

RED CROSSBILL, *Loxia curvirostra pusilla*.—Seen three times in 1936. A well-marked flight occurred on July 18, 1937. From that date until the closing of camp in September, this species was recorded every day except two.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL, *Loxia leucoptera*.—Four birds of this species were observed on Hog Island on June 25, 1936.—ALLAN D. CRUICKSHANK, *National Association of Audubon Societies, 1775 Broadway, New York City*.

Notes from Vermont.—AMERICAN EGRET, *Casmerodius albus egretta*.—Dr. H. F. Perkins of the University of Vermont informs me that three members of his biology class identified three American Egrets at Sand Bar Bridge, Milton, Vermont, on July 21, 1937. On July 26, Dr. Perkins saw four individuals of this species near the same place. Mr. Elton Clark of Pomfret, Vermont, reports three American Egrets in Shoreham on July 15, 1937. Mr. Clark is a good observer and noted carefully the important marks of identification such as the black legs and yellow bill.

CAROLINA WREN, *Thryothorus l. ludovicianus*.—Miss Anna S. Reynolds of Burlington, Vermont, reports the presence of a Carolina Wren about her grounds from July 10 to October 5, 1936. The bird was seen several times in an excellent position for observation and all the marks of identification were carefully noted and the song was also identified. As Miss Reynolds is a good observer of birds, this is a credible sight record and the first observation of the species within the State so far as I know.

EASTERN HENSLOW'S SPARROW, *Passerherbulus henslowi susurrans*.—One was observed at Wells River, Vermont, on May 13, 1937, and at frequent intervals throughout the nesting season. Such distinctive marks as size, greenish hind neck, chestnut-brown wings and back with conspicuous light stripes, and narrowly striped breast, together with the song were several times noted, making this as conclusive as a sight record can be. Wells River is some distance north of any other known stations.—WENDELL P. SMITH, *Wells River, Vermont*.

Notes from the Cape Hatteras Region.—The following observations made in the region of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina, during the Thanksgiving season of 1937, may prove of interest. The three species listed were also seen and identified by Mr. O. B. Taylor of the National Park Service.

BLUE GOOSE, *Chen caerulescens*.—Two seen in a flock of thirteen Canada Geese on a small pond near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, November 28, 1937.

DUCK HAWK, *Falco peregrinus anatum*.—One seen at close range perched on a "sand fence" on Pea Island, November 25. One seen on Hatteras Island and another on Pea Island on November 27.

DOVEKIE, *Alle alle*.—A flock of approximately ten of these little northern wanderers was seen and identified on November 25 by Mr. Ed. Green of the park personnel at Cape Hatteras. On the next day two were found washed up on the beach in an exhausted condition and unable to fly. On November 27, still another was picked up on the beach in the same inexplicable state of exhaustion. All three died within a few hours of their capture, and two of the skins which were prepared are now in the University of Richmond collection. Mr. Green states that a few Dovekies have been found on the beach at Cape Hatteras each winter for the past few years.—GROVER PITTS, *University of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia*.

Notes from St. Thomas and cays, Virgin Islands.—On April 19, 1936, I accompanied Major Chapman Grant, U. S. A. retired, on a collecting trip to several cays around St. Thomas for specimens of reptiles, and data on species of breeding birds. We set sail in two of the none too reassuring Cha-cha boats accompanied by

Robert Nichols of the Virgin Islands Experiment Station and Dante de La Garde, whose knowledge of the cays was of value.

WATER ISLAND.—Visited the salt pond on the western end and there observed two Coots (*Fulica* sp.) swimming about, at one hundred yards. Yellow Warblers (*D. p. cruciana*) were abundant in the scrub growth.

LITTLE SABA.—Here bird life was scarce and the usual innumerable Zenaida Doves (*Zenaida z. zenaida*) that nest each season were missing; only an occasional one was seen. Other species recorded: *Larus atricilla*, four; *Fregata m. magnificens*, six, one immature; *Pelecanus o. occidentalis*, eight; *Sericotes h. holosericeus*, four, flitting energetically among a beautiful carpet of yellow cactus flowers. A call from the Major brought me hurrying to the edge of a large brackish pool where a Clapper Rail (*Rallus longirostris caribaeus*) was seen scurrying off into the matted thorny brush. On a sloping hillside, toward an extensive patch of guana-tail (*Agave* sp.), Nichols led the way, then thrusting his arm full length into a tunnel pulled out a fluffy gray ball, the young of Audubon's Shearwater (*Puffinus l. lherminieri*). Since many tunnels were found unoccupied no effort was made to estimate the possible number of breeding birds. Later at the base of the sheer cliffs six mummified bodies of immatures were picked up. Before we had left the cay some natives had arrived and presently were seen to return from the slopes bearing several young shearwaters and a young Tropic-bird (*Phaethon lepturus catesbyi*). Robbing the nests of breeding birds is common practice in disregard of the local laws.

COCKROACH CAY.—This cay has a very difficult approach and only the fearlessness and skill of our Cha-cha guide made landing anywhere near a success. From our position at the landing I viewed the perpendicular rock-facing, sheer for two hundred feet, and noted one possible lead by way of reaching the top. This proved negotiable and a half-hour later we reached the high plateau surrounded by perhaps fifteen hundred Brown Boobies (*Sula l. leucogaster*). The birds were fearless and I found it necessary to push many an adult from its nest in order to learn of the contents. Thirty-two nests with eggs and young were perhaps the last of the season's brood with great numbers of immature birds seen on the wing. A pair of Red-footed Boobies (*Sula s. sula*) was found nesting in company with the Brown Booby. The sitting bird, which had a pale-blue bill, allowed me to lift it from its nest and three eggs, but not before inflicting several painful wounds on my hand with its saw-edge bill. Eight Tropic-birds (*Phaethon lepturus catesbyi*) showed some concern as they circled about the rock cliffs but no nests or young birds were seen. An adult Red-billed Tropic-bird (*Phaethon aethereus mesonarta*) was captured beneath a rock ledge and climaxed its resentment in the fiercest ear-splitting scream I have ever heard. The bird in the hand showed the finely barred back and a pair of long tail feathers. After the Major had removed one of the latter the bird was tossed into the air and watched as it soared away to freedom. Two pairs of Oyster-catchers (*Haematopus* sp.) were observed and a male was secured, testes greatly enlarged. The eggs of this species have since been taken at the same locality.

ST. THOMAS AND BRVONI SWAMP.—A flock of sixteen Bahama Pintails (*Dafila b. bahamensis*) was observed and later an American Pintail (*Dafila acuta tzitzihoa*) in breeding male plumage was flushed. Other species noted: *Himantopus mexicanus*, six; *Totanus melanoleucus*, four; *Totanus flavipes*, eight; *Catoptrophorus s. semipalmatus*, one; *Florida caerulea*, one; *Egretta t. thula*, one; *Ardea h. herodias*, one. In a wooded district in the east end, five Ruddy Quail Doves (*Oreopeleia m. montana*) were seen by La Garde and I watched four Martins (*Progne subis dominicensis*) at play above a valley.—HARRY A. BEATTY, *Christiansted, St. Croix, Virgin Islands.*