

On the 21st I started to the corn field again with the hope of seeing the bird. Upon shooting four Doves (*Zenaidura macroura*), the Crane arose from the field where it had been feeding along with the cows and flew about a mile away. Away I went in pursuit but found it was impossible to get nearer than a hundred yards without being seen.

I waited under some bushes for an hour hoping it would come nearer. The whole time the bird remained on the ground it was making the trumpet-like sound. Finally it flew and lit about half a mile off in a myrtle pasture, where there were two ponds of water. I knew I would in the end secure the bird, so walking cautiously about I at last saw the red on his head. He was standing in the middle of the pond, and as he rose I secured him. The bird is an adult male in perfect plumage. Although the specimen is considerably smaller than average *Grus mexicana*, for the present it may stand as such.

This is the first record of the capture of this bird in the State, to my knowledge.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mt. Pleasant, S. C.*

Capture of a Fourth Specimen of *Ardetta neoxena*.—A specimen of *Ardetta neoxena* was shot on the Kissimmee River, Florida, by Mr. R. C. Stewart, on May 19, 1890. The bird is a male in full plumage, and is apparently exactly like the type. Mr. Stewart claims to have seen another, but he was unable to secure it. This is I believe the fourth specimen of the species known to have been taken, three of them having been recorded from the lower Kissimmee or Okeechobee region, and the fourth is claimed to have been killed in Ontario, Canada, and was sent to Mr. Ridgway for examination by Mr. McIlwraith.—CHARLES B. CORY, *Boston, Mass.*

Notes on the Nest and Habits of Cory's Bittern (*Botaurus neoxenus*).—Mr. J. F. Menge of Fort Meyers, Florida, has kindly written me the following account of a nest of Cory's Bittern. He is familiar with the bird and is the gentleman who collected and sent to me the specimen mentioned in 'The Auk,' Vol. VI, 1889, p. 317. This letter is under date of May 20, 1891, and I quote from it as follows:

"I herewith send you notes concerning the Bittern as requested by Mr. J. W. Atkins, first found on 8th of June, 1890, two and a half miles above Fort Thompson, Florida, in a small willow swamp on the borders of Lake Flint. It was built of willow twigs and lined inside with maiden cane leaves. It was in a low bush two feet and a half above the surface of the water. There were four young birds, about two-thirds grown in the nest. I had one of the old birds in my hand, which I think was the female. She was not inclined to fight and would not leave the nest. The other old bird was two or three feet from me and seemed a much larger bird. I did not disturb them and when I let the old bird go she hopped back on her nest as though she were accustomed to being handled. The Brown Bittern [local name for *Botaurus exilis*. *B. neoxenus* being known as the Black Bittern—W. E. D. S.] will fight, for I have had them come up

within six inches of my hand when collecting eggs. I shall try and get more specimens of the bird I sent you [No. 3237. W. E. D. S. Register; see Auk, VI, p. 317] but they are not very plentiful here and are hard to find."—W. E. D. SCOTT, 58 *William Street, New York City.*

Phalaropus lobatus off Scituate, Mass.—On August 30, 1890, I made my first acquaintance with the Northern Phalarope. As my friend Mr. Marcus Barber and myself were returning from a trip to the Gurnet, Plymouth Harbor, in my sail-boat, when off Fourth Cliff Life Saving Station, we observed what we at first supposed was a large flock of Sandpipers, some two hundred or more, flying to and fro from shore, and were surprised to see them settle on the water. Heading the boat for them, we soon came within gunshot, and secured eight as they rose, they being so scattered as not to offer a good shot. On picking them up, I at once recognized them as one of the Phalaropes. We watched this flock pass from view to southward. Leaving my friend soon after at the Cove, I made sail for Scituate Harbor, about a mile distant; but had not been long underway when the boat was in the centre of a second flock as large as the first, giving me a fine opportunity to watch the bright eyed little birds, as they rode up and down on the light sea that was running. These finally took wing, but had not passed from sight before a third flock nearly as large showed up over the bow; making in all between five and six hundred birds seen within an hour's time. The last were nearly opposite the Harbor, in which I soon dropped anchor. The birds secured proved to be all young of both sexes, except one, an adult female, but no two were alike in plumage. Taking into consideration Mr. W. A. Jeffries' account of 'Phalaropes at Swampscott' (Auk, Jan. 1891, p. 112), and the statement made by my friend Mr. Barber, who in ten years' service along shore "never saw anything like it before," the flight of Phalaropes along our shore last fall must have been a remarkable one. The wind at the time was blowing a fair northwest breeze.—H. D. EASTMAN, *Framingham, Mass.*

The Wild Pigeon (*Ectopistes migratorius*) on the Pacific Coast.—I was recently informed by a correspondent, who edits a small weekly journal published in Philadelphia, that Mr. Caleb S. Cope of West Chester, Pa., had seen Wild Pigeons in considerable numbers in "Washington Territory."

This information had been elicited in response to the republication in the above mentioned journal of Mr. Brewster's article in 'The Auk' of October 1889, on the 'Present Status of the Wild Pigeon as a bird of the United States.' A gentleman living in Lycoming Co., Pa., who used to trap Wild Pigeons many years ago, informed my friend that it was commonly understood among those in the business that the Pigeons had gone to the far West and British Columbia on account of their persecution in the eastern and central portions of the United States.