

cidentalis) was observed resting on the water a mile or two off Narragansett Pier. We sailed quite close to it and the writer made memoranda of its immature plumage. Perhaps two hours later a bird of this species, presumably the same individual, was again observed at a greater distance flying over Newport harbor with a few nondescript young Herring Gulls, in contrast with which its appearance was grotesquely diagnostic. It continued up the bay in a northeasterly direction.

This casual record for the Pelican may have been correlated with an unusual spring abundance of this species in northern Florida (Weston, 1927, *Bird-Lore*, XXIX, p. 275. Pensacola), with the slow northeastward passage of a storm center which was close to Cape Hatteras the evening of the 19th and some 200 miles east of Cape Cod on the morning of the 21st, causing strong easterly winds and rain in local waters June 19 and 20, (see Forbush, 1925, *Birds of Massachusetts*, I, p. xix-xxiii), or with both.

On June 29 nine Bonaparte's Gulls (*Larus philadelphia*) were observed at Newport, alighting on and near some stakes in a small landlocked marsh near the Sound shore. A strong southeasterly wind and threatening sky may have accounted for their behavior, but not for their presence, midway between dates which would seem possible for north-bound or south-bound migrants. All were seemingly second year birds, with black tail band, and varying amount of dark on neck and head. There seems to be little or no data of this species summering in southern New England, though it is reported just south of New York City in the summer of 1923 (1923, *Bird-Lore*, XXV, p. 323; Urner, 1924, *Auk*, XLI, p. 149).—J. T. NICHOLS, *American Museum of Natural History*, *New York*.

Madeira Petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*) in Pennsylvania.—While examining recently the natural history collections of Mr. Frank S. Flack, taxidermist of Chambersburg, Franklin County, Pennsylvania, I came upon a Petrel which, according to Mr. Flack, was taken in Pennsylvania. Mr. Flack kindly brought the mounted specimen to me at Harrisburg for critical inspection. Having no comparative material at hand I forwarded it to Mr. W. E. Clyde Todd, of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, who pronounced it a Madeira Petrel (*Oceanodroma castro*), for which there are, so far as I am aware, but three records for the North American continent—two being for the District of Columbia and one for Indiana.

The specimen was brought to Mr. Flack on April 15, 1912, by Mr. William Lippey, who had found the bird dead along one of the streets of Chambersburg. Mr. Flack does not remember that any considerable storm preceded this date, but according to the records of the Weather Bureau an unusually constant easterly and northeasterly wind had been blowing over Pennsylvania on April 13, 14, and 15 of that year. While this wind was not of high velocity in Franklin County, it may have been sufficiently strong to account for the presence of this maritime bird so far inland. It is possible that the street lights lured the wandering bird

to the environs of the town.—GEORGE MIKSCH SUTTON, *Game Commission, Harrisburg, Pa.*

Canvasback in Pennsylvania in Summer.—On August 9, 1927, when passing a mill pond on Lititz Creek, Lancaster Co., Pa., twenty miles north of the Maryland line, we saw a wild Duck which we could identify only by its distinctive profile. A boy in the neighborhood said "that duck has been here for several days" which would bring its appearance in the locality to the first week in August.

Without question the bird was a Canvasback (*Marila valisineria*) in juvenal plumage which was feeding here with some white farm ducks hundreds of miles from its Canadian summer home. Three days later when we again visited the pond the pale russet color of the bird's crown had spread and perceptibly deepened confirming its profile identification and the statement of A. C. Bent that the color characters of the young Canvasback develop rapidly.—HERBERT H. BECK, and CLIFFORD MARBURGER, *Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pa.*

Notes on the Migration of Brant.—I have fished for salmon for many years on the Grand Cascapedia River that puts into the Bay of Chaleur from the Gaspé Peninsula, Quebec. A bit to the west of the mouth of the river is a valley of considerable width flanked on either side by rather high mountains. This valley is short and converges to the valley of the Cascapedia. Coming up this valley, I have seen the Brant move to the northward at evening for many years, and now regularly expect them to pass north just after sunset from the 3rd to the 5th of June, but I have not always made a note of this in my records.

I have wondered where they go, and why so much later than the Geese, and how they would have time to go to the extreme north, raise a brood, and return before the freezing up of the water of their breeding ground.

My imperfect notes say that on June 6, 1920, "Brant are moving north after sundown."

In 1921, under date of June 3, "Large flocks of Brant at evening move north."

My next record seems to be 1925. June 5, "Migration of Brant takes place from sunset for an hour. Great flocks pass to the north; one flock must have been nearly 1000 strong."

In 1926 the migration seems to have been much later, for my first notation is June 12. "Saw six or eight big flights of Brant passing north. One flock I estimated over 200 birds." June 14, another large flock passing north this evening. June 15, Brant pass north at 8.30 P.M. June 16, flock of Brant pass north at 9.10 P. M.

1927, June 10, "Brant passing north at 11.00 A. M. June 11, a flock of Brant passed north about 11.00 A. M., and from 8.00 P. M. to 8.30 saw four large flocks of them. June 13, one flock of Brant passed north at 8.35 P. M.