

days, making 182 days in all, or a full six months. It is doubtful if there is any other shore-bird, or indeed any other transient species, that consumes so large a portion of the year in passing through here.

For the Pectoral Sandpiper the corresponding dates were as follows: July 11 to October 27, 1930, a period of 109 days, and April 12 to June 4, 1931, a period of 54 days,—or 163 days in all. For the Least Sandpiper the dates were: July 11 to October 17, 1930, a period of 99 days, and April 18 to May 30, 1931, a period of 43 days,—or 142 days in all.

Some of the above dates are exceptional and it is probable that the total of days given for each of these species is close to the maximum for any one year.—JOHN S. MAIN, *Madison, Wis.*

Another Massachusetts Record for the Marbled Godwit.—In 'The Auk' (for January, 1930, p. 77) Mr. Ludlow Griscom reported the taking of a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) on Plum Island, Massachusetts, September 15, 1929. I was fortunate enough to be present at the time, but I never expected to see another in Massachusetts, as the species is now only an accidental visitor in New England, the last previous record having been made in 1924. On August 23, 1931, however, as Messrs. A. C. Bent, E. B. Church, E. O. Mellinger, and I were looking over the shore-birds on Monomoy, Chatham, Massachusetts, Mr. Bent saw a bird that at first appeared to be a curlew, fly in behind some beach grass near which a flock of Herring Gulls were resting. As we approached, we soon descried the bird standing in shallow water near the gulls and, on levelling our glasses upon it, saw to our surprise that it had the slightly upcurved bill of a godwit instead of the decurved bill that we had expected to see. By stalking it behind tall grass we got much nearer and finally watched it at leisure within thirty or forty yards while it walked up the beach and fed in the moist sand. When it flew it showed no black nor white on the tail and tail-coverts, which fact, together with its generally brown coloration, proved it to be a Marbled Godwit and not a Hudsonian. As it was a rather dark bird, it was doubtless an immature. In feeding it sometimes thrust its long bill down into the sand for its entire length. When it took its final flight, across the cove known as the Blubell Hole and out of sight, it uttered a hoarse low-pitched scream.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Massachusetts.*

Northern Phalaropes and Oriole at Sea.—On September 18, while crossing from Goteborg, Sweden to New York, I noticed a small bird on the after deck of our ship. We were some ten miles off, but in plain sight of, the Newfoundland Coast, midway between St. John and the Cape, we noticed the bird flying nervously about trying to discover some spot out of the wind. It proved to be an immature Baltimore Oriole, blown evidently far off the main line of flight. The bird at length came to roost in a secluded corner underneath one of the lifeboats close to the deck and towards evening slept with head hidden amid the feathers of the back.

Next morning we could not find it. The wind at the time was sufficiently strong to cover the sea with white caps, coming from a southwesterly direction.

Next day when off Nova Scotia well out of sight of land on three different occasions I noticed a bird rise hastily from the water close to the ship and beat off to leeward. I did not have my binoculars at hand at the time but I could note the snow-white underparts and gray above, and the rapid, sandpiper-like flight. One bird settled on the water again after a short flight, which led me to believe it and the others were phalaropes. Whenever they tried to attain any altitude, the half gale would sweep them off one way or the other so that they had to seek the surface immediately and find shelter among the hollows. The amazing fact was that any bird could survive in such a place, in real turbulent water like this.

On the afternoon of the 20th someone reported seeing a plover-like bird on the rear deck of the ship but although I searched all about I failed to find it. Part of the crew were uncovering the main hatch, causing much noise and commotion and I supposed the bird had been frightened away. But it was there all the time, hiding out of sight for on the 21st just before landing, I discovered it wandering about the deck, slightly injured and unable to fly. I readily caught it and found it to be a Northern Phalarope (*Lobipes lobatus*) in winter plumage, much exhausted. One of the stewards reported that birds similar to this one came abroad every trip this season of the year and quite often in the spring but refused to eat, even when placed with caged birds, and eventually would perish. Some water and raw meat taken forcibly revived our bird sufficiently to accompany us to Massachusetts where we hope to see it recover presently and proceed on its way once more.—AARON C. BAGG, *Holyoke, Mass.*

The Iceland Gull in Connecticut.—On November 26, 1926, I saw a single pure white gull among the Herring Gulls on Fairfield Beach, Fairfield, Conn. The bird looked to be about the same size as the Herring Gulls, or possibly a trifle smaller, and I took it to be an Iceland Gull (*Larus leucopterus*) in the second year plumage. Only one record of this species is reported in the 'Birds of Connecticut,' but its more frequent occurrence in neighboring states indicate that it may occur here more commonly than the records show.—ARETAS A. SAUNDERS, *Fairfield, Conn.*¹

Increase of the Roseate Tern in Connecticut.—The Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougalli dougalli*), at the time of the publication of Sage and Bishop's 'Birds of Connecticut,' was a very rare bird in this State, no definite dates of occurrence being recorded later than 1888. With the recent increase of the Common Tern I watched for this species, but did not find it until the spring of 1929. Since then it has occurred regularly and this spring, 1931, has at times been about equal in numbers to the Common Tern.

The first occurrence I noted was on May 17, 1929, at Fairfield Beach,

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