

Golden Plover at White Point, Slann's Island, Charleston County, S. C. The bird had an injured left foot and allowed our approach to within fifty yards where we studied it through 8 x glasses. There was a Black-bellied Plover (*Squatarola squatarola*) about twenty-five yards beyond it, both easily seen at one time in the field of the binoculars. Comparisons were therefore made without trouble and under ideal light conditions. Curious to see just how close I could get to the bird, I walked forward deliberately, stopping at intervals. When it finally flushed, I stepped off the distance from where I stood to the bird's footprints in the soft sand and found it to be four long paces! It called once as it rose and was apparently in splendid condition except for the injured foot.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., 92 South Battery, Charleston, S. C.

**Upland Plover Nesting on a Shooting Range.**—On the afternoon of May 24, 1931, I attended a trap shoot on the grounds of the American Legion Trap and Skeet Club, four and one half miles south of Norwalk, Ohio. Upon my arrival, I immediately noticed a very disturbed pair of Upland Plover. They were alighting on the Skeet-trap houses and flying around and between them in such an excited manner that I was at once convinced that there were eggs or young in the immediate vicinity; in fact the birds kept so close that on several occasions the shooters had to hold their fire fearing the birds would get in line with the targets.

The Skeet-trap houses are only forty yards apart, and the shooting positions are on a semi-circle drawn from a point midway and directly between the houses; so it is apparent how close the birds remained to the shooters and spectators.

About four thirty p.m., while walking from one trap-house to the other to take the next shooting position, I discovered two young plover which were as yet hardly able to walk, they were about half way between the houses and directly in the center of the shooting. The little fellows were hungry and calling for food and must have been rather cold, as there was a cool wind from the northeast. During the short time the shooters and spectators were looking at the young the old birds were very close and sometimes came directly over us, almost within reach of my hand.

In spite of the fact that there were about one thousand shots fired and various noises made by the people and their automobiles during the entire afternoon, these birds continued flying near their young which seems to me a remarkable demonstration of the affection and protective instinct of parent birds.—C. B. GARDINER, 175 West Main St., Norwalk, Ohio.

**Migration Dates of Yellow-legs and Others.**—The following records as to the migration of Lesser Yellow-legs in the fall of 1930 and spring of 1931 of Madison, Wisc., may be of interest.

In 1930 the earliest fall date was July 1; the latest, October 21. In 1931, the earliest spring date was March 21; the latest, May 28. The fall migration therefore covered a period of 113 days, and the spring migration 69

days, making 182 days in all, or a full six months. It is doubtful if there is any other shore-bird, or indeed any other transient species, that consumes so large a portion of the year in passing through here.

For the Pectoral Sandpiper the corresponding dates were as follows: July 11 to October 27, 1930, a period of 109 days, and April 12 to June 4, 1931, a period of 54 days,—or 163 days in all. For the Least Sandpiper the dates were: July 11 to October 17, 1930, a period of 99 days, and April 18 to May 30, 1931, a period of 43 days,—or 142 days in all.

Some of the above dates are exceptional and it is probable that the total of days given for each of these species is close to the maximum for any one year.—JOHN S. MAIN, *Madison, Wis.*

**Another Massachusetts Record for the Marbled Godwit.**—In 'The Auk' (for January, 1930, p. 77) Mr. Ludlow Griscom reported the taking of a Marbled Godwit (*Limosa fedoa*) on Plum Island, Massachusetts, September 15, 1929. I was fortunate enough to be present at the time, but I never expected to see another in Massachusetts, as the species is now only an accidental visitor in New England, the last previous record having been made in 1924. On August 23, 1931, however, as Messrs. A. C. Bent, E. B. Church, E. O. Mellinger, and I were looking over the shore-birds on Monomoy, Chatham, Massachusetts, Mr. Bent saw a bird that at first appeared to be a curlew, fly in behind some beach grass near which a flock of Herring Gulls were resting. As we approached, we soon descried the bird standing in shallow water near the gulls and, on levelling our glasses upon it, saw to our surprise that it had the slightly upcurved bill of a godwit instead of the decurved bill that we had expected to see. By stalking it behind tall grass we got much nearer and finally watched it at leisure within thirty or forty yards while it walked up the beach and fed in the moist sand. When it flew it showed no black nor white on the tail and tail-coverts, which fact, together with its generally brown coloration, proved it to be a Marbled Godwit and not a Hudsonian. As it was a rather dark bird, it was doubtless an immature. In feeding it sometimes thrust its long bill down into the sand for its entire length. When it took its final flight, across the cove known as the Blubell Hole and out of sight, it uttered a hoarse low-pitched scream.—FRANCIS H. ALLEN, *West Roxbury, Massachusetts.*

**Northern Phalaropes and Oriole at Sea.**—On September 18, while crossing from Goteborg, Sweden to New York, I noticed a small bird on the after deck of our ship. We were some ten miles off, but in plain sight of, the Newfoundland Coast, midway between St. John and the Cape, we noticed the bird flying nervously about trying to discover some spot out of the wind. It proved to be an immature Baltimore Oriole, blown evidently far off the main line of flight. The bird at length came to roost in a secluded corner underneath one of the lifeboats close to the deck and towards evening slept with head hidden amid the feathers of the back.