

about four hundred miles from the nearest salt water. The specimen, which was in the best of condition, is now in the Canadian Geological Survey collection, Victoria Memorial Museum, Ottawa and was entered under Accession No. 2124.—A L. GORMLEY, *Arnprior, Ont., Canada.*

**Status of the Black and Mottled Ducks in Colorado.**—Dr. W. H. Bergtold ('Auk', XLI, p. 338) reports a Black Duck (*Anas rubripes*), from Longmont, Colorado, taken December 9, 1923. Another example, taken at Windsor, Colorado, December 9, 1921, has recently been donated to the University of Colorado Museum by Mr. Geo. E. Osterhout. It was labelled *Anas fulvigula maculosa*, but I decided it was *rubripes* and Dr. Bergtold has confirmed that conclusion. This revives interest in the old question of the Black and Mottled Ducks in Colorado.

In his 1873 list of Colorado birds Mr. Ridgway credited *rubripes* to Colorado, but not *maculosa*. The latest edition of the A. O. U. 'Check-List' does the same. Cooke ('Birds of Colorado,' 1897, p. 53) records one *rubripes* from Loveland, but evidently did not see the specimen. In the Second Appendix, 1900, he changed it to *maculosa*, saying "although no specimens of this Duck [*maculosa*] taken in Colorado has been examined by the writer, yet there can be no doubt that the three specimens reported [as *rubripes*] really belong to this subspecies [*maculosa*]." Felger ('Auk,' XXVI, 1909, p. 280) accepted Cooke's last guess, which was evidently based purely upon geographic grounds, and records two others as *maculosa*, one from Longmont, 1895, the other from Loveland, 1904. The same writer ('Auk,' XXVII, 1910, pp. 451-452) discusses the subject more fully and records another example, a mounted male, in the Colorado Museum of Natural History, taken by W. N. W. Blayney at Loveland, Colorado, 1907. He also says that his 1904 Loveland specimen, a female, had since been identified as *rubripes* by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser. He thereupon compared his female specimen with the Blayney male in the Colorado Museum of Natural History and concluded that the latter was also *rubripes*. However, Hersey ('Auk,' XXVIII, 1911, p. 490) declares that what is evidently the same Blayney specimen has been identified as *maculosa* by both Oberholser and Cooke, the latter declaring it to be the first sure record of *maculosa* for Colorado. Felger ('Univ. Colo. Studies,' VII, 1910, p. 133) reports "black mallards" in White River Valley, but they were not seen by him and no attempt was made to give specific identification. Sclater ('A History of the Birds of Colorado,' 1912, p. 38) says he has examined the Blayney specimen and agrees with Cooke in calling it *maculosa*.

From this review it seems quite probable that both forms occur rarely in Colorado. While it is impossible now to check up all former records, it is quite possible to get more records of one or both forms by watching the bags of the many hunters.—JUNIOUS HENDERSON, *Boulder, Colo.*

**Blue-winged Teal Breeding on Long Island—Supplement.**—A noted ornithologist has written to me in friendly criticism of my note in 'The Auk' on the Blue-winged Teal breeding on Long Island. As these

birds were killed by a poacher, he suggests that I publish a note explaining this matter. I am giving herewith a copy of my letter to him.

"I appreciate your feeling in regard the killing of the Blue-winged Teals. It was a great disappointment to me that these birds were destroyed, as they were not killed by me. They were shot by a clam-digger who had run up the creek in his boat. It was a regret that I could not punish him by law. As it was we came to blows over the dead Teals and I took the birds from him by force. This party was a stranger and has never returned here, for very good reason.

"I had been studying these Teals in the marsh for several weeks previous to that date and they were very tame. I have never in my life killed a Duck after the shooting season has closed and never shoot them for sport in winter. As a total I have not killed over one dozen Ducks in the past twenty years.

"In my note to 'The Auk' I mentioned only the breeding record, feeling that general interest ended there."

The above record is evidence that I have not severely depleted the ranks of our wild-fowl.—ROY LATHAM, *Orient, L. I.*

**Ring-necked Duck in Delaware County, Pennsylvania.**—On March 30, 1924 I saw a Ring-necked Duck (*Marila collaris*) on a small pond about 300 x 150 feet in Griffiths Park, Lansdowne, Pa. I watched it for half an hour at a distance of twenty feet and farther away through glasses. It was a full plumaged male and the light band over the bill and the definite, though not conspicuous, collar, as well as the dusky or dirty white sides as distinct from the white of the sides next to the black breast were clearly seen. He would dive and remain under water for some time and once raised up and flapped his wings. The species is decidedly uncommon here and the observation seems worthy of record.—ASA P. WAY, *Lansdowne, Pa.*

**Snow Geese at Boonton, N. J.**—On April 6, 1924, Mr. Frank E. Watson and I observed a flock of 37 Snow Geese—presumably the Greater (*Chen hyperborea nivalis*)—over the Jersey City Reservoir, at Boonton, Morris County, New Jersey. The flock evidently had just arisen from the water and passed nearly over our heads, well within gunshot, thus giving us an excellent view. They then headed directly north.

This reservoir, approximately three miles long and a mile wide, during migrations attracts large numbers of Anatidae, 17 species having been observed there by the writer.—T. DONALD CARTER, *American Museum of Natural History.*

**Least Bittern in the Orient Region, Long Island.**—The Least Bittern (*Ixobrychus exilis*) was first located in our region at East Marion by Mrs. Harold P. French during the winter of 1921. This was by the discovery of an old nest. The following summer, 1922, the bird was observed there by Mrs. French. In June of the same year the nest with eggs was