

in the days of Vigors.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, Berkeley, California, December 5, 1921.*

**The White Gyrfalcon in Montana.**—A bird as rare in the United States as the White Gyrfalcon (*Falco islandus*) seems worthy of recording whenever found and correctly identified. The specimen under consideration I believe has not been put on record up to the present date. It was sent to Mr. Oscar Gard, of Seattle, Washington, by Mr. Geo. B. Daniels, of Fort Benton, Montana. Mr. Benton writes that he shot the bird on November 18, 1917, on Shonkin Creek, just east of the town of Shonkin and about twenty miles from Fort Benton, Montana. When shot it was sitting on a post of a wire fence in very open country. The bird was in an advanced condition of decay by the time it reached Mr. Gard, who nevertheless made it into a very handsome specimen and it is now in my collection. Unfortunately the sex was not taken, but the extremely large size leaves practically no doubt that it is a female. It is very white and must have been fully adult, and is unquestionably one of the most beautiful birds that I have ever seen.—J. HOOPER BOWLES, *Tacoma, Washington, November 7, 1921.*

**A Specimen of the Markham Petrel.**—Mr. Chas. Fagan, chief wireless operator on the SS. "Santa Elisa," W. R. Grace and Co., has forwarded to the Biological Survey a petrel that proves to be the Markham Petrel, *Oceanodroma markhami* (Salvin). The bird was captured July 6, 1921, at sea off the coast of Peru at a point approximately thirty-five miles north of the port of Callao. *Oceanodroma markhami*, very close allied to *tristrami*, is distinguished from that bird by shorter tarsus, smaller foot, and somewhat more ashy tinge of the back and head. It differs from *O. melania* in more slender bill and in the grayish cast of the dorsal surface. Measurements of the present specimen are as follows: wing 175.5 mm.; tail 95 mm.; chord of exposed culmen 18 mm.; tarsus 23.3 mm.; middle toe with claw 23.5 mm.; outer toe with claw 22.5 mm.

The Markham Petrel was described by Salvin (Proc. Zool. Soc. London, 1883, p. 430) from a female specimen taken by Captain Markham in December, 1881, near the coast of Peru at lat. 19° 40' S., long. 75° W. (given incorrectly in the Cat. Birds Brit. Mus., xxv, 1896, p. 354, as lat. 10° 40' S.). A second specimen, also a female, was secured in the same region at lat. 23° S., long. 73° W. Loomis (Proc. California Acad. Sci., 4th ser., II, pt. II, p. 174) records two taken by R. H. Beck, one on August 1, 1905, in lat. 13° 28' N., long. 108° 52' W., and another September 1, 1905, near lat. 5° N., long. 87° W., about thirty miles south of Cocos Island. Captain R. Paefslser (Journ. Ornith., 1913, p. 49; 1914, p. 277) has published notes on the occurrence of this species on the west coast of South America but apparently merely from sight observation (no mention is made of specimens) so that his notes must be considered as open to doubt. The specimen secured by Mr. Fagan is of great interest as it is the first Markham Petrel that has come to the United States National Museum, and seems to constitute the fifth example of the species that has been recorded.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *Biological Survey, U. S. Dept. Agriculture, November 21, 1921.*

**Possible Occurrence of the Blue-footed Booby in Southern California.**—A *Sula* of this type was seen by Mr. Edward J. Brown and the writer, between Anaheim Landing and Sunset Beach, Orange County, California, on October 25, 1921. It came from the ocean and made a complete circle around us at a distance of about a hundred yards. While ordinarily opposed to the publication of sight records, it seems to me permissible in this case; for a bird exhibiting such striking coloration and flight could hardly be mistaken for anything else. No claim is made for admission to the state list of the above species as we, of course, cannot say further than that it was a black and white *Sula*. As *S. nebouxi*, according to the A. O. U. Check-list, breeds in the Gulf of Lower California, the bird probably belonged to that form.—A. J. VAN ROSSEM, *Los Angeles, California, November 5, 1921.*

**Summer Record of Blue-winged Teal in California, and Notes on Other Birds.**—On May 21, 1921, at Buena Vista Lake, Kern County, California, I saw a pair of Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*) the male of which I secured. On sexing it I found