

## GENERAL NOTES.

**Early Notice of *Gavia adamsi*.**—The 'Narrative' of Captain (later Sir) John Franklin's first Expedition contains, at p. 222 of the Philadelphia edition, 1824, under date of Sept. 26, 1820, while he was at Fort Enterprise, the following easily recognized description: "The last of the water-fowl that quitted us was a species of diver, of the same size with the *Colymbus arcticus*, but differing from it in the arrangement of the white spots on its plumage, and in having a yellowish white bill. This bird was occasionally caught in our fishing nets."—ELLIOTT COVES, *Washington, D. C.*

**The Least Tern Breeding on Martha's Vineyard Island, Massachusetts.**—On July 21–22, 1897, while on a walking trip along the south beach of Martha's Vineyard Island, Mass., I found a few pairs of Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*) undoubtedly breeding near Job's Neck Pond, and a small colony of about fifty birds breeding near Black Point and Chilmark Ponds. An egg was found, but as Piping Plovers (*Ægialitis meloda*) were also on the beach the identification is not positive. A fair number, however, of young birds were in the air.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

**The Terns of Penikese — A Correction.**—In my article on the 'Terns of Penikese Island, Massachusetts' (Auk, Vol. XIV, July, 1897, p. 283), at foot of the account of nests and eggs, for 40 nests on Gull Island, read 41 in both places. In *totals of eggs*, read 3099 instead of 2055 for Penikese, and 90 instead of 88 for Gull Island.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

**Capture of the Little Blue Heron in Connecticut.**—A local gunner reported the capture of a strange Heron on August 4. Unfortunately it was sent off to be mounted before I could sex or even see it. The bird has just been shown me, however, mounted, and proves to be an adult *Ardea cærulea* (sex, as I said before, unknown). The man who secured the specimen said that he found it in a small fresh-water 'pond hole' near this place. It was in company with another of the same species, and owing to their extreme shyness it was nearly a week before he could succeed in getting this one. The individual secured is in perfect plumage.—P. J. McCook, *Niantic, Ct.*

**Ægialitis nivosa in Florida.**—Between the 23d of February, this year, and the 2d of April I collected nineteen specimens of typical *Ægialitis nivosa*. The first seven were collected Feb. 23, at the western end of Santa Rosa Island, near Fort Pickens. Between the 18th and the 24th of March a dozen specimens were taken on the Gulf beach of Santa Rosa Island, opposite Mary Esther P. O. In these specimens the females all