

GENERAL NOTES.

The Common Loon in the Florida Keys.—As a slight extension in the recorded winter range of the Common Loon (*Gavia immer immer*) in extreme southern Florida it is of interest to report a fragmentary metatarsus from an Indian kitchen midden on Big Pine Key. The specimen in question was collected on February 18, 1935, by Gerrit S. Miller, Jr., near the base of a mound about three feet in depth in a deposit believed to antedate the coming of white men. The bone is preserved in the collections of the National Museum. A. H. Howell, in 'Florida Bird Life,' 1932, p. 73, reports that this Loon is rather rare south of Charlotte Harbor and records one seen at Cape Sable as the most southern record.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

The Water-turkey (*Anhinga anhinga*) in Clarke County, Georgia.—On March 25, 1935, Mr. C. M. Bell of Bishop, Georgia, brought a Water-turkey (*Anhinga anhinga*) to the Zoology Department, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia. Mr. Bell reported his surprise at having the bird fly into his oil truck while driving along U. S. Highway "29" about one and one-half miles north of Athens. The bird fell to the ground as if wounded. It died shortly after being brought to the Zoological laboratories, and at autopsy was found to be shot in the head and body. The specimen was a female.

The species is strictly an inhabitant of the costal plain area and the taking of it this far above the fall line is of unusual occurrence. This record, so far as we know, is the first for Clarke County or this far north of the fall line in the state of Georgia.—FRED DENTON AND E. E. BYRD, *Univ. of Georgia, Athens, Ga.*

Spring Migration of the Gannet in Southeast Florida.—From March 31 to April 6, 1935, I was on Biscayne Bay and among the keys from Miami, Florida, south and west as far as Long Key. Twice during this period I went off shore into the edge of the Gulf Stream and on both occasions found Gannets (*Morus bassana*) there, moving past the coast apparently in northward migration. On April 1, off Angel Fish Creek, seven were counted (2-3-2) flying north close to the water, four in adult and three in immature plumage; on April 5 off Ragged Keys, a little further north, 75 were estimated flying northeasterly (20 ad., 55 imm.). They flew more or less higher than those observed on April 1 and the direction of their flight was less definite but none were fishing on either occasion. The weather was consistently fine, and the wind southeasterly on April 1 and northeasterly on April 5. Only once did I see the species over inshore waters, a glimpse of a flock of about twenty, which had apparently just flown in from outside, on April 3 at Long Key on the bay side, estimated as half adult and half immature birds. This was the largest single, definite flock, the next largest, on April 5, being eleven, and there was no segregation whatever of white and dark birds, which were usually seen flying together.

Presumably north-bound Gannets from the Gulf of Mexico round the Florida Keys and do not cross the Peninsula. In this connection Pangburn mentions fourteen Gannets in various plumages seen passing Indian Rocks Key on the Gulf Coast, flying south on April 9, 1934 (Auk, LII (2), p. 198).—J. T. NICHOLS, *New York, N. Y.*

Double-crested Cormorants at Harrisburg, Pa.—On May 3, 1935, I watched nineteen Double-crested Cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus auritus*) in the Susquehanna River at Harrisburg, Pa. They were close enough for field glasses to reveal

very distinctly the recurved tufted crest and the entire absence of any white about the lower jaw or on the flanks. First seen resting upon the river, they were later seen at three different times flying in single file at about five feet above the surface and with outstretched necks. They then were noiseless. Mr. Richard May watched these birds with me. An hour later two Cormorants flew above me near open woodland a mile east of the river. For certainly over a minute before they came into view I heard a call from them, about as loud as that of a Goose. This call was not one of fright. It was a rather harsh croak, entirely different from the call of any Duck or Goose, but came with the frequency of a Goose's call. The birds flew about a hundred feet overhead and distinctly showed the markings of the Double-crested. This experience is interesting as Bent considered these birds mostly noiseless. After 5 P. M. the same day I saw seventeen of these Cormorants settled, apparently, for the night on a grassy island which was then only an inch or two above the surface of the river. A few Herring Gulls, a few Common Terns and four White-winged Scoters (*Melanitta deglandi*) were with them. The next morning the Cormorants were not found, but in the afternoon Merrill Wood and I counted nineteen of them in the river and later four were apparently feeding near a distant island, swimming with the body wholly immersed and the long black necks performing gyrations. There are no records of more than a single Cormorant being seen in this neighborhood.—
HAROLD B. WOOD, M. D., *Harrisburg, Pa.*

A Migration of Mute Swans.—Mr. William R. Lodge, since 1911, has propagated Mute Swans (*Sthenelides olor*) and other waterfowl on Silver Lake located near Akron and Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio. Each autumn, for several years, the Mute Swans have displayed a distinct urge to join other waterfowl in the southward migration but, being pinioned, were unable to do so.

The United States Biological Survey reported that they lacked any data on the migration of this species in America and regretted that they were unable to furnish bands with which to mark these birds. Nevertheless, Mr. Lodge decided to permit the birds to migrate if they cared to do so as an experiment, even though the flock was valued at perhaps \$200. Eight of the birds, leaving the old pinioned pair on Silver Lake, took up residence for two months on the nearby Crystal Lake. The flock indulged in a great deal of flying and one bird died of a broken neck from colliding with telegraph wires along the Pennsylvania Railway.

The remaining seven birds sat on the ice of the lake December 8, 9 and 10, 1934, refusing food made available at the old feeding places. On December 11 they left. On December 15 a single unmated three year old bird returned to partake of food with the old pinioned pair and remained. The six departed birds included a three and a half year old mated pair, a single bird two and a half years old and three birds raised in 1934. Another pair of yearling birds sold to Fells Lake Park at Northfield may have joined these six. Mr. Lodge speculated as to whether the Swans might follow the Ohio-Mississippi system south or join wild Whistling Swans in an overland flight to Chesapeake Bay. As it seemed plausible that the birds might move only far enough to find open water, Mr. Lodge appealed to the writer to attempt to locate his birds at Buckeye Lake or along the Ohio River.

By coincidence, in late December, 1934, he did secure some information of a flock of Mute Swans along the Ohio River, while visiting in West Virginia. George M. Sutton, Thomas Shields, J. Russell Hogg, W. E. Howard and others of the Wheeling area, furnished information concerning the slaughter of a flock of Mute Swans which are believed to be the same birds liberated by Mr. Lodge at Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio.

Eight of these sighted on the Ohio River near New Cumberland, West Virginia,