

Request for Information on Color-Tagged Mississippi Kites.—As part of a study of the ecology and population dynamics of the Mississippi Kite, adult and juvenile birds are being color-tagged, banded with standard U. S. Fish and Wildlife bands, and released in areas of southwestern Kansas, western Oklahoma, and north-central Texas. Marked birds carry a large plastic oval on the humeral area of each wing, and colors used have been white, red, orange, yellow, dark green, dark blue, and light blue. Information desired includes: color of plastic oval on each wing; date, time, and location of sighting; activity of the bird; and observer. Please send information to: JAMES W. PARKER, Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.

Request for material on the Caprimulgidae.—For a bibliography I am compiling on the Caprimulgidae, I would be pleased to receive from authors references to papers in any language, and dealing with any part of the world, so long as they make some mention, no matter how trivial, of goatsuckers. Reprints would be particularly welcome. I intend eventually to publish a monograph of the Caprimulgidae. H. DESMOND JACKSON, P.O. Box 8014, Causeway, Salisbury, Rhodesia.

CORRESPONDENCE

Bowen and Nicholls (Auk, 85: 130-131, 1968) discuss a photograph of an egret taken in the equatorial Atlantic, on St. Paul's Rocks, at 0° 55' N, 29° 22' W. They suggest that it is probably of a Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*), and discuss the possible transatlantic spread of this species and larger African wading birds.

We feel that this photograph does not show a Cattle Egret but a Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*). The posture seems to be that of the latter species, the bill appears dark, and allowing for their shadow in the water, the legs seem too long for those of a Cattle Egret. Furthermore, the habitat is typical of the Little Egret as known to Benson on the Aldabra atoll, in the western Indian Ocean, although admittedly a Cattle Egret would have little choice of habitat on the small St. Paul's Rocks, no more than some 200 meters across at the widest (see map in Murphy, Oceanic birds of South America, vol. 1, New York, Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., 1936, p. 150). On Aldabra, the Little Egret is coastal, whereas the Cattle Egret occurs inland.

Palmer (Handbook of North American birds, vol. 1, New Haven, Connecticut, Yale Univ. Press, 1962, p. 464) gives only two records of the Little Egret, from Newfoundland and Trinidad. It could well be confused in the field with the Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*), with which it may form a superspecies. Indeed the Snowy Egret has been recorded once on Tristan da Cunha, in the South Atlantic at 37° 06' S, 12° 20' W (Elliott, Ibis, 99: 550, 1957), and the bird photographed on St. Paul's Rocks may even have been that species.

We are grateful to R. K. Brooke and M. P. Stuart Irwin for discussing this record with us.—C. W. BENSON, *Department of Zoology, Downing Street, Cambridge, England*, and R. J. DOWSETT, *Wildlife Conservation Society, c/o Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and National Parks, P. O. Box 1, Chilanga, Zambia*.