

ney, — not “Whiting.” It came into my hands at once, was preserved by myself, and is now in my collection. Great importance should not, of course, be attached to the closing sentence of the paragraph above quoted, which was based on the statements of a gunner not skilled in identifying birds, though undoubtedly truthful.— HENRY H. BROCK, *Portland, Me.*

**Baird's Sandpiper in Michigan.**— On August 20, 1895, Mr. Leon J. Cole and myself collected a female Baird's Sandpiper (*Tringa bairdii*) in Ottawa County, Michigan. This is the second or third, if not the first record of this bird's occurrence in the State.— W. E. MULLIKEN, *Grand Rapids, Mich.*

**Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes occidentalis*) more abundant than the Semipalmated (*E. pusillus*).**— On Two-mile Beach, Cape May County, New Jersey, from the 1st to the 15th of September, 1895, I found both varieties of *Ereunetes* quite abundant in large flocks; and out of thirty-five specimens taken, twenty were unquestionably *occidentalis* and fifteen *pusillus*. The birds were all carefully measured and the colors noted. The bills of the so-called western variety varied from .87 to 1.07, males and females, ten measuring over 1.00, and the back of each was uniformly colored with a very reddish tinge.

The bills of the fifteen Semipalmated measured from .63 to .78, and were uniformly gray on the back, excepting three which had a slight tinge of red. I have never met with the western variety before, that is, to my knowledge, for it was only of late that I learned the difference, which is probably the excuse of many of us who otherwise might have found the bird just as common as I did. In the spring migration, and perhaps in the fall, I hope to look for it again.

Mr. Brewster mentions in 'The Auk' (Jan., 1889, p. 69) that a number of these birds (*occidentalis*) were taken by Mr. J. C. Cahoon on Monomoy Island, Mass., during July, August and September, 1888, and it may be that the bird is not nearly so accidental as it has been heretofore supposed.— WM. L. BAILY, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

**Woodpeckers' Tongues — a Plea for Aid.**— The tongues of our North American Woodpeckers are, as the readers of 'The Auk' well know, mostly barbed at the tip. Unless they have devoted some attention to the subject they may not, however, know that the tongue of young Woodpeckers are barbless, and that it is an interesting question just when the barbs make their appearance. The tongue of a full-fledged nestling of *Dryobates villosus*, a species whose tongue is remarkably well armed when adult, bears only fine reflexed hairs along the edge, and just at present no specimens are available to show when the barbs make their appearance. I should be greatly obliged to any readers of 'The Auk' who may collect any young Woodpeckers during the year, especially such as are about to leave, or have recently left the nest, if they will kindly send me the tongues. It