

The Little Blue Heron annually ascends the Delaware River in summer after the nesting season in Virginia and other southern States, often as far as Trenton, but it is of extremely rare occurrence in the spring, as already indicated, so much so, indeed, that I have been unable to find any spring record of it in the Delaware Valley during recent years. The bird seen by me was evidently a straggler from its breeding ground in the South, to which it probably went afterwards, as it was not seen again.—RICHARD F. MILLER, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

**A Woodcock Nesting in St. Louis, Missouri.**—On April 16, 1907, a workman on the grounds of Washington University, St. Louis, told me he had found the nest of a "Penguin." He had also observed the bird at close range, having lifted it off the nest. I examined the nest and eggshells (for the birds had hatched and left the nest by that date) and found them to be those of a Woodcock. The workman also confessed that I was right when shown a mounted specimen. The remarkable feature of this nest was that it was within fifty yards of a large dormitory in process of construction and in a much frequented part of the grounds. The nest was placed in a large patch of dried weeds and grasses.

Dr. Otto Widmann informs me that he started a Woodcock from his back-yard in a thickly settled portion of the city at noon on May 17th. Woodcock have been reported also from at least one other locality within the city limits.—ROGER N. BALDWIN, *St. Louis, Mo.*

**The Stilt Sandpiper in Massachusetts.**—On August 9, 1906, while gunning in Chatham, Mass., I shot a Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*). It was the only one we saw, and the local gunners said it was the first one that had been seen there for several years.—CHAUNCEY C. NASH, *Boston, Mass.*

**The White-rumped Sandpiper in Michigan.**—In 'The Auk,' XXIV, p. 140, Messrs. Swales and Taverner practically question my veracity regarding the White-rumped Sandpiper near Port Austin, Huron County, Michigan. Twice, during the last two years, I discussed this sandpiper with Mr. Taverner and on both occasions stated that I could see no reason why we should not meet with it here in Wayne County, as I found it of regular occurrence near Port Austin, and I predicted that some day we would secure specimens here. In view of the fact that this sandpiper was considered very rare in the State, it seems impossible that Mr. Taverner could have forgotten the above conversations, yet he says: "Mr. Wood's statement that this species is common in eastern Michigan we received with a good deal of surprise." Later, when my prediction came true, and both Mr. Taverner and myself took specimens, it seems to me that he might have accepted the fulfilment of my prognostication as a verification of my Port Austin observations. I mentioned the results of my Port Austin trips to Mr. Swales and clearly recollect speaking of this sandpiper.

In 'The Auk,' XXIV, p. 97, I illustrate my belief that the taking of a bird with the skin of the abdomen thickened and other indication of having recently bred was not positive proof that it did so in the locality where taken, and in 'The Auk,' XXIV, p. 145, Mr. Taverner considers this an "oblique criticism" of his record of the Savanna Sparrow breeding in St. Clair County ('The Auk,' XXII, p. 89). He is mistaken. I had no means of knowing that he met with the species in considerable numbers together with the above mentioned indications of having bred. It is certain he recorded the species as breeding on no such evidence. Here is his record: "June 18, 1904, near Pearl Beach, St. Clair Co., on the edge of the St. Clair Flats, I found a colony of these birds breeding. About a dozen birds were seen." Not only did he find no nests or young but did not even succeed in collecting an adult bird, according to Mr. Swales. The finding of the species in considerable numbers, etc., were the result of later investigation and have nothing to do with the above record.—J. CLAIRE WOOD, *Detroit, Michigan.*

**Probable Breeding of the Wandering Tattler in the Interior of Alaska.**—While collecting for the U. S. Biological Survey near the upper MacMillan River, Yukon Territory, I secured an immature example of the Wandering Tattler September 5, 1904. It was first observed on some gravel bars near the head of Russell Creek, a small tributary entering the MacMillan from the north near the main forks of the latter. Although apparently a migrating bird, it was so young that it seems probable it was hatched at least somewhere in the interior of northwest America. It was quite able to fly, but the neck and head were still downy.

Further evidence of the breeding of this species has been obtained recently by Charles Sheldon of New York, who spent the summer of 1906 in the Alaskan Range and about Mount McKinley, Alaska. Mr. Sheldon sends me the following extract from his notes taken July 28, 1906, while encamped at the foot of Peters Glacier, Mount McKinley:

"Raining very hard in the morning so we could not pack the horses and start. At 2 p. m., Jack Hayden and I started to climb the ridges and look for my knife which I lost yesterday, evidently while skinning a young marmot. We killed a cony and ground squirrel with the 22-rifle, also a large female marmot. Passing two little lakes buried in the gravel moraine of the Peters Glacier, I saw a pair of sandpipers. They appeared much disturbed. As we went to shoot one, they kept flying about and lighting on willow trees. After repeated shots, Hayden finally killed one. After each shot at the bird as it sat in the tree, it would fly in a short circle and come back and alight on the tree, always near one place. The other kept flying about near. It was clear they had young ones near. A short search failed to reveal them and we had not time to look very long."

The specimen was preserved and proved to be the Wandering Tattler (*Heteractitis incanus*). It is now in the collection of Dr. Leonard Sanford of New Haven.—WILFRED H. OSGOOD, *U. S. Biological Survey.*