

GENERAL NOTES.

Brünnich's Murre at Cape Charles, Virginia.—Mr. Geo. S. Morris has in his collection a male Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia*) taken Dec. 31, 1890, at Cape Charles, Va., and I have a female taken by myself at the same place on Dec. 14, 1895. As I do not find this bird in the Virginia list, these captures may be of interest, as it extends the range of this winter visitor. There had been a northeast storm for five days, and the specimen I took was either very tame or else exhausted, as it was shot without any trouble. The stomach was entirely empty and there was no fat on the body. Both of these specimens were fully identified by Mr. Witmer Stone of the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences.—I. N. DEHAVEN, *Ardmore, Montgomery Co., Pa.*

The Parasitic Jaeger near Cleveland, Ohio.—Last November, while on a shooting trip to Sandusky Bay, I was told by a friend, Mr. A. E. Kelly, a local shooter, of two birds which he described as "web-footed hawks" that he had seen pursuing the Gulls and Terns. One of the pair he had already shot and sent to the Smithsonian Institution; the other he shot and sent to me a few days later, when I found it to be a female Parasitic Jaeger (*Stercorarius parasiticus*). Mr. Ridgway also found the specimen sent him to be of the same species.

This species is not included in Dr. Wheaton's list of Ohio birds in the report of the Geological Survey, but I find in the Proceedings of the Cleveland Academy of Science, in a paper read by Dr. Kirtland in November, 1857, an account of a bird taken near the mouth of Rocky River, Lake Erie, which he considers as probably of this species.

The specimen sent me had a minnow and a quantity of dark feathers in its stomach. Its skin is now in the collection of Case School of Applied Science.—F. M. COMSTOCK, *Cleveland, Ohio.*

Puffinus tenuirostris, off San Diego, California.—On Jan. 9, 1896, while collecting sea birds about three miles west of Point Laura Light-house, a number of dark Shearwaters were seen, that seemed to me to be much too small for *P. griseus*. They were usually single birds, though several times loose companies of from three or four to a half a dozen sailed by. They were very shy and after several ineffectual attempts to get a shot I gave them up. Just as I was starting for home, however, two birds appeared from opposite directions and lit near my boat, one on either side; both were secured and one proved to be an undoubted *P. tenuirostris*.

This species has not before been recorded on the Eastern Pacific south of British Columbia, although it extends along the coast of China to Australia on the Western Pacific. Several years ago I felt reasonably sure that I had seen *P. tenuirostris* along the coast of Southern California,

but as all of the dark specimens of *Puffinus* that I secured proved to be *griseus*, I had about concluded that I was mistaken.

I am now convinced that I was correct, and that the Slender-billed Shearwater, if not of regular occurrence, is periodically common along our Southwestern coast to Lower California.—A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego, Cal.*

The Skull of the Young Cormorant.—The rapidity with which changes take place in growing birds has often been noted, and a remarkable instance of this is found in the Cormorants.

As is well known, Cormorants are among the best examples of desmognathous birds, premaxillaries, anterior palatines, and maxillo-palatines being completely fused. There is also no trace of narial openings in the adult and no hint of basi-ptyergoid processes. Yet the nestling of *Phalacrocorax urile* is schizognathous and holorhinal, the narial openings being large, while the sphenoid bears good-sized basi-ptyergoid prominences.

Any one who has the good fortune to be located near a Cormorant rookery has a splendid chance to ascertain just when the narial openings close, or, if he be charitably inclined, he might collect for the United States National Museum, which would furnish alcohol and a can, a series of young taken at short intervals from the time of hatching to the time of leaving the nest.—F. A. LUCAS, *United States National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

Clangula hyemalis at San Diego, California.—On January 13, Mr. L. Belding handed me a fine specimen of the Old-squaw that he had shot in the harbor of San Diego, but a few hours previously. He informed me that the bird was alone near one of the city wharves, no other ducks of any species being in the immediate vicinity.

This record somewhat extends the range of the species on the Pacific Coast, there being but few records for the State and none from south of Santa Cruz Island, where Mr. Belding informed me that a specimen was taken several years ago and recorded in Wheeler's Surveys West 100th Meridian.—A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego, Cal.*

Occurrence of Great White Heron at Escondido, California.—A little while ago I accepted an invitation to see a Heron, which had been killed and mounted for a parlor ornament. I was told that the bird had been killed during April, 1895. It proved to be a fine specimen of the *Ardea occidentalis*.—J. MAURICE HATCH, *Escondido, Cal.*

Note on the Flexor hallucis brevis in the Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*).—While dissecting the muscles of the foot of a Night Heron I was surprised to find that the *flexor hallucis brevis* was perforated at its insertion by the *flexor hal. longus*, thus becoming a *flexor perforatus dig. I*, similar to the *flexores perforati dig. II, III, IV*.