one. The statement is indefinite as there is no evidence that the specimens were

preserved, so the present record accompanied by a good skin, preserved in the Wheaton Club Collection at the Ohio State Museum, is a notable addition to the bird fauna of Ohio.—JAMES S. HINE, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio.*

**An Unpublished Record of the Eskimo Curlew for Wisconsin.—**

I have in my collection an Eskimo Curlew (*Numenius borealis*) the record of which apparently has not been published. It was taken by Mr. Delos Hatch, Mar. 22, 1903, (original label) on the Horicon Marsh at Leroy, Fond du Lac County, Wis. I made a considerable trip last fall to check up the data and Dr. H. C. Oberholser substantiated the identification of the bird while visiting here last year. I have some doubt as to the collecting date, but that it was taken in the spring of that year is without question. The specimen was not sexed.—OSCAR P. ALLERT, *McGregor, Iowa.*

**Flight of Hudsonian Curlew over Barnegat Bay.—**One of the largest southward flights of Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*) that Barnegat Bay, Ocean County, N. J., has witnessed in many years was recorded between July 14, and 19, 1927. Only a few years ago this bird was considered rather rare about Barnegat, and was usually seen in numbers only during strong south or south-west July winds, when it followed a course parallel and close to the west or landward side of the Bay. I have spent practically every week-end in the Barnegat region during the south Shorebird migration since 1923. In 1923 I saw but two Curlew on the southern flight; in 1924 but two; in 1925, 4 records with a total of 31 birds; in 1926, 3 records with a total of 98 birds, the largest number (72) on July 18 flying over the ocean past Point Pleasant.

The 1927 southern flight started early. Dr. Wm. B. Ley of Elizabeth, while fishing on the Bay, saw 4 Curlew on July 2 and about 20 July 9. On July 12 Mr. Oscar Ayres and other Barnegat guides noted the beginning of what proved to be a very large flight. The wind that week blew fresh, chiefly from south to south-west and small flocks of Curlew began to pass Barnegat dock, coming from the north-east, most of them apparently entering the Bay over the outer strip north of the Forked River Coast Guard Station. The wind held and the flight increased through the 13th, 14th and 15th. On the 16th Dr. Wm. B. Ley, who spent the entire day about the Bay, estimated fully 1,500 passing birds, this total being confirmed by the observations of others. On the 17th Dr. Ley and Mr. Ayres reported a large early flight passing the Barnegat dock. Mr. M. S. Ley and I reached the dock about 9 a.m. on that day and in a little over three hours we counted 311 birds. They were passing in waves at irregular intervals at the rate of about 100 an hour and over two relatively narrow courses. I am informed that the flight continued through the afternoon of July 17, tapering off through the 18th and 19th and dropping sharply after that date. However there was a fairly large scattering southern