

Unreported migrant specimens of this race of the American robin have been identified in the collections of the American Museum of Natural History and the United States National Museum (including the Biological Survey Collection). These are:¹ CONNECTICUT, (A) Danbury, April 13, 1907; ILLINOIS, (N) Mount Carmel, October 18, —; NEW JERSEY (A) (northern), March 6, 1886; NEW YORK, (A) Long Island, November, 1903, (A) Manhattanville, January, 1846, (A) Shelter Island, December 15, 1903, and (A) Syracuse, April 21, 1887; NORTH CAROLINA, (N) Asheville, February 16, 1934, and (N) Pisgah National Forest, March 26, 1930; PENNSYLVANIA, (A) Erie, March 15, 1875; SOUTH CAROLINA, (N) Georgetown, December 28, 1890, and (A) Kershaw County, February 22, 1906; and VIRGINIA, (N) Arlington, March 22, 1885.

An additional migration record of a robin almost certainly of this race is contained in the bird-banding files of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This is of a bird banded at Germantown (Philadelphia), Pennsylvania, March 25, 1928, by Leslie Rogers and retaken on August 31, 1928, at Torquay, near Selby Cove, Trinity, southern Newfoundland.—JOHN W. ALDRICH, *Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C.*

Glossy Ibis on Staten Island, N. Y.—On Sunday, May 14, 1944, at 4:30 p. m. Eastern War Time, four Glossy Ibises (*Plegadis falcinellus falcinellus*) were observed for nearly an hour on the extensive lands of the Mt. Loretto institution at Pleasant Plains by Dr. and Mrs. James P. Chapin, Dr. and Mrs. A. J. C. Vaurie and the undersigned. This is the first-known occurrence of the species for Staten Island although there are records of single individuals in the New York City region in recent years. When first seen, the Staten Island birds were flying toward us from the southwest and it was noticeable that they flapped and sailed alternately, an Ibis trait, and that they flew in line as if members of a large flock. They alighted within a hundred yards of us, coming down to a small temporary pool in a field where there was a Greater Yellowlegs. The Ibises were wary, circling the spot three or four times before settling. They remained but a few minutes, then took off toward the west, flying into the sun, and soon disappeared. Later we relocated them at a larger transient pool about a half mile southwest of the first site. Here they remained for an hour or more looking for food but appeared to find none. Near them were four semi-domesticated Mallards. Other observers had been recruited by telephone and car until our group numbered ten, with several pairs of binoculars among us. When the Ibises took off again they circled the pond twice, then disappeared toward the south. The birds were not heard to utter any sounds and were not seen again.—HOWARD CLEAVES, 8 *Maretek Court, Staten Island 9, New York.*

A record of the Gannet from the Texas coast.—The Gannet, *Moris bassana* (Linnaeus), is very rarely reported from the Texas coast. According to the mimeographed 'Bird Check List' published by The Outdoor Nature Club of Houston in 1942, the Gannet occurs accidentally in Jefferson County in winter. This is in the southeast corner of the state.

On May 1, 1944, after several days of heavy winds blowing from offshore, a Gannet flew into the Casterline fish house at Fulton. This is in Aransas County on the shore of Aransas Bay, three miles north of the town of Rockport, and approximately 225 miles southwest of Jefferson County. The bird was evidently tired from the buffeting of the winds and was caught and given to Mr. Ben A. Earp, who brought it to my

¹ (A) Signifies specimen in American Museum of Natural History, New York, N. Y.

(N) Signifies specimen in U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.

office in a sack. Mrs. Jack Hagar came to see the bird and verified the identification. The bird was adult and measured 153 cm. in wing-spread. It was taken to the beach near Rockport and liberated; on May 2, it was given fish to eat, which it did not touch, and on May 3 it was dead. Apparently it had made no attempt to fly.

According to seamen, Gannets are not uncommon in winter in offshore waters south of Galveston. Possibly they seldom venture inshore and are seldom recorded. On the other hand, Boobies might be confused with Gannets by seamen.—GORDON GUNTER, *Game Fish and Oyster Commission, Rockport, Texas.*

Western Grebe in Michigan.—On July 5, 1943, the writer, while fishing on Wampler's Lake, Jackson and Lenawee counties, Michigan (the county line bisects the lake), observed a Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*) lazily swimming in the middle of the lake. The bird was rather wary and attempts to draw nearer than a hundred and fifty or two hundred feet proved futile. It did not dive but merely kept a fixed distance from the writer's boat. The light and observing conditions were extremely good, however, and the bird's large size, coupled with the serpentine neck and definite black and white color pattern, left no doubt as to the identification. The writer had never seen a Western Grebe before but recognized it immediately from the plate in Peterson's 'Field Guide' and later examined skins in the Cleveland Museum of Natural History.

As far as the writer is able to discover there is but one other record of this bird for the state. Van Tyne records a specimen collected by F. Esbaugh on Feb. 17, 1917, at Fox Creek station, Kent Co. (*see* Van Tyne, Josselyn.—Check list of birds of Michigan, Occ. Pap. Mus. Zool., Univ. of Mich., No. 379, June 16, 1938).—JAMES S. FINDLEY, *Cleveland Heights, Ohio.*

Connecticut records.—The water birds recorded below from the shore of southwestern Connecticut appear to be rare or unusual in that state.

CASPIAN TERN (*Hydroprogne caspia imperator*).—Single birds of this species were seen at Fairfield Beach on September 16 and 17, 1944, by both of us and on September 19 by Arnold alone. Perhaps more than one bird was present on September 16, as individuals were found at distinctly separate spots within two hours. Although these records followed the hurricane of September 14, the species cannot be regarded solely as a storm-borne visitant to Connecticut, for a single bird was seen by Arnold at Fairfield Beach about September 25, 1943. Apparently no record of the Caspian Tern in Connecticut has previously been published.

BLACK TERN (*Chlidonias nigra surinamensis*).—Three or four Black Terns in full spring plumage were seen by Arnold at the mouth of the Hoosatic River about June 3, 1939. This tern is rare in southwestern Connecticut in spring and uncommon during the fall migration.

BLACK SKIMMER (*Rynchops nigra nigra*).—Not less than sixty-five Black Skimmers appeared at Fairfield Beach on September 16, 1944, after the hurricane mentioned above. We closely observed flocks three times in a period of two hours. Although it was impossible to determine exactly, there were some indications that more than one flock was present, such as the fact that the numbers of birds varied from fifty to sixty-five or more. The following day some twenty birds were found, and on September 18 Mr. Frank J. Novak of Fairfield saw two flocks of about twenty and fourteen, respectively. None was definitely discovered thereafter, despite daily observation.

The appearance of so many Skimmers in Connecticut seems unprecedented. Previous records of any sort are extremely rare; the last of which we know is of a single bird seen in Black Rock Harbor, Bridgeport, on October 9, 1938, by the late Mr. Chas. K. Averill, some of whose notes are now in Saunders's hands.