

GENERAL NOTES.

Leach's Petrel in Ohio.—On May 16, 1929, a Dayton lad picked up from a street of this city a dead bird; he took it to his teacher, Miss Winifred Nutting, who sent it to me for the local museum. After examining it I concluded it could be none other than Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*). Believing it to be the first known specimen for Ohio, I wrote to Prof. J. S. Hine at Ohio State University and he replied that he had no knowledge of a previous Ohio record. On preparing the specimen a bruised spot on the skull seemed to indicate that the bird met its death by striking some object while in flight. The stomach was empty although the bird was not emaciated. Sex determination was not positive but it was believed to be a female. The specimen was prepared as a skin and it was later decided to present it to the Ohio State Museum collection. On receiving the specimen Prof. Hine verified the identification. It may not be out of place to add that in all probability the occurrence of this specimen in southwestern Ohio constitutes the most western inland record for the species. It is with a great deal of pleasure that I report this addition to the Ohio state list.—BEN. J. BLINCOE, *Dayton, Ohio.*

Bonaparte's Gull at Lexington, Virginia.—On April 29, 1929, I saw a Bonaparte's Gull (*Larus philadelphia*) at Cameron's Pond near Lexington, in the Valley of Virginia. When first seen it was perched on a post out in the center of the small, shallow pond. When I came near enough for a good view it had left the post and was swimming on the pond. It was not at all shy and let me walk all around the pond watching it at close range. It stayed in the same vicinity for three or four days and was later seen by a farmer several times, at a small cattle pool in a lonely spot. I observed it for some time with 8x power glasses, getting at times within thirty yards range. The head and throat appeared almost black, the dark color coming much farther down on the throat than on the back of the neck. The nape and underparts were pure white, the bill black, and the back and wings light pearl-gray. The primaries were black at the tips, with white between the black and the pearl. The only other record of the Bonaparte's Gull for this part of the Valley of Virginia is of one seen by Mr. M. G. Lewis of Lexington in 1928, and curiously enough on the same date, April 29.—JAMES J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Virginia.*

White Pelicans Killed by Lightning.—At Granger, Salt Lake County, Utah, August 16, 1929, during a lightning storm, a service station attendant counted twenty-seven Pelicans flying at about 500 feet. While he was watching them there was a loud clap of thunder and immediately the birds began falling. All of them were dead when they struck the ground and none were seen continuing the flight. We verified the story by counting sixteen dead American White Pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)

in an area of less than ten acres. Several of the birds had been carried away by people before the count was made.—JOHN W. SUGDEN, *Judge Building, Salt Lake City, Utah.*

Bahama Pintail in Wisconsin.—On September 23, 1929, I received here at the Museum the remains of what I later identified as *Anas bahamensis*, the Bahama Pintail. A letter from Mr. George Overton of Oshkosh, Wisconsin, followed, in which he stated particulars concerning the taking of the bird. On September 21, 1929, Miss Catherine Clark of Larsen, Wisconsin, was hunting on Lake Winneconne and while looking among the rushes for a Duck she had killed, picked up a cold Duck that had been shot and was strange to her. Recognizing it as uncommon she arrived at the conclusion that it had been shot by a hunter who thought it a Wood Duck and left it on the water. Fortunately, or rather unfortunately, she saved only the wings, tail feathers, head and feet, but brought the parts to Mr. Overton who in turn sent them to me for identification. Decomposition had not set in, and I now have the parts preserved here at the Museum, along with painted color sketches made from the flesh.

At first the occurrence of the bird here in Wisconsin seemed incredible, but I have been unable to learn of any game farms or private sanctuaries from which it may have escaped. The suggestion, that unusual weather conditions, coupled with the recent hurricanes along the southern coasts may have blown the bird off its normal course does not seem entirely out of order. Phillips in 'A Natural History of the Ducks' credits but one previous North American record, a bird taken at Cape Canaveral, Florida, by W. S. Brooks in 1913.—OWEN J. GROMME, *Milwaukee Public Museum, Milwaukee, Wis.*

White Herons in Dutchess County, N. Y.—On July 21, 1929, two Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) were seen on Grassmere Millpond at Rhinebeck, N. Y. by Miss Helen Crosby, and thereafter reports of this species, never before recorded in this county, were received in increasing numbers until on August 14, when the writer took a county census in a motor and was able to list a total of forty-eight in a single day on the various ponds and lakes. This agrees with a recent report from Putnam County listing thirty-six in a single day. All the Little Blue Herons were in immature plumage. Four American Egrets (*Casmerodius egretta*) were also seen on August 2 in close proximity to the Little Blue Herons, and not far off two individuals which could have been nothing but Snowy Egrets (*Egretta candidissima*). They kept themselves apart from the rest, scratching in the mud, holding themselves at a different body angle from the Little Blues, and occasionally making rapid darts in one direction or another. When they flew, they distinctly showed dark legs and bright yellow feet. I have witnesses who noted this peculiarity. This species is also new to Dutchess County. Since August 14 the Little Blue Herons have apparently still been present in numbers, but not as a rule in as large groups.