

S.S. *Ruapehu* our official noon position was 14° 26' S., 100° 40' W. Reference to a map will show that this is about half way between Easter Island and the Galapagos group and roughly 1,000 miles from each and from the coast of Peru. Greatly to my surprise I saw a small bird on the water ahead of the ship about 4:30 P.M. and it remained settled on the calm sea till we were quite close to it. It then rose and flew straight away over the water to the northward with rapid wing-strokes. Before this I had seen through my 8 power glasses that it was a Phalarope with a conspicuous dark band on the side of the head continued down the side of the neck. This appears to identify it beyond a doubt as a Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) in spring plumage. This species is known to winter "from central Chile and central Argentina south to the Falkland Islands" so that this observation extends its winter range to the westward over the South Pacific, unless the bird's presence in the locality was purely accidental. This is perhaps suggested by the fact that it was solitary.—W. B. ALEXANDER, *Croydon, England*.

**Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) in North Carolina.**—Late on the afternoon of November 11, 1926, a strange bird was seen on the edge of a field near Siler City, Chatham County, North Carolina. The next morning, Mr. Edward T. Noel, of Siler City, on whose land the bird had been seen, took the field with one of his tenants to try to secure the stranger, which they succeeded in doing.

Three days later, Mr. Noel brought the bird to me for identification, and as a donation to the Museum—if we cared for the specimen! It proved to be a perfectly-plumaged male Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*) or Peewit, as we called it when I was learning wing-shooting during my boyhood in England a good many years ago, where the species was plentiful.

Our bird is, of course, in winter plumage, but fully adult. Decomposition had set in by the time the specimen reached my hands, the feathers slipping rather badly on the belly during the skinning, though not enough to prevent it making a first-class mount. It was in fair physical condition, with fragments of food in the gizzard which was preserved and will be sent to the U. S. Bureau of Biological Survey for examination.

The specimen showed the following dimensions and weight: length 13.62 ins.; wing 8.75; tail, 4.12; tarsus, 2.62; extent of wings, 29.5; longest feather of crest, 3.38; weight, 5.25 ozs.

So far as my information goes, this is the fourth specimen recorded from the continental United States, the other three having been taken on Long Island, N. Y., in 1885 and 1905.—H. H. BRIMLEY, *Raleigh, N. C.*

**Near Cannibalism in a *Buteo*.**—The morning of April 25, 1925, I was walking up the inlet of Keuka Lake at Branchport when I noticed a lot of feathers under a large willow tree and investigating found a freshly killed Red-shouldered Hawk. The head and neck were missing though I did find a small piece of the skull. The body was plump and was still warm. Evidently I had interrupted the feast of some animal (?) that had fled without

my seeing it. On up the creek I flushed a Red-tailed Hawk from a tree at the edge of the woods along the inlet and it flew out around me and off down the creek.

Returning on the opposite side of the creek about an hour later, I took care to keep under cover until I could get a good look at the dead Red-shouldered Hawk and when I did see it the Red-tailed Hawk was there feeding on it. I used my binoculars and could see very plainly that it was a Red-tailed Hawk. There must have been a pretty good fight between the two birds before the Red-shoulder was killed but I could find no evidence of the struggle.—VERDI BURTCH, *Branchport, N. Y.*

**Western Red-tail (*Buteo borealis calurus*) in Arkansas.**—On January 24, 1916, I secured from a young farmer an adult male specimen of this species, which he had caught in a steel trap set beside a dead hen which he had carried out into a field a few days before. The Hawk's stomach was empty. It is a very dark Red-tail, in fact I have always been under the impression that it might be referable to *Buteo borealis hartani*, but in sending it to the U. S. Biological Survey for verification, Dr. Harry C. Oberholser identified as a Western Red-tail. Its measurements are as follows: Length 20.25 in.; extent 48.50; wing 14.75; tail 8.50, inches. I take great pleasure, therefore, in adding another new bird to the state's list.—ALBERT LANO, *Fayetteville, Arkansas.*

**The Rough-legged Hawk (*Archibuteo lagopus sancti-johannis*) at Capers' Island, S. C.**—On January 18, 1927, while in company with Mr. Alexander Sprunt, Jr. I saw a very large Hawk flying over the ocean side of the beach of Capers' Island, which is strewn for four miles with dead trees due to the encroachment of the sea upon the island. This bird was in the melanistic phase with some whitish or grayish beneath and its flight strikingly resembled that of the Osprey. There was no mistake in the identification as the bird was not over 100 yards from us. Twenty-one years ago, in January, I saw one of these birds flying over the marsh side of Capers' Island which was in the brown plumage. When first seen late in the afternoon it at once occurred to me that I had seen the largest Marsh Hawk on earth, a moment later, however, I realized that it was none other than a Rough-legged Hawk. The flight of this bird was almost identical with that of the Osprey. This is an addition to the fauna of South Carolina.—ARTHUR T. WAYNE, *Mount Pleasant, S. C.*

**Gray Gyrfalcon in Aurora Twp., N. Y.**—A Gyrfalcon was captured alive on December 27, 1926, in the township of Aurora, about fifteen miles south of Auburn, N. Y.

The bird was caught in a trap by its right leg but when found on the evening of the same day on which the trap had been set, was held by only two toes. It was found by Kenneth Chase and Charles Millard, both of Rochester, N. Y. and was kept in a box until brought to Rochester, on January 5.