

juv., Mississippi River near Fox Island, Missouri, September 15, 1900"; 16220 Coll. J. H. F. "Male, Warsaw Illinois, September 15, 1900." These are no doubt two of the three birds referred to by Widmann in 'Birds of Missouri' 1907, p. 26, but the bird is sufficiently rare in the United States to have the location of the specimens definitely recorded.—J. H. FLEMING, *Toronto, Ont.*

Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*) in Minnesota.—On Sept. 29, 1911, Mr. Dan. Schmid, keeper of Big Island Park, shot an adult male and a juvenal female from a flock of eight Caspian Terns on Lake Minnetonka. Both specimens were in good plumage, and were made into skins. The male is now in my collection. This is the first time that I have met with this species in this State.—ALBERT LANO, *Excelsior, Minnesota.*

The Brown Pelican on Long Island.—On May 26, 1912, we observed a Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus occidentalis*), feeding around the shoals at the western end of Oak Island beach. When first seen, at long range, we decided that it was a *stick, with a white top. Five minutes later, to our intense surprise, the stick flew away, and we knew at once it was a Brown Pelican. The great size, the long bill and pouch, the whitish crown and the slow sailing flight as it flapped away majestically over the water were unmistakable with the naked eye, not to mention 9 x binoculars. The bird settled on another sand-bar, and while preening its feathers, we approached to within 150 yards. For the next hour and a half the bird flew from bar to bar, as the tide rose, occasionally catching a fish, by scooping it up with its lower mandible, but for the most part sitting on a bar, preening its feathers, until the tide flushed it off, when it would fly to another. This is the second record for Long Island, as far as we have been able to discover.—JULIUS M. JOHNSON and LUDLOW GRISCOM, *New York City.*

An Additional Specimen of the Labrador Duck.—A short time ago, while examining the contents of a large case containing a miscellaneous collection of wild-fowl skins, stored in the museum of the Boston Society of Natural History, I came upon an unlabelled skin that I identified as a juvenal male *Camptorhynchus labradorius*. Dr. Glover M. Allen also examined the specimen and referred it to the same species.

Unfortunately there was no label whatsoever on the skin to give the slightest clue as to when or where it was taken, and there is no reference to any such bird in the Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History.

Mr. C. Emerson Brown, who has mounted the specimen, states that it was in very poor condition; being so grease-burned that on relaxing, it disintegrated into countless small fragments. Besides leaving large masses of fat adhering to the skin the preparator had neglected to clean the skull. Such carelessness would lead one to believe that the bird was taken long ago, at a time when neither collector nor recipient considered this species worthy of any especial attention.

The following description may be of interest, though lacking in certain details, as it was taken from the mounted bird making a proper examination of the wings, axillars, etc., impossible.

Head brownish gray, darker on crown. Chin and throat white, this area extending half way around the upper neck, its posterior margin being less clearly defined owing to some of the feathers having narrow ashy tips. Rest of neck ashy. Upper breast with a light ashy area about one and a quarter inches wide, very slightly washed with light brown, extending about three quarters around the body. Breast dark gray with tinge of light brown, the ends of the feathers being minutely dotted and streaked with black. Lower breast, sides, belly, and under tail-coverts brownish gray, lighter on the belly. Scapulars brownish gray, some of the feathers having narrow ashy tips. Long scapulars more pearly. Lesser wing-coverts ashy. Secondaries and ends of greater wing-coverts white. Primaries brownish black; alula blackish brown. Lower back and tail-coverts brownish gray. Tail blackish brown with a slight hoary tinge.

Measurements in inches as follows: culmen, 1.55; bill along gape, 2.25; tarsus, 1.55; middle toe, 2.15.

This specimen is now on exhibition, with another young male of more advanced plumage, in the museum of the Boston Society of Natural History, and is I believe the forty-fourth extant to date.—WINTHROP S. BROOKS, *Milton, Mass.*

Massachusetts Geese.—The past autumn of 1911 will long be remembered by the gunners along the track of Canada Geese in eastern Massachusetts, on account of the great abundance of these birds. The numbers seen and taken were extremely unusual, and probably have not been exceeded for a great many years.

It has been suggested that protection of fowl on the island of Anticosti may have had something to do with the present apparent increase of our coastal flight. Be that as it may, the next few years will show whether this present abundance is a real increase or only a temporary fluctuation.

In 1908 about 1450 geese were taken in eastern Massachusetts and in 1909 about 1900 (see *Auk* for July, 1910). This year I took the trouble to again estimate the total kill, though in 1910 I have no figures. The total arrived at for this past season of 1911 is 3518, or nearly twice as many as for 1909 and almost two and a half times as many as for 1908.

There were 2112 geese counted at Dedham and over 1000 of these lit in the pond.

The figures from which the 1911 totals were obtained are given below.

Duxbury Bay	800
Silver Lake	475
Accord Pond, Hingham	300
Great South Pond, Plymouth	225
John's Pond, Sandwich	185
Robbins Pond, Bridgewater	200