

(*Lobipes lobatus*), in a pond on Bull's Island, Charleston County, S. C. This specimen, which Mr. Moore kindly presented to this museum, is a female in high spring plumage. The largest ova measured 1.70 mm. in diameter, and the majority of ova about one-third this size. Throat and stomach contained about one dozen insect larvae, in length about 15 mm.

This occurrence brings the number of South Carolina records up to six. The first and most unusual, is that of Loomis, who took a specimen one hundred and fifty miles inland, at Chester Court House, Chester County, May 17, 1880. (Bull. Nut. Orn. Club, Vol. V, 252.) Next in time of occurrence are records cited by Bent (Bull. U. S. N. M. No. 142, p. 27) from Frogmore, Beaufort County, September 25, and "Sea Islands," October 25. While the writer is not familiar with the original records, it is believed that they are those of Hoxie, made between 1884 and 1892. Following these, Wayne, thanks to the activity and discriminating taste of his cat, reported a specimen (of which only a wing was salvaged) brought in on June 3, 1903. (Auk, Vol. XXII, 397.) No further records were made until 1933, when Alexander Sprunt, Jr., saw a female at Cape Romain, Charleston County, on May 30 (Auk, Vol. L, 358).

Of the specimens known to have been taken to date, the Loomis specimen has very probably disappeared. The wing recorded by Wayne and the Moore specimen, here recorded, are in the collections of this institution. I am indebted to Mr. Moore for the privilege of recording this specimen.—E. B. CHAMBERLAIN, *The Charleston Museum, Charleston, S. C.*

Sandpipers on One Leg.—In a note entitled 'Sandpiper Cripples' in the July 1934 'Auk' Robert P. Allen cites published references to normal birds of this group standing and moving about on one leg, as anyone who has observed them closely knows they do at times. This last June 2 I noted that as I approached a small group of Sanderlings resting on the beach back from the shifting surf-line, they moved away and then took wing, two or three at least at first hopping vigorously on one leg, and one or two of these hopping birds were seen to let down the other leg and run nimbly before flying.

When standing and resting for any length of time it seems to be rather a normal thing than otherwise for a Sandpiper to do so on one leg. A Greater Yellowlegs may stand for a long time on one motionless straight leg, inclined so as to bring the foot under its center of gravity, the other leg raised and concealed by the feathers. One may speculate as to why this is so. By standing first on one then on the other leg they might rest the one not in use,—but do they do this? There may be some advantage in balance, and my colleague, Mr. H. C. Raven of the Museum's Department of Comparative Anatomy, calls my attention to the fact that when a leg is drawn up the weight of its thigh muscles is shifted forward, whereas the weight of head and neck of a resting bird is apt to be shifted backward.

As regards actual cripples, no one familiar with the potential speed and nimbleness of a Sandpiper on two legs should question that a one-legged

bird is handicapped. It is frequently remarkable how well abnormal birds (or humans for that matter) get along despite this or that handicap, but they are primarily handicaps none the less.

Mr. A. L. Rand tells me native cattle herders in Madagascar frequently stand on one leg (sometimes with a staff, however) for considerable periods; the other foot resting on the knee. Their reason for doing this might have a bearing on our problem.—J. T. NICHOLS, *New York, N. Y.*

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops nigra*) Breeding in New York.—Black Skimmers have been observed daily this summer in the vicinity of South Oyster Bay, Long Island, and their actions led the writer to believe that they were breeding. A prolonged search, with the assistance of John Harris of Amityville, who kindly made his boat available, failed to disclose breeding evidence. On August 18, while working in Gilgo State Park, I heard a Skimmer barking not far from a place where, Harris had reported, the bird resented his intrusion. With my glasses I watched the Skimmer fly to the Bay, return with a fish, and drop to the sand near three downy young; their primaries were just beginning to emerge from their sheaths. This is, I believe, the first breeding record for New York State.—WILLIAM VOGT, *Jones Beach State Bird Sanctuary, Wantagh, N. Y.*

Recent Owl Records from Southwestern New England.—*Tyto alba pratincola*. BARN OWL.—The pair that breeds in the Court-house tower at Springfield, Mass. (apparently the species' northeasternmost breeding-station) had eggs in the mild winter of 1932-33 as early as Feb. 8, but a cold spell shortly after seems to have spoiled them. Several young, very tame and silly, appeared in July 1933 and were caught in attics, photographers' studios, and even the middle of streets. One died in captivity; another, banded and released, was killed by an automobile; a third, also banded, has not yet been heard from. Another brood must have been raised in the fall, for on January 4, 1934, an Owl that was still downy spent the day in a tree at the Colony Club. Undaunted, it seems, by the terrible winter of 1933-34, the Court-house pair held their ground: I banded four unfledged young July 14, 1934. On February 14, 1934, and for several days thereafter, a Barn Owl was observed at South Windsor, Conn., hunting in broad daylight.

Surnia ulula caparoch. HAWK OWL.—On Feb. 11, 1933, one was collected at the eastern end of the Holyoke range, in Granby, Mass., by B. Schurr, who has mounted it for the library museum at Holyoke. On Jan. 26, 1934, one in Podunk swamp, South Windsor, Conn., was studied in good light through a 33 x telescope at a distance of about 1000 feet by Mr. Geo. T. Griswold, an observer of long experience, who took ample notes on the unexpected stranger he was seeing. Only two Connecticut records, 1869 and 1879, are mentioned in the 'Birds of Connecticut' of 1913.

Scotia n. nebulosa. GREAT GRAY OWL.—On Feb. 4, 1934, shortly southeast of New Haven, Conn., an Owl of this species was flushed into a