

possible moment; this they did in great part late on that afternoon and during the night of Aug. 27, having landed on the night of Aug. 26. Those birds which found rest in a certain preserved field would immediately return to it and remain there, if shot at while flying outside. These particular birds continued to reside in this field until one hundred and thirty-two had accumulated, when the owners of the field commenced to shoot them; this drove them from this place to others where they were at once pursued and shot until but few remained by Oct. 1, 1892.

My friend Mr. Wm. Everett, of Dorchester, Mass., sends me the following note: At Malpeque, Prince Edward Island, Aug. 23, 1892, during mild and pleasant weather, the first flight of Golden Plover probably landed on the night of Aug. 22, for they were first seen the next day. A few hundred birds remained in the various fields, but the greater part of them passed south. There were but few Plover shot here this season. — GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

Black Vulture in Maine.—Under date of November 3, Mr. Geo. A. Boardman writes me as follows: "Our local taxidermist (Calais, Maine) received a Black Vulture (*Catharista atrata*) which was killed here. This makes the sixth I have known to be taken in this vicinity, while only one specimen of the Turkey Buzzard (*Cathartes aura*) has been secured in this locality. The latter I consider much the more northern bird." — WILLIAM DUTCHER, *New York City.*

Some Additional Eastern Records of Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*).—Proofs that Swainson's Hawk visits New England at no very infrequent intervals and perhaps in some numbers, multiply steadily if slowly. I now have two fresh specimens to report; one killed at Essex, Massachusetts, May 29, 1892, the other near Calais, Maine, about October 8, 1892.

The Essex specimen was sent in the flesh to Mr. M. Abbott Frazar, who mounted it and afterwards sold it to me. It is a fine old bird, a female, in the melanistic phase, wholly dark colored (sooty or clove brown) both above and beneath, save on the bend of the wing, which is whitish, the under surface of the tail, which is banded with ashy white, and the under tail-coverts and crissum, which are soiled white with faint rusty and brownish markings. There is also a little half-concealed whitish on the forehead and chin and the feathers on the back are bordered with faded brown. Mr. Frazar, whose experience in such matters entitles his judgment to much weight, tells me that the ovaries were undeveloped and that the bird was evidently not in breeding condition, a point of some importance in view of the date of its capture. Of the two Massachusetts specimens previously recorded, one (in the Peabody Museum) was taken in the winter of 1871-72 (Allen, *Bull. Essex Inst.*, X, 1878, p. 22), the other (in the present writer's collection) in September, 1876, at Wayland (Brewster, *Bull. N. O. C.*, III, Jan., 1878, p. 39).

The Calais bird above mentioned was shot by a countryman and brought into town with some Ruffed Grouse. After passing successively through the hands of a provision dealer, who bought it of the countryman, of a lady (a Mrs. Ryder), who bought it of the provision dealer, and of a local taxidermist, by whom it was received and mounted October 10, it found a final and appropriate resting place in the well-known collection of Mr. George A. Boardman to whom I am indebted for these facts as well as for the following description of the specimen: "It is a young bird of unknown sex. The back is black with many of the feathers bordered with yellowish; the tail lighter than the back with about a dozen black bars; the head, neck, and lower parts fine, delicate yellowish, the feathers of the head and neck striped with black; the breast spotted coarsely along its sides, more finely across the middle, with black. The throat and tail coverts are yellowish white. Beneath the chin black markings, arranged in series, form a distinct mustache. With its generally ochraceous ground color and bold dark markings the bird is a strikingly handsome specimen." There are two known instances of the previous occurrence of this species in Maine, at Gouldsboro, Sept. 15, 1886 (Brewster, *Auk* IV, April, 1887, p. 160), and at Glenburn near Bangor, May 19, 1888 (*id.*, *ibid.*, V, Oct., 1888, p. 424).

In this connection it may be worth while to mention still another Eastern specimen of Swainson's Hawk which is preserved in the Greene Smith collection of mounted birds.¹ This specimen, so the label states, was killed in Onondaga County, New York, in October, 1877, and was "presented [to Mr. Smith] by T. Bex and Ed. Lodder of Syracuse." It is a young bird, of the light or normal phase, in fresh autumnal plumage. So far as I know, it has never previously been recorded.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, *Cambridge, Mass.*

Swainson's Hawk in the East.—Two records of the occurrence of this Western *Buteo* hundreds of miles east of the eastern boundary of its habitat have come to my notice through Mr. Geo. A. Boardman of Calais, Maine, and Mr. L. S. Foster of New York City. Both individuals were immature birds, and were shot within six days of each other, although some hundreds of miles apart. It may be possible that a small eastward migration of this species took place in the early fall, and these records may be added to by the readers of 'The Auk.' Mr. Boardman says, "The Hawk is a young Swainson's, a fine specimen, and was shot Oct. 6, within six miles of Calais. It is the first one I have ever known to occur here. It is now in my collection."²

The New York specimen was shot by and is in the possession of Mr. W. Williams of Brooklyn, New York. It was examined and identified by Mr. Arthur H. Howell, who obtained the following information about the specimen: It was shot October 14, at Meadow Brook Farm, near

¹ Lately given by Mrs. Smith to the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.

² This is the same specimen described above by Mr. Brewster.—EDS.