

setts. In the meantime it can confidently be expected to occur more frequently as a straggler. The evidence of the past season supports this contention. A notable southern hurricane raged on the New England coast on September 18 and 19, 1936. While Skimmers were reported on the coast after this hurricane, the species actually reached Massachusetts well before it. Thus on Sunday, September 6, 1936, a large party of us (Messrs. Hagar, Scott, Garrison, Bishop, Hinchman, Dr. and Mrs. Tousey, and Mr. and Mrs. Maclay) found an immature Skimmer resting on the great flats of Monomoy with terns and gulls at high tide. The following Wednesday, Monomoy was visited independently by two parties, Mr. and Mrs. Maclay, and Professor S. A. Eliot, Jr., and Mr. Davis Crompton. Both saw three Skimmers, two adults and one immature. The young Skimmer was noted by other equally large parties on September 12 and 13, always at high tide, never at low. Additional observers on these dates were Mrs. Fuller, Miss Juliet Richardson, and Messrs. Taber and Ward. On September 20, after the hurricane, Monomoy was visited by Dr. and Mrs. Tousey, Mr. Hagar and Mr. Garrison, who found four Skimmers. These birds were still present on the 22d (Griscom, Hagar, Garrison) and on the 23d two were collected by Mr. John D. Smith for the Boston Society of Natural History. It will be apparent, therefore, that the hurricane had little if anything to do with the presence of Skimmers at Monomoy. Another report is equally inconclusive. Mr. F. L. Jaques of the American Museum of Natural History kindly wrote me that on September 24 at Eel Point, Nantucket, he saw twelve to sixteen Skimmers. Unfortunately this coast was entirely unwatched all summer, so that these Skimmers may have been there for an indefinite period prior to the hurricane, for all we know to the contrary. No such doubt, however, attaches to the record of three Skimmers on the beach at Little Compton, Rhode Island, on September 20, and kindly reported to me by the ever-active Mr. Roland C. Clement, who 'covers' this territory with exemplary frequency and care. The occurrence of these birds so far 'inside' furnishes the second record for the State.—LUDLOW GRISCOM, *Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, Mass.*

**Dovekie in South Florida.**—During the early part of January, 1937, the writer was in the Florida Keys in connection with his work with the Audubon Association. While at Tavernier contacting the warden who patrols the Upper Keys, he was told by this man that there had been an invasion of many little sea-birds unknown to the natives. On Christmas Day, 1936, a Mr. G. Donaldson saw six of them in the water at Whale Harbor, a few miles east of Tavernier, swimming about and apparently very weak. He succeeded in catching one, which he brought to Tavernier and turned over to our warden, James Durden. This bird was liberated near the dock on the bay side of the key. Next day, it had come ashore again, and was again put in the water by him. The writer also talked to Judge Lowe of Tavernier, and was told that this gentleman had seen two of the birds in the canal which empties into Card's Sound just where the Over-seas Highway crosses on the long bridge. This was in Dade County, whereas the former birds occurred in Monroe County. Judge Lowe's birds were seen shortly after Christmas.

A few days later the writer was in Everglades, on the west coast, in Collier County and was presented with a skin of a Dovekie (*Alle alle*) by one of the wardens of the Southwest Coast Patrol of the Audubon Association. He had procured it from a certain Jesse Griffin, of Marco, Florida, who had picked up the bird dead on the beach near Jupiter Inlet, St. Lucie County (east coast) on December 27, 1936. Griffin had stated that there were "thousands" of the birds, most of them alive and frequenting the bays, inlets and creeks near the ocean. He saw some die in the surf

as they were rolled about by the waves, and all appeared to be in an exhausted condition. The birds seen on the Keys were, of course, of this species.

This is a parallel case to the Dovekie invasion of south Florida in December, 1932, but differs in that there has been no stormy period which would have brought these far-northern birds to the tropical zone. The writer knows of no record about Charleston, South Carolina (where he resides), and none for Georgia, though there may be some unreported. There was a report made to the Charleston Museum that many Dovekies had been seen off Cape Hatteras in December, 1936, but this is some hundreds of miles north of Charleston and far indeed from the lower east coast of Florida. The occurrence of the Dovekie in the latter locality is no less than phenomenal, and constitutes an amazing circumstance.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *R.F.D. 1, Charleston, S. C.*

**Simoxenops proposed for Anachilus.**—My colleague, Dr. W. Meise, of the Staatliche Museen für Tierkunde und Völkerkunde, Dresden, kindly calls my attention to the fact that my *Anachilus* (*Amer. Mus. Novitates*, no. 332, p. 11, Oct. 31, 1928) proposed for a new genus of furnariine bird from Perú, is preoccupied by *Anachilus* Leconte (*Smithsonian Misc. Coll.*, vol. 3, no. 3, p. 175, 1861) in Coleoptera. I therefore propose to replace *Anachilus* with **Simoxenops**.—FRANK M. CHAPMAN, *Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

**Arkansas Kingbird on Matinicus Isle, Maine.**—From September 1 to 3, 1936, I visited Matinicus Isle, which is twenty miles out at sea from Rockland, Maine. Matinicus is a famous center for the study of sea birds; William Dutcher, H. K. Job, T. Gilbert Pearson, and others have made observations there. Apparently rare species not maritime may also blow in. It is interesting to note that Ernest Young of Matinicus says that he and a few others saw a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Muscivora forficata*) there in June, 1936. Mr. Young says it was observed for several hours, and he accurately describes the snapping of the scissor-tail.

On September 1, I found an Arkansas Kingbird (*Tyrannus verticalis*) on a wire fence by the shore with five Eastern Kingbirds (*Tyrannus tyrannus*). For about fifteen minutes I observed the bird with eight-power binoculars, from a distance of twenty feet. When I came nearer the Eastern Kingbirds flew away, but the Arkansas Kingbird remained; so I walked up to within eight feet and took a picture of it. The camera was a miniature, a Kodak Vollenda. The enlarged print shows the bird very plainly, making identification certain from the photograph alone. After the bird left the fence it would no longer allow a close approach. It was still in the vicinity on September 3.

Arthur H. Norton of the Portland Society of Natural History has very kindly provided me with the records of the Arkansas Kingbird in Maine. It has been collected three times: at Eliot in October, 1864 (*Bull. Nuttall Ornith. Club*, vol. 1, p. 73, 1876); at Woolwich on November 24, 1925 (*Haven, Auk*, vol. 43, p. 371, 1926); and at Biddeford Pool on November 3, 1935 (*Robbins, Bull. Boston Soc. Nat. Hist.*, no. 78, p. 74, 1936). There have been four sight records: at Hallowell from November 12, 1920, to January 15, 1921 (*Miller, Auk*, vol. 38, p. 603, 1921); at Cutt's Island, Kittery, on August 25, 1925 (*Townsend, Auk*, vol. 43, p. 99, 1926); at Saco from December 1 to 6, 1925 (*Abbott, Maine Naturalist*, vol. 5, p. 166, 1926); and at Somesville, Mount Desert Island, on September 10, 1934 (*Tousey, Bird-Lore*, vol. 36, p. 369, 1934). A record substantiated by a photograph seems to fall in a class by itself.—ARTHUR W. KUSCHKE, JR., *181 North Franklin St., Wilkes Barre, Penna.*

**The Status of *Telmatodytes palustris iliacus*.**—A few years ago while working on the natural history of the Long-billed Marsh Wren (*Telmatodytes palustris*) the