

species at almost the same place. As we had high-powered field glasses, and the bird was swimming and diving very close in, in fact too close to stay out of sight under the water very long at a time, I was certain of its identity.—EARLE R. GREENE, 201 Adair Bldg., Jacksonville, Fla.

Hudsonian Curlew near Youngstown, Ohio.—On May 24, 1925, while looking for shore-birds on the flats adjoining Lake Milton, I noticed a flock of large birds standing at the water's-edge as I rounded a curve in the shore-line. With the aid of a 45x field telescope I was able to identify them as Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*), having carefully taken note of the long curved bill, head markings, etc. There were eleven of these birds in the flock. Upon consulting Fuertes' plates I was confirmed in my identification. The Curlews were at first observed at a distance of about fifty feet but I was able to get a little closer before they finally took flight.

Mr. Geo. L. Fordyce informs me that this is the first record of the Hudsonian Curlew in Mahoning County. Along Lake Erie, I am told by Dr. Lynds Jones, it is seen occasionally as a spring migrant.—BERTRAM F. AVERBACH, Youngstown, Ohio.

Avocet at Wallop's Island, Va.—On September, 1925, at Wallop's Island, five miles south of Chincoteague, Va., I secured two Avocets (*Recurvirostra americana*) from a flock of four. They were young of the year.—B. H. WARREN, Chincoteague, Va.

Swimming and Diving Activity of the Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*).—Upon several occasions within the writer's experience, downy young of the Spotted Sandpiper, when closely pursued, have taken to the water, where they swam lightly although not very rapidly in making an escape. The young birds have been observed swimming thus so many times that the habit is doubtless well known among ornithologists, although but little seems to have been written about it.

It is possibly not so well known, however, that the normal, uninjured adult Sandpiper may not only swim but even dive to some depth in escaping an enemy. During mid-summer of 1916, at Sheldrake Point, Lake Cayuga, New York, an adult Spotted Sandpiper was observed characteristically feeding along the shore at a point where the bottom sloped so steeply that the water was rather deep a few feet out. The bird in its quest for food passed out of view behind a piece of driftwood. Hoping to see it better I slipped quietly up behind the log, and was surprised that, upon looking carefully, I could not locate the bird. In carelessly stepping upon the log I must have frightened the Sandpiper, which (as I subsequently determined) had been probing in the mud under a small projecting root. When the bird first flushed, its wings were fully spread, and it was headed for the open water of the lake. Upon seeing me towering above it, however, it turned its course abruptly downward, and without the slightest hesitation

flew straight into the water. With wings fully outspread and legs kicking it made its way rather slowly along the sandy bottom, until it was about eight feet out, in water over three feet deep. I pursued the bird, thinking at the time, strangely enough, that it was wounded. When I reached for it, it tried to go farther but apparently could not. Bubbles of air came from its mouth, and air bubbles were plainly seen clinging to the plumage of its back. At the time it was captured its mouth, eyes, and wings were all open, under water, and it remained at the bottom seemingly without difficulty. As it lay in my hands above water it seemed tired for a second or two, and then, without warning, shook itself a little, leaped into the air, and with loud, clear whistles, circled off a few inches above the water to a distant point of land.

At the time of this first unusual experience I was not in a position to know how often Sandpipers employ such means of escape. And since then not until May 7, 1925, at Chambersburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, did I see the action repeated. On this date I purposely came upon a Spotted Sandpiper suddenly and witnessed it employ almost the identical tactics in making an effective escape. At this time, however, the bird dove into running water, swam with wings and feet rapidly moving for about twenty feet, and emerged down stream, still flying, and made off in its characteristic way, only a few inches above the water.

If one is to observe this strange performance he must contrive to come upon the Sandpiper very suddenly. Rapid approach in the open always causes the bird to leave in its accustomed, usually deliberate, manner. I have never known the Sandpipers to escape the attack of a Hawk by diving, although it is reasonable to suppose that they sometimes do so.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pa.*

Diving of the Spotted Sandpiper.—A number of records of diving of the Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularia*) have been published in 'The Auk' and elsewhere but Mr. Sutton's note adds materially to our knowledge of the matter. One instance that came under my observation may be worth recording. The bird in this case was flying across a deep pond near Cape May, N. J., September 5, 1921, and was struck at by a Pigeon Hawk. It dove instantly, but bobbed up at once, resting on the water nearly a minute before taking wing, the Hawk having passed on over the pond.—WITMER STONE, *Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia.*

Boreal Limicolae Summering in Florida.—Observations along the east coast of central Florida indicate that there is a not inconsiderable summer population of Limicoline birds which normally should be nidificating far to the north.

One expects to find an occasional straggler, out of season, as for instance, a Lesser Scaup (*Marila affinis*) which I picked up July 5, 1924, in an emaciated condition on the gulf coast of Wakulla County; or a lame adult Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) which was seen several times at Mosquito Inlet in the summer of 1923.