

quickly to float again she returned once more to approach us, almost as close as the first time, and once more to wheel and drag herself pitifully and noisily away. Now she edged reluctantly toward her mate who during the entire performance had been swimming nervously about in full view fifteen to twenty yards beyond her. The danger which made the female frantic and foolhardy had inspired the drake too, but never beyond the point of caution. Together the pair swam around a point of land, conveniently near and a few minutes later when I followed them—as they doubtless planned that I should—both birds were gone and though we hunted the ground thoroughly, as we thought, and, concealed in an alder clump, waited and watched for an hour, the rest of the day's record was a blank.

In reading E. A. Samuel's account of ways of the mother Merganser in Bent's 'Life Histories' the full humor of the situation dawned upon me and I realized that I and my dog, whose praises I am always ready to sing, had been out-witted by an old trick cleverly executed. For the purpose of a breeding record however, my evidence was just as convincing to me as if I had seen the downy balls swimming with their mother instead of being concealed under the stream bank as they undoubtedly were. Presumably the pair had nested in one of the large sycamores, showing many likely holes, which overhung the creek at the point where I first saw the female.

I visited the spot four times during the following three weeks and saw the male on May 29, while an interested farmer told me of seeing a pair of flying Ducks on June 13, and of observing a pair of "wild ducks" about the place in the summer of 1923.—HERBERT H. BECK, *Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.*

King Eider on Long Island in June.—The King Eider (*Somateria spectabilis*) is a regular winter visitor to the eastern end of Long Island,—usually rare, but occasionally fairly common,—the extreme migration dates being Nov. 1 to April 27. There are, however, only two definite records for it in the western and central parts of the island,—namely, Amityville, November 13, (Dutcher's Long Island Notes) and Mastic, early October, 1912, (specimen taken by W. S. Dana).

It was therefore with great interest that Mr. Ord Myers and the writer observed an immature male of this species at Long Beach, Nassau County, on June 1, 1924. The bird was swimming with a flock of about twenty White-winged and Surf Scoters (*Oidemia deglandi* and *O. perspicillata*) a short distance off-shore and was under observation through 8X and 16X glasses twice, for periods of about fifteen minutes each. We noted the size, which was slightly greater than that of the White-winged Scoters, the rounded head, which was distinctly gray on the crown and brownish on the sides, with a prolongation of the maxilla backward on each side toward the eye, the brownish upper neck, wings and lower back, the creamy white lower neck and breast, and the distinct, rounded, white patch on either side of the rump.

The bird dove twice while under observation. The rest of the time it spent swimming about on the outside of the flock of Scoters, often preening its feathers.

Mr. Charles H. Rogers, of Princeton University, who also happened to be at Long Beach, saw the bird too, and the next day he and I compared it carefully with skins of the King Eider in the American Museum of Natural History,—the comparison leaving no doubt in our minds as to the accuracy of our identification.

On June 8, 1924, the writer was again at Long Beach and saw the same bird (presumably) associating with a flock of about fifty White-winged and Surf Scoters.—E. R. P. JANVRIN, M.D., 515 Park Avenue, New York City.

Flamingoes (*Phoenicopterus ruber*) in Florida.—In January, 1924, while collecting about Cape Sable for the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, I learned of a recent occurrence of the Flamingo in Florida waters that seems worthy of record. Three birds were seen about the middle of December, 1923, on Flamingo Bank in Florida Bay by Coleman Irwin, of Flamingo.

Mr. Irwin is one of two brothers, resident for many years in the Cape Sable region, who make their living by fishing and hunting, and both are thoroughly familiar with the more conspicuous birds of that country. One served as my guide and camp-man for a while and my association with both left me with only the highest regard for their trustworthiness. Furthermore both recognize instantly the Roseate Spoonbill, the only other large pink bird possible in that locality, so I have accepted the record without reservation.

Under "General Notes" in the January, 1924, 'Auk' (Vol. XLI, pp. 150-152), Amos W. Butler gives a summary of Florida records of the Flamingo, but omits perhaps the most interesting accounts of the bird in that state. Scott (*Ibid.*, Vol. VI, p. 13, 1889, and Vol. XII, pp. 221-226, 1890) records the killing of four in Tampa Bay in 1885, and in February, 1890, secured three adult females from a large flock of at least a thousand birds in one of three bays about 16 to 18 miles east of Cape Sable. The condition of the ovaries of these birds and the reports of local men led Scott to believe that the flock bred in the vicinity. Dutcher reported in 'The Auk' for January, 1903 (Vol. XX, p. 119), that a similar flock existed in the same region but advanced no circumstantial evidence in support of this bare statement. On the other hand, Henry W. Fowler reporting (*Ibid.*, Vol. XXIII, p. 397, 1906) on the birds observed between Cape Sable and the Marquesas Keys during June, 1904, states that the Flamingo "appeared to be either very rare or probably exterminated. None seemed to have been noted during the last ten years." It is true that Fowler traveled in the wrong direction to encounter Dutcher's flock but the fishermen of Florida Bay, from whom Fowler evidently drew his information, move about freely over the region and it seems reasonable to suppose that