General Notes.

Terns of Muskeget Island. — A Correction. — In my article on the Terns of Muskeget, published in 'The Auk' for January (p. 35, 17 lines from top) for "On May 19, 1893," read, On June 19, 1893. The first eggs observed in 1893 were 35, on May 26; on the 28th, 130 were noted. — GEORGE H. MACKAY, Nantucket, Mass.

Breeding Habits of Terns.-I am glad to be able to corroborate two statements in the January number of 'The Auk' in the article entitled 'Terns of Muskeget Island.' It is generally accepted, I believe, that two Terns sometimes lay their complement of eggs in the same nest, although, so far as I know, it has never been proved. I have several sets of eggs of Sterna hirundo and S. paradisæa that may add a little to the evidence in favor of this belief. They were collected by myself June 28, 1891, on Egg Rock, Popham, Maine, where these two species were nesting alone. First, four eggs taken from same nest. Two eggs are long, narrow and were nearly fresh. The other two are much like Sandpiper's eggs in shape and the incubation was far advanced. Second, five eggs taken from one nest. Three are long, narrow, similar in coloration and were *much* incubated. The other two are similar to each other in every respect, but they are larger than the others, noticeably different in coloration, similar to a Sandpiper's egg in shape, and were fresh. I think that part of these eggs were laid by S. hirundo and the rest by S. paradisæa. Third, six eggs taken at one time from the same nest. These were all fresh and differ mainly in coloration. There are three eggs of each bird apparently. Those of one bird are as similar to one another as a Tern's eggs ever are, but clearly different from those of the other bird. I believe that Terns very rarely lay more than three eggs.

On page 46 of the same article is given a description of a Tern's nest consisting of a hollow lined with small stones. I have seen several, perhaps five or six, nests of this kind. In every case the stones formed the only lining to the nest and were evidently collected by the birds as any other material might have been for the same purpose. — AUBREY B. CALL, *Townshend*, Vt.

Diomedea exulans on the Columbia in 1813. — In preparing for publication the MS. Journals of Alexander Henry, Junior — a fur trader, who lived for some years at Astoria, and who was drowned there — I find the following entry, under date of Feb. 13, 1813:

"We were visited by some natives who came to trade with us. Among other things they produced an Albatros they had just killed. The body and head were white, the tail and wings gray, the bill pale pink, and the legs pale blue. The bill was 7 inches long, formed somewhat like an Eagle's; the wings were very narrow, but measured from tip to tip seven feet ten inches." This description is somewhat equivocal, as the alar extent is rather that of D. albatrus than that of D. exulans; but Mr.