

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.