

to be determined at such time when the specimen could be sent to Washington for comparison with large series. A reference to this specimen appeared under the latter name in an 'Annotated List of the Water Birds of Weld, Morgan and Adams Counties, Colorado,' etc., by the writer in 'The Auk,' Vol. XXVI, No. 3, July, 1909, p. 280.

This specimen was recently sent to Washington and examined by Mr. Harry C. Oberholser, who pronounced it *Anas rubripes* (formerly *Anas obscura*), Black Duck. Believing that Dr. Dwight had, in 'The Auk,' October, 1909, demonstrated that there is no subspecies of the Black Duck, Mr. Oberholser made no attempt to refer it to any subspecies.

Upon its return I took the specimen, together with Coues's and Ridgway's manuals, to the Colorado Museum of Natural History and made a very careful comparison of my bird with the specimen there, which bears the name, "*Anas fulvigula maculosa*." The comparison convinced me that that specimen is also *Anas rubripes*. To confirm this opinion, I sent to Mr. Oberholser a careful description of the bird together with a drawing of its head showing patches of buff and black specking and streaking. In an answer just received from him he says, "I have not much doubt of its being *Anas rubripes*."

It has never to my knowledge been assumed that more than one form of the Black Duck exists in Colorado. That *Anas rubripes* is found here is now positive, and until some other form is proved to be co-existent, the Black Ducks of our State should be referred to this form.—A. H. FELGER, Denver, Col.

The Blue-winged Teal in Cuba in Summer.—I beg to report that on June 12, 1910, while collecting in a brackish lagoon named "Laguna de Manati," which lies on the bay about 4 leagues from the town of Guantanamo, I saw three Blue-winged Teal (*Querquedula discors*), two males and a female, swimming in the lagoon. Thinking they might be wounded birds and unable to fly I waded in after them and was very much surprised to see all of them take to wing and fly off, finally circling again over the place where I stood and lighting on the other side of the mangroves which surround the lagoon. I have not had time to return to the lagoon since, so do not know how long they remained there.—CHARLES T. RAMSDEN, Guantanamo, Cuba.

The Turnstone at Grosse Isle, Michigan.—In April last I had some dredging done along the river front bordering my place on Grosse Isle which resulted in a bank being thrown up along the shore for some distance and reaching well out into the river. Here it was washed down by the waves almost to the water's surface, forming, in some places, a rather muddy little flat. On May 29, 1910, I happened to see a flock of waders circle down to the end of the cut, and upon investigation found them to be a flock of thirty Turnstones (*Arenaria interpres morinella*), all in rather high plumage. They would bunch closely together near the water's edge,

and every now and then, without any apparent cause of alarm, would fly out over the water as one bird, make a wide circle, and invariably return to the same spot. This flock remained here until it was too dark to see them further, but was gone the next morning. While Turnstones are not uncommon on the shores of Lake Erie they seldom ascend the river. I am aware of but one prior record for the county.— B. H. SWALES, *Grosse Isle, Mich.*

A Massachusetts Record for the White-tailed Kite.— As this bird is rare east of the Mississippi River, and in fact is scarcely much more than a straggler even in that region, its appearance on the Atlantic coast as far north as New England is very extraordinary. On May 30 last I saw an adult bird at very close range on the island of Martha's Vineyard. It was so close and was watched with glasses for such a long time, both by myself and Mr. C. E. Brown of the Boston Society of Natural History, that there was not the slightest doubt in our minds as to its identity. We were spending several days on the island studying the birds and on one of our daily trips came upon this specimen very unexpectedly at a fresh meadow at the head of one of the ponds. When first seen he was sitting on a post not a hundred yards distant and we took him to be a marsh hawk, but on looking again before even raising our glasses, we saw that he was something very different. His white head and tail and more especially the black lesser wing coverts were very distinctive at that distance and immediately attracted our attention. The ashy blue back was what suggested an adult Marsh Hawk at first glance. From this distance we watched him for some time with our glasses and on a nearer approach he flew to another post, which he shortly abandoned to soar above the meadows at a height of a hundred or more feet. There were many Red-wing Blackbirds nesting in the bushes by the stream and they were so alarmed at his presence that they several times attacked him. We imagined he was looking for mice or perhaps frogs, as he apparently did not bother the birds. When he saw his prey below he would commence fluttering like a Sparrow Hawk, and then, on seeing his chance, he raised his wings above his back, so that they almost touched, whereupon he descended, gaining speed as he went. Instead of checking himself on nearing the ground, he seemed to dive headlong into the grass and bushes, remaining out of sight several seconds before reappearing. We were unable to make out if he had anything in his claws when he arose again. This process was repeated several times and was a remarkably interesting performance. Finally he lit on another post and I crawled towards him keeping close to the fence, so that I actually got within ten yards of him before he flew, getting a wonderful view. He arose from there very much startled at my presence, flew over the hills and disappeared. The following week, on our next trip, which we made in the hopes of again locating him, he was seen once more at long range, but except for these two times we never caught another glimpse of him. I believe this Kite has never before been seen in New England, but of