

September 2024

The Oyster-catcher (h[oe]matopus Palliatus) in Massachusetts

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Recommended Citation

Brewster, William (1885) "The Oyster-catcher (h[oe]matopus Palliatus) in Massachusetts," *The Auk*: Vol. 2: Iss. 4, Article 35.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/auk/vol2/iss4/35>

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Another Richardson's Owl in Massachusetts.—As *Nyctala tengmalmi richardsoni* has been so seldom taken so far south as this point (central Eastern Massachusetts), it may be well to record an additional example. I have in my collection a fine specimen obtained in this place on Jan 1, 1885. It was approached without difficulty in broad daylight by a wood-chopper and killed with a stick.

This is about the southern limit of the range of the species as at present determined. I find but three examples on record to the south of this; the early one of Dr. Wood for Connecticut in 1859, and the two obtained in 1881 and 1882 near Providence, R. I., as reported by Mr. Jencks in the 'Nuttall Bulletin' of April, 1881, and April, 1883.

The circumstances of this capture indicate the defective day-vision characteristic of the strictly nocturnal species, in accordance with Richardson's statement: "It is so much dazzled by the light of the sun that it becomes stupid and may easily be caught by hand."—F. C. BROWNE, Framingham, Mass.

The Oyster-catcher (*Haematopus palliatus*) in Massachusetts.—Mr. Warren Hapgood tells me that during the last week of April, 1885, he received an Oyster-catcher in the flesh from Chatham, Mass. It was shot on Monomoy Island by Alonzo Nye, the veteran gunner of Chatham. It was in fine plumage, and is now preserved in Mr. Hapgood's collection. If I remember rightly this is only the third specimen known to have been taken in Massachusetts, the other two being the pair mentioned by Dr. Brewer (Water Birds, Vol. I, p. 113), and now in the New England collection of the Boston Society.—WILLIAM BREWSTER, Cambridge, Mass.

The Baird's Sandpiper (*Actodromas bairdii*) at Locust Grove, New York.—August 18, 1885, while Dr. C. H. Merriam and the writer were driving along a country road at the above locality we discovered a solitary Baird's Sandpiper on the edge of a small, temporary pool of water formed by the recent rains. It was a female of the year in fine plumage, and was evidently a straggling migrant which had dropped down hap-hazard to feed and rest. Most of the eastern stragglers of this species hitherto recorded have been from the Atlantic coast, but undoubtedly the bird occurs more or less commonly all the way across the interior country.—H. W. HENSHAW, Washington, D. C.

A Bird New to Massachusetts.—Among the Sandpipers collected by me years ago in Massachusetts I find a single specimen of the Western Sandpiper (*Ereunetes occidentalis*), taken on Long Island, Boston Harbor, Aug. 27, 1870. It was one of a number of 'Peeps' shot on that day, and it is by no means unlikely that the lot contained others of this species, which were overlooked under the impression that they were all the common species, *E. pusillus*. Like the Baird's Sandpiper, this species may be expected to occur in small numbers along the Atlantic coast during the migrations, especially in fall.—H. W. HENSHAW, Washington, D. C.