

lation count of Sooty Terns at the Tortugas, the different aspect of this bird was most obvious.

The position of the boat at the time was about a mile and a half southwest of the whistling buoy on New Ground Shoal (between Marquesas Keys and the Dry Tortugas) and distant about 25 miles east of the latter group. This appears to be the fifth appearance of this tropical bird in the south Florida region.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *National Audubon Society, Charleston, South Carolina.*

Evening Grosbeak in eastern Virginia.—On May 5, 1946, I saw about fifteen Evening Grosbeaks in a grove composed principally of large beech trees with a scattering growth of smaller trees and shrubs. The location was on Gordon's Creek ten miles from Williamsburg, Virginia. This is the first record I have for this state although they may have been previously reported, and the date of their occurrence is of particular interest. I visited the same locality on May 7 and 8 and found the birds still there, and on the latter date, I collected a male specimen. The sexes seemed to be about equally divided but they showed no sign of being paired and moved about as a compact flock. They were found in the middle and lower foliage of the trees and, at times, all of them would be on the ground where they may have been feeding on beech nuts of which there was a plentiful supply.—F. M. JONES, *Cologne, Virginia.*

Late Evening Grosbeaks on Long Island, New York.—During the winter of 1945–1946, a flock of Eastern Evening Grosbeaks, *Hesperiphona vespertina vespertina* (W, Cooper), came daily to the Baldwin Bird Club feeding station at the library grounds in Baldwin, L. I., N. Y. The flock, at its maximum, numbered more than eighty birds. The grosbeaks were first seen on December 24, 1945. On Easter, April 21, 1946, 33 birds were still at the feeding station. On Sunday, May 12, John Bull and George Komorowski, of The Linnean Society, recorded one male and four females at the feeding station. The next day, May 13, Mrs. Teale saw one male and three females and on Wednesday, May 15, Weston Fowler, Conservation Chairman of the Baldwin Bird Club, saw one female, the last bird observed. This date exceeds by 19 days the latest previous record for Eastern Evening Grosbeaks on Long Island and by nine days, the record for the New York City region as recorded on page 438 in Allan D. Cruickshank's 'Birds Around New York City.'—EDWIN WAY TEALE, *Baldwin, L. I., New York.*

Curlew flight through southwestern Oklahoma.—That a considerable number of Long-billed Curlews (*Numenius americanus americanus*) moved through southwestern Oklahoma in the spring of 1946 seems apparent from observations of personnel of the Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Comanche County, Oklahoma.

Approximately 50 appeared on the Wichita Refuge between March 23 and April 10; the last were observed April 20. This curlew is very rare on the refuge, having been reported but once previously, when a few were seen in early April, 1943. Roy T. Ballard, refuge patrolman, observed 1,500 in the vicinity of Tipton, Oklahoma, March 31, and also saw between 700 and 800 in an 80-acre grainfield on the L. H. Lindsey farm, three miles north of Tipton, on the same date. It is the conclusion of Tipton residents that the species was slightly more numerous during the 1946 spring flight than in previous years. Several flocks of 20 or 30 birds were also reported from the Indianhom (Oklahoma) area to the writer.

Four birds were found along roadsides, apparently victims of passing cars. The crop of one which was examined contained a number of small cutworms, a few striped



WILLIAMS: ARCTIC TERN IN ALASKA: (*Upper*) SOUTH SAWYER GLACIER, TRACY ARM. ISLAND IN LEFT FOREGROUND WHERE TERNS WERE NESTING POINTS TOWARD FALLING ICE IN THE BACKGROUND. (*Lower*) NORTH SAWYER GLACIER, LOOKING NORTH FROM ISLAND.

grubs and a large amount of green grass and alfalfa leaves. The bill of this specimen measured $7\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length.—ERNEST J. GREENWALT, *Wichita Mts. Wildlife Refuge, Cache, Oklahoma.*

Cattle Egret in Surinam, Dutch Guiana.—While watching birds on March 10, 1946, near Nieuw Nickerie, Surinam, I found a number of herons assembled in a swamp behind the small fringe of wood which borders the coast between the rivers Corantijn and Nickerie. Beside Egrets (*Casmerodius albus*), always very common in the rice fields bordering this swamp on the land side, there were several Snowy Egrets (*Leucophoyx thula*), Little Blue Herons (*Florida caerulea*) and Louisiana Herons (*Hydranassa tricolor*). Among a group of Snowy Egrets, a small white heron of just the same size drew my attention at a distance by having an orange yellow bill instead of a black one. Happily I could approach this group of birds until I was quite near, as herons in this region are, as a rule, very tame. To my great astonishment I saw that it was a Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*). It was of just the same size as the Snowy Egrets, its bill was orange-yellow, its legs and feet dark yellow, it had a small buffish tuft on its crown and buff feathers on the mantle. After I flushed the bird, these buff feathers on crown and mantle were very conspicuous when it settled again in a shrub. As several herons of different species were feeding in its company, I could easily compare these field marks. Nevertheless I very much regretted in having no gun with me at that time so that I was not able to collect the bird and that I now have to content myself by giving this interesting observation as a sight record. This seems to be the first record for Surinam and the third one for South America; it was recorded before from British Guiana (Auk, 56: 470, 1939) and Venezuela (Auk, 61: 656, 1944). Now that three birds have been recorded in different years and at widely separated localities, it seems unlikely that they were escaped captive birds.—FR. HAVERSCHMIDT, 14 *Waterkant, Paramaribo, Surinam.*

Pintail in Surinam, Dutch Guiana.—Among a few bird skins from Surinam assembled by Dr. D. C. Geyskes of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Paramaribo, I found a young male Pintail (*Anas acuta tzitzihoa*). It was shot by a local hunter early in January, 1946, near Nieuw Nickerie, District Nickerie, Surinam. Never having seen this kind of duck in that region, he took it to the District Commissioner who forwarded the bird, which was only wing-tipped, to Dr. Geyskes who made a skin of it. I believe this to be the first record for Surinam and to be the southernmost record for South America.—FR. HAVERSCHMIDT, 14 *Waterkant, Paramaribo, Surinam.*

Notes on the Arctic Tern in Alexander Archipelago, Southeastern Alaska (Plate 6).—On June 23, 1945, Edward L. Kiethahn and I visited a small colony of *Sterna paradisaea* on a tiny island in the fresh-water lake in front of the 'dead' Mendenhall Glacier which is located about 12 miles northwest of Juneau, Alaska.

The half-acre island is composed of gravel left by the glacier or pushed up by the action of the lake. The surface was carpeted with several species of mosses and lichens. A few small willows and alders were found along the high north side of the island which rose to an elevation of near five feet above the lake surface.

The terns were noted in flight over Mendenhall Lake, making detours, quartering and diving in their search for food. At this season of the year, salmon two to three inches in length could be found in the lake and the streams which feed this body of water. The adults flushed when we were about a quarter of a mile from the island and immediately filled the air above the island in wild, yet graceful, dignified and