

thirty feet down the beach. The remainder of the flock would follow almost immediately, in silent unison, settling to their nimble and assiduous work just short of where the leaders had stopped. Upon closer inspection I saw that the first three were cripples, each of them hobbling about on a single leg. Two displayed stumps, one having the right leg off in the middle of the tarsus, the other the right leg off directly below the ankle-joint. The third held the left leg in a dangling position, and it was obviously useless.

The fact that these cripples were the first to take wing, as already described, seems to indicate that they were not as tireless in feeding as the normal birds, which is Bent's supposition. Likewise there was no doubt as to the fact of their crippled condition, and while possibly not a common sight at the present time, actual cripples among this species do exist, and may be readily distinguished from the normal birds.—ROBERT P. ALLEN, *Nat. Assoc. Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York, N. Y.*

Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) in S. Carolina.—Since A. T. Wayne saw a pair of these birds on Sullivan's Island, S. C., in May 1881, but two specimens have been recorded in the state. On April 24, 1934, a fine specimen was seen in a pond on Bull's Island, S. C., by a group of local and visiting ornithologists. It was observed feeding and in flight; its call heard several times and ample opportunity for study of it was afforded to Messrs. John Baker, C. A. Urner, W. P. Wharton, H. R. Sass and the writer. The Stilt has never been found breeding in South Carolina, though it may prove to be something more than a straggler in view of the observations of the past five years.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R. F. D. No. 1, Charleston, S. C.*

The Red Phalarope off South Carolina.—Definite records for the occurrence of *P. fulicarius* from South Carolina being restricted to the capture of but one specimen and the listing of an indefinite sight record, it seems well to record a specimen seen at close range on April 22, 1934. The bird flew close to a group of ornithologists while aboard a yacht cruising in the vicinity of the Charleston Lightship, about fifteen miles offshore. It was first seen and identified by C. A. Urner and pointed out to the writer and Dr. John B. May. The specimen was not in full plumage, but the details were sufficiently apparent. Mr. Urner had had the opportunity of seeing a tremendous migration of this species last year off the New Jersey coast, in which birds of every stage of plumage were studied at close range.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R. F. D. No. 1, Charleston, S. C.*

Glaucous and Iceland Gulls at Brigantine Beach, N. J.—On March 24, 1934, I came upon a single Glaucous Gull (*Larus hyperboreus*) feeding with a few Herring Gulls (*L. argentatus smithsonianus*) on the beach on Brigantine Island, N. J. It was easily distinguished from the Herring Gulls by the absence of the black tips to the primaries, and was practically white all over but for a faint buffy edging to the feathers of the back. It was of noticeably heavier build than the Herring Gulls with a

greater wing spread, and was easily "cock of the walk" defending itself against all who would claim its freshly opened clams.

On March 30, I accompanied twenty-five members of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club on an excursion to the same spot, and apparently the same Gull was awaiting us accompanied this time by another northern visitor, an Iceland Gull (*Larus leucopterus*). The latter bird was four or five inches shorter than the Glaucous Gull and was also white with a little more of the buff tint on the back and upper tail coverts, while its bill was shorter and the legs a darker shade of flesh. It stood most of the time with head drawn down on the shoulders, Plover-like. Both birds were quite tame and were easily approached.

We examined thousands of Herring Gulls on the beaches and meadows but could find no more individuals of these northern species.—WILLIAM L. BAILY, *Ardmore, Pa.*

Iceland Gull (*Larus leucopterus*) in Virginia.¹—On January 11, 1934, an immature Iceland Gull was seen at Cape Henry, Norfolk Co., Virginia, in company with both Herring and Ring-billed Gulls. Very satisfactory views of it were obtained, at close range, and its size made out to be intermediate between the two other species, though nearer the Herring Gull. Although a cream-colored bird, it stood out as if cut from marble among the slaty-backed birds in the flock. Its legs and feet were flesh-colored, (pink), its bill flesh-colored at the base, dark at the tip. Later, about three miles northwest of this point, a second Iceland Gull was seen, differing from the first bird in possessing two paler patches on the wings.

I believe this is the first record of the Iceland Gull from Virginia, although it has been recorded, (Helmuth: Auk, April 1920) off the North Carolina coast.—WILLIAM TOD HELMUTH, 3RD, 667 *Madison Ave., New York.*

Kumlien's Gull (*Larus kumlieni*) at Brigantine, N. J.—On May 12, 1934, I found an adult Gull dead on Brigantine Island, N. J. It was so far decomposed that it was impossible to save it but I preserved the skull and some of the wing feathers. I took the bird to be an Iceland Gull at the time as it agreed in size and color with that species but upon measuring the skull I found it to be about half way between the largest measurement given by Dwight (Gulls of the World) for the Iceland Gull and the smallest for the Glaucous Gull, i. e. cord of culmen 51 mm. Dwight says of Kumlien's Gull: "They are the size of *leucopterus* except that the size, especially of the bill of eastern specimens, is larger." He also says that *kumlieni* grades into *leucopterus* until the primaries reach that shade of white which identifies the latter.

From the data at hand I consider that this bird must have been *kumlieni*, which is now often regarded as a hybrid.²—W. STUART CRAMER, 216 *Woodbine St., Harrisburg, Pa.*

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²Cf. record for Buffalo, N. Y., p. 393.