

NOTES ON ALASKAN WATER BIRDS.

BY ALVIN SEALE.

During the summer of 1896, it was the writer's privilege, in company with Norman B. Scofield, a fellow student at Stanford University, to make a trip into the Arctic Seas for the purpose of collecting specimens of natural history for the Leland Stanford Junior University of California.

The expedition was under the patronage of Mr. Timothy Hopkins of Menlo Park, California, to whom great credit is due for the splendid scientific equipment to which the success of the expedition is largely due.

We desire also to express our appreciation of the favors extended to us by the Pacific Steam Whaling Company of San Francisco, who furnished free transportation for the expedition, and spared no pains or expense to make our voyage pleasant as well as successful. Valuable aid was also given us by the commanders and officers of the various whaling vessels of the above company. Special service was rendered us by Captain Townsend of the bark "J. D. Peters," Captain Mason of the S. S. "Jeanie," Captain Cogan of the S. S. "Thrasher," Captain Smith of the S. S. "Narwhal," and also many others.

Our voyage extended north to Point Barrow, Alaska, thence east to the Mackenzie River. Collections were made at various points along the coast.

URINATORIDÆ.**8. *Urinator adamsii*. Yellow-billed Loon.**

This Loon occurs in abundance at Point Barrow during the early part of September. We are under obligations to Captain Akin of the Rescue Station for a fine specimen, a male in full breeding plumage, taken September 12th. Length 33.75 in.; bill along culmen 3.5; along gape 5; height at nostrils 1.2; width .50; tarsus 3.7; wing 14.3. Hab., western Arctic America and northeastern Asia.

11. *Urinator lumme*. Red-throated Loon.

The great abundance of divers forms a striking feature of bird life in Alaskan waters. The Red-throated Loon is one of the most

common forms. Large bands of this species were observed at Point Barrow during the month of September. For the most part these birds were making their way to the south, usually flying high and announcing their passage by hoarse, grating cries.

In regard to this Loon, Nelson writes: "The Red-throated Loon is one of the very few birds which raises its voice in the quiet of the long Arctic night. It is abundant at Point Barrow where it is supposed to breed. It also breeds upon the Commander Islands." Hab., (Ridg.), northern portions of the northern hemisphere, breeding in Arctic regions; in North America, south in winter, nearly across the United States. One specimen, (No. 3,374, Stanford University), a male in full breeding plumage taken July 19th at Orca, Alaska, S. W.

ALCIDÆ.

12. *Lunda cirrhata*. Tufted Puffin.

A single individual of this species came flying past our vessel May 27th, in longitude 126° W., latitude 47° N.; this was the first specimen seen. It circled around us twice and was off again like a shot. The following day three more were observed, and from this time they became more and more abundant as we advanced to the north until about June 16th, longitude 159° 50' W., latitude 51° 56' N. From this date and position there was a rapid decrease in the number observed; in fact, Tufted Puffins were not met with in any great abundance north of the Aleutian Islands, their place being taken by the Horned Puffin (*Fratercula corniculata*).

In their flight past our vessel these birds would usually circle around us two or three times, turning their heads to one side and looking down at us in a comical and knowing manner, and in many ways manifesting a high degree of curiosity. Seven adult specimens of *Lunda cirrhata* are in the Stanford University collection, four of which are from Nutchuk, Alaska, July 5th; three from the Pribyloff Islands. Hab., coasts and islands of the North Pacific, from southern California to Alaska, and from Bering Strait to Japan; accidental in the Bay of Fundy and Kennebec River.

14. *Fratercula corniculata*. Horned Puffin.

We first observed Horned Puffins June 20th in longitude 165° 53' W., latitude 51° 30' N. From this position until we reached Point Hope north of Kotzebue Sound they were common. At King's Island near Port Clarence, Alaska, these birds nest in great

abundance; this rookery was visited July 4th. The nests for the most part seemed to be quite high on the cliffs, and at this season were occupied by the immature birds, many of which were able to fly. The discharge of a gun caused hundreds of the adult birds to take wing and circle about us. In a very short time, however, they settled upon the cliff again, crowding upon each other and keeping up a curious guttural sound. This species is represented in the Stanford University collection by five fine specimens in breeding plumage taken on the Pribyloff Islands July, 1896. A specimen taken early in the season (June 14th) has the head and neck a deep glossy black so nearly like the coloring of the back that it was difficult to make out the usual sharp line of demarcation. Hab., coasts and islands of the North Pacific, from British Columbia to the Kurile Islands. "Abundant on all the shore line of Alaska south of the Arctic circle" (Turner).

17. *Cyclorhynchus psittaculus*. Paroquet Auklet.

One specimen of this species was shot at Point Barrow, September 12th. But few of these Auklets were seen. Three specimens were taken on St. George Island, July 26th, by Messrs. Greely and Snodgrass. Hab., coasts of the North Pacific from Sitka to the Kurile Islands.

18. *Simorhynchus cristatellus*. Crested Auklet.

These were very abundant on the water near King's Island during the early part of July. The natives brought large numbers of these birds on board our vessel to barter. I noticed, however, that they always removed the small crest of the bird before disposing of it. Whether they retained the crest as an object of ornamentation or for some superstitious reason I was unable to learn. Three specimens¹ from the Pribyloff Islands taken in July show an interesting variation in the size of the sexes. Male: wing, $5\frac{8}{16}$ ins; tarsus, $1\frac{4}{16}$; middle toe and claw, $1\frac{1}{16}$; exposed culmen, $\frac{9}{16}$; depth of bill at nostrils, $\frac{9}{16}$; greatest width of bill at gape, $\frac{1}{16}$; head, $1\frac{2}{16}$. Female: wing, $5\frac{5}{16}$; tarsus, 1; middle toe and claw, $1\frac{9}{16}$; exposed culmen, $\frac{8}{16}$; depth of bill at nostrils, $\frac{7}{16}$; greatest width of bill at gape, $\frac{1}{16}$; head, $1\frac{1}{16}$. Hab., coasts of the North Pacific from Kadiak and the Pribyloff Islands to Kamtschatka and northern Japan. Nelson found this bird breeding in abundance on the Diomed Islands in Bering Strait. They were not seen by us north of King's Island.

¹ Nos. 3,522, 3,523, 3,553, Stanford University, Greely and Snodgrass.

20. *Simorhynchus pusillus*. Least Auklet.

From latitude about 60° north until we reached Bering Strait, these little birds were quite common, usually seen in pairs on the water. They were very tame and our vessel would almost run them down before they would dive or fly. A number were shot near King's Island. Three specimens, one male and two females, were taken at St. George Island July, 1897, by Messrs. Greely and Snodgrass. The male bird of this species shows a very decided increase in size over the female on the measurement of bill, tarsus and wing. Hab., coasts of the North Pacific, from Japan and southern Alaska to the Aleutian and Pribyloff Islands. Nelson found these birds abundant on the Diomed Islands in Bering Strait.

29. *Cephus columba*. Pigeon Guillemot.

With the exception of a few specimens seen near King's Island, the Pigeon Guillemots were not observed until we entered the Arctic Ocean. At Icy Cape they were common on the water August 4th, their bright red legs, white wing bars and black bill making them quite conspicuous. Few were met north of this point. Hab., coast of the North Pacific, from southern California to Icy Cape, Alaska, Aleutian Islands, Kamtschatka, and northern Japan.

30. *Uria troile californica*. California Murre.

June 16th a solitary California Murre was observed on the water, longitude 150° W., latitude $51^{\circ} 56'$ N.; this was the first specimen seen. Three days later eight more of this species were observed. These birds, like the Tufted Puffin, were very curious about our vessel and would usually circle around us a number of times before going on their way. One even flew through our rigging four times, acting very much as if trying to alight on the yards. Murres were again met with June 20th, when a band of twenty-two passed us. June 22d they were quite common in longitude $164^{\circ} 55'$ W., latitude $52^{\circ} 9'$ N. Hab., Pacific coast of North America, south to Southern California. Nelson found this bird abundant on Wrangel and Herald Islands.

31. *Uria lomvia arra*. Pallas' Murre, "Ice Duck."

These birds were met with in great abundance after entering Bering Sea. The sailors call this murre the "Ice Duck," and its appearance in large numbers is regarded as an indication of a nearness to ice. And indeed in the present case at least, this proved to be true, for on the following day, June 27th, longitude 170° W.,

latitude $60^{\circ} 20' N.$, a large ice floe was encountered upon which these birds were very abundant; in fact, one might easily have mistaken parts of the floe for a rookery. Not only were they abundant on the floe itself, but each detached block of ice seemed to have its crew of "Ice Ducks." Off St. Lawrence Island July 1st, murre were far more abundant than any other species of bird. At East Cape, Siberia, July 26th, these birds were quite common. They were met with constantly on the American side as far north as Icy Cape. From this point on, very few were seen; none were observed to the east of Point Barrow. This species is easily distinguished by the strong heavy bill. Four specimens from Nutchuk, Alaska, have the culmen measuring 2.26 ins., 2.1, 2.2, respectively.² Hab., coasts and islands of Bering sea and Aleutian chain, from Kadiak to Kamtschatka. Nelson found this bird abundant on Harold and Wrangel Islands.

STERCORARIIDÆ.

36. *Stercorarius pomarinus*. Pomarine Jaeger.

Four of this species were seen June 20th, longitude $164^{\circ} 56'$, latitude $50^{\circ} 56' N.$ They were common at Port Clarence during the latter part of July. A fine male was taken at Icy Cape July 31st. At no time, however, were the birds in question so abundant as *S. longicaudus*. Hab., northern portions of the northern hemisphere, along sea coasts and larger inland waters, breeding far northward in America, south in winter to California, New Jersey and the Great Lakes.

37. *Stercorarius parasiticus*. Parasitic Jaeger.

Parasitic Jaegers were not abundant at any time. One solitary individual was seen June 28th in latitude $60^{\circ} 40' N.$; two more were observed the following day. On July 1st three Parasitic Jaegers were seen off St. Lawrence Island. One specimen was shot at Port Clarence July 23d. These birds were fairly common at Icy Cape. On August 3d at this place two fine adults, a male and female in black plumage, were taken (see Nos. 3,564 and 3,566 L. S. J. U.). Hab., northern portion of northern hemisphere, breeding toward Arctic regions; south in winter to New York, southern California, and even the coast of Brazil.

² See Nos. 3,376, 3,422, 3,423, 3,424, L. S. J. U. Nutchuk, Alaska, July 11, 1896, A. W. Greely.

38. *Stercorarius longicaudus*. Long-tailed Jaeger.

This species could be seen at almost any time from July to September. They were abundant all along the coast from Icy Cape to Herschel Island, N. W. T. They were abundant at Point Barrow and seemed to be engaged chiefly in making life sorrowful for the gulls. I noticed, however, that the big Glaucous Gull turned the tables, and was frequently seen to chase the Jaegers. One adult male was taken at Icy Cape, August 3d (No. 3,560 Stanford University). This specimen gives the following measurements: Wing, 13.5 ins.; culmen, 1.27; cere, .75; tarsus, 1.75; mid-toe and claw, 1.65. Hab., northern parts of northern hemisphere, breeding in Arctic regions, south in winter to California.

LARIDÆ.**40. *Rissa tridactyla pollicaris*.** Pacific Kittiwake.

This beautiful bird was frequently observed in Bering Sea as far north as Icy Cape, Alaska. Like the genus *Larus*, they have the habit of following the vessel and watching for any food that may be thrown over the side. They were most abundant off St. Lawrence Island, July 1st. Two were shot at Icy Cape August 3d, (see Nos. 3,563, 3,564 L. S. J. U.). Hab., coasts and islands of Bering Sea north to Icy Cape.

40a. *Rissa brevirostris*. Red-legged Kittiwake.

This species was more abundant than the preceding, especially in the vicinity of the Annamak Pass. Two specimens taken on St. George Island July 26, 1897, give the following measurements: No. 3,530 Stanford University; wing, 12.25 ins.; culmen, 1.12; depth of bill at nostrils, .45; tarsus, 1.12; mid-toe and claw, 1.76; No. 3,518 Stanford University: wing, 11.75; culmen, 1.05; depth of bill at nostrils, .45; tarsus, 1.10; mid-toe and claw, 1.70. Feet and legs, bright red, bill, greenish-yellow. Hab., coasts and islands of Bering Sea.

42. *Larus glaucus*. Glaucous Gull.

The big Glaucous Gulls were first observed June 29th, latitude 61° 32' N. They were not common, however, until we reached Port Clarence, Alaska. Unlike most Gulls, this species is extremely suspicious and rarely comes within gun shot of the vessel. We found this Gull abundant from Port Clarence all along the Arctic coast to Mackenzie Bay. A southern migration of these birds was observed at Point Barrow, Alaska, September 15th; it was a cold

rainy day with a strong wind blowing from the northwest. All the day, band after band of these Gulls passed the point following the coast line to the south; in one of these bands I counted forty-eight individuals, most of them adults. Hab., coasts of Arctic seas; south in winter to Long Island and California.

44. *Larus glaucescens*. Glaucous-winged Gull.

The Glaucous-winged Gulls were fairly common from the Aleutian Islands to the Bering Strait. They were seen to associate freely with the smaller Gulls, and at times would come quite near the vessel, differing in this respect from the *L. glaucus*, which so far as we could see did not associate much with the other species.

Two specimens taken at Orca Station, S. W. Alaska, give the following measurements: No. 3,425 (L. S. J. U.); wing, 17; culmen, 2.56; depth of bill through angle, .84; depth of bill through nostrils, .80; tarsus, 2.86; mid-toe with claw, 3.20; tail, 7.18: No. 3,426 (L. S. J. U.): wing, 17.5; culmen, 2.36; depth of bill at angle, .90; depth of bill at nostrils, .80; tarsus, 2.86; mid-toe and claw, 3.28; tail, 7.3. Hab., coasts of the north Pacific and Bering Sea, from Japan northwest, across through Aleutian chain, and south in winter to California.

51a. *Larus argentatus smithsonianus*. American Herring Gull.

Birds ascribed to this species came flying about our vessel near Unalaska and also near Aunamak Island. No specimens were secured. Hab., whole of North America, south in winter to Cuba and Lower California.

53. *Larus californicus*. California Gull.

No specimens were taken, but birds ascribed to this species were met with quite frequently near Aunamak Pass. Hab., western North America, chiefly in the interior, from Mexico to Alaska.

55. *Larus brachyrhynchus*. American Mew Gull.

Birds of this species were frequently observed along the Alaskan coast as far north as Icy Cape, one specimen being shot at this place July 30th. Hab., northwestern North America breeding far north; south in winter along the Pacific coast to Southern California.

62. *Xema sabinii*. Sabine's Gull.

These Gulls were first observed about ten miles off Icy Cape, Alaska, where a company of five came flying over the ice and passed our vessel. On August 8th these gulls were extremely abundant at

Point Barrow, congregating in thousands along the shore to feed upon small Coelenterates and Crustaceans that were washed up on the sands. When we again reached Point Barrow, September 8th, these birds were in the height of their southern migration, and bands composed of from fifty to one hundred individuals were constantly passing, but this time paying little attention to the food that was still abundant along the shore. Xema Gulls were not seen at Herschel Island until August 28th. The absence of immature birds was a striking fact; almost all of these Gulls that we observed were adults. Two young, however, were shot at Point Barrow September 12th. Hab., Pacific coast of North America from Monterey, California, N. to Point Barrow, east, New York, Great Lakes, (casually to Bermudas and Peru).

71. *Sterna paradisæa*. Arctic Tern.

The first representative of this species was seen June 6th, longitude 141° W., latitude $52^{\circ} 37'$ N. The poor bird seemed to have been battling with the storm for some time and to be completely tired out; it alighted in our rigging and remained with us all day. By June 20th Terns were very common, and eight or ten could be counted from the deck of the vessel at one time. Two specimens were shot at Port Clarence, Alaska, July 8th. Terns were quite abundant at Point Barrow August 12th and at Herschel Island August 27th. Hab., circumpolar regions, south in winter to California. Another species of Tern supposed to have been *Sterna aleutica* was observed quite frequently in the Bering Sea. We were unable to obtain a specimen however.

DIOMEDEIDÆ.

82. *Diomedea albatrus*. Short-tailed Albatross.

The first Short-tailed Albatross was observed May 26th, about eighteen miles off Cape Flattery. Two were seen June 1st in longitude $134^{\circ} 16'$ W., latitude $51^{\circ} 6'$ N.; the day following another was observed. This completes the record of all seen during our entire voyage. These birds, unlike the Black-footed Albatross, do not follow after a vessel. Hab., North Pacific from California to Alaska.

81. *Diomedea nigripes*. Black-footed Albatross. "Goonie."

On May 27th, about one hundred miles northwest of Cape Flattery, these birds of the open sea were first sighted. From that time until June 21st they were always in evidence about our vessel. The last "Goonie," however, deserted us when we came in sight of the

snowy mountains of the Aleutian Islands. These birds offer a never failing source of interest and instruction to the ocean traveller when the sails flap idly against the mast and the voyage stretches out to a wearisome length. As a matter of curiosity I made it a point at a certain time each day to count and note down the number of Black-footed Albatrosses that could be seen from the deck of the vessel, the position of our vessel and any peculiar hydrographic conditions. I copy the resulting table from my note book.

Date.	Longitude W.	Latitude N.	Hydrographic Conditions.	Number of Albatrosses.
May 27	126° 40'	47° 32'	Light breeze	6
May 28	—	—	Fresh breeze	8
May 29	122° 12'	47° 10'	Rough sea	7
May 30	131° 20'	47° 55'	Gale	5
May 31	133° 34'	49° 7'	Heavy sea ; little wind	11
June 1	134° 16'	50° 16'	Calm	19
June 2	134° 45'	50° 44'	Becalmed	8
June 3	—	—	Fog ; strong breeze	7
June 4	139° 54'	52° 9'	Calm	17
June 5	140° 11'	52° 37'	Fresh breeze	7
June 6	—	—	Rain	7
June 7	143°	51° 40'	Cold rain ; strong wind	6
June 8	—	—	Rain ; heavy wind	7
June 9	148° 16'	51° 28'	Warm and pleasant	8
June 10	—	—	Strong breeze	8
June 11	—	51° 30'	Slight breeze	12
June 12	—	—	Cold ; calm	8
June 13	154° 41'	50° 46'	Calm	3
June 14	154° 41'	50° 46'	Slight breeze	4
June 15	158° 43'	51° 10'	Fair breeze	3
June 16	159° 58'	51° 56'	Calm ; cold	3
June 17	—	—	High fog ; warm	3
June 18	—	50° 42'	Fog	4
June 19	164° 56'	50° 56'	Fresh breeze	3
June 20	—	—	Fog ; good breeze	2
June 21	—	—	Fog ; cold	2
June 22	164° 55'	52° 9'	Becalmed	1
June 23	—	—	Becalmed	0

From the above table it would seem that in this case, at least, the Black-footed Albatross during the early month of June is found most abundant in latitudes between 50° and 52° north, and that they are seen in greater numbers about a vessel on calm days. A fine specimen of this species was taken May 11th by letting a baited hook over the side of the vessel, the hook catching merely in

the horny part of the beak and dropping out when we got the bird on deck. It was utterly helpless on deck, being unable to fly unless from the water. This bird, after having his beak tied so as to restrain his vicious tendency to bite, was given the freedom of the vessel.

On one or two occasions among the birds that followed close to the stern of our vessel I noticed specimens that were marked slightly differently from the one taken. I suspect these belong to one of the other species reported from the North Pacific, but as no specimens could be taken, nothing was definitely established. Hab., North Pacific.

PROCELLARIIDÆ.

86b. *Fulmarus glacialis glupischa*. Pacific Fulmar.

A large flock of dark-bodied birds, in appearance very much like Pacific Fulmars, was observed some distance from the ship June 20th, latitude about 51° N. A heavy fog closing in, however, prevented us from getting a more satisfactory observation of the birds. The next day Pacific Fulmars were frequently seen quite near the vessel. On June 24th, great rafts of these birds were seen on the water in the Aunamak Pass; among these were quite a number of the white ones. Just after entering the Bering Sea we passed a great flight of Pacific Fulmars all making their way to the westward against a heavy gale of wind. They would fly a short distance, then settle upon the water and rest a moment, and then try it again. They always arose facing the wind and also sat on the water in the same position. The dark Pacific Fulmar was not seen north of Bering Strait. When in the North Pacific on our return voyage, September 25th, a large number of these Fulmars, ("bousins" they are called by the sailors), came flying about our vessel in the manner of the Black-footed Albatross, except that the Fulmars flew quite high, most of the time making a peculiar sharp cry. They followed the ship, circling around and over us almost the entire day. Hab., North Pacific to Mexico.

86c. *Fulmarus glacialis rogersii*. Rodger's Fulmar.

A Rodger's Fulmar was shot June 29th latitude $61^{\circ} 3'$ N. Very few were seen, however, until we reached East Cape, Siberia, where they were common. On September 19th when about sixty miles west of Point Barrow, Rodger's Fulmars could be seen almost any time during the day following after our vessel, as if expecting food

to be thrown over to them. They had probably learned to expect food from ships by being near the whaling vessels while they were "cutting in" or "trying out" a whale, at which time large quantities of fat and refuse are thrown over the side. Hab., Bering Sea, Arctic Ocean north to Point Barrow.

91. *Puffinus creatopus*. Pink-footed Shearwater.

A great flight of Pink-footed Shearwaters was observed May 26th about fifteen miles off Cape Flattery. They were passing to the north in a continuous stream. I watched from the deck of our vessel for over an hour, during which time many hundreds passed, frequently flying quite near us. Their large size, white breasts and wheeling flight were unmistakable. Our vessel interrupted their line of flight, but they simply divided, part of the stream going by on one side, and part on the other. Never for a moment did they stop the steady flow to the north. The Pink-footed Shearwaters were not met with again during our entire trip. Hab., Eastern Pacific Ocean, Cape Flattery to Chili.

95. *Puffinus griseus*. Dark-bodied Shearwater.

A few Dark-bodied Shearwaters were observed May 26th off Cape Flattery. They were flying north in company with the *Puffinus creatopus*. Dark-bodied Shearwaters were again observed June 22d in longitude 164° 55' W., latitude 52° 9' N., about sixty miles south of the Aleutian Islands. At this point we encountered and for several hours sailed parallel to a great flight of these birds. During this time thousands of individuals passed us in steady flight, all going to the westward.

***Oceanodroma* (?).** Petrels.

Concerning Petrels I have the following entry in my note book: June 16th, longitude 159° 58' W., latitude 51° 56' N. For the past two or three nights there has been a number of small bat-like birds flying about our vessel keeping up an almost constant sound of low musical notes. The sailors call them "Mother Carey's Chickens." I was not able to secure a specimen for identification. They may have been *O. furcata*.

Birds well answering the description of *O. furcata* were observed May 28th. They were flying about in the wake of our vessel, skimming gracefully over the waves and occasionally dashing through the spray as if they enjoyed the rough sea.

PHALACROCORACIDÆ.**123a. *Phalacrocorax*. Cormorants.**

Probably not more than two dozen Cormorants were seen during our entire voyage. No specimens were shot. Three small individuals of this genus were seen on a small island in the Aunamak Pass, which is our first northern record for "Shags." These were a small species (possibly *P. p. robustus*). Seven Cormorants of a larger species (possibly *P. urile*) were observed off Aunamak Island. A few were also seen in the vicinity of Point Hope. All the Cormorants met with seemed extremely wild, keeping well out of range of a shot gun. This is rather surprising when one considers how tame and fearless the Shags are near Monterey, California, where they are being shot at constantly.

ANATIDÆ.**154. *Clangula hyemalis*. Old-squaw.**

Along the Arctic coast from Point Barrow eastward to the Mackenzie River, the scarcity of bird-life as compared with that of Bering Sea is quite striking. In fact, were we to disregard Old-squaws, Glaucous Gulls, and an occasional straggling band of Eider Ducks, our records for this part of the voyage would be chiefly a blank. With the exception of Eider Ducks, Old-squaws were the most abundant water fowl met with in the Arctic. At Point Barrow, September 12th, a great migration of Old-squaws was going on, thousands were passing to the south; many were shot. Their meat, however, is not considered good eating, except by the natives. Hab., northern portions of northern hemisphere, south in winter nearly across the United States.

158. *Arctonetta fischeri*. Spectacled Eider.

A young Spectacled Eider was taken about fifty miles off Icy Cape, Alaska, August 2d. This was the only one of the species seen.

A few skins from the heads of the adult ducks were seen in the possession of the natives at Point Barrow, where they are highly prized as articles of ornamentation. The Spectacled Eider is reported as being rarely seen on the American side, although abundant on the Siberian coast. Hab., coast of Alaska from Northern Sound to Point Barrow.

161. *Somateria v-nigra*. Pacific Eider.

This is the most abundant wild fowl at Point Barrow. During their spring and fall migration the very sky is clouded with their flight. They form an important article of diet for the natives and other persons stationed at Point Barrow. Hab., northeastern America, south to Great Lakes.

162. *Somateria spectabilis*. King Eider.

Very few King Eider were seen. One specimen was taken Aug. 7th at Point Barrow, while flying in company with the Pacific Eiders. Hab., northern portions of northern hemisphere, south in winter to Great Lakes.

164. *Oidemia deglandi*. White-winged Scoter.

One flock of about sixteen White-winged Scoters observed about 60 miles east of Point Barrow is our only record for this species. Hab., northern North America, south in winter to the Great Lakes.

166. *Oidemia perspicillata*. Surf Scoter.

A few straggling companies of Surf Scoters were seen in longitude $159^{\circ} 58' W.$, latitude $51^{\circ} 56' N.$ A great flock of these Ducks passed us June 22d when a few miles off Unalaska. They were abundant at King's Island. Hab., North America in general.

169. *Chen hyperboreus*. Snow Goose.

This Goose was fairly common at Herschel Island during the latter part of August, when several flocks were seen flying south. The native hunters brought in a number killed at the mouth of the Mackenzie River August 23d. Hab., western North America, breeding in Alaska.

174. *Branta nigricans*. Black Brant.

A number of Black Brant were brought in by the natives at Herschel Island; they do not seem to be very abundant near the island however. No live individuals of this species were seen. Hab., western Arctic America, south in winter to Lower California.

A LIST OF LAND AND SHORE BIRDS COLLECTED IN ALASKA OR
ADJACENT ISLANDS IN THE SUMMER OF 1897 BY
MESSRS. ARTHUR W. GREELY AND
ROBERT E. SNODGRASS.³

222. *Crymophilus fulicarius*. Red Phalarope.

Four specimens from St. Paul Island, August 31st.

³ All the above specimens are now in the museum of Natural History at Stanford University, California.

223. *Phalaropus lobatus*. Northern Phalarope.
Five specimens from St. Paul Island, August 17th.
236. *Tringa couesi*. Aleutian Sandpiper.
Five specimens, St. Paul Island, August 17th.
237. *Tringa ptilocnemis*. Pribyloff Sandpiper.
Six specimens, St. Paul Island, August 22d.
238. *Tringa acuminata*. Sharp-tailed Sandpiper.
One specimen, St. Paul Island, August 19th.
242. *Tringa minutilla*. Least Sandpiper.
Two specimens from Bellovski Bay, July 27th.
254. *Totanus melanoleucus*. Greater Yellow-legs.
One specimen from St. Paul Island, August 23d.
259. *Heteractites incanus*. Wandering Tattler.
Four specimens, St. Paul Island, August 22d.
302. *Lagopus rupestris*. Rock Ptarmigan.
One specimen.
523. *Leucosticte griseonucha*. Aleutian Leucosticte.
Four specimens from St. George Island, July 25th.
- 534a. *Plectrophenax nivalis townsendi*. Pribyloff Snowflake.
Four specimens, St. George Island, July 25th.
536. *Calcarius lapponicus*. Lapland Longspur.
Eight specimens, St. George Island, July 25th.
542. *Ammodramus sandwichensis*. Sandwich Sparrow.
Fourteen specimens from Amagak Island, September 15th.
557. *Zonotrichia coronata*. Golden-crowned Sparrow.
One specimen from Unga Island, July 22d.
582. *Melospiza cinerea*. Aleutian Song Sparrow.
Four specimens from Amagak Island, September 17th.
585. *Passerella iliaca unalaschcensis*. Fox Sparrow.
Ten specimens from Unga Island, July 21st.
723. *Troglodytes alascensis*. Alaskan Wren.
One specimen from Amagak Island, September 17th.
765. *Saxicola oenanthe*. Wheatear.
One specimen from St. Paul Island, August 29th.

LIST OF BIRDS COLLECTED AT KADIAK, ALASKA, IN 1896 BY
MR. CLOUDSLEY RUTTER.

- 12. *Lunda cirrhata*. Tufted Puffin.
- 30a. *Uria troile californica*. California Murre.
- 129. *Merganser americanus*. American Merganser.
- 146. *Aythya americana*. Redhead.
- 301. *Lagopus lagopus*. Willow Ptarmigan.
- 302. *Lagopus rupestris*. Rock Ptarmigan.
- 352. *Haliaeetus leucocephalus*. Bald Eagle.
- 475. *Pica pica hudsonica*. American Magpie.
- 486a. *Corvus corax principalis*. Northern Raven.



Seale, Alvin. 1898. "Notes on Alaskan Water Birds." *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* 50, 126–140.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17645>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/84224>

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.