

The bird is strikingly beautiful and its flesh, in the opinion of an epicure, was as fine as any duck he had ever eaten.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.*

A Correction.—In 'The Auk' for 1902, p. 76, I noted a European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) taken in North Carolina as probably the first to be recorded from the State. I find a record, however, which I previously overlooked, in the Bulletin of the Nuttall Club for 1879, p. 190, where the capture of two males is recorded, one on Dec. 17, 1878, and one on Jan. 17, 1879, by De L. Berier.—REGINALD HEBER HOWE, JR., *Concord, Mass.*

Wood Ibis in Montana.—It will be of interest to the readers of 'The Auk' to know that a specimen of the Wood Ibis, *Tantalus loculator* Linn., was taken in Montana early in October, 1902. The specimen was sent me from Madison Valley, Madison County, where it was shot by Mr. Bert Maynard, Ennis, Mont. While Mr. Maynard and two other men were in the barnyard feeding the pigs, the bird came and lit on the ground among the pigs and sheep and began feeding on the grain. It was reported to be either "very tame or very tired" and did not take flight even when closely approached.

The bird is young and undersized and was identified for me by Edgar A. Mearns, Major and Surgeon, U. S. A. The head and neck are not bald as in the adult, but are clothed with the plumage of the young.

The specimen is deposited in the collections of the Montana Agricultural College.—R. A. COOLEY, *Montana Agric. College, Bozeman, Mont.*

Woodcock Notes.—I have recently received several interesting dates regarding the occurrence of the American Woodcock (*Philohela minor*) in Massachusetts. Mr. Edward A. Brigham of Grafton, Mass., informs me that he shot a bird several years ago on Christmas Day which was in excellent condition. Also, that on March 7, 1901, he saw a bird of this species—the earliest spring date in his experience. On March 17, 1903, he put up a fine large bird at the same place. Deputy Thomas L. Burney of Lynn, Mass., informs me that he has a specimen of a Woodcock, which was picked up on Estey St., Lynn, Mass., by Mr. Geo. Woodman on Dec. 11, 1902, while still alive, but in an emaciated condition.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Boston, Mass.*

A Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*) Taken in the Mid-Pacific.—I was a passenger on the schooner 'Julia E. Whalen' returning from Marcus Island when, on August 28, 1902, in Long. 174° W., Lat. 33° N., a Turnstone came alongside and after a few moments dropped down on the deck. I saw the bird when it was quite a distance off, coming from a northerly direction and flying directly for the vessel. On its nearer approach it was not difficult to determine the species, as it made two or

three narrowing circles about the schooner preparatory to alighting, which it soon did in a dazed and somewhat exhausted condition. I caught the bird in my hands, and on examination I found it to be literally nothing but skin and bones. However, we were loath to take its life and accordingly improvised a cage on the bottom of which was placed a quantity of small pieces of rock from the ship's ballast. No sooner had our captive been placed in the cage than it began to flip these stones over with its beak, in search of its usual quarry. A dish containing salt water was placed within reach. After taking a few swallows, it proceeded to toss stones and loose bits into the receptacle with its beak, and then, for want of something better to do, it waded in and tossed them out again. Fresh water it did not seem to care for at all. We were at a loss to know what we could offer the bird from the ship's store that it would be liable to eat. Lobster, being shell-fish, was first tried. Of this the bird would only take bits in its bill when it would note an unusual flavor, and condemn it as food. Bits of oyster were tried and similarly rejected. Tinned clam, roast meat, and fresh fish were refused. Boiled rice and other cereals were offered without avail. Finally cockroaches, which were the only insect pest on shipboard, were suggested and tried. It was interesting to watch the Turnstone assault them. The bug, which is an adept at self concealment, would no sooner strike the bottom of the cage than it would scurry under a stone. The bright-eyed bird would give instant chase, roll the stone to one side and snap up the bug. Then beating it vigorously on the ground several times, it would lay it down and observe it narrowly. Taking it up again and giving it a final thrash or two it proceeded to gulp it down. Cockroaches were evidently not suitable food, for on the second morning after its capture the bird was found dead.

I made it into a skin, which bears a tag stating that it was an adult male, taken on the date and in the locality mentioned, in full autumn plumage, measuring 9.30 in. in length; wing, 6.05 in.; culmen, .85 in.; tarsus .95 in.

At the time the Turnstone came on board we were some 500 miles to the north and east of Midway Island, which was the probable destination of the bird (and where we had observed the same species only a few days previously). Assuming the bird had started from Alaska on its fall southerly migration it was at the time of its capture 1800 miles out from the nearest land, and must have been in continuous flight for more than 40 hours before it sighted our vessel. The fact that it was alone was unusual, as the species commonly migrates in small flocks, of which we saw quite a number while we were performing our journey of over 7000 miles in the Mid-Pacific.—WM. ALANSON BRYAN, *Bishop Museum, Honolulu, H. I.*

Nesting of the Goshawk in Southern New Hampshire.—On the 21st of July, 1902, I came upon a large *Accipiter* in a clearing in some woods