

took advantage of this fact to observe them with my glasses set for twelve power magnification. I took this precaution for I wished to be certain of my identification. Later, after I had returned to Syracuse, I checked their characteristics with a birdskin of this species from the collection of the New York State College of Forestry at Syracuse University.

On July 23, I returned to the locality with the intention of photographing the eggs, but I found that they had hatched in the interim. After a careful search I saw two of the young birds running around the beach with the adults. I again checked up my identification to make doubly sure, and made a futile attempt to round up one of the young birds. They were too lively for me, however, and I gave up the attempt, for my time was limited.

Later in the day, July 23, we found a nesting colony of Black Terns on this same sandspit. We observed six or seven pairs at least; we found two nests each containing the characteristic three eggs, and we located two of the downy young swimming around among the sedgelike plants which grew in the shallow water at that point. We were fiercely assailed by the adults which often swooped within three feet of our heads in their desperate defense of the eggs. When we withdrew, the adults alighted on the nests and screamed after us.

Some of the adults were beginning to show the change to winter plumage, while others showed little if any white on the head and neck.

These birds showed almost no fear of us even when they were hunting some distance from their nests. Often they would wing their way within forty or fifty feet of us as we sat on the beach near the water's edge. The other water birds which we saw along the beach gave us a wide berth, swinging well out over the water to do so.—FRANKLIN H. MAY, 730 Livingston Ave., Syracuse, N. Y.

**Breeding of Piping Plover in Lake Co., Ohio.**—During the summer of 1917, I found a pair of Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) breeding on a stretch of sandy beach at Lake Erie, and four young were successfully reared. This record was published in 'Wilson Bulletin' for September of that year. A search of the place during the five following seasons failed, for no birds spent the summer with us. However, on July 4, 1923, I again found a pair of birds with downy young running about; two of which were successfully raised to adult size.—E. A. DOOLITTLE, Painesville, Ohio.

**Occurrence of Buff-breasted Sandpiper in Lake Co., Ohio.**—A lone Buff-breasted Sandpiper (*Tryngites subruficollis*) was found on the beach on August 19, 1923, in company with a bunch of sixteen Sanderlings and several small "Peeps." Visiting the place again next day I found all had departed but the Buff-breasted. Two opportunities of observation, with the absurd tameness of the bird, enabled me to note all characteristics of plumage and action. The bird would allow an approach to within eight or ten feet and then preferred to run a short distance, feeding the while,

rather than to take flight; and when purposely flushed for flight observations would return to the same place. The greenish legs, finely streaked crown, buffy breast and sides of head, lack of streak through eyes, and long pointed wings reaching beyond tail were all good field marks while the bird was at rest; while the lack of wing bars and rounded tail were striking when the bird took flight. However I was most interested in the bird's actions as it fed. One could gather from them that this was a bird of the fields rather than the beach. The large feet were lifted high at each step, as though stepping over and through the grass; and the legs, bent at the joints of tarsus and tibia, gave a Meadowlark-like crouch to his gait, as though moving and pushing aside the grass blades as he advanced. Also, every few feet he would straighten up as though peering above grass blades, and it was then I could see the decided resemblance, in the long neck and attitude, to a small Upland Plover. Another habit noted was that upon first being approached he would squat on the sand until he had looked me over, but would then get up and as often feed towards me as away from me. Besides being the only record of the species for Lake County of which I am aware, it is the twenty-fifth species of Shore Bird I have found on this particular stretch of beach.—E. A. DOOLITTLE, *Painesville, Ohio*.

**Whooping Crane in North Dakota.**—In the 'Saturday Evening Post,' July 14, 1923, p. 48, an article was published by Hal G. Everts, entitled 'The Last Straggler.'

This article gives the records of several Whooping Cranes (*Grus americana*) and graphically describes the death and disposition of what he calls "the last of its line," taken in Kansas in the fall of 1922.

Now, like many others, Mr. Everts was a little previous in his statement for my friend, Mr. Henry V. Williams, a taxidermist and ornithologist of many years' experience in the Red River Valley of North Dakota, saw, in the spring of 1923, two flocks of this rare species, one near Edinburg, Walsh County, North Dakota, with eight birds, and another flock of twelve in a slough farther west. Mr. Williams and his son have the finest collection of mounted birds of North Dakota in that state. Years ago they took Whooping Cranes, one of which I saw mounted in their shop in 1920. Mr. Williams published the above recent account in the 'Walsh County Record', published at Grafton, North Dakota, July 11, 1923. We were glad to hear of so many still alive. I saw a flock of seven near Medina, North Dakota, in 1920.—NORMAN A. WOOD, *Curator of Birds, Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan*.

**Wood Ibis in New Jersey Again.**—Last year it was my privilege to report a single Wood Ibis (*Mycteria americana*) sailing over Cape May Point, N. J., the first record for the state. Little did I think that the species would occur there again the next year but such is the case. On July 7, 1923, my friend Mr. David G. Baird informed me that he had seen two large birds with black and white wings which he thought must be