

Passerherbulus henslowi susurrans. EASTERN HENSLOW'S SPARROW.—This bird is listed, as is the Chestnut-sided Warbler, among thirteen species which "probably breed every year," although Babson has no direct breeding records. On June 10, 1932, I found an adult Henslow's Sparrow with a mass of food in its bill in a high field north of town. In this same field, on June 12 of the preceding year, I flushed a fledgling of this species and succeeded in capturing it. The specimen was brought alive to the Princeton Museum of Zoology where it was satisfactorily identified and then brought back again to the place of capture and released. Adult Henslow's Sparrows which were present at the time of capture were still scolding when the young bird was returned.—LAIDLAW WILLIAMS, *Princeton, N. J.*

Water Birds Observed at Reading, Pa.—The following observations made during the past season in the immediate vicinity of Reading, Pennsylvania, may be worth recording. The fall migration here was noteworthy, several species new to the county list having been recorded.

Gavia stellata. RED-THROATED LOON.—One of this species visited Lake Ontelaunee during a severe northeaster, on November 10, 1932.

Phalacrocorax a. auritus. DOUBLE-CRESTED CORMORANT.—One was seen at Lake Ontelaunee on November 8, 1932.

Branta bernicla hrota. AMERICAN BRANT.—One came in to Lake Ontelaunee during the previously mentioned storm of November 10. This is apparently the first local record in over forty years.

Pisobia bairdi. BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.—One individual was seen on a mud flat at the head of Lake Ontelaunee on September 28, 1932. I had an excellent view of it both at rest and in flight, at short range and in good light, eliminating any possibility of error in identification.

Micropalama himantopus. STILT SANDPIPER.—On September 13, 1932, Dr. David Berkheimer identified two Stilt Sandpipers at Lake Ontelaunee. On the 18th I saw seven at same place, and one remained until the 25th. This is the first local record of this species for many years.

Phalaropus fulicarius. RED PHALAROPE.—During the severe northeasterly storm of November 10, three Red Phalaropes were on Lake Ontelaunee. I was previously familiar with both of our other phalaropes and immediately recognized these as different. The comparatively chunky build, thick bill, and conspicuously white crown were easily discernible at a distance of thirty yards.

Larus atricilla. LAUGHING GULL.—Two Laughing Gulls were brought in by the previously mentioned storm of November 10. This is also a new record for the County, and I took particular care to note all the field marks carefully.

Hydroprogne caspia imperator. AMERICAN CASPIAN TERN.—One, the second record in three years, was seen at Lake Ontelaunee on April 25.

Alle alle. DOVEKIE.—On November 19, 1932, following a series of storms, a Dovekie was picked up near Birdsboro and turned over to the

Reading Museum by Lester Leinbach, the County Game Protector.—
EARL L. POOLE, *Reading Public Museum, Reading, Pa.*

Winter Records for the Coastal Region of North Carolina.—A field trip of two weeks' duration (from January 5 to January 19), along the islands and coast of North Carolina, revealed a number of birds generally regarded as being uncommon in this area during the winter season.

In the 'Birds of North Carolina,' by Pearson, Brimley and Brimley (p. 136) the authors state that the Greater Yellow-legs (*Totanus melanoleucus*) ". . . has been recorded from Beaufort and Pea Island in February, and doubtless a limited number spend the winter along our shores." On January 8 at the Haynes-Laster Game Refuge on Portsmouth Island, fifteen individuals of this species were seen in one flock and smaller numbers were encountered from the 10th to the 14th on Portsmouth, Ocracoke, and Hatteras Islands. These birds were always associated with or in close proximity to other shore birds.

As many as 175 Sanderlings (*Crocethia alba*) and 44 Red-backed Sandpipers (*Pelidna a. sakhalina*) were seen in a single flock. Smaller numbers were observed daily on all the islands visited. A small number of Black-bellied Plovers (*Squatarola squatarola*) and Least Sandpipers (*Pisobia minutilla*) were often associated with them.

On the gravelly beach near the Coast Guard Station at Ocracoke, on January 10, I was able to approach within twenty feet of three Ruddy Turnstones (*Arenaria i. morinella*). The authors of the 'Birds of North Carolina' (p. 150) write that Turnstones occur on the ". . . coastal region during the migration, at least from March to early June and from mid August nearly to winter." This apparently is the first winter record.

Sixteen Oyster-catchers (*Haematopus p. palliatus*) were observed feeding on an exposed shoal on the preceding day, January 9, at Portsmouth.

Within fifty yards of the Coast Guard house at Ocracoke I picked up a dead Razor-billed Auk (*Alca torda*). This bird probably had been blown ashore during one of the recent storms. It was very thin and its stomach was entirely empty. Only two North Carolina records of this species, namely for birds taken in February, 1890, at Cape Lookout and Morehead, are given by Pearson, Brimley and Brimley (p. 24). Two additional January records have been noted since that time; Portsmouth, January 19, 1927 (Auk, 1927, p. 427) and Currituck Sound, January 29, 1923 (Auk, 1923, p. 317).

At Portsmouth, on January 9, two large red-billed terns were observed at close range. These were considered to be the Caspian Tern (*Hydroprogne c. imperator*), but none was collected. Near them three Gannets (*Moris bassana*) were also observed flying about fifty feet in the air. Suddenly, one of the latter birds saw a fish and plunged headlong into the water with such terrific force that it was completely submerged. When it came up, it was probably ten feet from the point where it struck the water. Its dive appeared to be nearly perpendicular.