

entire continent—is a more formidable barrier to birds than water or even oceans. The Little Gull, for instance, has turned up quite a few times around New York in recent years.

We, therefore, feel justified in calling this Gull *Larus fuscus graellsii*. We give it the name *graellsii*, for our bird had a deep slate-gray back rather than the slaty back of the northern or Scandinavian race of the European Lesser Black-back (*Larus fuscus fuscus*).—JOHN AND RICHARD KUERZI, *New York City*.

Iceland Gull (*Larus leucopterus*) in Rhode Island.—The writer first saw a bird of this species, in what appeared to be the second year plumage, on the Blackstone River above Lonsdale on January 9, 1934, seven miles from the headwaters of Narragansett Bay. The bird was with a small flock of Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus smithsonianus*). Although the locality was visited often by myself and occasionally by others, the bird was not seen again until nearly three months later, when on April 4, I again found it with Herring Gulls. On this occasion, a very fine view of the bird was obtained as he walked back and forth on a log forcing the Herring Gulls off into the water. Just after sunrise on April 15, I again saw him on the river with Herring and the newly arrived Laughing Gulls (*Larus atricilla*). This was his last known visit to the locality.—ALFRED E. EYNON, *Lonsdale, R. I.*

"Kumlien's Gull" at Brigantine—A Correction.—After sending the note on the supposed occurrence of Kumlien's Gull on the New Jersey coast (Auk, 1934, p. 375) I sent the skull of the bird to Dr. Alexander Wetmore who declares it to be the Iceland Gull (*Larus leucopterus*) so I desire to cancel the record of *L. kumlieni* to which species from its larger measurements I supposed the specimen to belong.—W. STUART CRAMER, *216 Woodbine St., Harrisburg, Pa.*

The Type Specimen of Newton's Owl.—Newton's Owl, *Gymnasio nudipes newtoni* of St. Croix, Virgin Islands, was named by Lawrence¹ from a plate published by the Newtons in "The Ibis" for 1859.² The figure, by J. Wolf, shows an adult bird resting on a large limb with the head and forepart of the body of another individual, obviously immature, showing beyond. While Lawrence in his discussion of the St. Croix bird refers to "figures" it is obvious from his remarks that his considerations are based on the characters of the adult individual since the immature bird is so young as to be in juvenile plumage without the definite markings of the adult.

In June, 1934, during a visit to the Norwich Castle Museum in Norwich, England, to examine the famous Gurney collection I was able to study the specimens of this Owl collected by the Newtons, these being the first of this race taken on St. Croix that I have seen.

The material included four specimens, two being adults, one a male labelled as follows "No. 4488, *Strix nudipes*, Gt. Fountain. St. X, W. I. G. S. Ewing, 11. 5. 58. ♂" and the other marked "No. 4489 ♀ (?) Great Fountain, St. Croix, W. I. 1-2 June 1857, Jos. Robson." The other two are immature.

On study of the adult birds it was evident that the plate in question was based on the male (No. 4488) since the other adult specimen is distinctly paler and less distinctly marked below with less crossbarring on the sides. Further the feathers beneath the eyes are missing, evidently from decomposition before preparation as a skin. The differences in color and marking are such that they would inevitably have influenced the artist in his composition of the plate. It appears therefore that the male

¹ *Gymnoglaux Newtoni* Lawrence, Ann. Lyc. Nat. Hist. New York, vol. 7, May, 1860, p. 258.

² *Gymnoglaux nudipes* Ibis, 1859, pp. 64-66, plate.