

Returning to the Soo Sept. 3, we stopped at Carp River and at its mouth saw one Caspian Tern with two Common Terns. Carp River is about ten miles from Brevort Lake across the St. Ignace Peninsula and empties into Lake Huron.—M. J. MAGEE, *Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.*

Note on the Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*).—Any evidence of the breeding of this vanishing bird on our coast is worth recording. On February 7, 1923, Mr. Allen T. Moses of North Head, Grand Manan, New Brunswick, shot one at that place and reported that a flock of about two hundred wintered there and that he believed they bred at White Horse Island at the mouth of Passamaquoddy Bay, north of Campobello Island. In July we were informed by a Passamaquoddy Indian that Cormorants still nested at this island although much less in numbers than in former days. Without being prompted, he said there were two kinds there, one having a white patch on the flank.

On July 25, 1923, we visited this island and found the sea cliffs painted white with Cormorant droppings, and we saw about twenty-five Cormorants. All flew away but two before we could identify them. One of these was plainly a Common Cormorant as it showed the white feathers on the lower sides of the face although no white spot on the flank was visible. The other bird was of the same size but devoid of markings.

The island is about three hundred yards long and half as broad, with cliffs of basaltic rock seventy or a hundred feet high, well adapted on the sea side for nests as there is a succession of shelves and flat-topped columns. When we climbed about the cliffs, an adult Cormorant, apparently without markings, flew near us, and, later, an immature bird flew out of a cleft. Its breast was turned away so that we were unable to determine the species.

No Cormorant nests were found, although a few sticks and weed-stalks in places suggested nests of former years. A cloud of two or three hundred Herring Gulls rose over the island on our approach, but only two or three young Gulls on an outlying rock were to be seen. There were nesting depressions in the turf of the summit of the island, but no eggs or young. It was evident that the island had been repeatedly raided for eggs and young birds.

The keeper at Head Harbor Light, Campobello, some two miles to the south, told us that over a hundred Cormorants spent the winter about the island. These, like the birds at Grand Manan, were probably *carbo*, for *auritus* is not found in winter north of New Jersey.

It is well known that sea birds often return for some years to a former breeding place, even when persecution has prevented their nesting. Steps are being taken to guard this island, and it is to be hoped that the Common Cormorant may in time nest there undisturbed.—ROBIE W. TUFTS, *Wolfville, Nova Scotia* and CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, *Boston, Mass.*

A Florida Flamingo.—One day in company with Mr. Charles Dury I was looking through the interesting collection of birds in the Cuvier

Club, Cincinnati, Ohio, and saw a Flamingo. The record is No. 439 *Phoenicopterus ruber*, male; shot in Volusia County, Florida; bought at New Smyrna; presented by John S. Baker.

Mr. Dury, the president of the Cincinnati Society of Natural History, a competent ornithologist, who is in charge of the collections—and has been for almost, if not quite, half a century—was asked concerning the specimen. He said he recalled the circumstances. Mr. Baker was one of what the catalogue calls the "Florida party," the others being Col. L. A. Harris, H. C. Culbertson, and Mr. Dury. The record shows they made a collecting trip to Florida in 1875 and presented the specimens to the club. Mr. Baker bought the Flamingo from a man at New Smyrna, Volusia County, Florida, who killed it in that vicinity. Mr. Dury, himself, mounted it.

New Smyrna having been a vacation spot for me, I knew several old citizens who it occurred to me might know something of the history of the specimen. I wrote Dr. L. B. Bouchelle, of New Smyrna, a good friend, to ascertain what, if anything, he could learn about it.

He replied that Captain Frank Sams, his father-in-law, one of the pioneers of that place, who has since died, remembered a Flamingo killed near there a number of years ago by Captain R. S. Sheldon, his brother-in-law. He also remembered Mr. Baker and the others of the "Florida party."

Later, when at New Smyrna, I interviewed Captain Sheldon, a very interesting man, now well past "three score and ten" years. He said the Flamingo was killed at Shipyard Island, in the North Indian River, about one and one-fourth miles north of Turtle Mound. John Loud was with him. Loud died November 8, 1868. "I worked five or six hours to get it. I skinned and stuffed it, having learned from an Englishman, named Peters, who came up here before the Civil War, first with Sir Francis Sykes, and after the war with Lord Parker. He collected birds. It is the only Flamingo I ever saw in Florida. When running the blockade during the Civil War our headquarters was at Green Turtle Key in the Bahamas. There was one breeding colony about ten miles from there, so I came to know them very well. The young are good eating, as I know from having eaten them."

Both Captain Sams and Captain Sheldon knew the coast of Florida thoroughly. The former at one time was inspector of lighthouses.

Mr. Dury has a specimen in his own collection which he bought. The only record is "Killed in So. Florida (Keys ?)."

The following are some Florida records of the Flamingo, mainly supplied by Mr. A. H. Howell, of the U. S. Biological Survey.

Audubon in the 'Ornithological Biography,' V, p. 255 (1839) describes them as common at Pensacola in May, 1832.

George Wuerdemann, in the 'Smithsonian Report' for 1860, p. 426, has a letter dated Indian Key, Fla., August 27, 1857 in which he says that he is sending six skins to the Institute. The National Museum has had six

specimens from Indian Key collected by Wuerdemann, three of which are dated 1857 and are probably the ones above referred to.

D. D. Stone has an article in the 'Ornithologist and Oölogist,' X, p. 158, (1885) in which he mentions four captured alive at Warrington, Fla. in 1881.

Reginald Heber Howe, in 'Contributions to N. A. Ornithology,' I, p. 27, (1902) describes a flock of 500-1000 seen at Cape Sable, from which one specimen was secured.

C. P. Ryman in 'The Auk,' XXV, p. 313, (1908) records the taking of a specimen at Lake Worth in May, 1905.

Gen. George A. McCall describes the killing of four birds, old and young, on Anclote Key, thirty miles above the entrance to Hillsborough Bay, in 1827 and later [1828?], in his autobiographical volume, 'Letters from the Frontier,' (1868). (See Cassinia, 1912, p. 2.)—AMOS W. BUTLER, *Indianapolis, Ind.*

American Egret in Albany Co., N. Y.—Two years ago it was my privilege to find and report the American Egret (*Casmerodius egretta*) in Albany County, N. Y. On July 25, 1923 it was my pleasure to find another specimen at the same place as that previously reported, the Watervliet Reservoir about thirteen miles west of the city of Albany. On this date, however, the Egret was accompanied by another bird apparently perfectly white, of similar appearance but about half its size.

Closer examination through an 8 power binocular revealed the fact that the legs and feet were greenish yellow, the tip of the bill was blackish and the tips of the primaries in flight were slaty in color, thus identifying it as the immature of the Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerula*). The birds kept rather closely together feeding at the edge of sandy bars. The Egret occasionally emitted a guttural croak resembling slightly the quack of the Black Duck; the Little Blue Heron, however, was entirely silent. Both birds remained at the reservoir for several days; the Egret, however, was seen alone on the occasion of the last few visits. Attempts to secure photographs were not very successful.

Other unusual records for the season include the Arctic Three-toed Woodpecker (*Picoides arcticus*) observed at close range with binoculars April 27, 1923, and the White-winged Crossbill (*Loxia leucoptera*) April 5, 1923. The lateness of the date for the Woodpecker seemed to indicate that it might possibly stay to breed, and there was no evidence that it had been injured; but, it was not seen again.—BARNARD S. BRONSON, *State College for Teachers, Albany, N. Y.*

American Egret in New Hampshire.—On August 6, 1923, while driving along the Ocean Boulevard through Rye, New Hampshire, I saw an American Egret (*Casmerodius egretta*) in a fresh-water marsh. He was shy and could not be closely approached, but his large size, pure white color, bright yellow bill, and black legs made the identification definite.