

(p. 515) will furnish a description of the method by which this bird extracts the food material from the bottom of ponds and rivers and from the muddy water. Analysis of the stomach of a specimen secured at Palo Verde, Imperial County, September 4, 1916, and contained in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, shows the following food elements:

- 10 seeds of the screw bean (*Strombocarpus pubescens*)
- 2 seeds mesquite (*Prosopis glandulosa*)
- Parts of 4 water beetles (*Cybister* sp.)
- Finely comminuted vegetable material.

The seeds were identified by W. L. McAtee and the beetles by E. C. Van Dyke.

This food material is exactly what we might expect to find in the shallow water of the Colorado River. It is of interest that a bird with so large a bill, and with the bill lacking the sieve-like apparatus of a duck's bill, can be so adept at sifting small particles from the water.—HAROLD C. BRYANT, *Berkeley, California, July 1, 1919.*

The Occurrence of the Long-billed Curlew in Northwestern California.—In commenting upon "The Game Birds of California" recently, Mr. H. E. Wilder brought to my attention some facts known to him, but not heretofore published, relative to the occurrence of the Long-billed Curlew along the northwestern California coast. Mr. Wilder has generously urged me to put these facts on record, and furthermore has presented to the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology a specimen of the bird, taken at the mouth of the Eel River, Humboldt County, July 18, 1916. This bird (now no. 30708, Mus. Vert. Zool.) was secured for Mr. Wilder by Mr. Jack Kemp, of Ferndale, and this latter gentleman states that he has shot many of the same species. District Attorney A. W. Hill of Eureka, who spent his early years on the shores of Humboldt Bay, told Mr. Wilder that he had shot many of these curlew there. He said they often came early in the fall before the ducks had appeared. In October, 1918, he saw a flock of seven at the mouth of Eel River.

Later, Mr. Wilder interviewed Mr. Frank Williams of the Russ-Williams Bank of Ferndale, who has spent much time hunting ducks and fishing for salmon along the lower Eel River. Mr. Williams stated that curlew have always been rather common though irregular visitors to that section. He said they usually occur in early fall, and commonly in small flocks; but at one time some years ago they came in great numbers, numerous flocks of 200 or more each being present.

As to subspecies, the bird sent to this Museum by Mr. Wilder falls under the name *Numenius americanus occidentalis*, the Lesser Long-billed Curlew—this on the basis of measurements in comparison with the averages and extremes given by Oberholser (Auk, xxxv, 1918, pp. 189, 193) and by Ridgway (Bds. N. and Mid. Amer., pt. viii, 1919, pp. 391, 394). The bird in question (no. 30708, Mus. Vert. Zool.) is marked "♀", but is so very small for this sex, even in *occidentalis*, that one is tempted to think it more likely a male. It measures, in millimeters: Wing 273; tail 99; exposed culmen 117; tarsus 85.

Of course one example is insufficient evidence that all the curlew visiting the Humboldt Bay region are the Lesser. Further specimens are needed. In west-central California, the larger, Eastern Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus americanus*) is the predominant race during the fall migration, as shown by the considerable number of specimens at hand.—J. GRINNELL, *Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, August 24, 1919.*

Additional Notes and Records from Colorado.—Since the publication in the Auk (xxxv, 1918, p. 236) of "Notes on Some Species New to the Colorado List of Birds", the following occurrences have been brought to light, which supplement those referred to. All specimens upon which they are based are in the collections of the Colorado Museum of Natural History.

Gavia pacifica. The Colorado record of this species is based upon an immature female (C. M. N. H. no. 7003) from the Edwin Carter collection, taken in the vicinity of Breckenridge, Colo., Nov. 15th, 1887. I am indebted to Mr. A. C. Bent of Taunton, Mass., for assistance in making the determination. In referring to the specimen, he writes, in part:—"Its measurements are rather small for this species, but not too small for a young