from the ship. So far as my experience goes, there was no particular time of year when either species was more abundant, and from the several collected at different seasons, I would say that all that visited the shores of southern California were non-breeders. Nor have I ever seen a specimen of *D. albatrus* in white plumage along the shores of the United States south of about 50°. While *albatrus* was almost or quite as common as *nigripes* as far south as 25° N. Lat., all were in the dark plumage.

In 1887 I noted an albatross in white plumage off San Geronimo Island, 30° N., which I now know to have been *D. immutabilis*. During the next five years half a dozen others were seen, all within forty miles of that island, though none was taken until 1897, when a specimen was shot within a few miles of Geronimo. Just why all the records should have been in the near neighborhood of San Geronimo is a question that I have often pondered since that day, as the rest of the coast, north and south, was equally well explored.

The present status of the genus *Diomedea*, with respect to the coasts of southern California and the Peninsula, is that of a species all but extinct. During the past three years, some 1000 miles of their former haunts, north of the Mexican boundary line, have been covered, without discovering a single bird. In 1922-23, over 2000 miles of ocean was explored, between San Diego and Magdalena Bay, with the net result of eight or ten seen. In 1897 I have seen that many at one time; and the same distance, over the same water, would have totalled 500 albatrosses. The conditions were most strongly presented to me when, on a recent trip to Guadalupe Island in company with Mr. L. M. Huey, we sighted one lone Black-footed Albatross, and he told me that it was the first of the genus he had ever seen alive. This, too, after fifteen years of collecting, a fair part of which time was spent with the sea birds, and over a section that must certainly have made the bird familiar twenty-five years ago. There can be no question that the difference is entirely the result of the slaughter of the birds on the islands between Hawaii and Japan in 1909, when 250,000, mostly albatrosses, were killed by the Japanese for the feather market.

The Short-tailed Albatross is known to have nested on Bonin Island, south of Japan, an island the Japanese have fortified within recent years. Whether they destroyed all of this species is a question open to debate. During the past three years I have not seen or heard of either *albatrus* or *immutabilis* along the coast of Lower California.

Prior to 1900 one might count with reasonable certainty on sighting one or two Tropic Birds along the coast of the Peninsula, between 28° and 31° N. Lat. At no time were they common, but I seldom made the voyage from Cedros Island north without noting one or two. The only one that I ever secured proved to be the Red-tailed Tropic Bird, *Phaethon rubricaudus*, a species nesting on Laysan, one of the islands raided by the Japanese. During the voyage of the Mexican patrol boat, "Tacate," in 1922-23—some 2000 miles—we saw no Tropic Birds at all, nor were the sailors familiar with the species, though sailing these waters constantly. There is little doubt that the tropic bird found in the Gulf of California and south, *P. aethereus*, is still fairly abundant, if, indeed, it is not as common as it was fifty years ago, which leaves us to wonder if it was not *P. rubricaudus* that formerly reached our shores regularly and is no longer seen because of the depredations on the mid-Pacific islands, some fourteen years ago. —A. W. ANTHONY, *San Diego, California, August 31, 1923.*

Sparrow Hawk Attacking Robins.—On September 6, 1923, I happened to be encamped at the Bogard Forest Service Station, which is located a few miles southeast of Poison Lake, Lassen County, California, at an elevation of approximately 6000 feet. The station is in a small grove of lodgepole pines, which extends along a small stream that soon loses itself in the sagebrush and lava-covered plain.

While out for an early ramble, looking for avian migrants among the clumps of willows near the stream, my attention was attracted by a flock of Western Robins *(Planesticus migratorius propinquus)* which had evidently just arrived upon its way south. There was much activity going on among the individuals of which the flock was composed and constant flying to and fro between the pine trees and the floor of the little open meadow adjacent to the grove. In this meadow swarms of grasshoppers were doing their best to deprive the station horses of their share of the grass that was growing there.

Suddenly what appeared to me to be a female American Sparrow Hawk *(Cerchneis sparverius)* darted from a pine tree and made a vicious attack upon one of the robins feeding on the ground. The robin dodged barely in time to avoid being struck. Wondering what object a sparrow hawk might have in thus attacking a robin, I made myself as inconspicuous as possible and watched for developments.

Within the course of half an hour the sparrow hawk made seven deliberate attacks upon robins on the ground, but always missed its target by three or four inches. On each occasion the hawk darted from some elevated position of advantage, sometimes from a dead willow limb, but mostly from a pine tree, and swooped at its intended victim evidently with murderous intent.

There was a continuous commotion among the robins, for they were constantly changing positions and frequently chasing each other as they flew, so that it was impossible to note all the attacks made by the hawk, especially as the latter often changed its eyrie; but seven distinct attacks were counted. Several side attacks were also made in an attempt to strike a bird as it was in the air.

Curiously enough, the robins did not seem to have any particular fear of the hawk, and the only ones disturbed by its attacks were those immediately surrounding the bird upon which the attack was made; whereas, if it had been a larger hawk, the whole flock would have been greatly excited. At one time the hawk lit near me on an outer branch of a pine, not over twenty-five feet above the ground, and I saw a robin walk along the branch behind the hawk and drive it away.

It was my great desire to see the hawk actually strike a victim, in order to see both what effect its comparatively weak claws would have upon so large a bird as a robin and what it would do with its victim if successful in its attack. Such good fortune, however, was not to be mine. Before such an event took place the flock moved on across the pine grove in a southerly direction and, after waiting awhile to see if there might be any further developments, I shot the hawk so as to make my identification absolutely certain. Its stomach was jam full of grasshoppers!—JOSEPH MAILLIARD, *California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, September 9, 1923.*

Three Oregon Stragglers.—Deputy Game Warden George Russell brought me an adult male Black Turnstone *(Arenaria melanocephala)* that he shot November 12, 1913, at Wapato Lake, near Gaston, Washington County, Oregon. This lake is a shallow body of water formed by late fall and winter rains. Most of the lake dries up during the spring, the dry portion being used for the cultivation of onions. The lake is about forty miles in an air line from the coast, the natural habitat of the species.

J. C. Glover captured an oil-soaked Cassin Auklet *(Ptychoramphus aleuticus)* in the Willamette River in the lower harbor at Portland, Oregon, October 4, 1921. Although the birds are not known to breed on the Oregon coast, they are a fairly common and regularly migrant during fall and winter on the ocean.

J. C. Glover captured a live adult female Beal's Petrel *(Oceanodroma leucorhoa beali)* July 10, 1923, on the Willamette River, Oregon, near the Hawthorne Bridge, in the most congested part of Portland Harbor. The bird was kept alive about twenty-four hours by Mr. Glover, but was then killed to preserve as a specimen. Upon examination the body was found much emaciated and the stomach empty, probably on account of lack of proper food after it had wandered from the salt water.

The above three notes constitute the first inland records for the species so far brought to my notice during a twenty years' residence in Oregon.—STANLEY G. JEWETT, *Portland, Oregon, September 11, 1923.*

Honey and Hummingbirds.—In my forty foot garden within a few blocks of the business center of Los Angeles, I have had much pleasure and a fine opportunity for studying hummingbirds this summer by feeding them with honey. A small, rather wide-mouthed bottle was hung by a wire over a branch of a fruit tree, the wire being bent so that the bottle hung near a bunch of flowering pink petunias. Filling the bottle with honey diluted with water, I placed a petunia blossom with the tube of the flower in the bottle and awaited results.