

The Atlantic Murre in New Jersey.—On February 3, 1946, Donald Kunkle, the writer and other members of the Urner Ornithological Club found a dead specimen of the Atlantic or Common Murre (*Uria aalge aalge*)—an adult female in winter plumage—on the beach front at Avon, New Jersey. This is the first well-authenticated record of the occurrence of this species in New Jersey. The skin of the back had been ripped open, and the muscles partially eaten—probably by Herring Gulls. The greater pectoral muscles were much shrunken; the body was in fresh, odorless condition. With the exception of two spines, several vertebrae and other small bones of a Stickleback (tentatively, genus *Pygosteus*—identification by John T. Nichols) and a few grains of sand found in the stomach, the digestive tract was empty. The under coverts of the left wing were very slightly oiled. The skin has been presented to the American Museum of Natural History where it bears catalog No. 408,896.

For a discussion of why this species of Murre is so seldom reported south of Maine, in contrast to the periodic occurrence of the more northerly breeding Brännich's Murre as far south as Long Island and New Jersey, readers are referred to J. H. Fleming's article, 'The Unusual Migration of Brännich's Murre in Eastern North America' in the Proceedings of the Fourth International Ornithological Congress, London, 1905.—HOBART M. VAN DEUSEN, *Department of Mammalogy, American Museum of Natural History, New York City.*

Greater Snow Goose (?) on the lower Potomac River.—On November 19, 1945, I was in my duck blind as usual for the closing of the duck season. My host, who owns a ducking shore on the Potomac River, told me that a flock of eight snow geese afforded him a shot the previous week, and that he had killed and eaten three of them. He described them perfectly as being much smaller than the other geese in whose company they were, and with black wing tips. During the day in the blind from which he killed the geese, a flock of about a dozen swans swam past at some distance and with them were several small, snow white birds, evidently the remainder of the flock of snows. They did not come within range but kept well out in the channel. The locality is on the Potomac River a short distance below the mouth of Nanjemoy Creek and about opposite Mathias Point Light. While the exact identity of the species is, of course, uncertain, it is more probable that they were the Greater Snow Goose and not the Lesser which is much the rarer bird on the Atlantic coast. The Greater Snow Goose has been taken at various places along the Atlantic coast as far north as Long Island, but seldom so far inland. Whether they came across country from the coast or followed up Chesapeake Bay from the vicinity Back Bay (which latter is more likely), the distance is practically the same—one hundred and twenty miles.—EDWIN M. HASBROUCK, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

The Bay-breasted Warbler in Kansas.—A male of *Dendroica castanea* (Wilson) was obtained on May 14, 1943, by Mr. Paul Tiemeier, seven and one-half miles southwest of Lawrence, Douglas County, Kansas. This specimen, a skin (Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, No. 23,260), was recently called to my attention by Mr. Henry Hildebrand who was with Mr. Tiemeier when the bird was shot. An examination of the literature fails to reveal any previous record of the taking of a specimen in Kansas. W. S. Long (Check-List of Kansas Birds, Trans. Kansas Acad. Sci., 43: 433, 1940) placed this species in his hypothetical list . . . "pending collection of a specimen." He cites reports by P. B. Peabody at Blue Rapids, Kansas; H. Harris (Birds of Kansas City Region, 1919) and Spotswood (A Tabulated Summary of the Distribution of Warblers, Family Compothlypidae,

in the Kansas City Region, The Kansas City Museum Sci. Bulletin, May, 1942). These authors mention occasional sight records in the Kansas City, Missouri, area, but no actual specimens were recorded as taken. Since the species is known from eastern Texas and eastern Nebraska, its migratory route was certain to pass over eastern Kansas as has now been established.—THEODORE DOWNS, *Museum of Natural History, University of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas.*

An early record of the Passenger Pigeon for British Columbia.—In the collection of the United States National Museum is a female Passenger Pigeon collected by C. B. R. Kennerly (No. 15,993) at Chiloweyuck [= Chilliwack] Depot, British Columbia, on June 29, 1859. This specimen was recorded by Ridgway [U. S. Nat. Mus., Bull. 50 (7): 336, 1916] as from Puget Sound, Washington, which was so indicated by the printed label; and Baird and Cooper (Ornith. of Calif.: 511, 1870) undoubtedly referred to the same specimen when they also considered this species as occurring at Puget Sound, Washington. Baker (Bull. U. S. Geo. Surv., 174: 45, 1900) states that Chiloweyuck Depot is situated on the Chiloweyuck [= Chilliwack] River at about 49° 09.5' North Lat., and 121° 58.0' W. Long., and that it is 63 miles from the sea; this clearly indicates that the locality is in British Columbia and not in the State of Washington.

The first reference to the Passenger Pigeon occurring in British Columbia was by Milton and Cheadle, 'The North-West Passage by Land,' as cited by Pearse (Auk, 53: 447, 1936); and Brooks and Swarth (Pac. Coast Avif., 17: 53, 1935) included the Passenger Pigeon in their distributional list of British Columbia on the basis of three specimens recorded by J. K. Lord and supposedly taken on the west side of the Rocky Mountains. Thus, the specimen in the U. S. National Museum is apparently the only specimen extant of the Passenger Pigeon which can be definitely ascribed to British Columbia; there is considerable doubt as to the true locality for the Lord specimens, and Milton and Cheadle merely mentioned that they were shot in great numbers [for food]. It appears from the accounts of Milton and Cheadle that no specimens were preserved as the natural hazards of their long journey across the continent and the loss of their equipment, etc., precluded the saving of specimens for museum purposes.—ALLEN J. DUVAL, *Fish and Wildlife Service, U. S. Dept. Interior, Washington, D. C.*

White-fronted Goose on the coasts of New York and New Jersey.—The White-fronted Goose (*Anser albifrons*) is an extremely rare migrant on the Atlantic seaboard of the United States and specimens or authentic sight-records from this section are but few, particularly from New York and New Jersey. The following represent all of the records of this bird that are available from the coast of New York State (Long Island).

Early in the past century a White-fronted Goose was shot at Babylon (Giraud, *Birds of Long Island*: 296-297, 1844). This is the same bird mentioned by DeKay (*Zool. N. Y.*, pt. 2: 349, 1844). The specimen was examined while it was in the collection of the N. Y. Lyceum. This collection was destroyed by fire in 1866. Two specimens in the collection of the Long Island Historical Society are referred to by Dutcher (*Rare Birds of Long Island, Auk*, 10: 271, 1893). One of these birds was shot at Montauk and presented to the Society by H. G. Reeve. The date is not given. The other specimen was taken on Great South Bay during November, 1846, and was a gift of Col. Nicolas Pike. According to Dutcher, Col. Pike tells of two other geese of this species that were killed by him during his long gunning experience on southern Long Island; the first was secured at Islip on March 18, 1849, and the