

GENERAL NOTES

NOTES FROM LAKE COUNTY

PURPLE SANDPIPER—In the 1917 volume of Wilson Bulletin, page 130, I reported an individual of this species as making a considerable stay on a stone breakwater at Lake Erie, i.e., October 22 to November 12, 1916. It has been my good fortune to have seen a single bird at the same place on two occasions since then. First on October 25, 1922, and second, on November 11, 1923; thus making three records of this rare species in eight years. As was the case with my first record the birds were exceedingly unafraid and gave me full opportunity to note the orange yellow legs, the yellow at base of bill, white area back of eye, dark slaty plumage, and other items.

PARASITIC JAEGER—I reported a dead bird of this species in Wilson Bulletin for 1919, page 128, that came under my notice September 20, 1914. I again found a dead bird on the beach the past year, October 7, 1923, and am herewith sending its bill to the editor.

E. A. DOOLITTLE.

Painesville, Ohio.

THE BARN OWL AS A MIGRANT

On July 28, 1923, I freed two young Barn Owls (*Strix pratincola*), which had been raised by hand, and on December 27, 1923, one of them was reported to the U. S. Biological Survey as having been shot at Opp, in southern Alabama. This point lies 75 miles from the Gulf of Mexico and 350 miles south of Knoxville, Tenn., where the bird was raised and freed. Dr. Fisher in his "Hawks and Owls of the U. S.," states that "it migrates more or less in the northern part of its range, and there is an appreciable increase in the number of individuals to the southward during the fall months." The above record would indicate a southward migratory movement of southern as well as northern individuals.

The nest from which the young Barn Owls were taken was a large cavity in a live sycamore tree, in the bottoms of and a few hundred yards from the Tennessee River. On May 27th it contained three young about one week old, one of which, the middle sized one, was taken, to be reared by hand. A week later the nest was examined again and the smaller one of the two remaining owls had disappeared. The larger was taken and it was found that the hand fed "middle sized one" had caught up with it in size. They thrived and developed rapidly and as pets were a source of much interest. On July 28th they appeared to have reached maturity, so were banded and released. Nothing was heard or seen of them afterward until the above mentioned report of one of them having been killed. During the past winter the hollow sycamore has been the headquarters of a Barred Owl.

H. P. JAMS.

Knoxville, Tenn., Feb. 1924.