

**The Blue Goose as a Bird of California.**—The first ascription of *Chen caerulescens* to California was made by Belding (Zoe, III, 1892, p. 97). The evidence given by Belding was as follows.

"Two of these geese were shot, one day, about February 1, of this year [1892], by two hunters who were hunting together near Stockton. Mr. M. J. Shaw of the game market kept one of them on exhibition as long as he could, and then saved the head and neck, wings and legs. These fragments were all that I saw of the bird, and these I sent to Mr. Ridgway for identification. He said it was a true *Chen caerulescens*—a juvenile."

Belding then goes on to say that it had been his belief "for nearly ten years" that he had "occasionally seen the plumage which is attributed to the adult, a few of which" he "shot, besides some" "seen in market . . .".

Belding is quoted (Fisher, Condor, xx, 1918, p. 56) as having stated many years later, probably subsequent to 1910, that he had "often hunted geese on Butte Creek and many times tried to get the Blue Goose (*caerulescens*) but never succeeded so far as to be satisfied with the result. Of two that" he "found in the Stockton market", he "sent wings and feet to Mr. Ridgway, who identified the fragments as of *caerulescens*." This statement, it will be seen, corroborates in the main the earlier one.

Cooke (U. S. Biol. Survey bull. 26, 1906, p. 68) gave Belding's Stockton record full recognition, and considered it "apparently the only record west of the Rocky Mountains." Several other authorities at about the same time likewise took this record at face value.

But Swarth (Condor, xv, 1913, p. 43) was inclined to consider the evidence of the occurrence of the Blue Goose in California "rather weak" and goes on to point out, on the basis of a recent case in point, how the young of the Lesser Snow Goose might be misidentified as of the Blue Goose. Grinnell (Pac. Coast Avif. no. 11, 1915, p. 177) follows Swarth, and he places the Blue Goose as a bird of California in his "hypothetical list" on the ground that Belding's "record seems open to question, more particularly because of absence of confirmation". And Grinnell, Bryant and Storer (Game Birds Calif., 1918, p. 211) dispose of the case rather summarily under "Lesser Snow Goose".

Now comes fresh evidence, which seems to provide the needed "confirmation": On December 15, 1910, a hunter by the name of Bud Watson killed a "pinto" goose on the King Ranch, eight miles west of Gridley, Butte County. The bird passed into the possession of Dr. Lemuel P. Adams, of Oakland, and was mounted for him by W. H. Hall, a taxidermist of that city. It remained in the possession of Dr. Adams until December, 1919, when it was presented by him to the Oakland Public Museum. The Director of that Museum, Mr. John Rowley, notified an officer of the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of this important acquisition, suggesting that his identification of the bird as a Blue Goose might need verification. Accordingly, on January 13, 1920, J. Eugene Law and J. Grinnell, carrying with them an Eastern-taken specimen of *Chen caerulescens*, visited the Oakland Public Museum, and satisfied themselves of the correctness of the determination as originally made by Mr. Rowley. The two specimens proved identical in all essential points. Through the courtesy of Mr. Rowley, first published record is now made of this bird, which is number 10/1446 in the collection of the Oakland Public Museum, where it is open to examination at any time. The present writer has further communicated with Dr. Adams, who verifies the details of capture as just given.

The upshot of the matter is, then, that the Blue Goose *has* occurred in California. The probabilities now are strong that Ridgway's identification of Belding's "fragments" was correct, and further, that the latter's impressions of having observed the species in California on more than one occasion are worthy of being taken into account.

The status of the Blue Goose in California seems, therefore, to be as follows: Rare winter visitant to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley. Recorded definitely twice, by Belding (loc. cit.) from the vicinity of Stockton, about February 1, 1892; and by Grinnell (present instance) from vicinity of Gridley, Butte County, December 15, 1910.—J. GRINNELL, *California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, January 15, 1920.*

**Black and White Warbler at Carpinteria, California.**—I wish to report the occurrence at Carpinteria, on January 9, 1920, of the Black and White Warbler (*Mniotilta*