

in the Columbia, a little below the mouth of the Willamette, March 28, 1806; and the description in full is found in Codex Clark Q 81-83, Codex Lewis K 10. This is unmistakable. The bird is smaller than the duckinmallard (*Anas boscas*); head and neck purplish-black; belly and breast white; flanks of a pale dove-color with fine black specks; beak remarkably wide; . . . "a narrow stripe of white garnishes the base of the upper chop; this is succeeded by a pale sky-blue color, occupying about an inch, which again is succeeded by a transverse stripe of white, and the extremity is a fine black," etc. This is obviously diagnostic of *Fuligula collaris*, even though no mention is made of the orange-brown collar, which was either overlooked, or not developed in the specimen handled. I have of course set forth the case in my work as cited, but this note will serve to throw it into the current of ornithological literature, to which the celebrated History does not distinctively pertain. No question of nomenclature is raised; the matter is simply historical.—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

**Dafilula, a New Subgenus.**—Type *Querquedula catoni* Sharpe, Ibis, 1875, p. 328, Kerguelen Island.—ELLIOTT COUES, *Washington, D. C.*

**The Lesser Snow Goose in New England.**—I have lately added to my collection three New England specimens of the Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea*); one taken at Toddy Lake, Maine, October 4, 1893, by Mr. Alvah G. Dorr of Bucksport, Maine, another at Lake Umbagog, Maine, October 2, 1896, by Mr. Charles Douglass, the third at Ipswich, Massachusetts, October 26, 1896, by a local sportsman who sent the bird in the flesh to Mr. M. Abbott Frazar of Boston. The specimen first named was not sexed; the other two birds were males. All three are young in fresh autumnal plumage and all are perfectly typical examples of *hyperborea* which, evidently, is of much commoner occurrence in New England than the large form *nivalis*.

The Umbagog specimen was accompanied by a young Blue Goose (*Chen caerulescens*) which was also killed, both birds coming into my possession less than an hour after their death.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

**Branta bernicla glaucogastra.**—While I was in London in 1884 I examined with Mr. Seebohm his collection of Brant Geese, and was favorably impressed with his view that there are three recognizable forms, two of which occur in North America, though neither of these is the ordinary Brant of Europe. We have the two extremes of the White-bellied and Black-bellied, between which typical *B. bernicla* is intermediate. It is probably because we have only compared these extremes that we have found *B. nigricans* so decidedly different from what we call *B. bernicla*. The stock is one of the most thoroughly circumpolar of all birds, perhaps more decidedly hyperborean than any other excepting