

where it has lain unnoticed for many years, an immature male of this species taken on November 25, 1889, at Newman Springs, a mile or so southwest of Red Bank, Monmouth County, New Jersey.

HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

Washington, D. C.

GAVIA STELLATA IN THE MOUNTAINS OF WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA.

It may be worth while to record a North Carolina specimen of *Gavia stellata* which the writer had the privilege of examining in 1906. It had been killed a year or two before, exact date unknown, on the French Broad River, near Biltmore, North Carolina. It was a perfectly typical bird in immature plumage. This species, while not unusual along the coast of North Carolina, is rare in the interior, and, so far as we are aware has not previously occurred in the mountain region of the state.

HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

Washington, D. C.

HISTRIONICUS HISTRIONICUS PACIFICUS IN NORTH DAKOTA.

There appears to be no published record for the Harlequin Duck in North Dakota, although it has been reported two or three times from the state of Nebraska. The writer has, however, examined an adult of this species referable to the Pacific form, *Histrionicus histrionicus pacificus*, obtained at Mandan, North Dakota, about September 23, 1912, by Mr. J. D. Allen, who has kindly permitted us to place it on record. It makes thus a very interesting addition to the list of the birds of this state.

HARRY C. OBERHOLSER.

EUROPEAN WIDGEON IN LAKE COUNTY.

How many of you have had the good luck to study at close range an adult male European Widgeon? Probably some, but how many have had that pleasure the *second* time? I found my first back in 1914, in company with one male and two female Baldpates, with sunlight at my back as they passed by on the river so it was hardly necessary to use my glass to distinguish all its characteristic markings. This bird was reported by me in Bird-Lore for that year. Today (March 23, 1919) history has repeated itself, and under still better conditions for observation.

Visiting a large swamp pond early this morning I was disappointed to find its sole occupant in the duck line to be a female

Golden-eye. On my way back, as I neared the bridge that crosses the pond, a flock of twelve ducks lit in close to shore on the other side, so I hurried for the bridge to see from there what species they were. I had no more than distinguished that they were Baldpates when they were in the air again. I found another observer on the bridge, who said he thought there was a Red-head among them. The ducks circled about a few times and finally settled into a shallow pond of small size that lies among the button bushes at the edge of a swampy woods. As I had on boots, and nothing better to do, I decided to see if I could stalk near enough to them for close observation. So through the woods I went, in water six inches deep, and a thin skim of ice in places. Soon I could see them through a thin fringe of button bushes, and about the first thing noticed was a red-head, but it wasn't the right red for a Red-head, and then I "tumbled" as to what it *might* prove to be. Right then I did the stalking of my life—six inches at a time—and plenty of time for every six inches, but I reached the fringe of button bushes without alarming a bird. Every now and then a male whistled and all were tipping up for food and having a glorious time. I soon found the one with the red head, and sure enough, his pate was "bald," and then, one by one, his other distinguishing marks disclosed themselves,—the black throat, the vinaceous breast, and sides that looked gray in comparison with the vinaceous sides of the Baldpates. He stood on his head in the water like the others, and the white belly, surmounted by the black under tail coverts, made an attractive picture. To cap the climax he, with a few of the Baldpates, came to my side of the little pond, so close that I could see that the gray sides were really white, with little wavy lines of black that blended into a uniform gray when mixed with distance; and there they stood for a full half hour and fed, while I stood like a frozen statue on the other side of the button bushes and feasted my eyes on *Marcca penelope*.

E. A. DOOLITTLE.

Painesville, Ohio.

NOTES FROM LAKE COUNTY.

VISITATION OF PINE GROSBREAKS:—From all reports these birds seem to be the most common of all the erratic visitors from the north for this winter—especially in the eastern states. On December 8 and 11, 1918, I found a small company of them feeding in sumac, four brilliant males and four females. Visiting the vicinity on December 23 I was rewarded by finding ten in female plumage, but no adult males. Repeated searches through January failed to disclose any at all.