

1926, was recaptured on Middle Island, of the same group, on July 24 1927, and released.

No. 405938, Razor-billed Auk, has a record identical with that of No. 405937.

No. 210439, Puffin, banded as an adult at St. Mary Islands, Saguenay County, Quebec, on July 24, 1923, was recaptured on Western Island, of the St. Mary Islands group, on June 28, 1927, by C. H. Watson, and released. Mr. Watson was accompanied by Fred W. Osborne, caretaker of St. Mary Islands Bird Sanctuary, and on July 24, 1927, Mr. Osborne conducted me to this same bird's nesting-place, and we caught it again. The band was so worn that only the numerals "210" could be read, but they were clear. Bands of the series beginning with "210" have been placed on Puffins in this country only in July, 1923, and then on three Puffins only, and a careful check of the official Canadian records with my original field diary satisfies me entirely that this bird is No. 210439. Because the band was worn, it was removed and replaced by new band No. 497520, and the bird was then released.

No. 368667, Puffin, banded as an adult on Cliff Island, of the St. Mary Islands group, Saguenay County, Quebec, on July 19, 1925, was recaptured on the same island on July 27, 1927. It was accidentally killed while being handled by my assistant.

No. 302473, Double-crested Cormorant, banded as a juvenile in Fog Island Sanctuary, Saguenay County, Quebec, on August 2, 1927, was shot at Little Creek, near Norfolk, Virginia, on December 4, 1927.

No. 302454, Double-crested Cormorant, banded as a juvenile in Fog Island Sanctuary, Saguenay County, Quebec, on August 2, 1927, was found dead on the shore of Peconic Bay, near the National Golf Links, Southampton, Long Island, New York, on October 22, 1927.

No. 302464, Double-crested Cormorant, banded as a juvenile in Fog Island Sanctuary, Saguenay County, Quebec, on August 2, 1927, was found dead on the shore of Gardiner's Bay, near Amagansett, Long Island, New York, on October 23, 1927.

No. 302476, Double-crested Cormorant, banded as a juvenile in Fog Island Sanctuary, Saguenay County, Quebec, on August 2, 1927, was shot at Cedar Beach, near Cedar Island lighthouse, Long Island, New York, on October 21, 1927.

No. 302901, Double-crested Cormorant, banded as a juvenile at Cormorant Rocks, Cape Whittle Sanctuary, Saguenay County, Quebec, on July 16, 1927, was recaptured near Sound View, Connecticut, and reported on October 20, 1927.—HARRISON F. LEWIS.

Quartering Flight.—*Irregularity of lack of returns for migrant Tree Sparrows* has been mentioned by Don V. Messer (*Bulletin of the North-eastern Bird-Banding Association*, Vol. II, No. 2, p. 31), who says "the local rarity is difficult to account for," and Richard E. Horsey (Vol. II, No. 3, p. 48) writes, "True migrants are seldom seen after leaving station." Regarding Juncos, Herbert Parker mentions (Vol. II, No. 4, p. 62), one return of 180 banded, and Wendell P. Smith says (Vol. III, No. 1, p. 7), "We have had no returns from Slate-colored Juncos."

Of White-throated Sparrows, Mr. Parker in the article cited mentions no returns of nearly one hundred banded: Mary E. F. Hubbard (Vol. II, No. 1, p. 16), has one return record for 104 banded, and at the station of Mr. and Mrs. Richard B. Harding, referred to in Vol. II, No. 2, p. 37, two

returns of 59 banded are reported. Mary E. F. Hubbard later, in Vol. III, No. 1, p. 10, mentions eight returns of 119 banded, and Miss Cora M. Teot is mentioned on the same page as having no returns of 54 White-throated Sparrows banded.

As, according to Wetmore (*The migration of Birds*, 1926, page 55), neither a head or tail wind is favorable for birds during migration but a quartering wind is a better air-movement condition, it seems possible that the observed yearly variation in migration-routes of the smaller birds may be due to quartering flight, limited in the territory of the Northeastern Bird-Banding Association by coast-lines and other natural features.—E. C. HOFFMAN, 1041 Forest Cliff Drive, Lakewood, Ohio.

A White-breasted Nuthatch Recovery.—White-breasted Nuthatch, No. A23071 banded by Mrs. A. G. Mathers, at Middleboro, Massachusetts, on February 22, 1926, was caught by a cat at St. George, New Brunswick, on April 23, 1926. See account in the *Canadian Field-Naturalist*, Vol. XXI, October, 1927, page 171. We believe this to be the first record giving any details of the migration route of this species in the East.

Wintering White-breasted Nuthatches.—During the winter of 1926-27, Mr. Reginald A. Osborn, of Hingham, Massachusetts, had a male and female White-breasted Nuthatch come to his banding-station, one of which, the male, he banded. This winter the banded male is again at the station, and, as before, with an unbanded female, perhaps the same bird of last winter.

The habit of two birds of this species of opposite sex keeping together throughout the winter is very pronounced, and in all cases known to me where opportunity has permitted observation wintering pairs have invariably been found to be of opposite sex.—C. L. W.

A White-throated Sparrow Return-4.—At our banding-station in Cohasset, Mass., a single White-throat, No. 37603, banded Nov. 11, 1923, is again for the fifth consecutive season passing the winter with us, and now the bird is at least five and one half years old. The bird each winter lives in a certain section of the thick cover within twenty feet of one of the traps in which it is annually captured. The arrival and departures dates, so far as we know them, are Nov. 1-15th and May 1-15th. The bird now wears a red band, which enables me to keep a sight record of its frequent visits to the station with ease and accuracy.—KATHARINE C. HARDING.

Attention, Banders!—Banders are asked to pay careful attention to the ages of birds they handle, as determined by repeats and returns. Mr. John T. Nichols, of the American Museum of Natural History, 77th Street and Central Park West, New York City, has published in the *Bulletin* of this Association a preliminary paper on "The Age of Banded Birds," (Vol. III, No. 3, July, 1927), in which he has collected from several sources