

GENERAL NOTES.

Leach's Petrel inland in Massachusetts.—A boy picked up a Leach's Petrel (*Oceanodroma leucorhoa*) on one of the streets in Clinton, Mass., Sept. 27, 1905. The bird was alive and apparently uninjured, but it refused to eat anything and died October 2. When it was skinned, a wound was found on the head, as if the bird had flown against a wire. This may explain why it was so easily caught, when apparently there was nothing the matter with it. The town of Clinton is thirty-five miles from the sea. The bird is now in the Thayer Museum.—JOHN E. THAYER, *Lancaster, Mass.*

The Name of the Western Sandpiper.—The Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes occidentalis*) was described in detail and with accuracy by Lawrence in 1864 (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci., 1864, p. 107), with the habitat, "Pacific Coast; California, Oregon."

Heteropoda mauri was named, but not described, by Bonaparte in 1838, in his 'Geographical and Comparative List of the Birds of Europe and North America' (p. 49). Its distribution is given as "South and Central parts [of North America]," in comparison with "America generally" for his *H. semipalmata* Wilson (= *pusilla* Linn.). The next reference to the species, by Bonaparte, is in the 'Compte Rendu' for 1856, p. 596, in a nominal list of the Scolopacidæ, where there is no description nor indication of locality beyond the inclusion of the species in the list of 'American' species, and the citation, in parenthesis, of "*cabanisi*, Licht." and "*semipalmata* Gundl."

In the same year, Gundlach (Journ. f. Orn., Nov. 1856, pp. 419, 420), apparently for the first time, described the species, basing his description on a series of 5 specimens shot in Cuba, in winter, from a flock of large birds. He distinguished two species of *Ereunetes* in Cuba, a small and a large one. The small one he at first considered to be a new species and described it, in 1850, in Lembeye's 'Aves Cuba,' as *Hemipalma minor*, but later, in 1856, he identified it with *Tringa semipalmata* Wilson, and adopted Bonaparte's name *Heteropoda mauri* for the larger one. He says the two forms are very similar in coloration, but that one is much larger than the other, with very much longer bill and tarsus. He expressed himself in this connection as not having the least doubt of their specific distinctness. He gave the length of the bill in three specimens of the large form as, respectively, one inch, eleven twelfths of an inch, and ten and one third twelfths, as against nine and three-fourths twelfths in the small form; while the length of the tarsus was as ten and three-fourths twelfths to ten twelfths. These measurements of *mauri* are fully up to those given for *occidentalis* by Ridgway, in Baird, Brewer and Ridgway's 'Water Birds of North America' (Vol. I, p. 207).