

last three years on trips extending some thirteen miles off shore I have seen what I now feel sure was this species. Previous state records are: May, 1870, one specimen, Coues; June, 1892, one specimen, H. H. Brimley; "about 1897," two specimens and July, 1924, two specimens, R. J. Coles (Auk, January, 1925).

On July 26, 1925, a dying Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus lherminieri*) was taken at Bogue Banks by several of us from the U. S. Fisheries Station, Beaufort, skinned by the writer and sent to the National Museum. Previous state records consist of a specimen picked up on the beach near Beaufort, July, 1910, and those reported by Dr. Coles (l. c.) who stated that the species is a common summer visitor at Cape Lookout and that on and after July 25, 1924, more than a hundred stayed in Lookout Bight.

I take pleasure in thanking Mr. H. H. Brimley for information as to North Carolina records and Dr. C. W. Richmond for the date the dying Audubon's Shearwater was taken.—JAMES S. GUTSELL.

Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) in the District of Columbia.—While rowing down the Potomac River, a short distance above Hains Point, D. C., October 4, 1930, the writer's attention was attracted to a flock of five Pied-billed Grebes (*Podilymbus podiceps*) feeding in the extensive growth of aquatic plants which are so conspicuous in the late summer. In making his way through this growth in quest of the Grebes, the writer discovered a specimen of Leach's Petrel quietly resting on the water. It was collected and is now in the U. S. National Museum. There have been four previous records for this species at Washington, D. C., the last being in 1891.—W. HOWARD BALL, 1861 *Ingleside Terrace, N. W., Washington, D. C.*

In Re "Townsend's Oregon Tubinares."—Dr. Stone has questioned Townsend's North Pacific records of the Yellow-nosed Albatross, Sooty Albatross, Giant Fulmar, and Slender-billed Fulmar, after a brief discussion and quotations, in which he says: "It will, I think, be evident that Townsend had no clear idea of the identity of the various species of Tubinares nor of where he secured the several specimens; that he sent Audubon no information about the four in question and probably did not label them at all; and that he had every opportunity to secure specimens of all four in the South Pacific, while his illness may have made it still more difficult for him to remember which specimens had been obtained at the mouth of the Columbia and which in the South Pacific." (*Auk*, XLVII, 1930, pp. 414-415.)

I may, perhaps, be pardoned for the presentation of the same or similar evidence in a more favorable light in respect to the veracity of that intrepid pioneer ornithologist of the great Northwest, John Kirk Townsend, and of observing the actual sequence in publication dates of the citations, which, from a critic's standpoint, sometimes makes all the difference in the world.