

At first thought, I imagined it to be a Clapper Rail's nest, but on seeing the bird I quickly identified it as a King Rail (*Rallus elegans*). Its general resemblance to the Virginia Rail, together with the cinnamon neck and breast, and large size, left no doubt in my mind as to the identification.

The nest was found on May 24, when it contained thirteen eggs. On the next visit, one week later, fourteen eggs were observed. On June 14, I commenced to take pictures, and was quite surprised at the bird's fearlessness. Seven eggs hatched between June 16 and 20. My next trip to the nest was on the 21st, when I found seven eggs remaining, all punctured and the contents drained by some animal. The nest and remaining eggs are now in the Brooklyn Museum, where I deposited them.

It is interesting to note that the nest of a Virginia Rail was found not sixty yards from that of the King Rail. Marsh Wrens and Red-winged Blackbirds were also to be found nesting in close proximity to the nest.—WM. J. HAMILTON JR., *Ithaca, New York*.

Nesting of Great Blue Heron in Boothbay, Maine.—In the spring of 1924, Mr. Frederic O. Whitman of Boothbay, Maine, found a nesting colony of Great Blue Herons (*Ardea herodias herodias*) which had been reported to us the year before, and for which we had unsuccessfully hunted late in the summer of 1923, after the birds had left.

The heronry is located in the woods between the Knickerbocker ponds and the Backriver branch of the Sheepscot river, and is about two hundred yards westward from the shore of the northern end of the ponds. Mr. Whitman counted sixty-five nests of which surely forty were occupied in 1924. The bulky structures are all in hardwood trees, most of them in beeches, a few in the maples, and one in a birch. Not a single one was found in the pines or other coniferous trees, although the heronry was in their very midst. On June 6, Mr. Whitman counted sixty-four young birds peering over the edges of the nests. On July 26, when he and I visited the site together, nearly all the immature herons could fly, and with the old birds would leave the nests with much flapping and squawking when they became aware of our presence. But there were others not yet ready to trust to their wings. These stood motionless on the nests or branches, craning their necks, evidently much disturbed. We found on the ground one whole nest that had fallen, and with it the remains of three young birds. More remains of young ones were found here and there under the trees. The ground in the vicinity of the nests was white with the droppings, and the odor of this and of disgorged fish was far from agreeable.

In view of the fact that such large colonies of Great Blue Herons are no longer common in Maine, I believe this one to be of interest.—THOMAS E. PENARD, *Arlington, Mass.*

Little Blue Heron in Massachusetts.—On the morning of September 4, 1924, I saw an immature Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea*) in Hingham, Massachusetts, in the small and shallow brackish pond which has