

this species but states (*op. cit.*:366-367) that the measurements of limb elements were "taken between proximal and distal articulating surfaces in such a way that their sums would most closely approximate total limb lengths." An attempt to approximate Engels' method of measurement yields figures approximately 1 mm. shorter than the total length, or 35.8 mm. for the fossil. The standard deviation (σ) of Engels' sample of this species is 0.90, hence the fossil is outside the range of the mean $\pm 3\sigma$, and therefore is almost certainly not *T. curvirostre*.

According to Ridgway (1907. *Bull. U.S. Natl. Mus.* 50, No. 4:191-199), the related species, *T. longirostre* and *T. ocellatum*, have tarsometatarsi which average 2.3 and 3.8 mm., respectively, longer than those of *T. curvirostre* (measurements taken from skins). Since the latter difference more closely approximates the difference between the length of the fossil and the mean of Engels' series (3.1 mm.), the fossil is tentatively referred to *T. ocellatum*, until an adequate series of skeletons of *T. ocellatum* and *T. longirostre* can be examined.—ROBERT W. STORER, *Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, February 26, 1954.*

A new nesting locality for the Common Tern.—On July 18, 1953, I visited a rock pile at the southern end of Cayuga Lake at Ithaca, New York. This rock pile was part of an old breakwater, running for a distance of about 75 feet at right angles to the wall at Cayuga Inlet, but disconnected from the latter by several feet. The pile, now a jumble of rocks and small boulders, rises only a few inches above water level. There are a couple of small patches of vegetation, but the pile is essentially an open "rock beach" with some debris washed up on it. The pile cannot be reached by walking since the nearest land, a couple of hundred feet away, is the mud flat of the southern end of Cayuga Lake. Thus this rock pile is surrounded by water; it is relatively isolated from dogs and rats, and is not often visited by humans.

As I moored my boat two Common Terns (*Sterna hirundo*) circled and screamed a few feet over my head, and soon one of them started diving at me. Just a few steps from my boat was a tern nest containing two warm eggs. This is the first nesting record of the Common Tern in the southern Cayuga Basin.

On July 23, I revisited the site and found another tern nest, with three warm eggs, on a second island in the same old breakwater. On July 24, Arthur A. Allen visited this little tern colony. He took pictures of the eggs and the incubating bird at the second nest and found that the two eggs of the first nest had been washed away. On July 30, a group of Cornell students found the three eggs still there and warm, but one egg, with a well-developed embryo, was badly cracked. The morning of August 4 I found an adult still incubating the two eggs.

On August 8, Arnold Wellwood visited the tern nest and found that the eggs were cold. Other students visited the spot in the next few days and also reported the eggs cold. On August 23 I went to collect the eggs but found them gone. The nest had been washed over by the waves.

Up to 1953, the nearest records for Common Tern colonies were Oneida Lake, which is on the southwest end of Henderson's Bay (Jefferson County) on Lake Ontario, and Sandy Point, near Lake Ontario. There has been strong evidence that Common Terns occasionally nest at the Montezuma Marsh, at the north end of Cayuga Lake, but as far as is known the first actual nest for the Marsh was found on June 30, 1953, by Oliver Hewitt. There has also been considerable evidence that terns have nested in recent years on an island at the north end of Cayuga Lake, but no nest has been found there.—MARY P. SHERWOOD, *Department of Conservation, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, October 5, 1953.*