

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.*