

N. Y., on Wednesday, November 27, 1901. This duck, which was brought to me for identification, was killed by my friend, Mr. Thomas Newbold Rhinelander, while shooting over decoys from an island in Bostwicks Pond. The bird was entirely alone, rather wild and a little shy of the decoys.

On Saturday night and all of Sunday preceding there had been a heavy northeast storm followed on Monday and Tuesday by high northwest wind with clearing weather, and on Wednesday (the day the duck was shot) very high northwest wind, freezing hard. There was an unusually large flight of American Widgeon (*Mareca americana*) during the two days immediately following the storm, many flocks numbering over one hundred birds. A number of American Widgeon were killed. An old resident of Gardiners Island informed Mr. Rhinelander that every year the Widgeon came to the Pond in large numbers but usually later in the winter. The other ducks noted in great numbers were Black Duck (*Anas obscura*) and Red-breasted Merganser (*Merganser serrator*). A great many Black Ducks were also killed. — NEWBOLD T. LAWRENCE, *New York City*.

The Masked Duck in Vermont. — Since the publication of my 'Review of Prof. Perkins's Vermont Birds,' Mr. Samuel Henshaw has called my attention to the fact that the specimen of *Nomonyx dominicus* (No. 482) in the collection of the Boston Society of Natural History has its right wing clipped, and was thus probably not a wild straggler in Vermont, but an escaped tame bird. This evidence is, I think, enough to expunge this record, which has held a place in North American faunal literature since 1858. — REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Longwood, Mass.*

Rare Ducks in Massachusetts. — While looking over recently an interesting local collection of birds, belonging to Mr. Arthur C. Dyke of Bridgewater, Mass., consisting of birds taken within the limits of that town, I came across two very rare species of ducks for this locality.

Chaulelasmus streperus. GADWALL. — There were two well-marked specimens of this species, in immature plumage, both of which were taken by Mr. Harry Sturtevant, on Oct. 18, 1901, at Nippenicket Pond in Bridgewater. They came in to live decoys at a gunning stand on this pond, controlled by Mr. Joseph E. Bassett and Mr. Sturtevant. The Gadwall is a very rare or accidental visitor in this State. So far as I know there is only one other record.

Somateria spectabilis. KING EIDER. — A young male of this species, in Mr. Dyke's collection, was taken by Mr. Joseph E. Bassett at his gunning stand, at Nippenicket Pond, on Oct. 21, 1899. The King Eider is taken occasionally on our coast where it occurs as a rare winter visitor, but has, I believe, never been taken in an inland pond. — A. C. BENT, *Taunton, Mass.*