

GENERAL NOTES.

The Roseate Tern (*Sterna dougalli*) on Lake Michigan.—On August 14, 1916, while watching the large number of terns congregated on the extreme southern end of Lake Michigan near Millers, Ind., an individual was noticed standing alone at the water's edge, which on being examined with field glasses, looked different from either the Forster's or the Common Tern, both of which were there in abundance. The specimen was collected, and proved to be an adult male Roseate Tern, in full breeding plumage. While the beautiful rosy tint on the breast was evident enough with the specimen in hand, it was not noticed while watching the bird on the beach. While this appears to be the first Lake Michigan record, it is not unlikely that careful watching would show an occasional wanderer of this species among the large number of terns that frequent this locality in fall. The skin is in the Harris Extension collection.—H. L. STODDARD, *N. W. Harris Public School Extension of Field Museum, Chicago, Ill.*

Relationship of Florida Herons.—I note in the October number of 'The Auk' which has just come to hand, on page 431 the statement that *Ardea herodias wardi* and *Ardea herodias wurdemanni* are both to be considered phases of *Ardea herodias occidentalis*.

My experience with the birds on the Florida Keys for the last five years leads me to believe that this dictum should not be adopted.

The Great White Heron of the Keys is so entirely different in its habits and psychological manifestation from the Great Blue Heron which occupies the same region that no one who knows the two birds in the field would believe that they were the same. The Great White Heron is of more social habits than the Blue Heron. You frequently see small groups of this species in a confined space. For example: on Duck Key, a small island less than sixty yards across, I found four of the Great White Herons. Then again there is a breeding colony on a small island in the lagoon on Chase's Key, which is used as a breeding ground exclusively by the Great White Heron.

The Great Blue Heron is more sparingly represented, and lacks the social habits of the white bird; that is, when not on its breeding ground.

I think that Mr. Oberholser's dictum is the correct one, and we should reserve the name *Ardea occidentalis* for the Great White Heron of the Florida Keys, and *Ardea herodias wardi* for the Great Blue Heron of that region.—PAUL BARTSCH, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

A New Record for New England.—This museum has obtained a specimen of the Mountain Plover (*Podasocys montanus* (Townsend)) taken at Chatham, Mass. It is an immature male and was shot on October 28 by Mr. A. E. Crowell. This bird was associated with some Black-breasted Plovers at the time.—W. SPRAGUE BROOKS, *Boston Society of Natural History.*