

observed. Prior to this time the author and others had observed regularly in this community, and the bird, while not rare, was only occasionally met with. Since 1921 there has been a steady growth in the numbers of this species, and on the evening of March 21, 1929, Mr. Fred E. Brooks and the author counted six of the birds all "sky dancing" at the same time.

The sky dances have been observed and recorded regularly for the last ten years. The earliest date for the performance here is March 1, 1929, while in 1924 the dances did not start until April 6. The average first date for the ten year period is March 16. Dancing is usually intermittent throughout the greater part of April, the last date on which we have noted it here being May 3, 1928.

Great irregularity in breeding seems to characterize the species here. Half-grown young were observed April 24, 1922 and May 7, 1926, while young scarcely more than half-grown were seen July 11, 1929. A nest with four eggs was found May 15, 1917, in a very unusual place, being located in an orchard on top of a high hill. Not even a spring flowed near the nest, and a dryer site could scarcely have been found in the neighborhood. The female allowed herself to be stroked on the nest, and photographing her thus was easy.

Perhaps the most interesting result of the abundance of these birds has been the opportunity to observe twice the carrying of young birds by one of the parents. On May 7, 1926, while we were spraying an apple orchard, an adult Woodcock and two young were flushed. It was noted at a glance by three observers that the old bird appeared to have some object dangling from her body, and that she flew very heavily, for only a short distance. She was then followed up, and when she again rose from the grass, a young bird could be plainly seen hanging between her legs. Three of these flights were made before she finally abandoned the young bird.

Again on July 11, 1929, an old Woodcock and three young were scared from a small seep hole, and as the adult flew, a fourth young one was seen hanging from her. This time observation was made with a 6x glass at short range. Four of these over-burdened flights were made by the old bird before she gave it up as a bad job.

The notable increase in the number of birds of this species on the game refuge is another striking example of what reasonable protection will do for a much-harrassed tribe.—MAURICE G. BROOKS, *French Creek, W. Va.*

Another Record of the Red Phalarope in Ohio.—On November 2, 1929 a female Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) was collected at Buckeye Lake, Fairfield Co., Ohio, under rather unusual circumstances. Our attention was first attracted to the bird as it flew over the lake at a considerable distance. Before we were able to approach it, however, it was shot by a hunter from a nearby blind and left lying on the water. The specimen was secured and although somewhat mutilated was satisfactorily preserved. It is now in the collection of the Ohio State Museum.

This appears to be the second Ohio record. The first, also from the central part of the state, was taken by us on September 29, 1927 (Auk, Vol. XLV, p. 94). Both specimens are in winter plumage.—MILTON B. TRAUTMAN and CHARLES F. WALKER, *Ohio State Museum, Columbus.*

Extension of the Winter Range of the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*).—For the past several years the writer has been paying particular attention to the wintering shorebirds of the South Carolina coast, and some interesting facts have come to light in this study. It will be recalled that the Knot (*Calidris canutus rufus*) was recently established as a regular winter visitor, thus altering its former status of transient visitor. Specimens have been seen and taken each winter month now, for four seasons, proving their presence on the South Atlantic coast much further north than was formerly supposed.

And now the Piping Plover (*Charadrius melodus*) must be classed also as a regular wintering species as far north, at least, as Charleston, S. C. Although Audubon stated that this Plover wintered from South Carolina southward, his opinion has been generally rejected and no present ornithological work gives the winter range anywhere near as far north as Charleston. Mr. A. C. Bent gives it as the South Atlantic and Gulf States with Savannah, Georgia, as the extreme northern limit. For the past three winters the writer has noted the presence of this species in South Carolina. The localities cover a range on the barrier islands from a point some twenty miles north of Charleston to thirty miles south of that city. In 1928 and 1929 no birds were taken, but in January of this year (1930) two were taken on Seabrook's island, and small flocks seen on that beach. This winter the species has been noted with nearly as much regularity as one could expect in the migrations, from three to six in a flock. It is never very common, and one rarely sees more than five or six together even in the spring migration. These observations and captured specimens increase the known winter range of the Piping Plover at least one hundred miles northward. The writer was accompanied in the field work of this season by Mr. Francis M. Weston of Pensacola, Florida, who was also present in former years when these Plovers were noted. While the work of but three or four years is not a great deal to go upon, it certainly proves that these birds are regular winter visitors for that length of time, locally, and there is no reason to believe that all these occurrences are abnormal. There is no room for doubt that the species is wintering farther north than heretofore believed.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.

Turkey Vulture at Chatham, Mass.—On November 19, 1929, a Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura septentrionalis*) was taken at Chatham, Mass. It was in very good condition and the crop was filled with remains of a chicken freshly killed though probably not by the Vulture.—EVERET R. ELDRIDGE, *West Chatham, Mass.*