

ly an adult, judging by the hardness of the skull. The specimen has been deposited in the U. S. National Museum (No. 330128). This bird of the western plains has hitherto been reported in the east only from Massachusetts, New York, and South Carolina.—J. J. MURRAY, *Lexington, Va.*

Notes from Along the Connecticut River.—Extremely mild, snowless weather until February 4 led to occasional individuals of such species as the Hermit Thrush, White-throated Sparrow, and Field Sparrow, wintering in western Massachusetts, and a Savannah Sparrow at South Windsor, Conn. Other birds were not far south, for in the first week of March the Red-shouldered Hawk in numbers, the Kingfisher, Bluebird, Red-wing, and Bronzed Grackle, were noted; and though the second and third weeks of the month were cold, with constant high north winds, the Fox Sparrow appeared March 10 and the Killdeer March 18. Northern birds, on the other hand, were scarce: the Goshawk, for example, has been seen but twice (March 18 and April 3) and the Northern Shrike but once, March 19.

Never in our experience has there been such a migration of water-fowl. Either the short gunning-season allowed by the Federal Government preserved the lives of many, or more likely the mild winter encouraged many to linger in Long Island or eastward waters, whence they passed north or northwest across our territory.

Cygnus columbianus. WHISTLING SWAN.—The most striking visitor was a swan on Woodland Pond, Manchester, Conn. Hordes of little fishes, mysteriously killed, attracted great flocks of gulls to the pond, and on going to see them, March 23, Mr. C. W. Vibert of South Windsor discovered this swan. A great many bird-students visited it in the next four or five days and it remained until April 4. It was positively not a Mute Swan: no yellow whatever could be seen on its bill.

Other species noted have been:

Branta bernicla hrota. BRANT.—A flock of 18 appeared at South Windsor, Conn., March 13, and remained until the 25th, when they were seen in northward flight at the very moment when we, from Massachusetts, arrived. The flock then consisted of 15 birds.

Anas rubripes rubripes. RED-LEGGED BLACK DUCK.—Though at no time so common with us as *A. r. tristis*, some birds of this race were still at Porter Lake, Springfield, as late as April 16. Together, the two races amounted to over 100 birds. On April 5 at Northampton, Mr. Eliot closely approached an apparently mated pair, of which the male was *rubripes*, the female *tristis*. The drake made frequent short, low flights, for the sole purpose, it seemed, of displaying to his mate his brilliant legs.

Chaulelasmus streperus. GADWALL.—From the Ox-bow at Northampton on April 2, a duck was flushed which, because a male Baldpate was also in the flock, was supposed to be a female of that species. When the flock swung broadside, however, the lean form, blade-like wings, and sharply defined white speculum, indicated a Gadwall. Next day the male Baldpate

was still present with the Black Ducks, but not this other bird; and if she had been a female Baldpate he would scarcely have let her depart alone.

Mareca americana. BALDPATE.—We have been amazed at the numbers of Baldpates, a duck neither of us had seen here before. Ordinarily, we suppose, they migrate toward the Great Lakes from farther south; but this year from New England waters. At Forest Park, Springfield, a pair was observed March 19, and two pairs March 25. Near the swan in Connecticut that day were six birds more, and on the river at South Windsor, a flock of fifteen. A pair was seen, at Springfield on April 2, a drake was with Black Ducks at Northampton April 2-3, a pair was seen there April 14, and as late as April 20, four days later than the latest Massachusetts date given by Forbush, a flock of three males and four females was closely approached there.

Dafila acuta tzitzihoo. PINTAIL.—Except for six on the River at South Windsor, Conn., March 25, this species has been seen only at Forest Park, Springfield:—one pair March 13, three males and a female March 19, a male March 25, three pairs April 2, and one pair April 9. This is far more than usual.

Nettion carolinense. GREEN-WINGED TEAL.—The Teals' most regular resort has been a weedy pond in Belchertown, where some were seen whenever it was visited between April 2 and 16; but the species has also been seen, in ones, twos, or threes, in four other places.

Aix sponsa. WOOD DUCK.—What was just said of the Teal holds good for the Wood Duck too. It seems less numerous than last fall, but widely distributed.

Nyroca collaris. RING-NECKED DUCK.—We have seen, or at least identified, no females, but eight males: at Northampton, one March 31, two April 2, and two April 8; at Longmeadow two and at Feeding Hills one on April 2. Why the drakes travel in pairs and without mates piques our curiosity.

Nyroca affinis. LESSER SCAUP.—We are fain to list all the Scaups we see as this species, for very seldom can we positively identify the Greater. On the River at South Windsor, March 25, the reddish purple on a drake's head was discernible (there were 12 Scaups in that flock), but otherwise the sun has not shone. Ashley Pond, Holyoke, is the only locality, and the dates are March 23, March 30 (four), April 2 (two drakes), and April 9 (a pair).

Glucionetta clangula americana. GOLDEN-EYE.—After the Black Duck and American Merganser, this is the third commonest of the family. This year we saw unusual numbers, especially of males. Our latest date was April 9 (three pairs at Northampton, one male at Holyoke).

Charitonetta albeola. BUFFLEHEAD.—One drake was seen at Ashley Pond March 30, diving and feeding near the Scaups.

Lophodytes cucullatus. HOODED MERGANSER.—Almost as unprecedented numbers as of Baldpates have been noted. At South Windsor, one pair,

March 25; at Northampton, three males, two females, March 26; a pair March 27, two males and later two pairs March 31, and a pair April 3 and 5. At Agawam one and at Southwick two males April 4. At Belchertown a pair April 5 and for some days longer, and two females April 16; and at North Hadley two more females April 16.

Mergus merganser americanus. AMERICAN MERGANSER.—Little noted in the winter, presumably because of the profusion of open water, flocks began to increase as usual in late February, reached a peak in early April, and were noted, with fewer and fewer males, until April 20.—AARON C. BAGG, *Holyoke, Mass.*, and S. A. ELIOT, JR., *Northampton, Mass.*

Notes from the Washington, D. C. Region.—*Egretta thula thula*. SNOWY EGRET.—One seen September 1 at Alexander Island, Virginia, and four seen September 6 at Four Mile Run, Virginia, by Murray T. Donoho; eight seen September 7, two seen September 8, 1930—one collected, at Four Mile Run, by the writer. Six seen August 8 at Alexander Island, and one seen September 6 and 7, 1931 at Alexandria, along Hunting Creek, Va., by the writer.

Nyctanassa violacea violacea. YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT HERON.—Robert Bruce Overington has in his collection the following specimens taken by him at Laurel, Maryland: male and female—June 30, male—July 14, two females—July 22, 1927.

Chen hyperborea atlantica. ATLANTIC SNOW GOOSE.—A mounted specimen of this form in the possession of Edwin B. King of Warrenton, Virginia, was recently examined by the writer. It was shot by Mr. King from a duck blind at Brent's Point, at the junction of Aquia Creek and the Potomac River, Stafford County, Virginia, November 4, 1929. This is the first known record for this area.

Stercorarius parasiticus. PARASITIC JAEGER.—George Marshall of Laurel, Md., has an immature male in his collection taken by Louis F. C. Heintz on Little River, between Anlostan Island, D. C. and the Virginia shore, September 23, 1899. Mr. Heintz turned it over to Lee Young, from whom Mr. Marshall received it while the latter was taxidermist at the U. S. National Museum. This is an addition to the local avifauna.

Chlidonias nigra surinamensis. BLACK TERN.—R. B. Overington took an adult male at Laurel, Md., May 19, 1908. This is the first spring record for the region.

Dendroica cerulea. CERULEAN WARBLER.—A male was taken along the Potomac River, about two miles above Great Falls, Md., May 17, 1931, by Paul Bartsch and the writer.—W. HOWARD BALL, *1861 Ingleside Terrace, N. W., Washington, D. C.*

Notes from Chapel Hill, North Carolina.—Below are a few recent observations and records made by Edmund Taylor, Coit Coker and the writer working together. They may serve to modify or add to the previously recorded status of several species in central North Carolina.