

GENERAL NOTES.

Occurrence of Wilson's Petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*) in Franklin County, New York.—On August 28, 1933, Mr. Robert F. Hale of Malone, N. Y., addressed a communication to the New York State Museum in which he reported the observation and capture of a "Petrel" at Lake Titus in Franklin County. A part of Mr. Hale's letter reads as follows:

"The bird was first seen on the lake by my family on Friday afternoon, August 25. They did not know what it was and were unable to identify it. On the morning of the 26th we saw it again and an hour later as I was returning to the camp I saw it from a boat and picked it up in a landing net.

"The bird was utterly exhausted and it is quite evident that it had been blown inland by the terrific coastal storm of last week. We had an east wind here for nearly 48 hours, accompanied by heavy fogs and rain. The wind was not hard, but blew steadily."

Mr. Hale had the specimen made into a study skin by a Malone taxidermist and very generously donated it to the New York State Museum. The bird is a female Wilson's Petrel (*Oceanites oceanicus*). Although the flight feathers are in good condition the body feathers exhibit some evidence of molt. The specimen has been mounted and is now displayed in the exhibit series of birds at the State Museum (Acc. No. 5261).

Lake Titus has an elevation of approximately 1400 feet above the sea and a little more than 200 miles from the nearest Atlantic coast line.

I have discovered only two published records of the species for inland New York. Davison (*The Auk*, 1884, 294) reports a specimen killed just outside the city limits of Lockport, Niagara County, in October, 1875. Eaton (*Birds of New York*, 1910, 165) gives that record and cites an additional specimen from Orleans County, collected in November, 1882.—DAYTON STONER, *New York State Museum, Albany, N. Y.*

King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) in Wisconsin.—In view of the fact that authentic records establish the King Eider as of rare occurrence in Wisconsin, the taking of another specimen will be of interest.

On November 8, 1933, at Muskego Lake, Wisconsin, which is about 18 miles inland from Lake Michigan, a duck-hunter shot a male bird still in the brown plumage. The bird came to his decoys with seven Mallards. The specimen is now in the Milwaukee Public Museum.—O. J. GROMME, *Milwaukee Public Museum.*

A Late Flock of Swans at Perry Point, Md.—On April 29, 1934, I was surprised to find a flock of Whistling Swans (*Cygnus columbianus*) still present at Perry Point, Md., where we always look for them during the spring migration. There were about 500 birds in the flock and only about 25 seemed to be in immature plumage. This proportion may not be strictly accurate as they were some distance out in the Bay but they

looked unusually white and only a few showed dark necks. It would seem that the young must have completed the molt at this date.—JOSEPH W. TATUM, *Haddonfield, N. J.*

Late Date for the Whistling Swan in Washington.—Three Whistling Swans (*Cygnus columbianus*) were seen at Eighteenth Street and Columbia Road on April 18, 1934, at 6:30 p. m. They were flying very high, but nevertheless were heard above the din of heavy traffic. This bird is rare in spring in this region, and has not previously been reported in April, the latest date being March 29 in 1927 (see Cooke, Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington, vol. 42, p. 23, March 25, 1929).—AUSTIN H. AND LEILA F. CLARK, *U. S. National Museum.*

An Unusual Flock of Waterfowl at Harrisburg, Pa.—On the night of April 6, 1934, a large flock of Swans and Ducks settled on the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, Pa., nearly all of which left the following night.

On April 7, the following were seen: Holboell's Grebe, mostly in summer plumage, 33; Horned Grebe, 30; Pied-billed Grebe, 10; Whistling Swan, 216, said to be the largest number ever seen here at one time; Canada Goose, 17; Mallard, 1; Black Duck, 50 (estimate); Baldpate, 75 (estimate); Shoveller, 2; Redhead, 27; Canvasback, 5; Scaup, 130 (one identified as Greater Scaup); Bufflehead, 3; Old Squaw, 1.

The Holboell's Grebes (*Colymbus g. holboelli*) were entirely new to the local bird students, several of them with many years of experience.

The birds were studied in good light with x8 binoculars at fairly close range.—W. STUART CRAMER, *216 Woodbine St., Harrisburg, Pa.*

American Egrets Nesting in New Jersey.—While Egrets (*Casmerodius a. egretta*) and Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) have of late years been visiting New Jersey in ever increasing numbers, during summer and autumn, and have established night roosts of considerable size, we have had, up to the present season, no evidence of their return as breeding birds. It is therefore with great satisfaction that I am able to report the presence of about ten pairs of Egrets associated with Great Blue Herons (*Ardea h. herodias*) in a nesting community near Pennsville, in the southwestern part of the state.

The discovery of the nesting of these birds was made by Mr. Julian K. Potter, president of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, and one of our most tireless and reliable field ornithologists, who has requested me to publish the record. In company with Mr. Potter I visited the spot on June 3, 1934, and we could plainly see the big white birds on their nests, while an occasional individual would be seen flying off over the adjacent fields to the river marshes or returning, doubtless with food, and one was seen in a small nearby swamp busily feeding during the entire time of our visit. The tall sweet gums and maples upon which the nests are built stand in several feet of water and are surrounded by a deep muddy swamp which makes a close approach very difficult, but Mr. T. E. McMullen, who did