

was found on June 15 last at Ekomiut, in the district of Christianshaab, and was situated in the midst of the nests of a colony of *Sterna macroura*. The female bird was shot off the nest, which, when found, contained two eggs. Of these one was unfortunately broken, and the other, which was also damaged, is now in the possession of Herr Weller of Copenhagen. It is in color and appearance very similar to the egg of *Larus minutus*, is of a pyriform shape, and measures 44 mm. X 33 mm. This discovery is of some interest, the species, as is well known, having been hitherto of rare occurrence and the breeding habitat unknown.—JOHN J. DALGLEISH, *S Athole Crescent, Edinburgh.*

**A Flock of *Chen rossii* East of the Rocky Mts.**—On the 17th of April, 1885, after several days of stormy weather, with wind from the northwest, accompanied at times by heavy fog and rain, there appeared on a bar in the Missouri River at this place, a large flock of Ross's Snow Geese. In the afternoon of the same day, procuring a boat, we rowed toward the flock, which presented a rather remarkable sight, consisting, as it did, of several thousand individuals squatting closely together along the edge of the bar. Here and there birds were constantly standing up and flapping their wings, then settling down again, all the while a confused gabble, half goose-like, half duck-like, arising from the whole flock. We approached to within a hundred yards or so, when the Geese lightly arose to a considerable height and flew off over the prairie, where they soon alighted and began to feed on the short green grass. While flying, often two or three birds would dart off from the main flock, and, one behind the other, swing around in great curves, quite after the manner of the little Chimney Swift in the East. Apparently these same birds remained about till the 26th of April, long after the storm was over, but they became broken up into several smaller flocks some time before leaving. Some five or six specimens were shot during their stay.—ROBERT S. WILLIAMS, *Great Falls, Montana.*

**Capture of a Pair of Wild Hybrid Ducks (Mallard + Muscovy) on Long Island.**—Mr. G. C. Morris, of Sag Harbor, New York, had at the annual exhibition of the New York Fanciers' Club, held in New York City, February 3 to 10, 1886, a pair of 'strange Ducks' which no one had been able to name. My attention was directed to them by Mr. Morris, who called upon me at the American Museum of Natural History in relation to them. From the clear account of them he was able to give me, I had no difficulty in deciding as to their character, and an examination of the birds themselves the following day confirmed my identification of them. Unlike most previous examples that have been reported of this interesting cross, they showed no tendency to albinism, there being no abnormal white markings, but presented just the combination of features one would look for in a cross between a wild Mallard and a Muscovy unchanged by domestication. The birds, both male and female, were in perfect plumage, exceedingly beautiful, and presented in nearly equal degree the characteristics of the two species.

I learn from Mr. Morris that the drake was first seen about September 1, 1884, in Poxibogue Pond, in the village of Bridge Hampton, on Long Island, in company with some domestic ducks owned by a Mr. Topping. This gentleman at first tried to shoot him, but he proved to be very wary, and when approached would fly away toward the ocean, about two miles distant. Several other persons saw him and tried unsuccessfully to capture him. He showed a liking for the pond, and finally came regularly every morning to feed with the tame ducks, returning to the ocean at night. One day during a severe thunder squall the tame ducks left the pond and ran into their pen for shelter, the wild bird accompanying them. The owner closed the door and thus captured him. He simply clipped his wing-feathers and let him run with his flock.

The duck, or female hybrid, alighted in Otter Pond, near the upper part of Main Street in the village of Sag Harbor, early one morning in October, 1884. She accompanied some tame ducks on shore, and several men attempted to drive her with the others into a duck pen, but she took wing, struck against a fence, fell back, and was captured before she could recover herself. Her wing was also clipped and she remained a captive.

Several persons who saw the strange birds thought they were of the same species; so the two were brought together. They mated, and the female laid two clutches of eggs and sat upon them, but they proved infertile. They were allowed their liberty, kept together, and associated with a flock of tame ducks. They are now owned, Mr. Morris informs me, by Mr. A. L. Thorne, of Whitestone, Long Island.—J. A. ALLEN, *Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., New York City.*

**Tringa damacensis (Horsf.) in Alaska; a Sandpiper new to the North American Fauna.**—Among the birds collected by Mr. Chas. H. Townsend, during his trip on the U. S. Revenue Cutter 'Corwin,' is an example of this species, obtained on Otter Island, Bering's Sea, June 8, 1885. The specimen is an adult female, in breeding plumage. An account of this species, embracing full synonymy, a comparison with allied species, critical remarks, and observations on habits, may be found in Dr. Stejneger's 'Ornithological Explorations in Kamtschatka' (Bulletin No. 29, U. S. National Museum), pp. 116-118.—ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

**The Masked Bob-white (*Colinus ridgwayi*) in Arizona.**—In 'The Auk' for April, 1885 (Vol. II, p. 199), Mr. William Brewster described a new species of Bob-white, under the name *Colinus ridgwayi*, based on a male specimen taken by Mr. F. Stephens in Sonora, Mexico, a few miles south of the Arizona line. Mr. Stephens, according to Mr. Brewster, had "recently examined two specimens which were actually taken in Arizona, thus adding the species to our fauna." Through the kindness of Mr. Herbert Brown, of Tucson, Arizona, I have recently had the opportunity of examining thirteen specimens of this interesting species, all taken within the last few months in the Barboquivari Mountains, Arizona, about