

and I were privileged to receive Charles Urner's Christmas greetings, usually in the form of poems about some aspect of the marshlands.

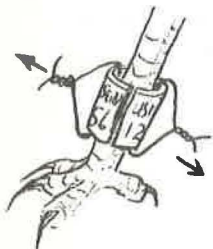
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AN EASY METHOD FOR REMOVING BANDS

By Alan M. Craig

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A band can be removed easily from a bird's leg with a pair of banding pliers and two pieces of fine wire, each about two inches long. The wire on which small bands are supplied works very satisfactorily for this purpose. The wires are carefully slipped through the inside of the band on opposite sides of the bird's leg, and the two ends of each piece are twisted together to form two triangular loops. Finally, by inserting the jaws of the pliers into the two loops and slowly opening the pliers, the loops are pulled away from the bird's leg and the band is forced open. With reasonable care there is no danger of damaging the bird's leg.

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OBSERVATIONS NEEDED ON COLOR-BANDED TERNS

Last year 1342 adult Common and Roseate Terns were banded on Great Gull Island, a research sanctuary in eastern Long Island, N.Y., operated by the American Museum of Natural History and the Linnaean Society of New York. These terns were color-banded in various combinations and information is now solicited on all observations of color-banded terns - band color combinations when they can be seen, right and/or left legs; date, locality, and all possible details of the bird's activity while being observed. Readers are requested to send information to Catherine Pessino, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th St., New York, N.Y. 10024.