

I did not put it down in my notes, but I also moved the eggs the second time I cultivated the corn.

J. A. SPURRELL.

Wall Lake, Iowa.

NOTES FROM LAKE COUNTY, OHIO.

Iceland Gull—On December 3, 1916, a White-winged Gull was flying about the piers and breakwaters at Fairport Harbor, and was under my observation for some time. The bird was an immature and very dark in coloration, except for the end third (primaries) of the wings, which were pure white. The general color was as dark as the darkest immature Herring Gull one ever sees, and this brought out the white tips of the wings in striking contrast. Even when the bird flew far out over the lake, where the glass was necessary to distinguish it at all, these pure white wing tips were very evident. I called it Iceland rather than Glaucous because, from among the immature Herring Gulls about for comparison, it did not show appreciably larger. The bird winged back and forth and settled upon the water at times, but made no vocal outcry whatever.

Purple Sandpiper—The bird mentioned in the December issue of the Bulletin stayed about the stone breakwater for some time and was last seen on November 12. On this date it showed a tameness worthy of record. A friend and I walked up to within fifteen feet of the bird and then sat down to observe it at our ease. It watched us also for a while and then deliberately tucked its bill under its wing and took a snooze. Nor did it withdraw its bill when we arose and left. Later in the day I went out on the stones again alone and was keeping an eye in the air for ducks, when I became aware that something was trying not to get stepped on. I looked down and there was the Sandpiper again at my feet calmly walking away. The bird was injured in no way, for it took long flights across to the other breakwater and was a splendid fat specimen. Before I could get down again with a camera a severe winter storm had occurred and I saw him no more.

E. A. DOOLITTLE.

Painesville, Ohio.

THE MAY MIGRATIONS, 1917, AT OBERLIN, OHIO.

If one needed concrete evidence that the weather does have a profound influence upon the movements of the birds during their periods of migration, he has it.

March was not unusual, and while the records show a somewhat erratic migratory movement for that month—in the unusually early

arrival of some few species and an unusually late appearance for others—there was no reason for predicting what has happened in May. April was also nearly normal up to the last week. But beginning with the last week of April and continuing until almost the closing days of May there was almost continual cold weather, with frosts or near-frosts, and no period of warm weather of sufficient duration or of wide enough extent to permit the smaller birds to move in safety.

How widespread this condition was over the interior of the country remains to be learned. It extended at least into central Iowa.

The most distressing thing about the period of cold was the great destruction of Purple Martins and swallows during the first two weeks of May, and the death by starvation of large numbers of the other small insectivorous birds during the last two weeks. Practically all of the first wave of martins died of starvation in and about their nesting houses, here in Oberlin, and many of the second wave likewise starved. It may be that some few individuals retreated southward and returned when the weather moderated, but that was not determined. There were three distinct waves of martins: the first during the first week of April, the second about the first of May, and the last about May 20. Something of the same thing happened with the swallows.

There was no migration, in the proper sense, of warblers and other small birds until May 18, when for three days they came in numbers, then there was a return of cold and wet weather, which held them until the last day of May. How much longer some will stay remains to be learned.

LYNDS JONES.

TUFTED TITMOUSE AT IOWA CITY.

(*Baeolophus bicolor*.)

It is interesting to observe the apparent increase in numbers of this species in and near Iowa City and the fact seems worthy of mention at this time.

Anderson, in his "Birds of Iowa" (1907), indicates the Tufted Titmouse as "a rather rare resident in southern Iowa, seldom reaching the northern part of the state, although it has been occasionally taken in the extreme southern counties of Minnesota." The increase in the number of individuals locally, not only in town but in the surrounding country as well, has been quite marked in recent years and one can not go on a field without encountering at least three or four and hearing the loud, clear whistle of perhaps several others. They are quite tame and unsuspecting and I have approached to within a few feet of them on many occasions. The