

the European species, but this is highly improbable. The American Scoter has been recorded from South Carolina on but two former occasions, so that the presence of these birds is of great interest. The flock consisted of seven drakes, and one female.

Calidris canutus rufus. KNOT.—The writer recorded, in 'The Auk,' Vol. XLV, p. 206, the occurrence of the Knot on the Atlantic coast in winter, as a rarity. Being interested to ascertain whether any would be seen this winter, I am glad to be able to say that on December 13, 1928, a small flock was seen on Edingsville Beach, on January 7, 1929, four seen at Folly Island, and February 7, a flock of five on Seabrook's Island. These records, together with those of last year certainly point to the fact that this species winters regularly on the Atlantic coast as far north as Charleston, S. C.

Charadrius melodus. PIPING PLOVER.—On February 7, two specimens were seen on Seabrook's Island, S. C., by Messrs. Francis M. Weston, Herbert R. Sass, and the writer. One of the birds had an injured foot which seemed to cause it considerable annoyance. Both allowed close approach, and were seen feeding and resting. This is but the second positive record for the species on the South Carolina coast in winter. On February 9, 1928, one was seen on Dewees Island, S. C., by Messrs. Arthur T. Wayne, F. M. Weston, and the writer.

Limosa fedoa. MARBLED GODWIT.—A fine specimen seen in a small gully near the front beach of Seabrook's Island, S. C., on February 7, 1928. Messrs. Weston, Sass, and the writer studied the bird at length both with and without glasses. It fed quietly, probing the wet sand along the edges, and in the gully itself, burying the very long bill completely to the base of the head, and once or twice actually submerging the head itself. We finally flushed the bird purposely, and as it rose, it uttered a note surprisingly like the yelp of a Black Skimmer (*Rynchops nigra*). After flying quite a distance down the beach, the bird circled, and returned to the gully.

Knowing that the bird was unseasonable, I examined the winter range in several ornithological works. I find that this is the most northerly record for the Atlantic coast during the winter. The bird seemed to be in perfect condition, and was in fine plumage. The up-curve of the bill was very distinct.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.

Winter Notes from South Florida.—On January 26 while at one of the many lakes of south-central Florida a small nesting colony of Florida Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax dilophus floridanus*) was visited. There were about fifteen nests, in low, stunted Cypress trees, which grew in from one to two feet of water. At least one of these nests contained young for as an old bird hurtled off at our near approach a small young one was swept off the crude platform of sticks down into the water and before we came up to it a fish of considerable size seized it and made off. Several of the old birds remained on the nests during our stay of about ten minutes, until a gun was fired.

At the same place two well grown young Anhingas (*Anhinga anhinga*) were discovered well up in the top of one of the small Cypress trees. These birds were out of the nest, perched in the very top of the tree, which carried no nest but was close to others bearing nests. While observing these two birds I was surprised to see one of them fly off, not having thought them fledged sufficiently to sustain flight. The remaining bird was shot and found to be still covered with down almost throughout and the flight feathers far from fully developed. I have usually taken fresh eggs of both these species of birds during the last week in March; those of the Anhinga farther south in the state; those of the Cormorant along the west Peninsula as well as here at Punta Gorda. The birds above mentioned must have had eggs early in January and so great a difference in time of nesting seems worth recording.

Purple Martins (*Progne subis subis*) were first seen here this year (1929) on January 31. Other years, including and since 1921, first arrivals of this bird vary from January 20 to early February.

A perfectly fresh egg of the Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) was found February 12, 1929, near Punta Gorda, under conditions indicating that the set was yet incomplete.

A nest of the Florida Barred Owl (*Syrnium varium alleni*) was visited January 15, in Sarasota County, in a low hammock. The nesting site was the top of a broken off Cabbage Palmetto, the entire leaf-crown being gone. Nothing but a bare, straight bole remained, with the bird fully exposed on top of this shaft. The depressed cavity was but a few inches deep, and contained two eggs which were perhaps one-fourth incubated.

On February 25, 1927 a nest of this Owl was found in the same general locality and in an identical situation.

This nest contained two young birds but a very few days old.

This may be a typical site for these birds' nesting hereabouts.—C. J. PENNOCK, Kennett Square, Pa., and Punta Gorda, Fla.

Notes from Madison, Wisconsin. *Chen hyperboreus hyperboreus*. SNOW GOOSE.—This species seldom stops in the county during migration so definite records are uncommon. I found a straggler on the shore of Lake Kegonsa, May 5, 1928. The following day, Mr. John Main collected it and kindly presented it to me. The bird was a male, weighed 2109 grams, and was normal in every respect. The skin is in my collection.

Pelidna alpina sakhalina. RED-BACKED SANDPIPER.—A common migrant in spring, but there are few fall records. A pair was taken at Lake Kegonsa November 13, 1927.

Cryptoglaux acadica acadica. SAW-WHET OWL.—Rare. A male was taken in a clump of cedars November 19, 1927.

Sturnus vulgaris. STARLING.—Additional occurrences for 1928 are as follows: April 8, a pair seen at Pheasant Branch; May 5, north shore of Lake Kegonsa, one seen and the badly decomposed body of another was found on the beach; Nov. 25, one seen at College Hills.—A. W. SCHORGER, 2021 Kendall Ave., Madison, Wisconsin.