

marshy ground and the car was stopped at a distance from the birds which we estimated as 300 yards. After watching them for a time through the field glasses Mr. Kleberg fired a shot and the birds both rose. He told me that Whooping Cranes have been coming to Laguna Larga every winter for sixteen years, and that eight is the largest number he has ever known to be there at one time. The same general statement was borne out by other local people who are acquainted with the section.

In this connection I might add that I have recently received from Miss E. Margaret Estlin of Victoria, B. C., a statement to the effect that she saw two Whooping Cranes in northern Saskatchewan in the autumn of 1921. She also forwarded photographs of a living immature Whooping Crane which she states she made in the same general neighborhood "a few years ago."—T. GILBERT PEARSON, *New York*.

Florida caerulea in Saratoga County, N. Y.—On April 13, 1922, a Little Blue Heron (blue phase) adult was seen feeding along the abandoned Champlain Canal one mile north of Waterford, N. Y. Waterford is in the south-east corner of Saratoga County, at the junction of the Mohawk and Hudson Rivers, 160 miles north of New York City. A two day period of very warm weather terminated April 11 with intense thunderstorms and gales.

The bird was very tame and allowed me to approach within forty feet, once at 11.30 A. M. and again at 2 P. M. Each time it was in fine light, even the plumes on head and upper tail coverts showing distinctly. The color, size, length of neck, manner of flight (as a Great Blue Heron), etc., identifying it beyond question as I am very familiar with this heron in the Florida Everglades.

Mr. S. C. Bishop, N. Y. State Zoologist, and Mr. H. P. Chrisp of Albany came to see it the next day but the bird had disappeared.—EDGAR BEDELL, *Waterford, N. Y.*

Greater Yellow-legs Records at Elizabeth, N. J.—In response to the request of Mr. J. T. Nichols in February, 1922, 'Bird Lore,' for details concerning my statement in October, 1922, 'Auk' that at least two Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) remained here throughout the 1921 breeding season, I submit the following: The Greater Yellow-legs, according to intermittent observations by the writer during the past twenty-five years, is normally absent from the local salt marshes from June 15 to July 15. Between these dates in 1921, I found one or two birds of the species on each trip to a certain locality on the marshes—a cluster of ponds about one mile inland from the shore of Newark Bay. Selected dates of record follow:

June 11—Two birds, calling.

June 18 to 24—Species frequently heard calling about the same ponds by local hunter, but locality not visited by me.

June 25—Two birds, same locality, calling. I quote from my notes of that date: "Two Greater Yellow-legs were flushed from One Tree Pond on the 25th. One returned repeatedly, was very noisy, and did a spectacular tumble while in flight."

July 2—Two birds, same locality, calling.

July 9—One bird, same locality, calling.

The presumption seems to me reasonable that the straggling birds lingering here up to June 25 and those seen in same locality July 2 were identical in view of: (1) the previous complete absence (according to my records) of the species here June 15 to July 15; (2) the presence of two birds in the same locality whenever that locality was visited by me from June 11 to July 2, 1921; (3) the presence of one bird, in the same locality July 9; (4) the total absence of the species from other normally more favored feeding grounds on the marsh from May 21 to mid-July 1921. Since the birds were heard calling and were well seen there was no chance of confusion in identification.—CHARLES A. URNER, *Elizabeth, N. J.*

A Remarkable Specimen of the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*).—A superb adult female of this rare bird in full nuptial plumage that I secured in May on Long Island, S. C., has the black band on the chest completely coalesced measuring half an inch in width. This band is as wide as on any female Semipalmated Plover (*C. semipalmatus*) in nuptial plumage, but, of course, is not as solidly black basally, the feathers being basally white and apically black as is usual in this species.

If there are other specimens in collections similar to the bird I describe I should like to hear of them, as this plumage for the female is very rare.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

Summer Shore Birds.—In the April 'Auk' E. L. Poole records an assemblage of northern breeding Limicoline birds at islands of the Virginia coast, which, for the dates when the recorded observations were made, namely June 30 to July 2, 1921, is truly remarkable. The species noted are as follows: Wilson's Snipe, Dowitcher, Knot, Pectoral Sandpiper, White-rumped Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Red-backed Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Sanderling, Black-bellied Plover, Semipalmated Plover and Turnstone.

Let us for a moment suppose we are modifying the given status of these species in a Virginia list, to fit this observation. The simplest way to dispose of it would be to label them all off hand "non breeders sometimes summer." However, the writer's studies of shore-bird movements (mostly on Long Island, N. Y.) lead him to look at the matter differently. Distances mean so little to a migrating shore-bird that the difference of latitude between New York and Virginia is almost negligible, except as it affects climate. In the present connection, the most important difference probably is that, according to available evidence, these birds are more likely