

A LIST OF THE HAWAIIAN BIRDS IN THE ST. LOUIS
COLLEGE COLLECTION, HONOLULU, H. I.,
INCLUDING RECORDS OF SEVERAL
NORTH AMERICAN SPECIES.

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THE isolated position of the Hawaiian Islands has long made them of great interest to ornithologists in general, while American observers, especially since the newly awakened interest in the group, have come to look upon them as an important outlying station where the occurrence of some of the wide-ranging continental forms may be studied with advantage.

The local observer finds the study of the indigenous avifauna is made much more interesting by noting the rare visitors which from time to time come to our shores, since they may be taken as indicating the probable direction whence the native birds have come, and in this way aid in tracing out their affinities.

The dearth of competent observers in remote places has always been deplored. It is on account of this fact that I gladly availed myself of the opportunity offered to carefully examine the interesting collection of Hawaiian birds, which for the most part has been brought together through the painstaking efforts of Mr. M. Newell, and which is now in the possession of St. Louis College, Honolulu.

Brother Matthias, as Mr. Newell is familiarly known to the Catholic brotherhood, came to the Islands some seventeen years ago from San Antonio, Texas, where he had already gained the local title of 'Rattlesnake-catcher,' owing to his zeal in the various branches of natural history. From the Brothers at the college I learn that after a year's residence in Honolulu he moved to Wailuku on Maui, where he spent fourteen years in the Catholic mission in Iao valley. It is at this point that most of the collection noted below was made. From Wailuku Mr. Newell was removed to Hilo on Hawaii, where he still carries on his work and observations.

I cannot too earnestly call attention to the value and importance which attaches to a local collection of the rare and curious birds

which come into the hands of persons scattered about these islands. There are still a number of sea and shore birds which should be taken here.

I take this opportunity to thank the authorities of the college for the generous assistance they have rendered in placing the records of the museum as well as the specimens at my disposal, and especially to Brother Mark and Brother Alfred am I indebted for much additional matter.

1. *Larus barrovianus*. POINT BARROW GULL.—[193, ♂. *Larus argentatus*.¹] So far as I am aware this is a record of the fifth bird which has been actually taken on the islands, though it is reported as having been seen on a number of occasions. However, the liability to confound one gull with another, especially among immature and winter birds seen on the wing, is very great and such evidence must be regarded as unsatisfactory. This bird, as well as the species following, were referred to *L. argentatus* in the museum catalogue. The specimen seems to be an immature winter bird, as there is considerable streaking and mottling with pale brown about the head and neck; the mantle is clouded and mottled with brown; the upper and under tail-coverts are marked with brown, while the tail-feathers are scarcely marked, being almost uniform with the primaries, which are just off from white. The mounted specimen measures: wing, 16.50; tail, 6.25; culmen, 2.10; tarsus, 2.60; midtoe, 2.75; depth of bill at base, .65; depth at gonys, .75.

2. *Larus californicus*. CALIFORNIA GULL.—[13, ♀. *Larus canus*. Mounted: Bro. Matthias.] This, the first specimen taken here, was secured probably on Maui and seems to correspond with the descriptions of the young in winter or immature birds. The head and neck are much streaked with grayish brown; the basal portion of the beak is lighter than the tip, which is blackish. There is some gray on the mantle and scapulars, but the whole back has a mottled appearance. The tail-coverts are much barred and the tail-feathers, brownish for the most part, have faint white tips. The primaries are umber brown with no white tips. The grayish wedges begin to show on the fourth primary and there is some indication of whitish on the tip. The underparts are brownish white without any distinct mottling. Wing, 16.50; tail, 6.40; tarsus, 2.25; midtoe and claw, 2.10; culmen, 2.10; depth of bill at gonys, .70. This is not an unexpected visitor since it frequents the greater part of the western coast of North America.

¹The names, numbers, and notes enclosed within brackets are taken from the Records of the College cabinets of St. Louis College, Honolulu, Island of Oahu, H. I.

3. *Larus delawarensis*. RING-BILLED GULL.—[197, ♂. Mtd. Bro. Matthias.] This is unmistakably an immature bird since the head is streaked with dusky brown and the gray of the mantle is more or less interrupted by the buffish white assumed by certain phases of the young.

The secondaries are gray at their bases with darker centers and pale borders. The primaries are black without white tips, while there still remain a few brown feathers about the bend of the wings. The tail-feathers are white basally with a dark brown subterminal bar followed by whitish tips. Bill lighter towards the base but crossed by a broad black band in the region of the gonys followed by a lighter tip. This bird inhabits the whole of North America, wintering along both coasts, hence it is not to be greatly wondered at that it should at intervals stray to these islands. The mounted bird measures: wing, 14.25; tarsus, 2.00; mid-toe and claw, 1.70; tail, 5.30; culmen, 1.50; depth of bill at gonys .50.

A second specimen of *Larus delawarensis* has been recently taken in the Hawaiian Islands. It was secured by Mr. G. P. Wilder of Honolulu on the coast of the island of Molokai, near the landing of Haunakakai, on the first of February, 1901, during the time of the kona (*i. e.* southerly) storm which prevailed for some three weeks. The bird (B. P. B. M. No. 9892) was kindly presented to the museum by Mr. Wilder. It seems to be an immature winter specimen with the head and neck white, somewhat streaked with brownish.

4. *Larus franklinii*. FRANKLIN GULL.—[195, ♂. Mtd. by Bro. Matthias.] This most interesting specimen appears without further note. It is the first record of *L. franklinii* in this portion of the ocean. The bird is almost if not quite mature and agrees closely with the winter phase of plumage, the head being flecked with white, showing the most white on the throat, mottling the plumbeous of the head and neck. The characteristic elongated white patches, one above, the other below, the eye, are conspicuous. The mantle is blue gray. Wing, 11.25; tail, 4.25; tarsus, 1.47; midtoe and claw, 1.50; culmen, 1.25; depth of bill at base, .30; depth at gonys, .32. The specimen differs from *L. philadelphia*, the Black-headed Gull which might be expected to stray down from the California coast, in its larger measurements, reddish feet and legs, darker mantle, totally different wing pattern, different coloration of the tail, etc. Thus the Hawaiian Islands may be added to the habitat of this species.

5. *Sterna lunata* Peale. GRAY WIDE-AWAKE.—[190, —?] From the record I copy the following note: "The bird belonged to Mr. J. J. Williams who, when it died, brought it to the college. There it was skinned and sent to Bro. Matthias at Wailuku, who mounted it." The specimen probably came from Laysan or some of the more western islands of the group.

6. *Diomedea nigripes*. BLACK-FOOTED ALBATROSS.—[40, ♀; 41, ♂.] The record states, "these two specimens were brought from Laysan Island by Mr. J. J. Williams." Brother Mark informs me that they kept the birds alive quite a time before they were finally dispatched and mounted by Bro. Matthias.

7. *Æstrelata hypoleuca* *Salvin.* BONIN PETREL. — A specimen in fine adult plumage and well mounted.

8. *Phaëthon lepturus* *Lacép. & Daudin.* WHITE-TAILED TROPIC BIRD. — [♂ and ♀ No. 2; Juv., No. —?; Tropic Bird; native name 'Koae.'] The three birds, two fine adults and the young, taken on Maui, show the following measurements:

Sex.	Length.	Wing.	Tail.	Cent. tail feathers.	Tarsus.	Toe.
♂	27.50	10.25	4.40	17.80	80.	1.40
♀	27.50	10.40	4.40	17.50	77.	1.42
Juv.	15.50	10.00	4.40	—	72.	1.35

9. *Anas wyvilliana* *ScL.* HAWAIIAN DUCK; KOLOA MAOLI. — [43, ♀, mounted.]

10. *Spatula clypeata.* SHOVELLER. — [36, ♂, mounted, Bro. Matthias; passes by the name of 'Broad-bill' or Shoveller.] So far as I am able to make out, this is typical *S. clypeata* in the fully adult plumage.

11. *Dafila acuta.* PINTAIL; KOLOA MAPU. — [37, ♀, 37a, ♂. It passes as Pintail or Sprigtail.]

12. *Charitonetta albeola.* BUFFLE-HEAD. — [No. —? ♀, mounted, Bro. Matthias.] The bird is in perfect winter plumage. This is the first record of the capture of this wide-ranging form in the Hawaiian Islands, though it is common enough along the west coast of America; breeding far north. The specimen was shot on the island of Maui.

13. *Nesochen sandvicensis* (*Vig.*). HAWAIIAN GOOSE; NENE. — [45, 189 ♀, mounted. The natives call the bird Nene.]

14. *Branta nigricans.* BLACK BRANT. — [35, ♀. Brant.] The records state: "This individual had for a number of months been the bane of the hunters that were wont to shoot the ducks that frequent the ponds in the neighborhood of Spreckelsville and Kahului. This goose made herself obnoxious by giving alarm at the least danger, thus causing the ducks to fly away. She was continually in their company." This specimen is in fully adult plumage and is the second to be taken here.

15. *Nycticorax nycticorax nævius.* BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON; 'AUKU KOHILI.' — [10, ♂, Speckled Heron; Hawaiians call it Auku. 29, ♀, caught in Ieo Valley, Maui, by Mr. Anton Foustino. The Hawaiian name is Auku kohili, when it is grown. 39, ♂.]

The young and adult of this form have long puzzled the Kanaka as well as the Haoli ornithologists. It is with some reluctance that they now admit that they are one and the same species.

16. *Proganula palmeri* *Froh.* LAYSAN RAIL. — [♀, 'Wingless' Rail.]

17. *Gallinula sandvicensis* *Streets.* HAWAIIAN GALLINULE; ALAE. — [18, ♂. Mud-hen.]

18. *Porphyrio melanotus* *Newt.* — [23, ♂. 'Sultana Bird.' Caught in Waialua, Oahu, by 'Kauka' Wilder.] This bird is said to have been introduced into the islands. I have not been able so far to find out who brought it here.

19. *Fulica alai* *Peale.* HAWAIIAN COOT; ALAE KEOKEO. — [32, ♂. Mud-hen.] This adult mounted specimen measures, wing, 7.10; tail, 1.50; tarsus, 1.80; midtoe and claw, 3.00; hindtoe, 1.00; bill, with shield, 2.00.

20. *Crymophilus fulicarius.* RED PHALAROPE. — This interesting specimen makes the third record of this species being taken on the group.

21. *Himantopus knudseni* *Stejn.* HAWAIIAN STILT; AEO. — [6, ♂. Stilted Plover.]

22. *Tringa acuminata* (*Horsf.*). SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER. — [194, ♀. Mounted by Mr. Newell.] This specimen, one in the Bishop Museum, and one listed by Dr. Schauinsland from Laysan, are the only ones that have come to notice, though it will without doubt be taken from time to time in company with the winter shore birds from the mainland. The specimen is an adult winter bird.

23. *Heteractitis incanus* (*Gmel.*). WANDERING TATLER; ULILI. — [26, ♀. Ulili. Caught at the Mailuku streams, Maui.]

24. *Limosa lapponica baueri* (*Naum.*). PACIFIC GODWIT. — Though the specimen is without data it was probably secured by Mr. Newell on Maui. A specimen in possession of Mr. Francis Gay, the one listed by Dr. Schauinsland from Laysan, and the present specimen furnish the basis on which the record of the species on the islands depends. The two which I have examined are winter visitors.

25. *Calidris arenaria.* SANDERLING; HUNAKAI. — [22, ♂, mounted by Bro. Matthias].

26. *Charadrius dominicus fulvus.* PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER; KOLEA. — [21, ♀; 34, ♂; 216, ♂. Hawaiians call this bird Kolea.] The specimens are in various seasonal plumages.

27. *Arenaria interpres.* TURNSTONE; AKEKEKE. — [33, ♀; 21, ♀. Turnstone. Hawaiians know it by the name of Ukeke, Ukekeke and Akekeke.]

28. *Lophortyx californica.* CALIFORNIA PARTRIDGE. — [185, ♂.] This species has been introduced from the mainland, and was formally, I am told, more abundant than of late years.

29. *Phasianus torquatus* *Gmel.* RING-NECK PHEASANT. — [185, ♂.] Introduced.

30. *Turtur chinensis* (*Scop.*). CHINESE TURTLE-DOVE. — [4, ♂. Singapore Dove.] Introduced.

31. *Buteo solitarius* *Peale.* HAWAIIAN HAWK; IO. — [188. This bird was shot in Kona, Hawaii, by Emil Wuske (a German taxidermist) and the skin preserved and sent to the college museum.] The bird is adult. Wing, 11.25; tail, 6.25; tarsus, 2.50; midtoe and claw, 1.75; culmen, 1.25.

32. *Asio accipitrinus.* SHORT-EARED OWL; PUEO. — [24, ♀. The Hawaiians call it Pueo.]

33. *Corvus hawaiiensis* Peale. HAWAIIAN CROW; ULALÁ.—[No.—? ♀, Hawaii, April 8, 1896; No.—? No data.] The two crows are mounted. From them I take the following measurements:

Sex.	Wing.	Tail.	Tarsus.	Mid-toe.	Culmen.	Depth of bill.
♀	13.00	8.50	2.15	2.30	2.45	1.15
—	13.10	8.50	2.45	2.20	2.00	1.00

34. *Acridotheres tristis* (Linn.). MINA.—[1 pair, mounted. This is a pest introduced by Dr. Hillebrand.] There are in all ten specimens of this species in the collection. The bird has a rather unenviable reputation in the islands. Experiments are under way at the Bishop Museum whereby it is hoped to establish more nearly the exact relation which the Mina bears to his friends and foes.

35. *Vestiaria coccinea* (Forster.). IWI.—[25, ♀.] This is a young bird and the change of plumage exhibited is very interesting. There is also an adult specimen in the collection from Maui.

36. *Himatione sanguinea* (Gmel.). APAPANE.—[No. 14, ♂. This bird is common all over the group and furnishes the crimson feathers for decorative purposes. It is also called Akapane.] This specimen is from Maui. The feathers, however, were not used nearly as extensively as were those of the previous species.

37. *Chlorodrepanis wilsoni* (Roths.). MAUI AMAKIHI.—[No. 17, ♂, No.—? Amakihi, *Drepanis flava*. By some collectors the name of the Amakihi is said to be *H. stejnegeri*]. I am not able to state how the name of the Kauai bird should have been given to the Maui bird. Perhaps 'off hand.'

38. *Oreomyza newtoni* (Roths.).—An adult bird with the breast bright lemon yellow, the upper parts olive green, and with a straight bill.

39. *Oreomyza flammea* (Wilson). KAKAWAHE.—A male bird in rich scarlet plumage. It probably came into the collection through Mr. Flood from Molokai, which, I believe, is the only place where it has been thus far taken.

40. *Hemignathus procerus* Cab. KAUI AKIALOA.—[No.—? Hanapepe Valley, Kauai.] This specimen seems to have come from Mr. Gay's collection.

41. *Hemignathus affinis* Roths.—[From Maui. ♀.]

42. *Heterorhynchus wilsoni* Roths.—[Nukupuu. Brilliant Half-bill. Kona, Hawaii, 4000–5000 ft.]

43. *Psittacirostra psittacea* Gmel. OU.—[Ou. Hawaii. *P. psittacea*, ♂.]

44. *Rhodacanthis palmeri* Roths.—An adult ♂.

45. *Moho nobilis* (Merrem.) O-O.—[O-O. Hawaii. *A. nobilis*, ♂.]