

**White-fronted Geese in Virginia.**—On November 23, 1925, Mr. William E. Ross of Elizabeth, N. J., killed two immature White-fronted Geese (*Anser albifrons gambeli*) not far from Tully William's dock, Red-head Bay, a part of Back Bay, Virginia. Mr. Ross presented me with the two birds, and they were turned over to the American Museum of Natural History, New York.—CHARLES A. URNER, 613 Cleveland Ave., Elizabeth, N. J.

**Whistling Swan Wintering at Branchport, N. Y.**—Before it was fairly light, the morning of January 15, 1924, I noticed a large bird in the lake at the north end of the sand-bar. In the half-light it appeared to be dark colored and I took it to be a Canada Goose. It was still there at noon and one look with my binoculars showed it to be a Whistling Swan (*Cygnus columbianus*). There were fourteen Black Ducks feeding near it and when they flew out a few rods, the Swan followed them.

In the afternoon it was back again in the shallow water and I went down to the shore, where, screened by the cat-tails, I watched it as long as I cared to stay. Sometimes floating and sometimes walking it moved back and forth in the shallow water, head and neck submerged a good share of the time as it probed the bottom. Then it came out of the water and up on the bar where it gave itself a shake and raised and closed its wings. I noted the black legs and bill and in certain lights was sure that I could see the yellow spot at the base of the bill. It was soiled white in color, with head and neck decidedly brownish, darker on the head.

January 16 it was not seen, but the morning of the 17th it was in its usual place, at the north end of the bar, and it remained there all day. The morning of the 18th it was feeding in company with a flock of twenty-four Black Ducks. It moved about very slowly, much of the time with head and neck submerged, searching the bottom. When looking about it carried its head high with neck stretched up vertically, and it is only when it carries its head to the water that the neck shows the graceful curves.

January 20. While watching the Swan to-day, when the sun struck it just right I was sure that I could see the yellow spot at the base of the bill. The bill also showed some flesh color.

January 30. The Swan has now been here fifteen days and always in the shallow water at the north end of the bar and around the mouth of the inlet. To-day, when I went down, there was a flock of American Mergansers at the mouth of the inlet with which the Swan was keeping close company. It always seemed to enjoy the company of Ducks of any species that happened in its neighborhood. When I came out in sight, the Mergansers flew off down the lake, and the Swan away out in the lake. Later in the day it was close in shore, watching a flock of Pheasants feeding where I had dumped a bag of mill screenings at the edge of the water.

The morning of February 9 was still, with thermometer at 10° F., ice

forming rapidly all over the lake and small areas of open water here and there; and in one of these was the Swan. My work claimed me for an hour, and when I returned the open water had all been closed with ice and the Swan was gone. I went down to the lake and out on the bar to the channel, which never freezes entirely over even in the very coldest weather, and here I found eight Mergansers. The open water was about a half mile away and there at the edge of the ice was a flock of ten or twelve Black Ducks and farther out was the Swan.

Continued cold weather closed the lake to the end of Bluff Point, eight miles, and I did not expect to again see the Swan; however, by February 13, south winds had broken the ice, and driven it back to within a mile of the head of the lake and opened up a strip along the bar connecting with the channel and here in the afternoon I found it.

February 17. The lake was all closed again with ice, excepting the channel in which were the Swan, several American Mergansers and Black Ducks, three Goldeneyes and three Canvasbacks.

The bottom here in the channel is washed gravel and is practically devoid of vegetation. When here the Swan was probing the bottom nearly all of the time and on examination I found it to be covered with bowl-like depressions about 18 inches to 2 feet across and 4 to 6 inches in depth. There were none of these depressions where the water was more than two feet deep and I was unable to determine what the Swan was searching for.

Every day it spent the time probing the bottom or floating on the channel, leaving only when I approached to put out more feed or when the fishermen who were on the ice came close. One day my boy went out towards it and it climbed out on the ice and walked away stopping every time the boy stopped.

March 2, I took down feed for two days and left a bag full on the ice at the edge of the water. The ducks, as soon as I got a little distance away, came back and lit in the water but the Swan seemed to be afraid of the bag of feed and after circling around several times flew away down the lake. Later in the day I removed the bag of feed but it did not return until nearly dark the next day! On this same day (March 3) a Swan was seen on Canadaigua Lake at Canandaigua, 25 miles northwest of here which I believe was this same bird.

After this we had considerable soft weather, March 18 being bright and thawing nearly all day, snow all gone except for patches here and there in the shade. There was much more open water in the channel where were now 43 Black Ducks, a Red-breasted Merganser, 10 Canvasbacks, 2 American Goldeneyes, 2 Canada Geese and the Swan. I was quite close before the Swan and the Black Ducks left, all flying off down the lake. The Swan turned and came back passing directly over me as a last farewell for it turned again and far down the lake alighted with the Ducks and was not seen afterwards.

It was here from January 15 to March 18, more than two months and in all but the first three weeks, had had a restricted and very poor feeding ground and must have led a rather precarious existence, though it always seemed capable of strong and sustained flight.—VERDI BURTON, *Branchport, N. Y.*

**Colorado Ducks.**—Through the kindness of Mr. Victor Kennicott of Denver, I was able to examine a Scoter which was killed at the Kennicott Duck Club, near Longmont, Colorado, on October 18, 1925; which proved to be, on examination, a female American Scoter (*Oidemia americana*). The species is rare enough in this state to warrant putting the specimen on record: There have been but five previous records of this bird in Colorado, so far as I can learn.

Mr. Merritt W. Gano, Jr., of Denver, Colorado, thoughtfully saved for me a fine male American Golden-eye (*Glaucionetta clangula americana*) which he had collected at the Milton Duck Club, Platteville, Colorado, on December 4, 1925. The prevailing Golden-eye in Colorado is, in my experience, the Barrow's, in fact it is so many years since I have seen what I take to be the American Golden-eye, in the state, that I had become doubtful of its actual occurrence here. This bird was shot from a flock of Golden-eyes, so it is possible that others of the same kind may have been in the flock.—W. H. BERGTOLD, *Denver, Colo.*

**Wood Ibis and Egret in Hopkins Co., Ky.**—On August 24, 1925, I received word from a friend that some large white birds with black wings, which he called "White Storks," had been seen near Madisonville. Desiring to identify them, I made a trip to the place mentioned: A large swamp filled with dead trees near a large creek. But I saw no "storks." On my return, however, I passed through a small swampy woods, part of which consisted of a pond, dry at one end, studded thickly with rotting tree stumps. Above the water, sitting on one of these snags, I found three immature Wood Ibises (*Mycteria americana*). Needless to say, the scene was beautiful. I attempted to get a specimen but failed.

Between August 26 and 31, flocks of this species were seen on the swamp, and one specimen, a fine immature male, was obtained on August 30. This bird had thirty-eight fish about one and one-half inches long in its gullet.

On a small pond about a hundred yards from a farm house west of Madisonville, I found these birds again. They fed there daily between August 25 and September 2, in the early morning. On account of the extreme drought of the summer, the pond was nearly dry, and it was an easy matter for the Ibises to get fish. They were last seen there September 2.

On August 30, at this same pond, I saw an adult Egret (*Casmerodius egretta*). The bird was in fine plumage considering the season of the year.

So far as I can find, these are the only records for the two species in Hopkins County. There are four records for *Casmerodius egretta* in the