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GENERAL NOTES.

Brünnich's Murre in Connecticut.—The occurrence of Brünnich's Murre (*Uria lomvia*) along the Connecticut coast during the past winter (1890-91) in large numbers, seems worthy of notice, since the species was not recorded in Linsley's or Merriam's list, nor have I seen any Connecticut record.

On February 7 I picked up a dead specimen on the beach at Bridgeport and a few days later three more. The finding of these specimens was the first indication I had of the occurrence of the bird, as I had been absent from home during the winter until the above mentioned date.

At New Haven I saw a stuffed specimen in the store of Folsom & Co. and learned that it was secured at Saugatuck Harbor by Mr. D. C. Sanford, a government surveyor, who had also secured another at that place.

Mr. W. F. Davis of Stony Creek writes me that hundreds could be seen there from the 1st to the 10th of January, so tame they could be taken in the hand; they could fly but seemed hungry and fatigued, some being found five miles from the salt water; he thought many died of starvation. He adds that he used to see great numbers of them when a boy, at Nantucket Shoals, where they were called Murres.

At Stratford I found a stuffed specimen in the village drug store and another in the possession of Mr. L. B. Beers. They had been seen in large numbers and attracted general attention. They were described as very tame but no one that I talked with seemed to think that they had starved. Mr. Theodore Judson, keeper of the Stratford Light, assured me that he had seen the bird occasionally before, but had regarded it as rare.

Mr. Wm. H. Hayt, an associate member of the A. O. U., writes me from Stamford as follows: "The Murres were plentiful here from Dec. 20 to about Feb. 10. A large number were shot. Fourteen specimens fell under my own observation. They all seemed to be in the last stages of starvation. One was found by the road side at some distance from the shore where it had evidently fallen from exhaustion. The stomachs of those which I examined contained nothing but sand.

I received information from several other persons at different places but think the above sufficient to indicate the extent of the movement. As all the specimens I examined were Brünnich's Murre, I refer all the notes to that species.

Since writing the above I have been informed by Mr. D. C. Sanford that from Penfield Reef Light House, off Black Rock, to the mouth of Saugatuck River "there were thousands of them, and hundreds were shot off Saugatuck."—C. K. AVERILL, Jr., *Bridgeport, Conn.*

The Sandhill Crane (*Grus mexicana*) in South Carolina.—On October 18, 1890, I heard a most remarkable sound, something like that made by blowing a large tin horn. I was told by one of the negroes on the plantation that it was a Wild Goose. Early in the morning of the following day I heard the note again and saw the bird flying in the heavens. One glance was enough to show me it was a Crane. After sailing about for some hours it flew down in a corn field among a drove of cows. I started in pursuit with my brother-in-law: he taking a stand, and I one, about a hundred yards away. The bird rose but sailed away from both of us,—not near enough for a shot. It sailed about in circles until it was lost to our view.



1891. "Brünnich's Murre in Connecticut." *The Auk* 8, 307–308.

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