

## GENERAL NOTES

**Brünnich's Murre and Goshawk in Saratoga Co., N. Y.**—On December 15, 1926, Mr. George Riley of Saratoga Lake, N. Y. while fox hunting in the town of Wilton, Saratoga County, flushed a Goshawk (*Astur atricapillus atricapillus*), from a swamp near Kendrick Hill. Noticing that it was carrying another bird, Mr. Riley fired bringing both to the ground. The prey of the Goshawk proved to be a specimen of Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia lomvia*), in good plumage except where partially plucked on the breast.

Through the interest of Messrs. Edwin Corning and Benjamin W. Arnold, of Albany, the specimens were secured and presented to the New York State Museum.—SHERMAN C. BISHOP, *New York State Museum*.

**Sabine's Gull in Ohio.**—A male specimen of Sabine's Gull (*Xema sabinei*), in immature plumage, was taken on Licking Reservoir, Fairfield County, Ohio, October 9, 1926, by Milton B. Trautman, and is preserved in the Wheaton Club collection in the Ohio State Museum at Columbus.

The species is admitted as an Ohio bird on the strength of a Gull taken many years ago in Cleveland Harbor by R. K. Winslow and kept in the museum of the Ohio Medical College until destroyed by vermin previous to 1882. Trautman's record is of interest aside from furnishing knowledge of the recent occurrence of the species in Ohio as it furnishes the farthest south locality we have noted for the species on the American continent east of the Mississippi River.—JAMES S. HINE, *Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio*.

**Ivory Gull in Manitoba.**—On December 24, 1926, I received from Mr. T. H. P. Lamb of Moose Lake, Manitoba, a bird in the flesh, with the following data: Shot Dec. 11, 1926, at Egg Lake, n. of Moose Lake; apparently a freak gull. Name of sender Wm. McKenzie."

The "freak" was a beautiful adult female Ivory Gull (*Pagophila alba*) and constitutes the second record of the species for Manitoba. There was nothing in the stomach and the bird seemed to be somewhat emaciated. It measured: length 17 in., spread 40., folded wing 12.5, tail 5.10, bill 1.25, tarsus 1.37.

The first record is based on a mounted specimen in the collection of the late E. W. Darbey and is a juvenile in the mottled gray and white plumage. It was taken at Woodland, Manitoba, December 27, 1915.—B. W. CARTWRIGHT, *355 Woodlawn St., Deer Lodge, Winnipeg, Man.*

**Kittiwake Gull in the Caribbean Sea.**—On March 8, 1926, off the east coast of Jamaica but out of sight of land, an immature Kittiwake (*Rissa tridactyla*) followed the steamer *Ruapehu* for over an hour, and I had excellent views of it. Though it still had the juvenal plumage of the wings

and tail its bill was dull yellow and its feet black, whilst instead of a black band on the back of the neck it had only some dusky streaks. This plumage is not usually described in text-books so that I had thought that my notes indicated a bird which had acquired the adult colouring of bill and feet prematurely. On reference to Dr. Dwight's recent monograph of the Gulls of the World (Bull. Amer. Mus. of Nat. Hist., vol. LII, p. 320), I find this plumage described as the "First Nuptial Plumage" from a specimen obtained on Long Island on March 17. I feel confident therefore that the bird observed by me was a Kittiwake though there appears to be no record of the occurrence of this species in the Bahamas, West Indies or Caribbean Sea.—W. B. ALEXANDER, *Croydon, England*.

**Nesting of the Herring Gull and some other birds on Lake Erie Islands.**—On June 10, 1926 in the company of Prof. F. H. Herrick and Mr. Fuller of the Cleveland Museum, I visited some of the islands of Lake Erie.

Our primary object was to determine if the Bald Eagles nested on any of the islands except Kelley's.

We first visited Kelley's Island and found that but one pair of the Eagles had nested there, the other nest being deserted. The only other nest found was on Rattlesnake Isl. Here the birds last year deserted a perfectly good nest and built a new one in another tree some hundred feet away but in a higher position.

In a small swamp on Kelley's Island were found a number of other nests, some of interest. A very tame King Rail was found, or he found us for he had no idea of flying but only of clucking loudly for us to go away. After some further exploring we found a nest of a King Rail, possibly his, but away across the swamp. There were nine eggs in the nest, which was built in a clump of bur-reed, and made of the same material. The water about it was about 14 inches deep. Later, in July, I visited the nest and found that the eggs had apparently all hatched but one.

In this marsh we found five sites of what looked like Black Tern nests. Only one of these was in use but there were six birds flying resentfully about us. This one nest had one egg on the 11th and a second on the 12th.

The female was tame enough to permit us to make some beautiful pictures of her at the nest.

We then secured a motor boat and visited Starve Island, some miles up the Lake. Here on a small reef 100 by 500 feet we found fifteen or eighteen hundred of the Common Tern nesting. It is so interesting a colony and so beautiful an islet that it should be preserved as a bird sanctuary. Our next islands were also the home of the Common Tern. Some of the nest sites make most beautiful pictures, for these little Devonian limestone islands are ledged along the shore, and the ledges are the home of fern, columbine and pentstemon, as well as the domicile of the graceful Terns, sitting on their eggs and outlined against the lichens and ferns above the water, making a picture indeed.