

States, I discovered a specimen of the Yellow-green Vireo (*Virco flavoviridis*) taken by Mr. Kimball on 9 May 1933. Unfortunately, there is no locality given on the original label. After checking through old correspondence both to and from Mr. Kimball, it appears that he spent the years 1935 to 1944 in Matagorda, Matagorda County, Texas. Although it is impossible to state with certainty that the bird was collected there, it seems from statements by Mr. Kimball and others that he did not travel much when established in a locality, especially in his later years.

In his summary of the literature, Monroe (*Auk*, 76, 1959: 95-96) lists three other specimens from the United States.—LARRY L. WOLF, *The University of Michigan Museum of Zoology, Ann Arbor, Michigan*.

Another Probable Record of an Eskimo Curlew on Galveston Island, Texas.

—At 4 p.m. on 3 April 1960 Mr. Carl H. Aiken III, Mr. Stephen G. Williams, and I observed, at a distance of about 150 meters, what we identified as an Eskimo Curlew (*Numenius borealis*) among four Whimbrels (*N. phaeopus*) in a pasture on Galveston Island. We studied the Eskimo Curlew for two minutes through a Bushnell 25x spotting scope and a 30x Balscope before it flew out of sight down the island. A little later Mrs. Jerry B. Strickling drove up and informed us that her party had found an Eskimo Curlew in a nearby pasture. Mr. and Mrs. Strickling, Mr. and Mrs. Henry S. Hoffman, Aiken, Williams, and I studied this bird at leisure in excellent light through the spotting scopes at a distance of 300 meters. It fed on well-drained ground where the grass was about eight cm. high. A Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) and a Long-billed Curlew (*N. americanus*), feeding nearby, were observed several times with the Eskimo Curlew in the field of the scope.

The most striking marks of the bird in question were the very thin, short bill (the Whimbrel is a decidedly thick-billed bird), the small size (about that of a Golden Plover), and the general buffy coloration. The buffiness was most prominent on the crissum and lower abdomen, but the feathers of the back and the secondaries appeared to be edged with buff, giving the bird an over-all darker appearance than that of the Whimbrel. The hind neck and back were delicately streaked. The crown appeared uniform brown with a thin, indistinct, medial stripe. The line through the eye was brown and the superciliary line light buff.

During April 1959 I studied on four occasions the Eskimo Curlew reported by George G. Williams (*Auk*, 76: 539-41). The Stricklings also saw the Eskimo Curlew reported by Williams. The possibility must be considered that the bird we identified as an Eskimo curlew could have been a Least Curlew (*N. minutus*), since the two species are almost identical in the field. However, as Williams noted in his article, the Least Curlew is an Asiatic-Australian species that has never been recorded in North America and is most improbable in spring in southern Texas. The possibility also exists that the bird in question was an abnormally small Whimbrel, but I believe this is highly unlikely since it possessed characters such as buffy coloration and a very thin beak, which the Whimbrel lacks. Within these limits of probability, I am convinced that the bird I saw on 3 April 1960 was an Eskimo Curlew. All observers mentioned here concur in this identification.

The fact that a curlew pronouncedly smaller than a Whimbrel and with a much shorter and thinner bill was observed on Galveston Island in two successive years heightens the probability that this bird was an Eskimo Curlew rather than a Least Curlew.

After 3 April, despite intensive search of the area for almost two weeks, the bird was reported on only two other occasions. On 4 April Mr. Armand Yramategui reported an Eskimo Curlew in the same pasture where the Stricklings and I had seen it the previous day. Mrs. J. A. Snyder and Mr. Clinton Snyder reported an Eskimo Curlew in the same pasture on 6 April and compared it with Whimbrels and Long-billed Curlews. They also reported that the bird had reddish-cinnamon axillars and under wing coverts. This observation lends further substance to the identification of the bird as an Eskimo Curlew, rather than a Least Curlew, since Ridgway (*Birds of North and Middle America*, 1919, p. 411) lists the only plumage difference between the two species as the cinnamon-buff axillars and under wing coverts of the Eskimo Curlew, in contrast to the pale-buff axillars and under wing coverts of the Asiatic bird.—VICTOR L. EMANUEL, 2607 Tanglew, Houston, Texas.

Two Unusual Bird Records for California.—On 18 September 1960 Dr. Francis X. Williams, Associate Curator of Entomology at the Natural History Museum, picked up a dead Worm-eating Warbler, *Helminthos vermivorus*, on the street at 3rd Avenue near the City Park in Chula Vista, San Diego County, California. The bird was still warm, and the fractured tip of its beak gave evidence of its having struck a solid object, in all probability a window pane. The specimen, an immature male, is Number 30219 in the collection of The San Diego Society of Natural History and represents the first record of this species for California.

On the same date a specimen of Red-breasted Goose, *Branta ruficollis*, was shot by a hunter near Carlsbad, San Diego County, California. This small goose was feeding in a pond on the Kelley ranch when collected and was brought to the museum by Mr. H. C. Kelley, Jr., who had recognized it as a very unusual bird. The specimen, an immature male, was in very thin flesh when prepared as a cabinet skin and is now Number 30220 in the collection of the San Diego Society of Natural History.

The capture of this goose so far from its native range in Middle Siberia offers some question of its origin. However, the flight feathers show evidence of considerable use, and the body plumage, in a state of partial moult, is in clean condition, which would not have been so with a cage-reared bird, nor is it probable that a cage bird would have been in such thin flesh. The date of capture also closely correlates with the southward migration of northern waterbirds. In all probability, this Red-breasted Goose had strayed eastward from its normal range and followed or joined the North American migrants on their southward journey. The capture of this bird represents an additional species to the North American list and a new bird for California.—LAURENCE M. HUEY, *Natural History Museum, Balboa Park, San Diego, California*.

***Somateria mollissima v. nigra* in Minnesota.**—In late October and early November 1959 Minnesota was apparently invaded by a small flight of Common Eider. Two were shot 25 October near Warroad, Roseau County, on the south shore of Lake of the Woods. Dr. John Larson of Warroad kindly sent one specimen in the flesh and the skin of the other to the University of Minnesota Museum of Natural History. A third was shot from a flock of seven ducks 6 November at Squaw Lake, Itasca County. The partially plucked specimen was obtained by Minnesota Warden Robert Greig and forwarded to Lee who presented it to the Museum. The Warroad specimens (MMNH 15812 and 15813) and the head and feet of the Squaw Lake bird (MMNH 16400) were sent to W. Earl Godfrey of