

members of the Linnæan Society of New York. I am pleased to record that a nest of the American Coot containing eight eggs was discovered by Mr. Wilcox, thus establishing this bird as a nesting species within seven miles of New York City Hall.

In other respects conditions in the marsh-bird colony were found to be much the same this year as those described in the above mentioned article.—CLINTON G. ABBOTT, *New York City*.

The Stilt Sandpiper in Massachusetts.—While looking over the 'General Notes,' in the July issue of 'The Auk' I noticed a reference to the Stilt Sandpiper (*Micropalama himantopus*) in Massachusetts. I think the rarity of this species in this State has been greatly exaggerated in this note.

On September 20, 1903, while gunning at Chatham with a friend, a flock of about a dozen Stilt Sandpipers flew over us, and we each secured a pair. Since then both my brother and myself have seen numbers of these birds in the big market in Boston, which were shot along the south shore in the vicinity of Chatham and Monomoy.

Thus it seems to me that the Stilt Sandpiper is not so rare in Massachusetts as Mr. Nash believes and states it to be. I would like to hear from other Massachusetts men in regard to the prevalence of the Stilt Sandpiper in this State.—WINTHROP S. BROOKS, *Milton, Mass.*

The Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) on Long Island, N. Y.—Owing to the infrequent occurrence of this species on the Atlantic coast, I wish to record a young male in my collection taken at Rockaway Beach on Sept. 11, 1906.—J. A. WEBER, *New York City*.

American Goshawk (*Accipiter atricapillus*) versus Man and Barred Owl.—Two incidents, illustrating at once the ferocity and the "lack of judgment," so to say, of the Goshawk, have lately come to the writer's notice. About May 15, 1905, Mr. Ferdinand Lack, a farmer of Germanicus, Renfrew County, Ontario, had occasion to go into an old, little visited pasture on his farm, lying along an extensive piece of woods. Suddenly a large hawk swooped down upon him, flew around his head in most threatening and uncomfortable proximity, at the same time striking at him with wings and claws, as if it wanted to arrest his progress. In this the hawk was successful, the man could not proceed. The next day the farmer wanted to resume his interrupted inspection of the pasture, and thinking that the experience of the day before would probably remain unique, took no weapon of any kind along. But the same thing happened again. He had to turn back again, as he could hardly dodge the vicious onslaughts of the bird. The inspection of the meadow had to remain incompleated again. Once more the farmer sallied forth the following day, but this time in the company of his gun. But even the sight of this did not deter the bird from making his usual assault with the result, of course, that it was speedily put out of commission by a shot from the farmer's gun. He