

GENERAL NOTES.

The Western Grebe in Ohio.—On Tuesday morning, October 28, 1913, while passing Lake Glacier in Mill Creek Park, near Youngstown, Ohio, I observed a Grebe on the lake, which I was satisfied was the Western Grebe, *Aechmophorus occidentalis*.

I consulted Mr. Volney Rogers, the Park Superintendent, and he agreed with me that the appearance of the Western Grebe in this locality was of sufficient importance to justify the taking of this bird, and on Thursday, October 30, I shot it.

The skin is now at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Pa.—GEO. L. FORDYCE, *Youngstown, Ohio*.

American Merganser (*Mergus americanus*) at Boston, Mass. in Midwinter.—On the Charles River, December 30, 1913, at 8.45 o'clock A. M. there appeared to be a movement towards the west, that is up the river, of American Mergansers. There was no wind, although the vane pointed west. Some skim ice in the river. I first saw eight drakes, and one female resting on the water near the edge of the ice, they soon took wing and passed by me. At this time there were three females diving near the stone wall, and two other females farther out. Then came a flock of twenty-two or three, about half and half males and females, they flew past me and were about thirty-five yards high, no notice was taken by those flying, or those resting on the water of each other. I also saw a few others resting on the water. During a period of fourteen years I have never seen so many of these birds in one day in Charles River. Those heretofore observed being in the spring where the ice breaks up, and the average seen during those fourteen years would not be more than a dozen or fifteen a year. On the afternoon of the above date at four and a quarter o'clock P. M. I saw a lone Ruddy Duck (*Erismatura jamaicensis*) in brown plumage.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

Two Unrecorded Specimens of the European Widgeon from Massachusetts.—As the European Widgeon (*Mareca penelope*) has so rarely been taken in Massachusetts I wish to record a specimen in my collection taken at Ipswich, on October 25, 1909. The bird, an immature male, was shot by a gunner and sent into the Boston markets where it was recognized by Mr. John H. Hardy, Jr., through whose kindness it came into my possession.

Mr. A. C. Bent permits me to record another specimen, in similar plumage taken at Bridgewater on November 9, 1903, by Mr. J. E. Bassett and now in his collection (No. 1886, Coll. A. C. Bent). This is the first record of the occurrence of the species in Bristol County.—F. SEYMOUR HERSEY, *Taunton, Mass.*