

the part of the fearless Least Tern. Several times the adult birds' diving flights brought them almost within arm's length of one or another of the intruders. A still later visit for the purpose of banding the young birds resulted in disappointment, for there was no sign of young or adults.

As this species has long been known to have bred not more than 75 miles to the westward (A. H. Howell, *Birds of Alabama*, p. 27, 1924) it is not unlikely that it has nested in extreme western Florida before, but the foregoing is apparently the only recorded instance.—FRANCIS M. WESTON, *U. S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.*

An Oregon Record of the Red-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa brevirostris*).—On the morning of January 28, 1933, an adult female Red-legged Kittiwake (*Rissa brevirostris*), was found dead on the ocean beach at De-Lake, Lincoln County, Oregon. It was so badly oil-smeared as to render identification impossible, but the short stubby bill and bright feet showing through the oil and dirt aroused curiosity and it was saved. When cleaned it proved to be a fine specimen of this species. The bird was somewhat torn and the viscera partly eaten out when found by my companion, C. A. Leichhardt, who brought it to me. It is now No. 2200 in my collection.

This is, so far as I can find, the first specimen of the Red-legged Kittiwake taken within continental United States. There has been a great southward movement of unusual northern sea-fowl off the Oregon coast this year. Several Pacific Kittiwakes have been taken, and numerous Horned Puffins and Ancient Murrelets have come southward only to fall victims to the oil discharged from boats at sea. These, together with hundreds of California Murres, as well as numbers of Marbled Murrelets, Rhinoceros Auklets, Cassin's Auklets and Tufted Puffins, have been found dead or dying on the beaches, the great majority coated with oil. This Kittiwake adds one more to the list of those affected.

The bird measures in millimeters as follows: Wing, 313; tail, 128; tarsus, 30; toe, without claw, 39; culmen, 26; bill at base, 12; bill at angle, 11. The bill in the fresh bird is pale lemon yellow, somewhat tinted with greenish, the eye-ring red, and the mouth lining brilliant orange red of almost the same bright shade as the feet and legs. The eyes were badly shriveled, but appeared deep blue black. There is an almost microscopic nail on each hind toe, and the rest of the plumage agrees perfectly with Dwight's description of winter plumage for the species.—IRA N. GABRIELSON, *Portland, Oregon.*

Great Black-backed Gull in Maryland.—The fact that I find but a single published note on the occurrence of *Larus marinus* in Maryland, and that nearly forty years old (Kirkwood, *Trans. Maryland Acad. of Sci.*, 1895, 250), leads me to place on record a Black-back that I saw on January 23, 1933. The bird was fully adult, and was approached by motor-boat so closely that its identification would have been certain even without the aid of my 6-power binocular. When first seen it was resting alone, though there were several Herring Gulls in the vicinity, on the waters of Tangier

Sound, just off the eastern shore of Bloodsworth Island, about half way up Chesapeake Bay. The boatman said that he often sees gulls with black backs in this neighborhood.

Through the courtesy of the observer, Mr. S. E. Perkins, III, of Indianapolis, I can add the following sight records for the Atlantic Coast: On October 6 and again on October 17, 1931, a single Black-back was seen standing with twenty-five or thirty Herring and Ring-billed Gulls at a pool on the beach about eight miles south of Ocean City, Maryland; on October 24, five were seen with other gulls at the edge of the surf a mile north of the end of the Ocean City boardwalk; and on November 1, 1931, a single Black-back was seen near the same place. All birds were observed through 8-power glasses from a distance of about 300 yards.—ERNEST G. HOLZ, *National Association of Audubon Societies, New York City.*

Great Black-backed Gull on the South Carolina Coast.—On November 24, 1932, I was in company with a friend on St. Helena Sound, Beaufort Co., S. C., off Coffins Point. When about three miles off shore, near the small islands of the Sound, we saw a flock of sea birds hovering about a particular spot on the water. When we had approached nearer we recognized among the gulls and a few terns, which made up the flock, two birds much larger than the others one with a very dark back and blackish streaks on its head and the other quite brown. I was greatly surprised to realize that they were Black-backed Gulls (*Larus marinus*) with which I was familiar on the New England coast but never expected to see here.

So far as I can ascertain the species has never been recorded on the South Carolina coast and these birds would seem to constitute the first record for the state. Even on the Virginia coast it is a very rare bird.—H. L. HARLLEE, *Florence, S. C.*

Brünnich's Murres Destroyed by Storm.—In the severe northeast storm of January 25–28, 1933, a number of Brünnich's Murres (*Uria lomvia lomvia*), dead and dying were washed ashore on Ipswich Beach. Mr. Wendell Taber found three on January 29, one just expiring. On the 30th, I found three more, one alive but unable to fly or to buffet the waves, and on February 3, three more or nine in all. There was no trace of oil on the feathers, all were much emaciated and one that I examined had an empty stomach. It is probable that they were unable to obtain food during the storm in the absence of sheltering islands, and that they succumbed to starvation and exhaustion due to the high seas.—CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *Ipswich, Mass.*

Brünnich's Murre on Staten Island, N. Y.—On January 8, 1933, I found a dead Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia lomvia*) on the salt meadows about half a mile from Oakwood Beach, Staten Island, N. Y. It had evidently been shot a few days previously. The specimen is now in the Staten Island Museum.—MARC C. RICH, *120 Broadway, New York City.*