

GENERAL NOTES

Some Labrador Banding Records.—The number of species banded by me in Labrador during the summer season of 1928 was as follows:

Puffin.....	(<i>Fratercula a. arctica</i>).....	45
Black Guillemot.....	(<i>Cepphus grylle arcticus</i>).....	125
Brünnich's Murre.....	(<i>Uria lomvia lomvia</i>).....	71
Razor-billed Auk.....	(<i>Alca torda</i>).....	149
Glaucous Gull.....	(<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>).....	12
Great Black-backed Gull.....	(<i>Larus marinus</i>).....	11
Herring Gull.....	(<i>Larus argentatus</i>).....	5
Arctic Tern.....	(<i>Sterna paradisæa</i>).....	691
Harlequin Duck.....	(<i>Histrionicus h. histrionicus</i>).....	1
Northern Eider.....	(<i>Somateria mollissima borealis</i>).....	2
Northern Phalarope.....	(<i>Lobipes lobatus</i>).....	3
Horned Lark.....	(<i>Eremophila a. alpestris</i>).....	1
American Pipit.....	(<i>Anthus rubescens</i>).....	8
White-crowned Sparrow.....	(<i>Zonotrichia l. leucophrys</i>).....	4

Total number of species 14.

Total individuals 1128

The details of the nine recoveries received to date follow:

Razor-billed Auk No. 560330, banded at the Gannet Islands, Labrador, on August 19th, when about a week old, was killed at White Bay, French Shore, Newfoundland, October 20, 1928.

Razor-billed Auk No. 560340, banded on the Gannet Islands near Gready, Labrador, when about ten days old on August 19th, was killed at Forteau, Labrador, the 26th of October, 1928.

Brunnich's Murre No. 560153, banded August 18th on the Gannet Islands, Labrador, when about three days old was shot at Twillingate, Newfoundland, November 10, 1928.

Black Guillemot No. 365661, banded at Collingham Island, near Gready, Labrador, August 20th, young, just ready to leave the nest, was shot at Indian Harbor, Labrador, on the 12th of October, 1928.

Black Guillemot No. 560258, banded at an unnamed double island 15 miles southeast (magnetic) of Ford's Harbor, Labrador, on August 9th, about ten days old, was shot at Godbout, Quebec, on the 12th of November, 1928.

Black Guillemot No. 560261, banded at an unnamed double island 15 miles southeast (magnetic) of Ford's Harbor, Labrador, on August 9th, about ten days old, was shot at Godbout, Quebec, November 15, 1928.

Black Guillemot No. 560117, banded at Nunarsuk Island, August 11th a nestling about ten days old, was shot at Twillingate, Newfoundland, November 15, 1928.

Great Black-backed Gull No. 560291, banded August 10th on the northern island of the Kidlet Islands, Labrador, about three weeks old and ready to fly, was shot November 10, 1928, at Port aux Basques, Newfoundland.

Arctic Tern No. 548138, banded July 23d on the Red Islands, Turnevik Bay, Labrador, when not over ten days old, was picked up dead on the beach at Margate, fifteen miles southwest of Port Shepstone, Natal, South Africa, November 14, 1928, by E. Wackrill.

The last recovery, that of Arctic Tern No. 548138, is beyond a doubt the longest flight on record for any individual bird. The shortest possible distance it could have travelled between its loci of banding and recovery is

8,000 miles, and 9,000 miles is a conservative estimate considering the route the species must follow and the daily wanderings from the path in search of food. Though the bird was about a week old when I banded it July 23d, I do not believe it left the breeding grounds earlier than the middle of August. When I visited the rookery on my way south August 14th, there seemed to be no perceptible evidence of departure of any of the birds, and I saw countless young in the vicinity bearing bands I had placed on them during my previous visit. The bird was found dead on the beach at Margate, and there is no way of telling how long it had been in that vicinity before its recovery. At any rate, it made a journey of 9,000 miles in less than 90 days, thus averaging over 100 miles per day.

This is the second bird from the same rookery known to have crossed the Atlantic, the first, banded July 22, 1927, having been picked up near La Rochelle, France, October 1, 1927. I have already commented on this first recovery and the migration route it evidences (see Bulletin of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association, Vol. IV, No. 4, Oct. 1928, pp. 121-125). The second recovery substantiates the first, and, besides establishing the fact that in migration the Arctic Tern crosses the Atlantic instead of paralleling our shores southward, throws additional light on the least-known phase of the problem—the distribution of the species during the northern winter. We can only hope for more banding and more recoveries to gradually straighten out the rest of the puzzle.—O. L. AUSTIN, JR., 60 Martin Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Outwitting a Saw-whet Owl.—On the 28th of March, 1928, a Saw-whet Owl (*cryptoglaux a. acadica*) was seen in broad daylight upon the ground in a wood path near our banding station at Cohasset, Massachusetts. When approached, it flew a short distance and lit in a small cedar. A butterfly-net was secured and a lively chase followed. It was most difficult to get near the owl without flushing it, and after many unsuccessful efforts I stationed myself at a discreet distance directly in front of the tree where it had lit, then kept its attention fixed on me by moving slowly about and stepping on some dried sticks. In the mean time Frank Jason crept up very quietly behind the owl and clapped the butterfly-net over it before it became aware of his approach. The bird now wears band No. 275574. It was weighed by Charles L. Whittle and photographed by John B. May before it was released. (See cover picture of this *Bulletin*.) Its weight was ninety-six grams.—KATHARINE C. HARDING, 94 Westbourne Terrace, Brookline, Massachusetts.

Some Unusual Banding Records—At the request of the editor, Miss Cora Teot, who operates a banding station at New Haven, Connecticut, and who has been unusually successful in banding Blue Jays, etc., has sent in the following interesting information covering part of her operations during 1928.

Miss Teot's success in trapping Blue Jays and their behavior when near traps differed so much from my own that I was moved to ask her regarding the conditions at her station. As to these, she writes that her station is not far from the Yale woods and is within less than a block of the old "Ik Marvel" place, a region of many small and large coniferous trees much favored by this species at nesting-time. In all, twenty-two Blue Jays were banded, two adults and twenty immature birds, from July 19th to September 11th inclusive. On September 9th two immature birds were taken together, and the 10th three more, two adults and one immature,