

have hatched in one day, making the incubation period for this Virginia Rail twenty days.

Audubon states that the Virginia Rail lays four or five eggs, seldom more than six or seven, and does not give the incubation period. Forbush does not record the incubation period, nor does Dr. W. H. Bergtold in his 'Study of the Incubation Periods of Birds.' Thomas R. Gentry in his book, 'Nests and Eggs of Birds of the United States,' 1882, wrote: "The number of eggs laid ranges from 6 to 10. These are deposited in daily installments of one, the first being usually extruded on the third day subsequent to the completion of the nest. The female takes to the nest almost immediately after the last egg is laid and continues for a term of 15 days." I have found no other record of this incubation period.—HAROLD B. WOOD, M.D., Harrisburg, Penna.

Golden Plover in Florida during winter.—On January 17, 1937, an American Golden Plover (*Pluvialis d. dominica*) was collected on the shore of Big Lagoon, about a mile east of Gulf Beach, and eighteen miles southwest of Pensacola. The bird was in the company of three Black-bellied Plovers, with which it was compared before collecting, and a mixed flock of Piping Plovers, Cuban Snowy Plovers, and Sanderlings. From all appearances the Golden Plover was not injured in any way. Before it could be collected, it flew at least four miles, and there was nothing in its flight to indicate injury. When it was skinned, only recent wounds were found. As far as we can determine, this is the first specimen taken in the United States during January, and constitutes the second record for that month, Torrey (Condor, 11: 207, 1909) having seen one during January, 1908, at Coronado, California. This is the third published record of an American Golden Plover observed in Florida in winter. A. H. Howell ('Florida Bird Life,' p. 222) lists two specimens taken in winter by R. D. Hoyt, one in December, 1900, the other on November 19, 1901. Subspecific identification was made by Dr. H. C. Oberholser, and the specimen is now in the National Museum.—FRANCIS M. WESTON, *U. S. Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Florida*, and ROBERT C. McCLANAHAN, *Bureau Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

Western Willet in Ohio.—On September 12, 1936, the writer collected a Western Willet (*Catoptrophorus semipalmatus inornatus*) along the beach of Lake Erie at Ashtabula in extreme northeastern Ohio. The bird was an immature female and was in very poor condition, weighing only 271.9 grams. The bird, several weeks previous to collection, had broken its left leg an inch above the ankle joint. This had healed without juncture of the bone edges and at a 30-degree angle from the normal position, giving the bird a peculiar limp and making feeding difficult. Several dozen Mallophaga and several hundred mites (species undetermined) infested the body. The skin of this specimen (no. 7124) has been placed in the Ohio State Museum collections.

Dr. Kirtland (1840) considered this species a common visitor in spring and autumn, Dr. Landon and Dr. Dury recorded it as a rare spring and fall migrant in the Cincinnati region, and Dr. Wheaton (1879) had no records for central Ohio. All available data would indicate that this species a century ago was uncommon to rare in nearly all of Ohio except along the Lake Erie shore where it occurred locally and regularly in some numbers. The oldest Ohio specimen still in existence is probably an unpublished record furnished me by Mr. John W. Aldrich of a bird taken at Cleveland, August 20, 1868, and now in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

No additional published records are known previous to 1900. Though this species