

was observed to fly for several hundred yards, with characteristic speed and strength. That it was not a new comer is indicated by the fact that Mr. John Whitney, a man with a gunner's keen knowledge of the Anatinæ, had reported some weeks earlier, a Pintail wintering in the vicinity. That the bird was strong of wing, after, evidently, surviving the low temperature, of the previous week, which ranged each night below zero Fahrenheit, indicates that it had remained through choice, rather than necessity, and with the foregoing notes, shows that the Pintail occasionally spends at least a considerable part of the winter as far northeast as Portland, Maine.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, *Portland, Me.*

White-winged Scoter (*Oidemia deglandi*) in Minnesota.—Late in the Autumn of 1905 a local hunter of this city shot an adult male White-winged Scoter on Lake Minnetonka. I examined this duck in the flesh and tried to buy it but the owner preferred to keep it and had it mounted by the late Henry W. Howling of Minneapolis. It was subsequently destroyed by a house cat.

On Nov. 14, 1911, I secured from a local hunter an adult female in perfect plumage, shot on Lake Minnewashta some two miles distant from this village. This was the only one seen and was not near any other species of duck. Cold weather with snow-storms had prevailed for three days prior to its capture. It was fat and in good condition.—ALBERT LANO, *Excelsior, Minn.*

The Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) Wintering in New Jersey.—On January 21, 1912, an adult Bittern was brought to me alive by my nephew, Robert W. Moore. It had been caught by him the day previous while he was skating at Walker's Pond about a mile and a half southeast of Haddonfield, N. J. For several days the bird had been noted about the pond in a weakened condition. No wounds were discoverable, but its stomach was empty and, I have no doubt, it was weak from lack of food. Two days after it was captured it died in captivity and was mounted.

Since the 5th of January snow had covered the ground and the extraordinary continuance of the freezing weather from that date to the 20th must have made the securing of its chosen food impossible. Possibly the unusual period of warm weather, which lasted throughout the early winter to January 5, tempted this bird, as well as many other species which usually go south, to winter with us. The latest previous record for the state seems to have been November 19, 1878, at a point much farther south in Cape May Co., and the earliest spring record March 30, so that this instance may fairly be termed the first recorded case of this species wintering in the state.—ROBERT THOMAS MOORE, *Haddonfield, N. J.*

Recent Occurrence of the Egret (*Herodias egretta*) near Portland, Maine.—Although a few authentic records have been made of the occurrence in Maine of the Egret (*Herodias egretta*), the increasing scarcity of