

while a steam locomotive, noisily shunting freight cars, from time to time enveloped the birds in clouds of sulphurous smoke. While a few tucked their heads back among their feathers, the majority kept their heads exposed; and I could see the eyes of some gleaming in the flashes of the beacon, even after night was well advanced.

The Barn Swallow is known in Costa Rica chiefly as a passage migrant, appearing early in September (earliest record September 3) and continuing to pass southward in numbers until early October. Its status as a winter resident is doubtful; but it reappears in late February, becomes more abundant in March, in April passes through in countless numbers, and continues to migrate in decreasing numbers well into May. My latest date—save the one recorded above—is May 29, 1940. In 1939, I saw innumerable Barn Swallows in southern Costa Rica in April and early May, but none after May 23 until I met the one on the beacon-tower at Puntarenas. The record seems of interest because this is the only passerine bird, of a species known to breed only north of the Isthmus of Tehuantepec, which in a dozen seasons in the field I have seen in Central America at a date which suggests that it would not migrate to its nesting area during the season in question. Instances of failure to migrate from the winter home have been recorded for shore-birds and other non-passerines, but must be extremely rare for passerine species. Possibly the scarcity of records of this kind is caused by the fewness of observers, and the smallness of most passerine birds.—ALEXANDER F. SKUTCH, *Quizarrá de Pérez Zeledón, Costa Rica*.

Glossy Ibis near Toledo, Ohio.—On May 30, 1943, Harold F. Mayfield and I saw three adult Glossy Ibises (*Plegadis f. falcinellus*) in a flooded field adjoining the Cedar Point Marsh, Jerusalem Township, Lucas County, Ohio. The birds were viewed at close range and carefully distinguished from the White-faced Glossy Ibis (*Plegadis guarauna*). Although no specimen was taken, neither of us has the slightest doubt as to the correctness of our identification. This record seems to be the second for the Glossy Ibis in Ohio. In his 'Report on the Birds of Ohio' (1879), Dr. J. M. Wheaton quotes Dr. Kirtland to the effect that two were seen in 1848 near Fairport, Lake County, one of which, a male, was shot by Mr. Prugen and forwarded to him. At the time of Dr. Kirtland's statement, the mounted specimen had been placed in the cabinet of Natural History at the Cleveland Medical College.—LOUIS W. CAMPBELL, *Toledo, Ohio*.

Connecticut records.—This is to report two unusual records for Connecticut, both of which came to light on anniversaries, as it were. On October 7, 1943, Mrs. William Curtis of New Haven gave the Peabody Museum of Natural History an adult White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*), having found it somewhat cumbersome in her apartment. It proves to have been shot by her father, Reuben D. H. Hill, at Branford, Conn., on October 15, 1928, almost exactly fifteen years before the bird came to our attention. A boy who had discovered it on the water near shore told Mr. Hill of the "big goose." When shot, the pelican was retrieved from the water by means of a rowboat. Mr. Hill sent it to John Oed, a taxidermist in New Haven, to be mounted. Evidently no printed record appeared at that time, although this is, as far as I can learn, the first and only White Pelican known to have been seen in Connecticut. It is fairly well mounted and preserved (Catalogue No. 13510, Peabody Museum of Natural History).

The other bird is a female of the European Corn Crake (*Crex crex*) shot October

18, 1943, about a mile east of the Housatonic River in the town of Orange, by Mr. Donald Page, nephew of the late George Bird Grinnell. When received at the Museum it was in perfect condition except for a small bare spot on one side of the neck. The skin bears the catalogue number 13511. The bird was flushed by Mr. Page and a companion in typical pheasant cover of goldenrod and weeds on a knoll about 200 yards wide rising from Sora marshes on two sides.

As far as we know, this constitutes the second record for Connecticut. The first Corn Crake was taken at Saybrook by the Hon. John N. Clark on October 20, 1887, making an interval lacking two days of fifty-six years. One can but wonder how many others may have escaped attention, and especially by what route a bird of such comparatively weak flight reached Connecticut. Forbush ('Birds of Massachusetts and Other New England States,' 1: 364, 1925) reports the species as having been "taken and recorded 14 times on this side of the Atlantic, to say nothing of Greenland records," and surmises that it reaches New England (three records from Maine, Rhode Island, and Connecticut) by way of Greenland. But, rejecting transportation by man, the bird's appearance in Bermuda on October 25, 1847, indicates an ability to span wide oceanic distances.

The last record for North America seems to have been from Dennisville, New Jersey, November 11, 1905. It may be added that, with the exception of a bird taken in June, 1856, near Bridgeton, New Jersey, all the Corn Crakes recorded south of the St. Lawrence River have appeared in autumn (August 15 to November 28). In only one instance, at Falmouth, Maine, where two were shot on October 14, 1889, was more than one crake seen.

Two errors have crept into Mr. Bent's paragraph on distribution (U. S. Nat. Mus. Bull. 135: 339); the date of the earlier Connecticut bird was 1887 instead of 1871, and the Bridgeton, New Jersey, record should be June, 1856, according to Stone.—STANLEY C. BALL, *Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut.*

Two new records from Newfoundland Labrador.—During investigations of birds in Newfoundland we spent the last three days of June, 1943, in southern Labrador. We visited Chateau Bay and St. Peter's Bay, both on the north shore of the Strait of Belle Isle. Among the specimens we collected were two birds one of which was not previously recorded from Newfoundland Labrador while the other has demonstrated the necessity of altering an accepted subspecific assignment.

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER (*Empidonax flaviventris*). A male in breeding condition (original number 424) was collected at Pitts Arm, Chateau Bay, Labrador, on June 29. Austin ('Birds of Newfoundland Labrador,' Mem. Nuttall Ornith. Club, 7: 229, 1932) does not record any species of flycatcher from Labrador.

BLACK-BACKED ROBIN (*Turdus migratorius nigrideus*). This Newfoundland form is represented by a female (original number 426) which was shot on a nest of four partly incubated eggs at Pitts Arm, Chateau Bay, Labrador, on June 29. This specimen agrees with our series of seventeen robins taken in Newfoundland during the past two summers. Since this race was described (by Aldrich and Nutt, Sci. Publ. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., 4: 2, 1939), it has not been known that Labrador birds were assignable to it. Austin (*tom. cit.*: 169) says: "The robin of Labrador, at the northern extreme of its range, is certainly larger and darker than more southern birds, but I am unable to differentiate between a series of ten breeding specimens from Labrador and a much larger series from New England sharply enough to warrant further separation." Mr. James L. Peters, however, has ex-