

The brain of this species is always infested with numerous cranial parasites (*Filaria ankingæ*), which are coiled up in the cerebellum. An adult male taken May 18, 1910, had ten of these parasites coiled up in the brain, while the gizzard contained great numbers of parasites. That these parasites infest the brain, as well as the gizzard, of the Water-Turkey, was pointed out by Dr. Jeffries Wyman¹ in a lengthy article as long ago as 1868. It would be exceedingly interesting to ascertain by what means these parasites are taken into the body and through what channels they make their way into the brain.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

A Nest of the Florida Gallinule.—In 1890 and 1891 the Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*) nested in the marsh at Branchport, N. Y., in large numbers; then several years of dry weather followed, the water receded, the ground was cultivated and the flags and reeds were replaced by crops of corn and cabbage, and in place of the Gallinules and Rails nesting in the reeds we had Spotted Sandpipers and Kildeers nesting among the corn rows.

High water came again in the spring of 1901 and the flats have been flooded each spring since until the marsh has gradually come back to her own with cat-tails, rushes, swamp grass and water lilies, and Soras, Virginia Rails and Least Bitterns are becoming more common each year.

I am quite sure that a Florida Gallinule nested here in 1909 as I saw one several times in June and a juvenile was shot here in September. Several times in May, 1910, when sweeping the marsh with my binoculars I saw a gallinule swimming about in an open space in the flags and in early June I flushed one from the thick flags but after a thorough search could not find the nest.

June 13, C. F. Stone, E. P. St. John and myself were searching the marsh for nests of rail and bittern and Mr. St. John found the gallinule's nest close by the place where I had flushed the gallinule. It was well hidden in a thick growth of sweet flag (*Acorus calamus*) and bulrushes (*Scirpus lacustris*) and was composed of dead flags woven around and supported by the last year's growth of flags. It contained ten eggs which appeared to be well along in incubation. The female must have just left the nest as the eggs were warm but we neither saw nor heard her while we were there. I got a good picture showing the nest and eggs at this time. I visited the nest many times after this but could not get a glimpse of the female.

June 26, there were but five eggs left in the nest, one with the chick exposed and struggling to free itself, but there were no other young ones visible.

Leaving the nest for about half an hour, I visited a nest of the American Bittern and exposed several plates on the five young bitterns. Returning to the gallinule's nest, I approached very carefully and found a downy young one sitting on the reeds where they had been broken down by my many visits. It sat there watching me, its eyes twinkling, starting up ner-

¹ Proc. Bost. Soc. Nat. Hist., XII, 1868, 100-104.

vously now and then, and at my first move it slid into the water and disappeared so suddenly that I was almost sure that it had dived, and I did not see it again. The chick I had left partly in the shell about one-half hour before was now free and struggling to rise. After placing my camera and when nearly ready to make the exposure another chick appeared at the edge of the nest, peeped faintly and was answered by the chick in the nest. Then it climbed up the side and into the nest, climbing over the newly hatched one and I got the picture showing the older one with its wing (showing both digits) resting on an egg and the younger one not yet dry.

I took the older one home with me and it seemed content to nestle in my hand or in a basket. One-half hour later I put it back into the nest and the younger one was not yet dry. They were both quite lively but did not attempt to leave the nest.

The young are born with their eyes open. The body is covered with a thick down, jet black and sooty black beneath; the head and wings are nearly naked; base of bill bright carmine; end of bill orange yellow; a tuft of down under the chin white, with a sprinkling of fine black, giving it a silvery appearance. The eyes show purplish through the skin. The outer digit of the wing is armed with a hooked spur or claw about one-eighth of an inch long, and I noticed a young one use the wing to pull itself up the side of the nest. The feet and legs are dull black.

June 28, there were but two eggs left in the nest and both were pipped. I caught a youngster just as it was getting away through the flags and it was the only one that I could find. I put it up on some bent over flags and got a good picture showing it nearly three-fourths life size with the bare wing and claw and the white beard prominent. It is almost impossible to catch a glimpse of a young one in the nest after they get dry as they leave immediately if they hear one coming, but after I had caught and put them back into the nest they remained still and I had no trouble to focus my camera and make exposures.

I heard the female about several times when I was at the nest but she did not show herself. I visited the nest several times after this date but saw no more of the family.—VERDI BURTCHE, *Branchport, N. Y.*

Wilson's Phalarope, A New Species for South Carolina.—On the 7th of September, 1910, while shooting on the eastern end of Sullivan's Island, near Charleston, South Carolina, I killed a Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*). The bird is a male in winter plumage. It had alighted with about fifteen Yellow-legs on the edge of a freshwater pool left by recent rains. The pool is among sand dunes a few hundred yards from the nearest house and near the car lines. Sullivan's is one of the sea islands and is thickly settled except where the bird was found. The specimen has been deposited in the Charleston Museum (Spec. No. 7249). This is the first record for the species in South Carolina, and, so far as I know, for the Atlantic coast south of New Jersey.—BURNHAM CHAMBERLAIN, *Charleston, S. C.*