

Conservation, Beardstown, Illinois, who banded it (U. S. B. S. 36-802136, issued to Professor V. E. Shelford, Urbana, Illinois) and released it at Beardstown (Cass County), on February 28, 1936; a letter from Mr. F. C. Lincoln informs me that the bird was killed at Hillcrest (Calhoun County), Illinois, on March 28, 1936, by C. C. Jones, Jr., of Hamburg, Illinois; identification by G. W. Rexroat, Jr., Virginia, Illinois, and by warden Kuhlman.

Mattoon (Coles County), late autumn, 1935; mounted bird formerly in a sporting goods store in that town; information from the proprietor of the shop. Bird examined by the writer.

Goreville (Johnson County), March 26, 1936, bird killed by Will Lingle; data from Fred Cagle, Carbondale, Illinois.

Crystal Lake, Woodstock, and Huntley (all McHenry County), between 1910 and 1935, eight or ten birds mounted by P. E. Bertram, a taxidermist of Crystal Lake, Illinois. C. W. G. Eifrig considers Mr. Bertram's records as valid; however, the specimens now cannot be located.—CHARLES T. BLACK, *University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois*.

An Illinois record for the Little Brown Crane.—As far as known, the Little Brown Crane (*Grus canadensis canadensis*) has never been reported from Illinois although it has been collected in Clark County, Missouri, in eastern Nebraska and in western Wisconsin. Recently, among a lot of kitchen-midden bones from a pit on the Ed. Korando farm, near Jacob, Jackson County, the distal end of a tibio-tarsus of this crane was found. Remains of the Whooping Crane have been found in a pit near Sand Ridge, Jackson County, as well as in kitchen-midden material from other places. The Sandhill Crane was represented in bones from pits on Plum Island, La Salle County. Forty-four species of birds have been identified from Indian mounds and village sites in Illinois. The Little Brown Crane, as well as the other bird bones, were identified by Dr. Alexander Wetmore, Assistant Secretary, Smithsonian Institution, in charge of the United States National Museum.—FRANK C. BAKER, *University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois*.

Winter shorebird notes from Massachusetts.—In the ten years since Forbush published the first volume of 'Birds of Massachusetts,' I have accumulated records which extend the fall migration period of the White-rumped Sandpiper by more than a month, confirm the winter status of Knot, Sanderling, and Red-backed Sandpiper, and definitely establish the Black-bellied Plover and Turnstone as rare winter residents in the State. These notes are summarized below.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER (*Squatarola squatarola*). The A. O. U. Check-list gives North Carolina as the northern limit of the winter range, and Forbush defines its season in Massachusetts as "April 15–June 13; (summer); July 5–November 20; (December)." My recent records outside these limits are:—

- 1929. February 22, two at Gurnet Head, Plymouth, of which one was collected.
- 1934. December 7, one, Gooseberry Neck, Westport.
- 1935. January 11, one, Coatue Point, Nantucket.
November 30, three, Third Cliff, Scituate.
December 2, five, Edgartown, Martha's Vineyard.
- 1936. December 28, three, Nauset Inlet, Eastham.
- 1937. January 12, three at the same place, presumably the same birds. They were reported by other observers through February.

All these birds appeared to be healthy, strong-flying individuals, and their presence during the winter months fits in rather naturally with another pronounced tendency

shown by the Black-belly since shooting was stopped; namely, to linger in numbers well into November. Prior to 1927, newly arrived plover from the north were soon shot out or hastened along to the south, and since the last substantial flights came along about October 15, I do not remember this species as much more than a straggler, in pairs and very small flocks, after that date. Today the plover accumulate in great flocks on their feeding grounds, spreading out over the flats as the tide goes off, and repairing to some sandy point in flocks of many hundreds at high water, and at such favored places as Duxbury Bay, Nauset Inlet, Monomoy, and Nantucket, it is not unusual to find them in large numbers as late as November 15-20.

RUDDY TURNSTONE (*Arenaria interpres morinella*). The Check-list again gives North Carolina as the northern winter limit; Forbush cites October 16 as the last Massachusetts date in fall. I have late-fall records of one Turnstone at Duxbury Beach, November 6, 1921; two at Fourth Cliff, Scituate, December 24, 1930; two at Third Cliff, Scituate, November 30, 1935; and fourteen at Nantucket, November 30, 1936. Finally, a little band of eight or nine Turnstones successfully passed the winter of 1934-35 on the harbor jetties at Nantucket Island, in company with thirty to forty Purple Sandpipers. On January 8, 1935, I collected a male from this flock for W. F. Kubichek of the U. S. Biological Survey.

AMERICAN KNOT (*Calidris canutus rufus*). This species has been previously recognized as an occasional winter resident in Massachusetts, but not, I think, north of Cape Cod. For the Cape I have records of one at Monomoy, December 11; thirteen at Nauset Inlet, December 29; and nine, Nauset Inlet, December 30, all in 1935. At Gurnet Head, Plymouth, I collected a Knot on February 22, 1927, and saw six on February 26, 1936.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER (*Pisobia fuscicollis*). Forbush's last fall date is November 10. In 1935, I saw three at Yarmouth on November 13, one at Scituate November 30, and one at Monomoy, December 11.

RED-BACKED SANDPIPER (*Pelidna alpina sakhalina*) and **SANDERLING** (*Crocethia alba*). In 'The Auk' of January, 1920, Mr. J. A. Farley recorded the presence of three Sanderlings and one Red-back at Plymouth Beach during the winter of 1916-17, and made the comment, "no other records north of Cape Cod." On the Cape the Sanderling is, of course, a fairly regular winter resident, and the American Dunlin not unusual; and even north of Boston, in Essex County, there have been recent winter records for both species. My records for the Plymouth Beach-Saquish Beach-Gurnet area since 1920 are as follows. Red-back: December 31, 1921, two males collected out of six; February 22, 1927, one collected; February 22, 1929, twenty-seven. Sanderling: December 29, 1920, one collected out of two; December 28, 1925, one collected out of six; February 22, 1927, six; February 5, 1936, six; February 26, 1936, seven.—**JOSEPH A. HAGAR**, *Massachusetts Division of Fish and Game, 20 Somerset St., Boston, Mass.*

Long-tailed Jaeger observed on the Bear River Marshes, Utah.—It is safe to assume that there are comparatively few collectors who have not had the unpleasant experience of losing desirable specimens because they have become tired or careless watching common species for a considerable length of time. Here is one of my experiences. On October 3, 1926, I had the pleasure of being with my friend, A. P. Bigelow, duck shooting at the Bear River Club, which has large holdings on the Bear River Marshes south of Corinne, Utah. The day was fine and bird life abundant. Besides maybe a dozen species of ducks, Franklin's Gull, California Gull, ibises, snowy herons, night herons, terns, godwits, willets, avocets or other species