

Fisher's Island Club, which has posted it against trespass. We found there also a colony of about 900 Common Terns (*Sterna h. hirundo*). Until the date of our visit we had not suspected that Herring Gulls were nesting along the coast this far to the westward.

In the 1880's, as a result of the wholesale destruction of sea birds for the millinery trade, the Herring Gull was making a last stand on a few scattered islands off the coast of Maine. There occurred in 1888 the only early record of this species nesting in Massachusetts (Auk, IX, p. 226). That this was very nearly a final and hopeless gesture may be seen in the fact that a quarter of a century was to pass before the Herring Gull again nested in Massachusetts. Under warden service first provided by the A. O. U. Protection Committee through the Thayer Fund, and continued for the past 29 years by the Audubon Association, the Herring Gull has greatly increased. In 1912 they again extended their breeding range southward, to the eastern shore of Marthas Vineyard, and in subsequent years other Massachusetts records were forthcoming, notably from Skiffs Island, off Marthas Vineyard, and Muskeget Island, off Nantucket. The present record is a further movement westward about 75 miles along the coast, and southward a scant two or three miles.

The terns on the island had established their nests towards the eastern end, away from the area occupied by the gulls. From a blind I watched them darting maliciously at the brooding gulls, and at each attack the larger birds, panting and restless in the midday heat, dodged and uttered low nasal protests. There were eggs in various stages of incubation in the nests of both species. One young gull had hatched such a short time before as to be still slightly moist. Most of the gull nests were placed in the midst of the beach pea (*Lathyrus maritimus*) that grows profusely over the interior of the island.

Some 300 Herring Gulls and a few Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax a. auritus*) apparently use the island as a roost. The former were in first and second nuptial plumage, and had no obvious connection with the breeding gulls of the island.

Nine other breeding colonies of terns in the vicinity are guarded by the Audubon warden, and the total adult population of these colonies, together with that on Wicopesset, we estimated as 2250. Roseate Terns (*S. d. dougalli*) in small numbers were observed in two of these colonies.—ROBERT P. ALLEN, *National Association of Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York, N. Y.*

Little Gull again in Upper New York Bay.—Every year in April and early May passengers on the Staten Island ferryboats are favored with excellent views of numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls. The temptation to watch them through a field glass will be well repaid if no rarer bird appears. It may be recalled, however, that on May 6, 1929, I had the good fortune to notice an adult Little Gull (*Larus minutus*) in their company.

On May 7, 1933, at 3:45 P. M., I was again watching some seventy

Bonaparte's Gulls following the wake of a ferryboat passing between Governor's Island and Ellis Island in the upper harbor. Another small gull coming to join them attracted attention, and inspection with the glass showed it to be an adult Little Gull. It flew together with the Bonaparte's Gulls for a couple of minutes, and then departed in the direction of another passing boat. In addition to the pattern of the primaries, I noted this time the blackish under surface of its wings, with pale posterior border.

For several days thereafter I watched for this bird from ferryboats, without success. It was doubtless migrating northward with the Bonaparte's Gulls. That it was the same individual as the one observed four years ago may be questioned, yet I am inclined to think this to be the case.—JAMES P. CHAPIN, *American Museum of Natural History, New York.*

Migration of Brünnich's Murre along Shore.—We sometimes hear a good deal about the overland flights and inland incursions of Brünnich's Murre (*Uria l. lomvia*), but has anyone observed its more normal, marine migration? On April 2, 1933, I was on Plum Island, Mass., and noticed a flock of twenty-five to thirty Murres just outside the surf-line. The wind was strong from the east but the Murres were not heading towards it. They were broadside to the wind and waves, moving northward in a compact body, swimming, diving, and occasionally briefly flying. A few minutes later, a second flock of about the same size was observed to the southward, and afterwards, farther south, a third. All were progressing in the same manner, slowly, so that from being first seen on my right to vanishing on my left took them nearly half an hour, but steadily, despite a wind that was probably holding them closer to the shore-line than they liked. I am told it is most unusual to see such numbers of Murres massed together on this coast.—S. A. ELIOT, JR., *Smith College, Northampton, Mass.*

"*Nyctale fasciata*" of Bertoni.—A. de W. Bertoni described *Nyctale fasciata* in *Aves Nuevas del Paraguay*, 1901, p. 174, from Djaguarascapa, Alto Parana, Paraguay (ad. ♂, Coll. Bertoni, July 1891). Arribalzaga in *Anales Mus. Nac. Buenos Aires*, Vol. VII, 1902, pp. 379, 388, referred the name to the genus *Ciccaba*, and von Ihering in *Rev. Mus. Paulista*, Vol. VI, 1904, p. 336, synonymized it with *Ciccaba hylophila* (Temm.). Bertoni says the eye is blue, a character not found in the genus *Ciccaba*. In connection with his description he writes that his *Nyctale fasciata* has very loose plumage and may belong to the genus *Strix* (some species of which have blue eyes). Subsequently Cherrie and Reichenberger described *Strix chacoensis* (now *Strix rufipes chacoensis*) in *Amer. Mus. Novitat.*, No. 27, Dec. 28, 1921, p. 1, from Fort Wheeler, Paraguayan Chaco (ad. ♂ Coll. Sept. 28, 1916, G. K. Cherrie). The measurements and color details correspond well to those given in Bertoni's description. Therefore I believe that *Nyctale fasciata* is a prior name for *chacoensis*, and that Bertoni's is the first record for this owl. The name *fasciata* can not be used for it,