

Nantucket Island Notes.—At "Quays," on January 14, 1930 at 2:30 P.M., Mr. W. D. Carpenter and Mr. Irving Sandsbury saw about thirty-five Black-crowned Night Herons (*Nycticorax nycticorax naevius*). On June 21, 1930 while Miss Grace Wyatt and I were in the "Hidden Forest," there were very few birds to be seen, and the place seemed deserted but just before leaving Miss Wyatt called my attention to a small bird. We stood still and it soon returned with a white grub in its bill, which it carried to a sourwood stump four inches in diameter, and three feet high, the top being broken off in a slant, in which there was a hole one and three quarters inches in diameter at the entrance, and widening out lower down, with an estimated depth of ten inches. Inside we saw two young birds nearly ready to leave the nest. The parent bird, a Chickadee (*Parus atricapillus atricapillus*), came several times while we stood there with a white grub in its bill and alighted within eight feet of us. It showed no signs of solicitude at our presence.

During the latter part of January, 1930, Mr. W. D. Carpenter of Nantucket, saw a Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottos polyglottos*) which came to his yard with other birds to be fed. Only one was seen. Mr. Carpenter used to spend the winter in Florida and knows the bird.

Hudsonian Curlew. Nantucket, August 22, 1930. In riding over the Commons this afternoon with two ladies who are interested in birds, we came upon a flock of Hudsonian Curlew (*Numenius hudsonicus*) which we have here every year, as far back as I can remember; there were about thirty-five to forty birds, and standing out very prominently among them was an albino; we drove the automobile some five or six times, towards them, as they did not go far, but we could not get nearer than one hundred and fifty yards of them, but as we all had field glasses, we could see them plainly. In striking contrast to its brown companions, this albino bird was white on all the upper parts, head and neck, the under tail coverts were yellowish white, the half of the curved bill towards the end was pinkish in color, the basal half was darker, albinos in shore and marsh birds are extremely rare.—GEORGE H. MACKAY, *Nantucket, Mass.*

Unusual Observations for Western Pennsylvania.—On May 15, 1930, while collecting birds for the Carnegie Museum in Pymatuning Swamp near Shermansville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, I located a colony of Short-billed Marsh Wrens (*Cistothorus stellaris*). They were located in a marshy field alongside a corduroy road running through the swamp from Shermansville southwestwardly to Stewartville. Long, thick, marsh grass covered this field and the bent over dead grass formed a thick mat near the ground. At least six males were singing from tall weed stems, the sound being very similar to that made by the rapid striking together of two pebbles. While singing the tails of the birds were bent over their backs almost touching their heads. If too closely approached the birds would dive down among the thick mat of grass and reappear at a

distance in another direction. The birds taken proved to be males. Search for a nest at this locality was unrewarded.

On May 29, about a mile southeast of Linesville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, I flushed a Short-billed Marsh Wren and found a nest with four eggs in it. The nest was located in a grass covered, abandoned onion field. The ball-shaped nest, woven of dried grasses stood about a foot above the ground in a tuft of grass and had a small circular opening, one inch in diameter, on the south side. When I went back to photograph it two days later it contained six eggs. I believe this is the first record for western Pennsylvania. About a quarter of a mile southwardly a dummy nest was found guarded by a scolding male. This nest was made of green grass and placed in a bunch of the same material, about one foot from the ground.

On May 20 in a flooded field one mile south of Linesville, Crawford County, Pennsylvania, I saw three birds resembling Wilson's Snipe feeding with a flock of Lesser Yellow-legs. As I approached, the Yellow-legs flew off, but the other birds remained. Looking them over with an eight power glass and getting to within a hundred feet of them I saw that they were Dowitchers. They became alarmed upon my approach and flew away joining the Yellow-legs circling over the field. They circled close over head and I was fortunate enough to drop one from the flock, making identification certain. The bird was a female Dowitcher (*Limnodromus griseus griseus*), ovaries small, throat and breast bright reddish-brown. This bird is the second specimen of the Dowitcher from western Pennsylvania in the Carnegie Museum.

On July 19, 1930, while visiting the Duquesne Boy Scout Camp, located on Loyalhanna Creek near Rector, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, I observed the Little Blue Heron (*Florida caerulea caerulea*). While rowing up the creek I saw a large white bird standing near the bank. As the boat approached the bird flew up stream. Because of the shallow water near the bank, I abandoned the boat and waded. As I rounded a bend in the stream, screened by low black willows I again saw the bird at a distance of one hundred feet. It stood about two feet high; plumage white, feet and legs greenish yellow. After watching it for about three minutes it became alarmed and flew away. The next afternoon three of these birds were observed flying over camp and the same evening a flock of nine all in the white plumage. At this time the slate colored wing tips were noticeable.—REINHOLD L. FRICKE, *Preparator, Section of Public Education, Carnegie Museum, Pittsburg.*

Notes on Water Birds of the Piedmont of Virginia.—In 'The Auk' for April, 1929 (Vol. XLVI, No. 2, p. 226) the writer reported observations on migrating waterfowl at Timberlake, a new artificial lake near Lynchburg, Va. Until the past spring the number of birds visiting the lake has never been as large as during the fall of 1927, the greatest number for the autumn of 1929 being forty-eight individuals listed on one day,