

in the Atlantic coast region of North America, but hitherto never recorded for Ohio, or, as far as I am aware, from any locality farther west than Pennsylvania and Virginia. The specimen in question was taken along with individuals of the American Woodcock from the wooded banks of a stream in Newbury Township, Geauga County, about twenty-five miles east of Cleveland, Ohio, on November 6, 1935.—JOHN W. ALDRICH, *The Cleveland Museum of Natural History, Cleveland, Ohio.*

**Rare Shore-birds on the Massachusetts Coast.**—*Limosa haemastica*. HUDSONIAN GODWIT.—On August 30 and 31, 1935, there was a flight of Hudsonian Godwits on outer Cape Cod which considerably surpassed any recorded movement of the species in recent years, even for that favored locality. On the 30th, there was a moderate easterly storm, with steadily increasing wind and rain from daylight until about 4 o'clock in the afternoon; a lull of something less than an hour; followed by fog and a light drizzle until after dark. I describe the weather in some detail because it has been my experience, based now on three flights, that these are the exact conditions under which flocks of Godwits, as distinguished from scattered birds, are likely to occur on the Massachusetts coast between August 20 and September 5. Upon my arrival at Nauset Inlet, Orleans, at 1 P.M., a flock of 13 was already present on the flats back of the point, and they were joined at 2.30 and 3.15 P.M., respectively, by groups of 30 and 39, to make a total of 82. I had them under observation the whole afternoon until at 6.10 P.M., with fog shutting in and daylight failing, they got up in one compact flock, went straight out over the Inlet until almost lost to sight, and turned south down the coast. They were all adults, changing from summer to winter plumage. For an hour or two after their arrival they appeared very tired and sluggish, standing with heads under their wings, but late in the afternoon they became fairly active, breaking up into small groups, walking rather sedately along the water's edge, and probing in the soft sand sometimes to the full length of the bill.

On the following day I heard a rumor that a much larger number of Godwits had been seen at Monomoy Point, some 20 miles south of Nauset Inlet; and this story I was later able to trace to Mr. Frank Eldredge of Chatham, who is an old-time gunner, apparently thoroughly familiar with Hudsonian Godwits, and considered reliable. He was staying at Monomoy Point on the 30th, noticed the first Godwits at about 2 P.M., saw a number of flocks go over, and later in the afternoon had his attention called to a flock on the flats in the Powder Hole which he estimated at 150. Some of these were still present as late as 8 A.M. on the 31st. He is very sure that he saw between 400 and 500 in all. Whatever doubts might be raised as to the value of this estimate, I am satisfied that Mr. Eldredge knows the bird on sight, and that he saw large flocks. In conjunction with the known presence of 82 Godwits at Nauset, which could not possibly have reached Monomoy before dark, I think Mr. Eldredge's observations may be accepted as indicating a very substantial flight of this rare and interesting shore bird.

*Recurvirostra americana*. AVOCET.—On September 10, 1935, I had the great pleasure of discovering an Avocet feeding in a shallow salt-water pool on the flat behind the North Point at the mouth of the North River, Scituate. This was at high-water, about 9.30 A.M. Having watched the bird for half an hour, I returned home to secure either corroborating witnesses or a gun; but on my return with both, the bird was gone. We searched all afternoon, and were at it again early the next morning, but to no avail. So matters stood at noontime on the 11th, when Mr. Ludlow Griscom called by telephone to say that Mr. Davis Crompton of Worcester and Pocasset had seen an Avocet at 11 A.M. in the Sagamore marsh near the easterly end of the Cape Cod Canal, in Bourne, about 35 miles down the coast from Scituate.

At 3.30 o'clock I met these two gentlemen at Sagamore, and by 5.30 the bird was safely secured, after such difficulties with quicksands and mud as are not often encountered in New England collecting. It was an immature male. It is on exhibition at the Boston Society of Natural History, and apparently constitutes the first Massachusetts record since 1896.—JOSEPH A. HAGAR, *Ornithologist, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Game.*

**Trans-Atlantic Flight of Gull-billed Tern.**—The record of a banded Gull-billed Tern (*Gelochelidon nilotica*), recovered on the island of Barbados, British West Indies, adds another bird to the list of those that have crossed the ocean.

Under date of September 13, 1935, the American Consul at Barbados, B.W.I., transmitted through the Department of State a copy of the following item, which appeared in the "Barbados Advocate" of September 6, 1935:

"To the Editor:

Dear Sir,—Please publish in your paper if you think it will be of interest to your readers.

A whitish bird with a wing spread of about fifteen inches was shot at Maynard's Swamp yesterday (September 4) bearing a metal tag inscribed Zool. Museum, Copenhagen, Denmark RK. 2929.

This may catch the eye of some of the enthusiastic bird shooters.

Thanking you,

Yours truly,

N. Kellman, Sand Street, St. Peter."

The Biological Survey immediately wrote to Dr. Å. Vedel Tåning, Director of the Marine Biological Laboratory in Copenhagen, who is responsible for the banding work of the Zoological Museum, and has been advised that the bird in question was a Gull-billed Tern, banded at Tipperne, Ringkjøbing Fjord, Jutland, on June 17, 1935. The chick was at that time about one day old and Dr. Tåning reports that "it left its home about July 20th . . ." He ventures the opinion that the bird made the trans-Atlantic flight in "probably less than a month. No tropical disturbances were recorded at that time in Barbados nor in the week previous to the recovery of the bird."

Dr. Tåning adds that "the record will soon be published," but since it is assumed that this will be in a Danish publication and so may escape the attention of most American ornithologists, it seems desirable to record it also in 'The Auk,' particularly since it may have some significance with reference to the American birds of this species, which, since the Eighteenth Supplement to the A.O.U. 'Check-List' (Auk, 1923), has been given subspecific standing under the name of *Gelochelidon nilotica aranea*.—FREDERICK C. LINCOLN, *Biological Survey, Washington, D. C.*

**Little Gulls again in New York Harbor.**—Every spring, from the middle of April to early May flocks of Bonaparte's Gulls (*Larus philadelphia*) follow the wake of the Staten Island ferryboats, to feed on something churned up by the screws. Ever since 1929 we have watched them with added interest, because of the hope of seeing a Little Gull among them. This year my search was again rewarded on the morning of May 1. Among the Bonaparte's Gulls following a ferry passing us toward the south there appeared to be two Little Gulls (*Larus minutus*). One of them soon switched over to the wake of our boat and was well examined with glasses at about 75 yards. The other seemed to follow its example, but was by this time so far back as to make identification less certain. The black under wing-coverts are always the