

Podilymbus podiceps podiceps. **PIED-BILLED GREBE**.—On several occasions I have seen young of this Grebe unable to fly in the marshes near Point Lookout, Piney Point, and St. Clair Lake in St. Mary's County, Maryland. On June 3, 1932, in company with Mr. Robert McDermott, I found a nest with five fresh eggs in Broadwater Marsh, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. I came on the bird suddenly before she had time to cover her eggs, and both birds came very close to our boat. The nest was placed on a pile of drift in one of the large channels where the water was about three feet deep. It was composed mostly of leaves and stems of water lilies and other drifted aquatic vegetation. Three of the eggs were entirely fresh and the other two showed a slight trace of incubation. Kirkwood supposed that this species nested in Maryland, but there seem to be no records of any one having collected eggs previously.

Iridoprocne bicolor. **TREE SWALLOW**.—For many years I have believed that this Swallow nested in St. Mary's County in southern Maryland, but it was not until May 30, 1933, that I actually found a nest with five fresh eggs. The birds had located in an old Flicker's hole about 15 feet up in a dead pine stub. The nest was composed of dried straw and grass intermixed with feathers and lined with white chicken feathers. My friend Mr. Paul Hodge, tells me that he has taken two sets of the Tree Swallow at Fair Haven, Anne Arundel County, Maryland. Both nests were in natural cavities in old apple trees, and the birds were seen in each case. Kirkwood states that this species nests in the upper part of Maryland and on the eastern shore along the Chesapeake Bay. As a matter of interest the eggs of the Tree Swallow can be readily distinguished from those of the Bank Swallow by being shiny white with a distinct gloss, while the latter have a dull finish.

Sterna dougalli dougalli. **ROSEATE TERN**.—On June 10, 1933, Mr. McDermott and I collected in Worcester County, on the outer sand bar extending from Ocean City along Chincoteague Bay. When about five miles south of Ocean City, where there is a break in the sand dunes known as the Five Mile Level, we found a good sized colony of Terns nesting. At once I recognized them as the Roseate Tern by their loud, sharp notes which differ decidedly from those of the Common Tern (*Sterna hirundo hirundo*). To make their identity absolutely certain I had McDermott cover me with a blanket piled with drift trash within a few feet of the nests. Within ten minutes all had settled on their eggs and all were Roseate Terns. Some of the nests composed of drift material, while the others were merely slight depressions in the sand. The eggs can be readily distinguished by an experienced oologist from those of the Common Tern though there are sets in each species that overlap. No other species of Tern were nesting within several miles of this colony. I know of no other breeding records for Maryland. The heavy storms of 1934 changed the entire shore line in this section and since I have not found these birds nesting in such numbers.—EDWARD J. COURT, 1723 Newton St., N. W. Washington, D. C.

Unusual Birds in Central West Virginia.—During the first week in September, 1935, we had in central West Virginia almost continuous rain, accompanied by light-to-heavy east winds, evidently a product of the tropical hurricane that struck the Atlantic Coast from Florida north. The effect of this spell of weather was to drive into the state numerous sea and shore birds, with one or two land species that usually migrate near the coast.

On the evening of September 5, Mrs. Brooks and the writer were driving near Volga, Barbour County, West Virginia, when our attention was called to flocks of birds flying over a flooded meadow. When we stopped the car we realized that this and

other nearby meadows were occupied by large numbers of shore birds, and the appearance of the place strongly suggested the flooded meadows of southern New Jersey.

The birds were studied for two hours on the evening of the 5th, and again for the entire day of the 6th, when three other observers joined us. Glasses were used, and doubtful species were checked with Peterson's 'Field Guide' on the spot. One feature was the unusual tameness of many species that we were accustomed to think of as shy. Following is a list of the more noteworthy species seen:

Izobrychus exilis. LEAST BITTERN.—Two individuals were noted in the rushes and cattails along a small swamp.

Querquedula discors. BLUE-WINGED TEAL.—Six individuals were seen in small ponds left by receding flood waters.

Coturnicops noveboracensis. YELLOW RAIL.—Feeding in the grasses along a small stream was a single individual of this species, and we had the pleasure of watching it for an hour or more, as it dodged in and out of the small flooded area. Twice we saw it swim for short distances. The status of this species in the state is somewhat uncertain, this being perhaps the second reported occurrence of it.

Charadrius semipalmatus. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER.—These birds were noted everywhere about the flooded meadows, accompanying the small Sandpipers just as in the tidal meadows of the coast. We counted thirty individuals.

Squatarola squatarola. BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.—Although we saw several flocks of large dark Plovers, only two individuals were seen close enough to make identification certain. With our glasses, we particularly noted the white rumps and tails and the black axillary feathers. I do not know of any previous report of this species in West Virginia.

Bartramia longicauda. UPLAND PLOVER.—This species, not common at any time in West Virginia, was represented by several individuals. As might be expected, they were found around the dry edges of the meadows.

Tringa solitaria. SOLITARY SANDPIPER.—We are not accustomed to seeing these birds in large numbers in West Virginia, and one of the surprises of the flight was to see flocks rather than isolated individuals and pairs. We did not visit a swampy meadow or pool of standing water on September 6 without noting this species. It was seen near Century, Volga, and Boulder, all in Barbour County.

Totanus flavipes. LESSER YELLOW-LEGS.—Four individuals noted, calling as they flew from pond to pond.

Pisobia melanotos. PECTORAL SANDPIPER.—Two individuals studied at close range. Many others, apparently of this species, noted at a little distance.

Pisobia fuscicollis. WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.—We counted eleven individuals whose distinct white rump referred them to this species. This bird has been reported from the state only a very few times, and not before in such numbers.

Pisobia minutilla. LEAST SANDPIPER.—Several individuals of this species came so close to us that we could see the yellowish legs distinctly. We believe that there were Semipalmated Sandpipers present also, but none were close enough to make sight identification reasonably certain.

Limnodromus griseus. DOWITCHER.—Five large flocks of these birds were counted, and they were very tame, allowing approach within a few feet when feeding. We estimated the total number seen as at least two hundred. The long bills and white on hind parts of the body were unmistakable. There is but one previous report of Dowitchers in West Virginia, that of Bibbee and Strausbaugh in Birds of West Virginia (Bul. 258, W. Va. Agr. Exp. Station).

Larus atricilla. LAUGHING GULL.—A single individual was seen and heard.

Chlidonias nigra surinamensis. BLACK TERN.—These birds, occasionally seen in the state, especially in late summer and autumn, were in nearly every intermediate plumage stage between summer and winter. Some were largely black above, while others showed large mixtures of white.

Dolichonyx oryzivorus. BOBOLINK.—We see very few Bobolinks in Central West Virginia as a general rule, and the very large flocks observed on September 6 and 7 were unusual. Several hundred individuals, scattered in parts of Barbour and Upshur Counties, were seen.

When it is remembered that West Virginia has no natural lakes, and very few extensive swamps, a better idea of the rarity here of most shore birds may be secured.—MAURICE BROOKS, *Dept. of Biology, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

Additions to the List of Ohio Birds.—Recent examination of specimens in the bird collection of The Cleveland Museum of Natural History by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser has resulted in the discovery of four new forms for the state of Ohio, as follows:

Troglodytes domesticus domesticus (Wilson). EASTERN HOUSE WREN.—There is one specimen of this form in the collection, obtained after it had been killed by flying into the tower of the Cleveland Terminal Building, May 19, 1933. The discovery of this specimen occurred during the course of study of material by Dr. Oberholser while working on his recently described Ohio House Wren (*Troglodytes domesticus baldwini*¹) of the central northern United States and adjoining parts of southern Canada. In the elucidation of the range of the Ohio House Wren contained in the original description, there was mention of a specimen of the more rufescent Eastern House Wren for Cleveland, Ohio. Despite this previous mention, it nevertheless seems desirable to put on record the circumstances surrounding the capture of this specimen since it is the first and only one up to the present to have been taken in Ohio. It probably occurs more or less regularly in migration in the eastern part of the state and other specimens will doubtless be taken sooner or later.

*Hylocichla guttata oromela*² Oberholser. CASCADE HERMIT THRUSH.—A single male specimen was taken by Omar E. Mueller and Frank J. Tobin at Bay Point, April 7, 1932. Bay Point is a willow and poplar covered sandy point, bounded by Sandusky Bay on one side and Lake Erie on the other, in Danbury Township, Ottawa County. While working on material preparatory to describing the small, pale Cascade Hermit Thrush of the central mountains of northern California, Oregon, Washington, and southern British Columbia, Dr. Oberholser discovered that the single above mentioned specimen was referable to that subspecies.

Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola Ridgway. WILLOW THRUSH.—A male specimen was killed by flying into the tower of the Cleveland Terminal Building, September 17, 1931, and so found its way into the Cleveland Museum collection along with many other specimens which have met a similar fate during the last few years. The discovery of the Willow Thrush in Ohio during migration is not surprising since the normal migration route of this form cannot be far to the west of this state. Intensive collecting in western Ohio would probably show Willow Thrushes to be of more or less regular occurrence.

¹ Oberholser, H. C. "Revision of the North American House Wrens." *Ohio Journal of Science*, vol. 34, No. 2, pp. 86-96, 1934.

² Oberholser, H. C. "Description of New Birds from Oregon Chiefly from the Warner Valley Region." *Scientific Publications of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History*, Vol. 4, No. 1, 1932.