

were slaty blue like those of the adult. The two brown, normal young could not be found in the short grass even though seen with the adult from a distance. At least two other pairs of Willets were found on this occasion and on July 16 Messrs. Marburger and Potter found two young Willets just able to fly with the down still noticeable about the head, and the tails rather short. They took wing at the frantic urge of their parents and flew about fifty yards, making no attempt to conceal themselves by "freezing" as when in the downy stage.

A native of Beaver Dam, N. J., informed us that he had noticed Willets during the breeding season about five years ago and they had become fairly common during the past two years. The last actual breeding record of the Willet for New Jersey was 1884 (Stone's 'Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey' page 77—footnote).

The return of the Willet as a breeding bird to this region is a concrete example of the beneficial effects of the Migratory Bird Law.—EDWARD S. WEYL, 6506 Lincoln Drive, Philadelphia; JULIAN K. POTTER, Collingswood, N. J.

Nesting of the Upland Plover near Lexington, Va.—In view of the present scarcity of the Upland Plover (*Bartramia longicauda*), a nesting record is worthy of note, especially at a place so near the southern limit of its breeding range as Lexington, Va. I saw a nest of this species on June 3, 1930, in an alfalfa field two miles north of this place. A pair of these birds spent the summer of 1929 in a neighboring field and gave evidence of nesting but I was not able to locate the nest. The nest referred to above was uncovered by Mr. Alphin, the owner of the farm, while he was raking hay. There were four young at the nest, the eggs evidently having been hatched that morning. The shells in large pieces were still in the nest depression. The wheel of the hay-rake crushed one of the young birds, the skin of which I later saved. Knowing of my former efforts to find a nest, Mr. Alphin telephoned me at once and I reached the spot before the young had left the immediate vicinity of the nest. They were able to run about well in the stubble. Only one of the parent birds was in evidence. To my surprise, this bird did not feign injury, but did rush toward us with outcries when we came near the nest. When we moved off, it ran before us as if trying to toll us farther away. The little birds, when held in the hand, uttered a faint, mournful whistle, with such a peculiar ventriloquial quality that I was sure at first that it was the note of another adult bird on the wing at a great distance.—J. J. MURRAY, Lexington, Va.

Western Sandpiper in Massachusetts in Spring.—While the Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes mauri* Cabanis) is not an uncommon spring migrant and occasional winter resident on the South Atlantic coast from North Carolina southward, there appear to be no records for its occurrence (other than occasional sight records) in spring for the North Atlantic States, except that of a specimen taken by Mr. I. N. DeHaven at Atlantic City,

N. J., May 17, 1892 (Stone Birds of New Jersey etc. in, Ann. Report N. J. State Mus. 1908, p. 132). It is therefore a source of satisfaction to be able to add another record; that of a female which I collected at the mouth of the North River, Marshfield, Mass. while in company with Mr. Joseph A. Hagar, on 27 May, 1930. The skin is now in the Museum of Comparative Zoology.

The bird was with an enormous flock of small Sandpipers, an overwhelming number of which were *Ereunetes pusillus* (Linn.). It seems only fair to state that neither of us picked out the bird in life; its capture was due entirely to one of those curious twists of fortune. I was looking especially for White-rumped Sandpipers, and seeing one a little apart from the main flock, shot it. While I was picking it up Mr. Hagar retrieved two wing broken "peeps" one of which was a Semipalmated, the other a Western Sandpiper.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.*

Buteo platypterus in Porto Rico.—It was recently my privilege to accompany Mr. H. J. Coolidge, Jr. on a brief visit to Porto Rico. On March 12, 1930, we were the guests of Col. George W. Lewis, Chief of the Insular Police, on an ascent of El Yunque, the principal mountain mass lying in the northeast part of the island.

A short distance below the summit I heard the familiar squeal of a Broad-winged Hawk and a few moments later two birds, presumably a pair, were seen a short distance ahead. One of the birds swooped down over the party within easy gun shot, and so close that the characteristic field marks were plainly distinguishable. Perhaps it was just as well that I had no gun with me, for the bird presented a most tempting target, but would almost certainly have been lost in the tangles on the steep mountain slope below the trail.

The Broad-winged Hawk has not been seen in Porto Rico for thirty years. Wetmore (Birds of Porto Rico and the Virgin Islands 1927, p. 323) mentions an individual seen by Dr. C. W. Richmond near Utuado, April 6, 1900, but the bird has not been encountered by any ornithologist since that time.

In the absence of specimens from Porto Rico it is not possible to state definitely to which subspecies the bird should be referred, though it is extremely doubtful whether it belongs to *B. p. insulicola* Riley, of Antigua and Barbuda, the nearest race in point of distance. It is far more probable that it is the same as the bird resident in Cuba which was described by Mr. F. L. Burns as *Buteo platypterus cubanensis*, a form usually regarded as indistinguishable from the typical race of North America, but which seems to merit recognition on the basis of slightly smaller size.—JAMES L. PETERS, *Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.*

Mass Occurrence of the Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*) in the Mountains of North Carolina.—On August 1, 1930, the writers had the unusual privilege of seeing seven Duck Hawks in the air at one