probably occurs in small numbers during migrations...." This last is highly probable, as on this page Stone further states that it is not an uncommon transient on the New Jersey coast, for, like all of the Limicolæ that occur regularly in any numbers along this coast during migrations, their occurrence inland on the Delaware River and other streams is to be expected and looked for during and after severe and protracted northeast and southwest storms. This is a fact well known to sportsmen who take advantage of such occasions to go out after shore birds and other water fowls, and seldom do they return empty handed.

During the past several years I have devoted much of my time to the study of the water and shore birds, ferreting out the records of all that occur on the Delaware, but nowhere have I found any recent and reliable records of the occurrence of this species in this vicinity. There is a probability that gunners confuse it with the Pectoral Sandpiper, which it resembles, and this uncertainty of the identity of the species makes it almost impossible to ascertain anything definite regarding the bird's status from such sources.

The only records of the White-rumped Sandpiper's occurrence in this vicinity that I know of follow: —

A mounted bird in my collection — where it remained unidentified for several years — was picked up by my brother George E. Miller on October 7, 1901, at Port Richmond, this county, on the shore of a pond. The taxidermist who mounted it failed to ascertain the sex for me, but said it was very fat and in excellent condition. It is of course in fall or winter plumage.[1]

At this locality on October 10, 1906, my brother George shot one but ruined it entirely as a specimen with a heavy charge of No. 6 shot, that tore and mutilated the bird. It, too, was in fall plumage and also in fine condition.

These are the only records of the White-rumped Sandpiper that I can vouch for *now* as occurring here, but further investigation may bring to light several others of hazy authenticity at present.— RICHARD F. MILLER, *Frankford, Philadelphia, Pa.*

The Spruce Partridge in the White Mountains.— Late in August, 1908, on descending the Crawford bridle path on Mount Clinton, just below the timber line, I came upon a female Spruce Partridge (*Canachites canadensis canace*) with a single chick about one third the size of its mother. The older bird was very tame. I walked within four feet of her as she stood upon a little knoll of moss, while the chick made its way nervously off into the forest. She was also strikingly tranquil. Once in a while, with a low, guttural note, she would ruffle her plumage for a moment and look at me

[1] Since the foregoing was written the bird has been presented to Dr. Witmer Stone, of the Academy of Natural Sciences of this city, in which institution it can now be seen. R. F. M.

with mild anxiety. But throughout my stay near her she did not move ten feet from the spot where I first saw her.

On July 18, 1909, about a quarter of a mile below the timber line, I found a female Spruce Partridge lying in the same path. When I had approached within a distance of about twenty feet, she raised herself slightly and four young, looking like average domestic chicks on the day of their hatching, ran out into the path. To my surprise they soon took flight, and with very rapid wing strokes and with dangling legs they quickly disappeared amongst the trees. The mother bird was more agitated than the one I had seen the year before, but showed none of the excitement so familiar in the mother Ruffed Grouse. I repeatedly stroked her back with my umbrella, and she seemed absolutely indifferent to this treatment.

Since the Crawford bridle path is one of the most frequented of the White Mountain trails and is travelled every season by hundreds of tourists many of whom camp and too many of whom are ruthless destroyers of wild life, it is remarkable that the Spruce Partridge retains its racial tameness in this region and, indeed, that it survives near the path at all. — NATHAN CLIFFORD BROWN, *Portland, Maine.*

The Passenger Pigeon — Only One Pair Left.— Still clinging to my belief that the Passenger Pigeon will never again be seen in its wild state, I have felt a special interest in the remaining birds belonging to the Milwaukee and Cincinnati flocks which have been in confinement for many years. In my last remarks on this species (Auk, Vol. XXV, 1908, p. 18) I stated that the remnants of these flocks then numbered but seven birds (6 ♂, 1 ♀), with little or no chance of further reproduction. This number is now reduced to a single pair, and doubtless the months are numbered when this noble bird must be recorded as extinct.

Under date of August 9, 1909, Mr. A. E. Wiedring, who has had charge of the Milwaukee birds, writes that the remaining four males, which I saw in 1907, died between November, 1908, and February, 1909, and that he attributed the cause to tuberculosis. The specimens were not preserved, they being in very poor plumage and apparently going through a belated moult.

On July 29, 1909, Mr. S. A. Stephen, General Manager of the Cincinnati Zoölogical Company, wrote me that one of the two old males in the Gardens died in April, 1909, leaving one male, about twenty-four years old, and the female which came from Prof. Charles O. Whitman's flock in 1902, and now about thirteen years old, and unquestionably infertile. Mr. Stephen thought that the bird died simply of old age, there being no apparent signs of disease. The specimen was moulting and in too poor a condition to be saved.— RUTHVEN DEANE, *Chicago, Ill.*

The Black Gyrfalcon in Connecticut.— A fine female *Falco rusticolus obsoletus* was shot at Durham, Conn., Jan. 27, 1907, and sent to me and is