Larus atricilla. LAUGHING GULL.—A single individual was seen and heard.

Chlidonias nigra surinamensis. BLACK TERN.—These birds, occasionally seen in the state, especially in late summer and autumn, were in nearly every intermediate plumage stage between summer and winter. Some were largely black above, while others showed large mixtures of white.

Dolichonyx oryzivorus. BOBOLINK.—We see very few Bobolinks in Central West Virginia as a general rule, and the very large flocks observed on September 6 and 7 were unusual. Several hundred individuals, scattered in parts of Barbour and Upshur Counties, were seen.

When it is remembered that West Virginia has no natural lakes, and very few extensive swamps, a better idea of the rarity here of most shore birds may be secured. —MAURICE BROOKS, *Dept. of Biology, West Virginia University, Morgantown, W. Va.*

Additions to the List of Ohio Birds.—Recent examination of specimens in the bird collection of The Cleveland Museum of Natural History by Dr. Harry C. Oberholser has resulted in the discovery of four new forms for the state of Ohio, as follows:

Troglodytes domesticus domesticus (Wilson). EASTERN HOUSE WREN.—There is one specimen of this form in the collection, obtained after it had been killed by flying into the tower of the Cleveland Terminal Building, May 19, 1933. The discovery of this specimen occurred during the course of study of material by Dr. Oberholser while working on his recently described Ohio House Wren (*Troglodytes domesticus baldwini*[1]) of the central northern United States and adjoining parts of southern Canada. In the elucidation of the range of the Ohio House Wren contained in the original description, there was mention of a specimen of the more rufescent Eastern House Wren for Cleveland, Ohio. Despite this previous mention, it nevertheless seems desirable to put on record the circumstances surrounding the capture of this specimen since it is the first and only one up to the present to have been taken in Ohio. It probably occurs more or less regularly in migration in the eastern part of the state and other specimens will doubtless be taken sooner or later.

Hylocichla guttata oromela[2] Oberholser. CASCADE HERMIT THRUSH.—A single male specimen was taken by Omar E. Mueller and Frank J. Tobin at Bay Point, April 7, 1932. Bay Point is a willow and poplar covered sandy point, bounded by Sandusky Bay on one side and Lake Erie on the other, in Danbury Township, Ottawa County. While working on material preparatory to describing the small, pale Cascade Hermit Thrush of the central mountains of northern California, Oregon, Washington, and southern British Columbia, Dr. Oberholser discovered that the single above mentioned specimen was referable to that subspecies.

Hylocichla fuscescens salicicola Ridgway. WILLOW THRUSH.—A male specimen was killed by flying into the tower of the Cleveland Terminal Building, September 17, 1931, and so found its way into the Cleveland Museum collection along with many other specimens which have met a similar fate during the last few years. The discovery of the Willow Thrush in Ohio during migration is not surprising since the normal migration route of this form cannot be far to the west of this state. Intensive collecting in western Ohio would probably show Willow Thrushes to be of more or less regular occurrence.

[1] Oberholser, H. C. "Revision of the North American House Wrens." Ohio Journal of Science, vol. 34, No. 2, pp. 86–96. 1934.

[2] Oberholser, H. C. "Description of New Birds from Oregon Chiefly from the Warner Valley Region." Scientific Publications of the Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Vol. 4, No. 1, 1932.

Ammospiza caudacuta subvirgata (Dwight). ACADIAN SPARROW.—A specimen was collected by the writer September 20, 1931, at Richmond, Lake County, in a cat-tail marsh on Grand River about one half mile from Lake Erie. The occurrence of this maritime race so far from its native salt marshes was surprising in the extreme, and, as in the case of the Cascade Hermit Thrush, can only be explained as the result of accidental wandering of the bird far from its normal path of migration.—JOHN W. ALDRICH, *Cleveland Museum of Natural History.*

Notes from the Dry Tortugas.—I spent June 18–19, 1935 at the Dry Tortugas, Florida, primarily to ascertain the status of the famous Sooty and Noddy Tern colony there. These birds have been since 1903 under the protection of the U. S. Biological Survey and in a place rather far from the normal travels of man. However, conditions have changed. Fort Jefferson, on Garden Key, has been taken over by the National Park Service, apparently with the idea of making it a point of tourist attraction, and the protective arm of the Survey has been removed. Bird Key, long the site of the colony, has been destroyed and almost obliterated by hurricanes, and the birds have moved to Bush Key, a rapidly growing coral island just across the narrow channel from Garden Key. The birds, then, are more accessible than ever, and the project of making a national monument out of the old fortification may subject the Sooties and Noddies to an unprecedented amount of disturbance. For the present, however, it must be said that the custodian of Fort Jefferson is a very efficient protector of the colony, so much so in fact that he would not allow me sufficient time on Bush Key to estimate the bird population with any degree of accuracy.

Bush Key, in its present state of accretion, comprises probably fourteen or fifteen acres, a considerable portion of which is vegetated. It is much larger than Bird Key was in 1907 when John B. Watson began there his studies on homing instincts, and reported the area of Bird Key as 6,000 square yards. At that time, Watson reported about 19,000 Sooties and about 1500 Noddies in the colony. This figure may be compared with the report of Herbert K. Job, quoted in 'The Auk,' Vol. 21, p. 124, of 3600 Sooties and 400 Noddies, and the 1917 report (Smithsonian Institution Annual Report, 1917, p. 469) by Dr. Bartsch, of 18,000 Sooties and 4,000 Noddies. My best estimate of the 1935 population of the Tortugas colony is perhaps 35,000 Sooty Terns and 3,000 Noddies. The custodian, as mentioned, is so zealous to protect the colony that he would not permit me to attempt a count of nests. However, I was able to hazard an estimate of at least 35,000 birds by judging the area of the key, the percentage of total area occupied by birds, and the sampled number of birds per small areas selected for the purpose. The density as noted is very similar to descriptions published by Watson and others.

The Sooties were nesting on the ground; the Noddies mostly in small bushes, but there were some 200 nests in the sea-oats, and many on the ground with the Sooties. The Noddies were scattered pretty well over the Key, the only concentration being in the sea-oat patch to the south-east. One Noddy was nesting on a steel girder in the half-demolished coaling station on Garden Key.

Perhaps 15% of the eggs were hatched, with some young as old as 6 or 8 days. In the Noddy "sea-oat colony," two-thirds of the eggs were hatched, and of the young, two-thirds were in the brown or blackish phase.

On the sand-spit to the south-east were about 200 pairs of Roseate Terns, with several nests; 150 or 200 Least Terns, with some nests; and about 75 pair of Common Terns, nesting, also. From one to two hundred Frigate Birds were seen resting on the bushes or soaring about, but none was molesting the colony, so far as I observed.