

(Fauna Boreali-Americana, II, p. 362, 1831) but did not distinguish it from *phasianellus*. Suckley, however, considered it different and named it *Pedioecetes kennicottii* (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila. (XIV) p. 362, 1861).

The writer appreciates that two specimens may hardly be considered as sufficient material on which to base a claim for the validity of *kennicottii* but the specimens under consideration seem sufficiently distinct to justify such recognition.—PHILIP A. DUMONT, *Des Moines, Iowa*.

Extralimital Records for Baird's Sandpiper.—Baird's Sandpiper (*Pisobia bairdi*) was first recorded from Africa by Harting¹ who identified a specimen of this American species in the collection of C. J. Andersson, taken at Walvisch Bay, Damaraland, on October 24, 1863. Hartert² gave consideration to this statement with various references to published notes on it, concluding that the record was valid. Sclater³ however, believed the record erroneous and did not include this species in the African list.

In view of these conflicting opinions and of the fact that the African record has not been cited in the A. O. U. 'Check-List,' I have had some interest in locating the specimen in question to determine its identity. After some correspondence with Dr. Hartert and Mr. Sclater it developed that the skin obtained by Andersson was in the Zoological Museum in Leningrad where it has been courteously examined for me by Dr. B. Stegmann. Under date of May 28, 1933, Dr. Stegmann writes that the bird is unquestionably Baird's Sandpiper.

The specimen, he states, is in worn plumage, the molt having just begun. It is labeled "♂ Walvisch Bay. October 24, 1863, Andersson." Reference to Harting's publication in 'The Ibis' for January, 1870, is also noted on the label. Dr. Stegmann adds that in the Zoological Museum there is another specimen taken north of the Anadyr River in June, so he concludes that the bird may breed in the Chuckche Peninsula.

There must be included also in the range of this species the specimen obtained by Nelson on Arakamachachi Island near St. Lawrence Bay, Siberia, and one obtained by the Webster-Harris Expedition on Barrington Island in the Galápagos.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Breeding Range of Herring Gull Extended.—On June 9, while inspecting tern colonies on the Connecticut coast for the National Association of Audubon Societies, the writer, with Audubon warden Frank N. Banning, counted twenty-one nests of the Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*) on Wicopesset Island. This island lies about one half mile off the eastern tip of Fisher's Island, within the boundaries of New York State. At this point Fisher's Island Sound and Block Island Sound converge. Nearly two acres in extent, the island is the property of the

¹ Ibis, 1870, pp. 151-152.

² Nov. Zool., vol. 23, April, 1916, p. 91.

³ Syst. Av. Aethiop., 1930, p. 130, footnote.

Fisher's Island Club, which has posted it against trespass. We found there also a colony of about 900 Common Terns (*Sterna h. hirundo*). Until the date of our visit we had not suspected that Herring Gulls were nesting along the coast this far to the westward.

In the 1880's, as a result of the wholesale destruction of sea birds for the millinery trade, the Herring Gull was making a last stand on a few scattered islands off the coast of Maine. There occurred in 1888 the only early record of this species nesting in Massachusetts (Auk, IX, p. 226). That this was very nearly a final and hopeless gesture may be seen in the fact that a quarter of a century was to pass before the Herring Gull again nested in Massachusetts. Under warden service first provided by the A. O. U. Protection Committee through the Thayer Fund, and continued for the past 29 years by the Audubon Association, the Herring Gull has greatly increased. In 1912 they again extended their breeding range southward, to the eastern shore of Marthas Vineyard, and in subsequent years other Massachusetts records were forthcoming, notably from Skiffs Island, off Marthas Vineyard, and Muskeget Island, off Nantucket. The present record is a further movement westward about 75 miles along the coast, and southward a scant two or three miles.

The terns on the island had established their nests towards the eastern end, away from the area occupied by the gulls. From a blind I watched them darting maliciously at the brooding gulls, and at each attack the larger birds, panting and restless in the midday heat, dodged and uttered low nasal protests. There were eggs in various stages of incubation in the nests of both species. One young gull had hatched such a short time before as to be still slightly moist. Most of the gull nests were placed in the midst of the beach pea (*Lathyrus maritimus*) that grows profusely over the interior of the island.

Some 300 Herring Gulls and a few Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax a. auritus*) apparently use the island as a roost. The former were in first and second nuptial plumage, and had no obvious connection with the breeding gulls of the island.

Nine other breeding colonies of terns in the vicinity are guarded by the Audubon warden, and the total adult population of these colonies, together with that on Wicopesset, we estimated as 2250. Roseate Terns (*S. d. dougalli*) in small numbers were observed in two of these colonies.—ROBERT P. ALLEN, *National Association of Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York, N. Y.*

Little Gull again in Upper New York Bay.—Every year in April and early May passengers on the Staten Island ferryboats are favored with excellent views of numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls. The temptation to watch them through a field glass will be well repaid if no rarer bird appears. It may be recalled, however, that on May 6, 1929, I had the good fortune to notice an adult Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) in their company.

On May 7, 1933, at 3:45 P. M., I was again watching some seventy