

## SOME NEW RECORDS FROM NEWFOUNDLAND

BY HAROLD S. PETERS AND THOMAS D. BURLEIGH

THE Fish and Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, and the Department of Natural Resources of Newfoundland have been conducting a coöperative study of the bird life of Newfoundland for several years. Intensive field work on this project was carried on by the authors from May 31 to July 3, 1942, and from June 6 to July 14, 1943. The coöperating agencies intend to continue field investigations by annual trips into different parts of the country. It is hoped that a comprehensive work on the birds of Newfoundland will eventually result from our studies. A number of new records have been obtained during the past two years and are presented in this preliminary paper. All of these are additions to the 1931 A. O. U. Check-List.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL, *Anas carolinensis* Gmelin.—Breeds fairly commonly in the interior. We have recorded it from Chapel Island, Pistolet Bay, Birchy Lake, Colinet, and Hawkes Bay. A female with six young was seen July 13, 1943, at Searston.

PIPING PLOVER, *Charadrius melodus* Ord.—A breeding record was obtained July 10, 1943, at the mouth of Little Codroy River when we collected a downy young. Two pairs were evidently nesting there. On July 13, 1943, at the mouth of Grand Codroy River, we found five or six pairs. Bent (U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 146: 244, 1929) says that it probably breeds at Stephenville Crossing and St. George's Bay, about 50 or 60 miles north of where we found it.

SEMPALMATED PLOVER, *Charadrius hiaticula semipalmatus* Bonaparte.—We believe that the first positive breeding record was procured July 10, 1943, when we collected a downy young at the mouth of Little Codroy River. Eight or ten pairs were probably breeding there, while three pairs were found at the mouth of Grand Codroy River on July 13, 1943. Adults were seen also at Cooks Harbour on June 25, 1943, and at White Island on June 30, 1943. These may both represent additional nesting localities since Bent (*tom. cit.*: 225) says that it breeds to the Strait of Belle Isle although he cites no authority.

HUDSONIAN CURLEW, *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus* Latham.—On June 27, 1943, at Boisee Island, in Pistolet Bay, in extreme northern Newfoundland, we collected a female with enlarged ovaries, which indicated that she had recently laid eggs or was about to do so. During our efforts to collect her she persistently returned to this island. This seems to be the first specimen from Newfoundland and indicates

possible breeding. Bent (*tom. cit.*: 124) says that Macoun and Hagerup list it from Newfoundland without giving the evidence.

NORTHERN PHALAROPE, *Lobipes lobatus* (Linnaeus).—We shot three birds from eleven in several small groups at the mouth of Pistolet Bay, Strait of Belle Isle, on June 25, 1943. One was a subadult male and the others were a male and female in breeding condition. This indicates a possible breeding record and these are evidently the first specimens from the country.

COMMON TERN, *Sterna hirundo hirundo* Linnaeus.—We can find no previous records of this species nesting in Newfoundland, although Ridgway (U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 50, pt. 8: 494, 1919) says it breeds in the country, probably basing his belief on a specimen in the U. S. National Museum collected by William Palmer on Penguin Island, July 24, 1887. Arnold (*Auk*, 29: 75, 1912) reported a small colony in Bay of Islands on June 7, 1911, but they were apparently not yet building nests. We collected an adult from each of the following nesting colonies: Notre Dame Bay, Cape St. Marys, Canada Bay (two colonies), Sacred Islands, Pistolet Bay, Hare Bay, Coachman's Cove, mouth of Little Codroy River, and mouth of Grand Codroy River, and all proved to be of this species.

SHORT-EARED OWL, *Asio flammeus flammeus* (Pontoppidan).—A partly grown young male was taken at Whitbourne, on the Avalon Peninsula, June 28, 1942. This seems to be the first breeding record although the species evidently nests locally in suitable places on the island. We have seen adults at Quirpon, Schooner Island, Boisee Island (Pistolet Bay), and on Great Cormorandier Island, all of which localities are near the northern tip of the country.

BANK SWALLOW, *Riparia riparia riparia* (Linnaeus).—We found this species present in several localities in extreme southwestern Newfoundland early in June and in mid-July, 1943, so it undoubtedly nests locally. A male was taken at the mouth of Little Codroy River on July 10, 1943. Arnold (*tom. cit.*: 78) reported several pairs starting to nest in sand pits at St. George's Bay, June 10, 1911.

BARN SWALLOW, *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster* Boddaert.—Undoubtedly nests locally in extreme southwestern Newfoundland where we found it in several localities. We collected a male at Tompkins on June 7, 1943, and a female with a distinct brood patch at the mouth of Grand Codroy River on July 13, 1943.

NEWFOUNDLAND VEERY, *Hylocichla fuscescens fuliginosa* Howe.—We have taken seven specimens which all seem typical of Howe's *fuliginosa* (*Auk*, 17: 270-271, 1900). We believe this to be a perfectly valid race. Our birds are darker than typical *fuscescens* and more rus-

set or reddish brown on the back than *salicicola*. Specimens were collected as follows: male, South Brook, June 5, 1942; female, Tompkins, June 9, 1943; female, Tompkins, July 9, 1943; male, Doyles, July 10, 1943; male, Tompkins, July 12, 1943; and two females, Tompkins, July 14, 1943.

EASTERN GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET, *Regulus satrapa satrapa* Lichtenstein.—This species has not been recorded from the country before, but we found it present locally in suitable habitats. We observed it at Salmonier, Makinson's, Brigus, Placentia, Princeton, South Brook, Badger, and Tompkins. We collected a female at Princeton on June 23, 1942, a male at Makinson's on June 26, 1942, and a male at Tompkins on July 11, 1943.

CEDAR WAXWING, *Bombycilla cedrorum* Vieillot.—The first Newfoundland record was obtained at Searston (extreme southwestern Newfoundland) on July 13, 1943, when we took a male with enlarged testes. An accompanying bird (possibly the female) was observed.

STARLING, *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* Linnaeus.—First recorded when we shot a female with a distinct brood patch on June 9, 1943, at Tompkins, in extreme southwestern Newfoundland. We believe she may have raised a brood before being collected. Another adult was seen at the same time.

PHILADELPHIA VIREO, *Vireo philadelphicus* (Cassin).—We obtained the first record at Tompkins on July 12, 1943, when we collected a female with a distinct brood patch, indicating a nesting bird.

TENNESSEE WARBLER, *Vermivora peregrina* (Wilson).—A pair was secured at Lomond on June 3, 1942. In the Carnegie Museum there is a male taken at Curling on June 25, 1920. A nest and four eggs were reported to have been taken at Gaff Topsail on June 25, 1913, by E. Arnold (Auk, 33: 8, 1916). Several sight records have been reported, but these seem to be the only specimens.

MYRTLE WARBLER, *Dendroica coronata coronata* (Linnaeus).—Recorded from the Avalon Peninsula in 1939 by Aldrich and Nutt (Sci. Publ. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., 4: 35) and by Brooks (Auk: 53, 344, 1936). It has been recorded from the interior of the country by Arnold (*tom. cit.*: 78); Noble (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., 62: 561, 1919); and Rooke (Ibis, 13th ser., 5: 856-879, 1935). We have found it present locally in many places throughout the country: Tompkins, Lomond, South Brook, Badger, Grand Falls, Gambo, Terra Nova, Clarenville, Princeton, Brigus, St. Johns, Lewisporte, Thwart Island, Jackson's Arm, and Hare Bay. Specimens were secured at Deer Lake, June 3, 1942; Badger, June 8, 1942; Gambo, June 19, 1942; Claren-

ville, June 21, 1942; Makinson's, June 28, 1942; Tompkins, June 8, 1943; and Hare Bay, June 21, 1943.

EASTERN CHIPPING SPARROW, *Spizella passerina passerina* (Bechstein).—We found this species locally common and undoubtedly nesting in extreme southwestern Newfoundland during June and July, 1943. We collected a male at Tompkins on June 7, 1943. One was seen at St. Anthony (in northern Newfoundland) on June 22, 1943. Arnold (*tom. cit.*: 77) and Griscom (*Ibis*, 12th ser., 2: 656–684, 1926) found it at Bay of Islands.

WESTERN SWAMP SPARROW, *Melospiza georgiana ericrypta* Oberholser.—The Swamp Sparrow is generally distributed throughout the country. We collected 12 specimens: female, Badger, June 8, 1942; male, Badger, June 9, 1942; male, Gaff Topsail, June 12, 1942; female, Harbour Deep, June 14, 1943; male, Roddickton, June 15, 1943; male, Hare Bay, June 18, 1943; female, Hare Bay, June 21, 1943; male, Quirpon, June 23, 1943; male, Quirpon, June 24, 1943; male, Pistolet Bay, June 27, 1943; male, Tompkins, July 8, 1943; and a female, Searston, July 13, 1943. We found all of these to be the newly described (*Bird Life of Louisiana*: 675, 1938) *ericrypta*, another so-called western form now present in Newfoundland. Perhaps many races previously designated as "western" may in reality be "northern." Aldrich and Nutt (*tom. cit.*: 39) believed their six specimens to be intermediate between *georgiana* and *ericrypta*, but our larger series show the breeding Swamp Sparrow of Newfoundland to be *ericrypta*.

EASTERN SONG SPARROW, *Melospiza melodia melodia* (Wilson).—We took two males at Tompkins, June 8, 1943, a male at Codroy, July 9, 1943, and a male at Searston, July 13, 1943—all in breeding condition. We heard singing males in at least fourteen different localities during June and July, 1943, but all within a distance of approximately 25 miles. Several sight records have been published but no specimens seem to have been taken previously. A banded bird (36-64900) was found at Hants Harbour, Trinity Bay, August 18, 1941 (Cooke, *Bird-Banding*, 14: 74, 1943). This bird was originally banded at Randolph, Massachusetts, July 23, 1937, by Mrs. Ruth J. Wright. It is a most unusual record.

#### *Fish and Wildlife Service*

*U. S. Department of the Interior*  
*Charleston, South Carolina, and*  
*Baton Rouge, Louisiana*