

have erred in over emphasizing his work, without specifying a type for the new name found necessary. It is however, evident from the same paper, that I had for study a specimen of the bird. Since Naumann did not indicate a type for his figure and description, and since a new name had to be given the bird to which his description applies, I consider the specimen which I had in hand, really the convincing element in the consideration, (number 86019 of the United States National Museum, from Spitzbergen) to be the type of *Fratercula arctica naumanni*.—ARTHUR H. NORTON, Portland, Maine.

The Possibility of *Puffinus bermudæ* Nichols & Mowbray in the North Atlantic.—An old Shearwater skin presented by G. A. Boardman in 1867 to the Boston Society of Natural History, now M. C. Z. 73408, taken on the coast of Maine or New Brunswick by Dresser, was originally determined as *Puffinus puffinus* (Brünnich). Recently Mr. R. C. Murphy compared this specimen with the type of *P. f. bermudæ* Nichols & Mowbray, and found it very similar.

It therefore seems reasonable to suspect that former records of the Manx Shearwater in the northwest Atlantic might really have been this Bermuda form.—W. SPRAGUE BROOKS, *Boston Society of Natural History*.

Sooty Tern in New Jersey.—On September 7, 1916, I obtained an adult female Sooty Tern (*Sterna fuscata*) at Corson's Inlet, Cape May County, New Jersey. This specimen, which is in perfect adult plumage, was resting in the long grass in the sand dunes, a very short distance back from the beach. It was very tame and allowed me to get quite close before flushing. This specimen is now No. 2817 of my collection.—WHARTON HUBER, *Gwynedd Valley, Pa.*

Coloration of Down in Adult Ducks.—It is not impossible that the writer has been alone in his ignorance of the fact that in a goodly number of ducks there is a great difference in the color of the down during the winter and the summer months. My observations of summer down have been taken entirely from the nests accompanying sets of eggs in my collection, which would seem beyond a doubt to furnish correct data. These nests contained eggs only of the duck under discussion, which makes it almost a certainty that the down could have come from no other species (I specify this for the reason that it is not uncommon in some localities for two or more species of ducks to lay in the same nest). Down from winter females has been used in all comparisons, as it seems unlikely that the males would contribute to the nesting material.

The down seen in nests of the Mallard (*Anas boschas*) found in April and May is many shades darker than the down on birds of this species shot in October, November, and December. In the winter it is a very light brownish gray, while in the summer it is changed to a dark, sooty brown.