

Island, New York, Nov. 22, 1878. The bird was a male, not quite, but almost in mature plumage, and was shot in the bay south of Freeport, Long Island, and on account of its oddity brought to me. The specimen is now in the collection of the Long Island Historical Society.—Geo. B. BADGER, *Haywards, California.*

Chen cærulescens in Massachusetts.—On October 26, 1876, I bought of Mr. Tufts, taxidermist, of Lynn, Mass., a mounted Blue Goose, the skin being still fresh, which is now in my possession.

The specimen, a young female, with white on chin only, was shot "in or near Essex Creek, West Parish, Gloucester, Mass., Oct. 20, 1876."—WM. A. JEFFRIES, *Boston, Mass.*

Baird's Sandpiper in Central New York.—While collecting at Onondaga Lake, N. Y., August 27, 1883, I secured a Baird's Sandpiper (*Tringa bairdii*). This appears to be the tenth for New York State; of the others, six have been recorded from Long Island ('Forest and Stream', Vol. X, No. 13, p. 235, May 2, 1878; B. N. O. C., Vol. VII, p. 133, 1882; Auk, Vol. II, p. 273, 1885), one from Locust Grove, Lewis County, by Mr. Henshaw (Auk, Vol. II, p. 384, 1885), and two from Fair Haven, Cayuga County, by Frank R. Rathburn (O. & O., Vol. VII, p. 133, 1882). More stragglers—if such they are—of this bird may be expected from the lakes of western and central New York, during the fall, as numbers of shore-birds visit them at that season.—MORRIS M. GREEN, *Washington, D. C.*

The Northern Phalarope (*Phalaropus lobatus*) in the Franconia Mountains, New Hampshire.—About five years ago, in September, while fishing on Profile Lake, Franconia, N. H., I observed a bird sitting on the water, feeding on winged ants, of which thousands lay on the surface. The bird was fearless, allowed me to approach it in my canoe so closely that I could easily reach it with my landing net (handle not three feet long), and was not alarmed at several attempts I made to put the net gently over him. I observed him for nearly half an hour, constantly within a few feet of him, and then left him. I did not know the bird, and several friends, ornithologists, afterward expressed a wish that I had captured or killed him for examination.

On September 22, 1888, while fishing on Lonesome Lake (about two miles from Profile Lake, on Mt. Cannon, nearly 3000 feet above sea-level), I saw another specimen of the same bird swimming duck-like among the sedges on the edge of the lake. He was equally fearless, allowing me to approach within hand reach, without alarm and without ceasing his employment, which was feeding on the seeds of the sedges. There was no mistake, in either case, as to what the bird was eating—in one case ants, in the other seed. In the latter case I greatly enjoyed watching the rapid and graceful action of the bird as he picked off the seeds, frequently stretching up, almost standing on the water, and reaching to seeds on high sedges. After ten minutes I concluded with great

reluctance to kill him, which I did by striking him gently on the head with a short stick. Ornithologists who examined him pronounced him the Northern Phalarope. At their request I make this note of the facts.—W. C. PRIME, *New York City*.

Occurrence of the Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes occidentalis*) in Numbers on the Coast of Massachusetts.—Among some Waders collected in 1888 on Monomoy Island, near Chatham, Massachusetts, I find four unmistakable specimens of *Ereunetes occidentalis*. Three of them, all females, were taken by Mr. J. C. Cahoon, one July 19, the other two Sept. 19. The fourth, a male, was shot Sept. 1 by Mr. Whiting. The July bird is an adult in richly colored and but little worn breeding plumage. The others are young in summer dress.

Mr. Cahoon tells me that he killed many specimens of the *E. occidentalis* at Monomoy during July, August, and September, 1888, but supposing at the time that they were merely large, long-billed examples of *E. pusillus*, he preserved only the three above mentioned. His impression is that they were nearly as numerous at times as *E. pusillus*. There is, I believe, but one previous record of the occurrence of *E. occidentalis* in Massachusetts, viz., that by Mr. Henshaw* of the capture of a specimen on "Long Island, Boston Harbor, Aug. 27, 1870."—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Sandpipers at Sea—A Correction.—On looking at my note on 'Sandpipers at Sea' in 'The Auk,' Vol. III, I find at commencement of the first paragraph on page 132 "The *fastest* run up to 12 M. on May 8, was 582 miles." This should read "The *distance* run", etc. 582 miles a day for an old French steamer would be pretty good work.—WM. A. JEFFRIES, *Boston, Mass.*

Remarkable Flight of Killdeer (*Ægialitis vocifera*) near Portland, Maine.—On the afternoon of Wednesday, November 28, 1888, several flocks of Killdeer were seen by Captain Trundy, of the U. S. Life Saving Service, near his station, on the extreme point of Cape Elizabeth, Maine. Twenty birds, which were shot down without difficulty, were sent to Portland and offered for sale at one of the markets. On the following day, Captain Trundy tells me, hundreds of the Plover were to be seen along the shores of the Cape, and on Richmond's Island, a mile or two west of the station. They disappeared on November 30, leaving stragglers behind, however, the last of which was shot by one of the Life Saving crew on December 4, and kindly presented to me.

Such a flight of Killdeer in Maine—where the bird is well known to be rare—has probably not occurred within the memory of living sportsmen. It is doubtless to be attributed to the violent northerly storm that prevailed in eastern North America on November 25, 26 and 27.—NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

*Auk, Vol. II, No. 4, 1885, p. 384.