

lot and spent his time feeding amongst the seaweed and drift on the water's edge. There were a number of Scaup ducks nesting in the vicinity who manifested considerable curiosity and decoyed to within a few yards of a number of us who were working on the shore. They seemed not to understand why their friend was so reckless. At night I often found them together.

And now I come to the end of my gallinule's experience. One night a strong wind came up from the northwest, the little box that had served as a shelter was blown away and the next morning I found him beating against the shore dead. I examined his wing and found one of the wing tips to have been injured in a way that would have left him unable to ever again fly for any distance.

I have since found this summer that the gallinule nests here in northern Iowa, and after watching the flight of the bird I figured that the accident to the bird was a very natural one. Their flight while rapid is very low, especially is this true when flying over water.

Milford, Ia.

ARTHUR F. SMITH.

MINIATURE EARTHQUAKE.

A few days ago, while cutting the upper limbs off a large burr oak tree, we barely missed wrecking a whole family of wrens. On one of the lower branches was a small bird house, in which a pair of wrens were nesting. They seemed not to mind the noise of a couple of saws grinding away above them but went on, totally oblivious of noise, feeding the young and taking turns singing from the roof of their little domicile.

All went well until an accident occurred, as accidents so often do. The branch that we had figured on falling a certain way naturally fell the other way; the bird house was heaved from its bearings, spun through the air some twenty feet, coming to the ground with a thud.

I ran over to it, lifted the bottom off, pulled out the twigs which formed the nest, being careful not to spoil the pocket of the nest. There were six young, barely a week old; they were not active enough to tell whether they had been injured or not. The old bird who was with them acted as though she had taken her last flight and was ready to give up the fort. When she saw the crowd around her she essayed to fly, but her head was evidently still whirling in such a way that she could not balance. I placed her back on the nest, put the nest back in the house and put the house on a porch roof some thirty feet away at about the same height from the ground.

The mate to the injured one soon came back with a grub in its mouth, hopped all around the old nest site for some five minutes, then suddenly he recognized the house, which, by the way, he was within three feet of several times, for in his excited flying he would land on the edge of the porch where he had been accustomed without seeing anything, but sitting at the old nest site he recognized his old home and without further

adieu he flew across, went straight up to the house and walked in. A few minutes and the two old birds came out and calmly went for either food for the young or perhaps herbs to cure seasickness.

Several days have elapsed and the birds still continue to take regular trips with food. We are of the opinion that the wren family has not been wiped out through its fifteen-foot flight on the perpendicular.

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BAY POINT, OHIO, MIGRATION NOTES. 1914.

Bay Point is a low, sandy bar, extending a mile and a half toward the city of Sandusky from the southeastern corner of the Peninsula upon which Lakeside and Marblehead are built. It is in the direct line of the southward migrations of the birds which cross lake Erie by the Point Pelee, Pelee Island, Middle Island, Kelleys Island, and Marblehead Peninsula route. The waters, or shores, of Sandusky Bay and the Sandusky River, which flows into the bay, continue the route southward.

The seven weeks between June 26 and August 14, 1914, were spent within easy access to this point, and daily studies of the birds found there were made. Frequent visits were also made to it during July, 1913.

In 1913 the first migration noted was on July 11th, when Least Sandpipers, Semipalmated Sandpipers, Yellowlegs and Semipalmated Plovers were found on the beach. On the 12th a cloud of Bank Swallows passed over the Point on their way southward. The great majority of them came directly from the direction of Marblehead Lighthouse and passed up the bay along the western shore. In 1914 the first migrants appeared on June 29—a Black-bellied Plover in full dress. When he was flushed, he flew up the bay. On July 3rd there were three Least Sandpipers on the beach. They were next noted on the 9th, and nearly every day until our departure—August 14. Three Semipalmated Plovers arrived on July 3, with three Baird's Sandpipers, and were regular feeders there during our stay, occasionally increased in numbers up to a dozen of each species. A Dowitcher came to the beach on July 14, in the afternoon, and was seen there on the 15th, 22d, 23d and 24th. The first Caspian Terns came on July 17, and were there every day afterward. There were three at first, but they gradually increased to the maximum of 16 on August 25, when a brief visit was made to the Point. The first Semipalmated Sandpipers came on July 16, the Yellowlegs on the 22d, the first Pectoral Sandpipers on the 24th, and the first Solitary on the 24th.

On July 17 a Stilt Sandpiper visited the Point. A capture was not made, but the bird was feeding in a shallow lagoon just outside the line of vegetation which bordered the bare sand beach, and permitted an approach within three rods. There was no mistaking the barred under-parts, the long slender legs, and the habits which I had carefully studied in Iowa in the summer of 1913. The bird was with Spotted Sandpipers and Piping Plovers.