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No. 22: SOME RECENT BIRD RECORDS FROM CANADA'S
EASTERN ARCTIC. BY T. M. SHORTT AND H. S. PETERS

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SOME RECENT BIRD RECORDS FROM CANADA'S EASTERN ARCTIC¹

BY T. M. SHORTT² AND H. S. PETERS³

Abstract

The list includes 82 species of birds from Canada's eastern Arctic. Opportunity for field observation was afforded the authors, separately, during two voyages of the *Nascopie* (1938 and 1939). Annotations concern numbers, dates of occurrences, habits, and distribution. Notable range extensions are recorded. Taxonomic notes are based on comparisons of a collection secured in 1938 and on additional unreported material recently acquired from the region by the Division of Birds, Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology.

Since 1933 the R.M.S. *Nascopie* has carried the Canadian Government Arctic Patrol on its annual visit to the eastern Arctic. The personnel is composed chiefly of administrators, medical officers, and scientists whose purposes are to supervise the health and general welfare of the natives and to make scientific investigation of the region.

The following annotated list of birds is based primarily on the authors' observations made while attached to the Government party on board the *Nascopie* in 1938 (T.M.S.) and 1939 (H.S.P.). On the 1938 trip, 173 bird specimens of 44 species were preserved. In addition, information derived from recent collections which have been made in the region and which have been acquired by the Royal Ontario Museum of Zoology have been included. These collections consist of: 109 skins from Somerset Island, collected by L. A. Learmonth of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1938-40; 59 birds taken at Lake Harbour, Baffin Island, by Rev. C. L. W. Bailey in the years 1930-32; and a few specimens secured by Rev. D. B. Marsh at Eskimo Point, N.W.T., approximately 160 mi. north of Churchill, Man.

The list is not intended as a catalogue of the birds of the eastern Arctic. It places on record a number of range extensions and new occurrences. Records for the two years are given separately in the text.

For the sake of brevity, dates have been omitted except where essential. However, the itinerary of the *Nascopie's* cruises for 1938 and 1939 has been included (Table I and Fig. 1) as an index to time and place.

Annotated List

Gavia immer (Brünnich). COMMON LOON.—1938: Two adults were noted on a small lake near Glasgow Falls, Lake Harbour, southern Baffin Island on July 20 and one individual was observed at Sugluk West, Que. At Pangnirtung, Baffin Island, skins of this species were seen in mats made by Eskimos. Information to the effect that these birds had been taken locally was secured from the Royal Canadian Mounted Police. 1939: Five were seen a few miles east of Greenly Island in Belle Isle Strait on July 11.

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TABLE I
ITINERARY OF THE R.M.S. *Nascopie* IN 1938 AND 1939

Port of call	1938		1939	
	Arrived	Departed	Arrived	Departed
Montreal, Que.	—	July 9	—	July 8
Hebron, Labrador	July 15	16	July 17	18
Port Burwell, N.W.T.	17	18	19	20
Lake Harbour, N.W.T.	20	21	22	23
Wakeham Bay, Que.	21	22	24	25
Sugluk West, Que.	22	23	25	26
Cape Dorset, N.W.T.	24	26	27	28
Wolstenholme, Que.	26	27	28	29
Southampton I., N.W.T.	28	29	30	31
Cape Smith, N.W.T.	30	31	Aug. 1	Aug. 1
Port Harrison, Que.	Aug. 2	Aug. 4	2	4
Churchill, Man.	6	8	6	8
Chesterfield, N.W.T.	10	12	10	12
Wolstenholme, Que.	13	14	13	14
Lake Harbour, N.W.T.	16	17	15	15
Port Burwell, N.W.T.	18	19	16	16
Thule, Greenland	24	25	—	—
Craig Harbour, N.W.T.	26	26	22	24
Arctic Bay, N.W.T.	28	29	Sept. 3	Sept. 4
Fort Ross, N.W.T.	31	Sept. 1	Aug. 29	Aug. 31
Pond Inlet, N.W.T.	Sept. 3	4	Sept. 5	Sept. 6
Clyde River, N.W.T.	5	6	7	8
Pangnirtung, N.W.T.	9	12	12	15
Hebron, Labrador	14	15	18	19
Halifax, N.S.	19	Voyage ends	23	Voyage ends

Six specimens of the common loon were received in the collections made by Bailey. These had been taken at Lake Harbour and Saddleback Island, Baffin Island, at various dates in June and July, 1930 and 1932. The fact that these birds are not sexed, together with a lack of sufficient comparative material, makes it unwise to venture an opinion on their subspecific status. They are, however, small in size, as the average measurements show: wing, 356 mm., (348–371); culmen, 79.4 mm. (75–82.5); depth of bill, 24.6 mm. (23–26.5); tarsus, 87.4 mm. (86.5–89); outer toe, 110 mm. (108–113).

Gavia adamsi (Gray). YELLOW-BILLED LOON.—1938: Two adults of this species were seen on a small lake near Fort Ross, Somerset Island. These were readily attracted to a waving handkerchief and the female was taken. An immature loon of large size, presumably of this species, was observed on the sea at the east end of Bellot Strait on the same day.

Learmonth secured this species on the southeast coast of Somerset Island on June 30, 1938.

These records, coupled with one from the Melville Peninsula and reports from Foxe Basin (8), form a considerable north-eastward extension in the known range of *G. adamsi* and indicate that Ross's early record (3) for the Boothia Peninsula was within the normal range of the species.

Gavia arctica (Linnaeus). ARCTIC LOON.—1938: Five Arctic loons were seen near the post at Coral Harbour, Southampton Island, and an adult female was collected. Single birds were seen at Chesterfield, N.W.T., Arctic Bay, and Pond Inlet, Baffin Island. 1939: One was observed at Churchill and one at Chesterfield.

Bailey collected two specimens, one at Lake Harbour at the end of May, 1932, and the other on Saddleback Island on June 17, 1930. He also secured an egg from a nest which was situated on an island off Big Island on June 18, 1930. This nest was located in the midst of a colony of common eider duck.

Gavia stellata (Pontoppidan). RED-THROATED LOON.—1938: This loon was observed at more posts and in greater numbers than any of the preceding. These observations were: at Chesterfield, N.W.T., two adults; Cape Dorset, Baffin Island, one adult; Fort Ross, Somerset Island, two adults; River Clyde, Baffin Island, one adult, two young; Pond Inlet, Baffin Island, two adults, two young; Churchill, Man., one adult; Coral Harbour, Southamp-

Puffinus gravis (O'Reilly). GREATER SHEARWATER.—1938: Seen in some numbers off the Labrador coast near Makkovik on July 14. 1939: First seen on July 11 in the western part of Belle Isle Strait. Several seen off Cartwright, Labrador, on July 12. On the return trip they were first met off Hamilton Inlet, Labrador, on September 20.

Fulmarus glacialis (Linnaeus). NORTHERN FULMAR.—1938: The most common bird at sea. Observed north to Lancaster Sound and adjacent latitude in Baffin Bay. 1939: First encountered in the vicinity of Cape Chidley, where they were common, and in Gray Straits on July 19. None seen westward in Hudson Strait or in Hudson Bay. Abundant around Port Burwell and the Button Islands on August 16. Common in Davis Strait, Baffin Bay, Jones Sound, and even in Craig Harbour, Ellesmere Island. Fairly common in Lancaster Sound, Prince Regent Inlet, and at Fort Ross and the eastern end of Bellot Strait. Some were present in Admiralty Inlet and Adams Sound near Arctic Bay. A few in Pond Inlet and Cumberland Sound. Common all along the Labrador coast at least as far south as Cartwright. This was the most common bird at sea in the inlets and sounds north of Hudson Strait.

Learmonth secured a pair in July, 1939, and eight on May 4, 1940, at Port Leopold, Somerset Island, all in the light phase.

Cygnus columbianus (Ord). WHISTLING SWAN.—1939: Three observed flying over the shoreline of Southampton Island.

Marsh collected a male on May 30, 1937, at Eskimo Point.

Branta canadensis (Linnaeus). CANADA GOOSE.—1938: Seen only at Lake Harbour, Baffin Island, where two immatures were observed and one of them was collected on August 17. This specimen is referable to *B. canadensis canadensis*. 1939: At Lake Harbour on August 15, fresh tracks and droppings were found on the sandy beach of a lake a few miles inland from the post.

Bailey found a nest containing four eggs at Ashe Inlet, Big Island, on June 17, 1930. He collected and preserved one egg.

A female was taken by Marsh on May 20, 1937, at Eskimo Point. This specimen appears to be of the form *leucopareia* (Brandt) as defined by Taverner (7). Its measurements are: culmen, 43 mm.; depth of bill, 19 mm.; tarsus, 69 mm.; middle toe and claw, 71 mm.; wing, 385 mm. The white cheek patches are divided by a broad black line along the throat and chin.

Branta bernicla Linnaeus. COMMON BRANT.—1938: A flock of about 10 birds of this species was observed in Lancaster Sound off Devon Island on August 27. 1939: A flock of about 15 birds, seen flying eastward in Lancaster Sound on August 26, was probably of this species but was too far away for positive identification.

Learmonth secured a male at Port Leopold on June 21, 1939. He states that this species is "quite rare" on Somerset Island.

Chen hyperborea (Pallas). SNOW GOOSE.—1939: On September 6, at Pond Inlet, near the mouth of the Salmon River, numerous signs of this species were seen although the birds were reported to have been observed last on August 31.

Learmonth secured a female and a downy young on July 18, 1938, on the southeast coast of Somerset Island. The adult bird, on the basis of size, is referable to *C. hyperborea atlantica* Kennard, the greater snow goose. Its measurements agree well with those given by Kennard (2) for *atlantica* and are: wing, 459 mm.; exposed culmen, 64 mm.; depth of culmen, 36 mm.; middle toe and claw, 84 mm.; tarsus, 89 mm. In addition the bird has the heavy, robust build mentioned by Kennard. It is doubtful, however, if this bird is representative of the Somerset Island snow goose population.

Anas platyrhynchos Linnaeus. MALLARD DUCK.—1938: Several small flocks observed at Churchill, Man., on August 6. A flock of four, flying northward, was observed in Hudson Bay about 100 miles south of Chesterfield, probably off Tavani.

Anas rubripes Brewster. BLACK DUCK.—1938: Noted only at Churchill, where five birds were seen. 1939: One seen on a small pond in the townsite at Churchill on August 7.

Dafila acuta (Linnaeus). PINTAIL.—1938: A large flock seen at Churchill over the marsh along the river and two birds observed in flight northward about 50 miles south of Chesterfield, N.W.T., on August 9. 1939: Six observed in a small pond in the townsite at Churchill. Reported to be nesting around Chesterfield, but none seen during our stay.

A male was taken by Marsh at Eskimo Point on June 30, 1938.

Nettion carolinense (Gmelin). GREEN-WINGED TEAL.—1938: Two green-winged teal noted on August 6 at Churchill. 1939: Two seen in the townsite slough at Churchill, August 7.

Clangula hyemalis (Linnaeus). OLD-SQUAW.—1938: The most frequently observed duck throughout most of the trip, especially in the waters about the Arctic Islands. Flocks of 20 to 100 were seen at Pond Inlet; River Clyde, Baffin Island; and Fort Ross, Somerset Island. A nest with eight eggs was found near the post at Coral Harbour, Southampton Island. Two downy young were collected from a flock of eight with parent at Chesterfield, N.W.T. 1939: At Southampton Island two adults were seen with about 20 young which had not attained the power of flight. Two adults and about 20 young were also seen at Churchill. Several adults and about 40 young at Chesterfield. An adult was seen in an arm of Hazard Bay at Fort Ross. A raft of about 70 was found at the mouth of the Salmon River at Pond Inlet; three of these were young and still unable to fly.

Learmonth secured two adults at Port Leopold on June 20, 1940.

Histrionicus histrionicus (Linnaeus). HARLEQUIN DUCK.—1939: A pair was seen flying over the harbour at Lake Harbour, on July 22.

Somateria mollissima Linnaeus. COMMON EIDER DUCK.—1938: Next to the old-squaw, this was the most conspicuous duck. Three flocks of about 50 each were seen at River Clyde, Baffin Island. Individuals or small flocks were seen at Pond Inlet, Arctic Bay, Southampton Island, and Chesterfield. An adult female was taken from a flock of 12 at Chesterfield. This specimen is characteristic of the recently described race, *sedentaria* Snyder (5). A few small flocks were noted in Davis Strait. 1939: This species was seen as follows: eleven flying in Gray Straits on July 19; 10 flying over Lake Harbour on July 22; several males seen at Sugluk West on July 25; one at Cape Dorset; a flock of 20 near Cape Wolstenholme on July 28; and about 20 near Southampton Island.

Bailey collected breeding birds at Lake Harbour, Saddleback Island, and on an island off Crooks Inlet, southern Baffin Island. He also secured eggs from a colony on Big Island which, according to his report, contained "hundreds of nests".

Learmonth took male specimens at Cresswell Bay on June 21, 1938, and at Port Leopold on July 12, 1939, and June, 1940. These birds are referable to *borealis* Brehm and probably represent the most westerly occurrence of this form.

Marsh collected a female at Eskimo Point on July 5, 1937.

Somateria spectabilis (Linnaeus). KING EIDER.—1938: This species was noted only sparingly. Three were noted off Cape Dorset, two were seen at Pangnirtung; a male was collected at Craig Harbour, Ellesmere Island. 1939: Positively identified only at Southampton Island, where two were seen.

Bailey took one on July 11, 1932, at Lake Harbour.

Learmonth collected females at Cresswell Bay on June 15 and July 1, 1938, and a series of both sexes at Port Leopold in 1940. The earliest date among these is May 11.

Oidemia americana (Swainson). AMERICAN SCOTER.—1938: A pair of scoters, the male of which was all black, was seen flying southeast in Hudson Bay off Port Harrison on August 2.

Mergus serrator Linnaeus. RED-BREASTED MERGANSER.—Bailey secured an adult male of this species at Lake Harbour, Baffin Island, in 1932. The bird, which shows a few traces of the eclipse plumage, was presumably taken by natives in the fall.

Buteo lagopus (Brünnich). COMMON ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK.—1938: Pairs were noted at Hebron, Labrador; Lake Harbour, Baffin Island; Cape Smith, N.W.T.; Wakeham Bay and Cape Wolstenholme, Que. They apparently were nesting on the cliffs at each of these localities. Adult specimens were secured at Cape Smith on July 30, and at Cape Wolstenholme, August 14. 1939: One observed a short distance inland from Port Harrison, probably nesting nearby.

Circus hudsonius (Linnaeus). MARSH HAWK.—1938: An adult male was seen on August 6 at Churchill, Man. 1939: One in brown plumage was seen several miles inland from Churchill, August 7.

Falco rusticolus Linnaeus. GYRFALCON.—1938: Definitely identified only at Cape York, Greenland, where a white individual was observed flying over the sea near the coast. A freshly shed unsoiled feather which was picked up at Pangnirtung, Baffin Island, has been positively identified as white gyrfalcon. Dark falcons were seen at long range near Thule, Greenland, and near Hebron, Labrador. These were not identified, but the former was most likely a gyrfalcon. 1939: A black adult was seen soaring over a cliff several miles inland from Lake Harbour on August 15.

Bailey took one at Lake Harbour on August 11, 1930.

Learmonth collected one at Bellot Strait on November 5, 1938.

Both of these birds are typically white specimens of *F. candicans* Gmelin.

Falco peregrinus Tunstall. PEREGRINE FALCON.—1938: Individuals were seen at Sugluk West, Que., and at Churchill, Man. A falcon observed at River Clyde, Baffin Island, was also believed to be *Falco peregrinus*. A family of four birds was found frequenting a

high precipitous cliff at Fort Ross, Somerset Island, and the adult male was collected. 1939: One seen chasing two ravens at Arctic Bay. On September 20, while the *Nascopie* was off the Labrador coast near Hamilton Inlet, an immature bird spent four or five hours on the ship, apparently tired out.

The Fort Ross and Arctic Bay records appear to be the most northerly for this species in Canada.

Lagopus lagopus (Linnaeus). WILLOW PTARMIGAN.—1939: Three were seen several miles inland from Churchill on August 7.

Marsh collected two at Eskimo Point on May 3, 1937.

Lagopus rupestris (Gmelin). ROCK PTARMIGAN.—1938: This species was not common. Three females, one with three young, the others with one each, were observed at Sugluk West, Que. An adult male was seen at Pond Inlet and a female with one young was noted at Arctic Bay. Adult and juvenile specimens were collected at Sugluk and Arctic Bay.

Bailey took two on May 12, 1930, at Lake Harbour and a female on an island off Markham Bay on July 3, 1930.

Learmonth collected a juvenile male at Fort Ross on August 25, 1940.

Fulica americana Gmelin. AMERICAN COOT.—Learmonth preserved a specimen which was found dead on sea ice at the east end of Bellot Strait on October 30, 1937. This must be considered an accidental occurrence as the bird was far north of the normal range for the species.

Charadrius hiaticula Linnaeus. GREATER RINGED PLOVER.—1938: Found only on a gravelly bar at the mouth of the Salmon River, Pond Inlet, Baffin Island. Three immatures, of which two were collected, were observed. 1939: Individuals believed to be of this species were seen at River Clyde.

Charadrius semipalmatus Bonaparte. SEMIPALMATED PLOVER.—1938: Plentiful throughout the region of Hudson Straits and north to Pangnirtung. Five adult and five juvenile specimens were taken, representing the following localities: Lake Harbour, Wakeham Bay, Sugluk West, Port Harrison, and Pangnirtung. 1939: A common species, noted at the following posts: about 15 at Cape Dorset, four at Southampton Island, one at Port Harrison, common at Churchill, 10 at Chesterfield, and one at Cape Wolstenholme. An individual which may have been of this or the preceding species was seen at Fort Ross.

Learmonth's specimen of this species, taken on August 26, 1940, at Fort Ross, is of interest in view of the occurrence of the greater ringed plover in similar latitudes on adjacent Baffin Island. It also appears to represent a northward extension in the known range of the semipalmated plover. The specimen is a juvenile male.

Marsh secured a male at Eskimo Point on July 5, 1937.

Pluvialis dominica (Müller). GOLDEN PLOVER.—1939: Eight seen at close range on Southampton Island.

Squatarola squatarola (Linnaeus). BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER.—Learmonth took a pair at Cresswell Bay on June 16, 1938.

Arenaria interpres (Linnaeus). COMMON TURNSTONE.—1938: An adult and two downy young were collected at Coral Harbour, Southampton Island. Many small flocks were observed at Craig Harbour. Four juvenile specimens were collected. 1939: Six, of which two were young that were unable to fly, were seen at Southampton Island. Several observed at Churchill.

A pair was collected at Cresswell Bay by Learmonth on June 17, 1938.

Phaeopus hudsonicus (Latham). HUDSONIAN CURLEW.—1938: Seen only at Churchill, Man. Several adult birds observed there on August 6 were highly agitated, probably concerned with their young concealed in the grass. One of the agitated birds was collected and proved to be a female. On the same date fairly large flocks of Hudsonian curlew were seen along the Churchill River. 1939: About 30 were seen at Southampton Island, two at Churchill, and five at Chesterfield.

Totanus melanoleucus (Gmelin). GREATER YELLOWLEGS.—1938: About 50 birds of this species were observed at Churchill, in flocks of from 3 to 10. A female was collected on August 6.

Totanus flavipes (Gmelin). LESSER YELLOWLEGS.—1938: A small flock was observed on August 6 along the river near Churchill and several were seen in the townsite slough. 1939: Several seen in small ponds near Churchill.

Calidris canutus Linnaeus. KNOT.—Learmonth collected a female on June 14 and a male on June 16, 1938, at Cresswell Bay.

Arquatella maritima (Brünnich). EASTERN PURPLE SANDPIPER.—1938: A small flock seen at Pond Inlet. There were many immatures at River Clyde. Three males and two females were collected at Clyde. 1939: One seen at Fort Ross, Somerset Island.

Bailey collected two at Lake Harbour on June 1, 1932.

Learmonth secured a male on June 14 and a female on June 15, 1938, at Cresswell Bay.

Pisobia melanotos (Vieillot). PECTORAL SANDPIPER.—1938: An adult male was collected from a flock of 12 at Churchill.

Pisobia fuscicollis (Vieillot). WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER.—1938: The most commonly observed wader except the semipalmated sandpiper for the region as a whole during this year, even greatly exceeding the latter north of Hudson Straits. Three specimens were collected at Coral Harbour, Southampton Island, including a semidowny chick and a fully feathered juvenile. Juveniles were also taken at Chesterfield, N.W.T., River Clyde, and Arctic Bay. The latter was the most northerly observation. 1939: Two were seen at Cape Dorset, five at Southampton Island, and two at Pond Inlet.

Learmonth secured two at Fort Ross on August 26, 1940.

Pisobia bairdi (Coues). BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.—1938: Several adults were seen and one collected at Chesterfield. Two juveniles, with down still adhering to the occiput were flushed from a small inland pool at Arctic Bay and one was collected.

Learmonth collected two specimens at Fort Ross on August 26 and September 11, 1940.

Pisobia minutilla (Vieillot). LEAST SANDPIPER.—1938: Seen only at Churchill about the townsite slough on August 6.

Pelidna alpina (Linnaeus). DUNLIN.—1938: This species was found in large numbers at Churchill and Chesterfield and specimens in the very handsome juvenile plumage were collected at both places. 1939: Two seen at Chesterfield.

Limnodromus griseus (Gmelin). DOWITCHER.—1938: This species was migrating in fairly large numbers at Churchill and two juvenile specimens were taken. 1939: One observed at Churchill near Fort Prince of Wales.

Micropalama himantopus (Bonaparte). STILT SANDPIPER.—1938: A flock of six juveniles was observed at Churchill. Two specimens collected were both females. 1939: Several observed at Churchill.

Ereunetes pusillus (Linnaeus). SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER.—1938: A very common shorebird on Southampton Island and on both coasts of Hudson Bay. A family of downy young was collected on Southampton Island and semidownies were taken at Port Harrison and Chesterfield. 1939: This species and the semipalmated plover were the most widely distributed shorebirds observed during the trip of this year. Observed as follows: three at Southampton Island, one at Port Harrison, several at Churchill, common at Chesterfield, and about six at Fort Ross.

Crocethia alba (Pallas). SANDERLING.—1938: One seen at Pond Inlet. 1939: Two seen on the sandy beach at Clyde River.

Learmonth secured a male on June 15 and a female on June 17, 1938, at Cresswell Bay. He also collected two at Fort Ross on August 26, 1940.

Phalaropus fulicarius (Linnaeus). RED PHALAROPE.—1938: Encountered in some numbers on Southampton Island, where two adult males and two partly feathered downy young were collected. Also several were seen at Chesterfield, where a juvenile was taken.

Bailey collected specimens at Lake Harbour on June 15, 1932, and a pair on Jubilee Island on June 29, 1930.

Learmonth secured specimens at Cresswell Bay about the middle of June, 1938.

Lobipes lobatus (Linnaeus). NORTHERN PHALAROPE.—1938: Five seen at Churchill. 1939: Very common at Churchill. A flock of six seen at sea near Lake Harbour on August 14 were believed to be this species.

Stercorarius parasiticus (Linnaeus). PARASITIC JAEGER.—1938: A flock of eight seen at Southampton Island. Also noted in some numbers at Churchill, Chesterfield, and Craig Harbour and at Thule, Greenland. Two adults were collected. 1939: Two were seen at Southampton Island and one at Churchill. Two observed at Chesterfield were chasing a snowy owl.

Learmonth collected two light-phased birds on June 17, 1938, at Cresswell Bay and a dark female on June 8, 1940, at Port Leopold.

Stercorarius longicaudus Vieillot. LONG-TAILED JAEGER.—1938: Two adults seen at Cape Dorset and two at Coral Harbour, Southampton Island. An adult was collected at Fort Ross, Somerset Island. 1939: On July 19 at Cape Chidley and in Gray Strait there were at least one hundred and fifty. One was seen at Southampton Island: one at sea,

south of Southampton Island, on August 12; six seen near a large iceberg in Davis Straits off Frobisher Bay on August 17; one in Prince Regent Inlet on August 27; and one at Pond Inlet.

Learmonth collected males of this species, one on June 18, 1938, at Cresswell Bay and one in July, 1939, at Port Leopold.

Larus hyperboreus Gunnerus. GLAUCOUS GULL.—1938: The commonest gull in the area covered. It was observed at all ports of call except Churchill, Chesterfield, and River Clyde. A breeding colony of about 20 pairs was observed on the high, inaccessible cliffs near Glasgow Falls, Lake Harbour, on July 20. A male was collected at Craig Harbour. This bird possessed a vague, pinkish blush on the underparts, strongest on the breast. 1939: The commonest and most widespread gull of the trip. Observed at nearly every port as follows: a few at Hebron, some at Cape Chidley; a few at Lake Harbour, Wakeham Bay, Sugluk West, Cape Dorset, Wolstenholme, Southampton Island, and Port Harrison; observed occasionally in Davis Straits and Baffin Bay; a few at Craig Harbour; adults and immatures at Pond Inlet and Pangnirtung; observed at Hebron, September 18.

Bailey collected a male on June 1, 1931, at Lake Harbour and a female off Big Island on June 18, 1930. He also collected eggs almost ready to hatch on an island off Big Island on June 18, 1930.

Learmonth collected a specimen at Port Leopold in July, 1939, and two at the same place on June 8, 1940.

Larus marinus Linnaeus. GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL.—1938: The only northern observation of this species was that of an individual at Hebron, Labrador, in September. 1939: Not seen north of Belle Isle Strait, where they were rather common.

Larus argentatus Brünnich. HERRING GULL.—1938: Fairly common. All those in Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait that could be scrutinized closely seemed to have the dark wing tips of *L. argentatus smithsonianus*. Specimens in fully adult plumage collected at Fort Ross and Arctic Bay were typical of the northern form, *L. argentatus thayeri* Brooks. These two birds possessed light brown irides and purplish-pink eyelids. 1939: A few seen at Lake Harbour on July 22; a few at Southampton and many at Churchill and Chesterfield, these all being of the race *L. argentatus smithsonianus* Coues. *L. argentatus thayeri* was observed as follows: two were seen in ice pack in Prince Regent Inlet on August 29; many, of which 8 or 10 were young and unable to fly, at Fort Ross; about 15, of which a few were young birds, at Arctic Bay; and four at Pond Inlet.

Learmonth collected several specimens of the northern form, *L. argentatus thayeri*, including breeding adults and juveniles at Port Leopold and Fort Ross.

Larus kumlieni Brewster. KUMLIEN'S GULL.—1938: Gulls which were almost certainly of this species were seen near Cape Wolstenholme on July 29 and on August 14. Information to the effect that these birds nested near Erik Cove was secured locally. 1939: A few were seen in the harbour at Wolstenholme on July 28 and August 13.

Larus philadelphia (Ord.). BONAPARTE'S GULL.—1938: A few seen at Churchill. 1939: Common in the harbour at Churchill.

Pagophila alba Gunnerus. IVORY GULL.—1938: A few were seen in Lancaster Sound and Prince Regent Inlet and one was observed with glaucous gulls at Craig Harbour. 1939: Two seen at Craig Harbour and two in Prince Regent Inlet on August 27.

Learmonth reports this species as quite abundant in spring but very scarce in summer on south Somerset Island. He collected two females on July 6, 1938, and two on June 22, 1940, at Port Leopold.

Rissa tridactyla (Linnaeus). KITTIWAKE.—1938: A fairly common species. Observed along the Labrador and Davis Strait as far north as Devon Island. 1939: Observed commonly. A few in Belle Isle Strait, off the Labrador coast and around Cape Chidley; (not seen in Hudson Strait or Bay); a few in Davis Strait and Baffin Bay; several at Craig Harbour; a few in Lancaster Sound and Prince Regent Inlet; two at Pond Inlet; several at Clyde Inlet; a few in Cumberland Sound; common off the Labrador coast on the return trip, especially off Hamilton Inlet.

Learmonth collected this species at Bellot Strait on July 6, 1938, and at Port Leopold on June 23, 1939, and June 10, 1940.

Xema sabini (Sabine). SABINE'S GULL.—1939: Three seen at Southampton Island and one off Clyde Inlet on September 7.

Bailey secured a specimen during the last week of July, 1932, on Big Island.

Sterna paradisaea Brünnich. ARCTIC TERN.—1938: Common at Southampton Island and at Churchill; a few seen at Chesterfield; not noted elsewhere. 1939: Abundant at Southampton Island; common in Churchill harbour; about eight were seen at Chesterfield.

Two taken at Cresswell Bay by Learmonth on June 18 and 23, 1938; also a specimen collected at Bellot Strait on June 23, 1939.

Alca torda Linnaeus. RAZOR-BILLED AUK.—1938: Last seen off the Labrador coast near Cartwright.

Uria aalge (Pontoppidan). COMMON MURRE.—1938: Not identified north of Belle Isle Strait. 1939: Common in Belle Isle Strait and a few off the lower Labrador near Cartwright.

Uria lomvia (Linnaeus). THICK-BILLED MURRE.—1938: Common. Observed in Hudson Strait almost to the western entrance but not seen in Hudson Bay. Observed in Prince Regent Inlet, Admiralty Inlet, Lancaster Sound, and Baffin Bay north to Thule, Greenland. 1939: Common at Cape Chidley and throughout Hudson Strait (but none in Hudson Bay) and northward in Davis Strait and Baffin Bay; a few seen at Craig Harbour; many in Prince Regent Inlet; a few in Lancaster Sound, near Pond Inlet; and at Clyde River. Murres unable to fly were seen in Prince Regent on August 27. Some of these were young, others may have been adults in the eclipse moult.

Bailey collected two specimens at Lake Harbour.

Three examples were taken by Learmonth in June and July, 1938 and 1939, on the south-east coast of Somerset Island, and five at Port Leopold on June 10, 1940.

Alle alle (Linnaeus). DOVEKIE.—1938: Abundant in Davis Strait and Baffin Bay during the latter part of August. Observed as far west as Lancaster Sound, about 87° west longitude. 1939: First seen in Baffin Bay, east of Devon Island, on August 21; common in Prince Regent Inlet on August 31; some seen in Lancaster Sound and Admiralty Inlet. Flocks of 20 to 40 seen in Davis Strait near Clyde River but none south of Clyde.

Cephus grylle (Linnaeus). BLACK GUILLEMOT.—1938: Distributed about as the last, but the most northerly observation was off Devon Island in Davis Strait. A female was collected at Pond Inlet. 1939: Rather common and widespread, having been seen as follows: a few near Hebron; a few at Cape Chidley; one at Cape Smith; several at Port Burwell on August 16; one at Craig Harbour; a few in Lancaster Sound on August 26; several in Prince Regent Inlet on August 27. It was reported to winter at the edge of the ice-floe in Admiralty Inlet and Pond Inlet.

Bailey found this bird common about Lake Harbour and collected six breeding specimens. He secured an egg from a hollow in rough gravel far under a thin shelf of rock on July 3, 1930, on an island 25 miles west of Crooks Inlet.

Learmonth collected specimens at Port Leopold on June 15 and 27, 1939, July 6, 1938, and in May and June, 1940.

Fratercula arctica (Linnaeus). ATLANTIC PUFFIN.—1938: The most northern observation was off Rigolet, Labrador. 1939: Some in Belle Isle Strait and one seen off Cartwright, Labrador, on July 12.

Nyctea nyctea (Linnaeus). SNOWY OWL.—1938: One adult was seen near Pond Inlet, Baffin Island. 1939: One seen at Chesterfield and one immature specimen, on an ice-floe in Prince Regent Inlet on August 27.

Bailey took one at Lake Harbour on September 29, 1930, and also collected a young male from a nest at Lake Harbour in June, 1930.

Marsh collected specimens on February 28, May 20, and June 1, 1936, at Eskimo Point.

Asio flammeus (Pontoppidan). SHORT-EARED OWL.—1939: One seen several miles inland from Churchill.

Marsh collected a specimen on September 1, 1937, at Eskimo Point. He comments that the species is not common there.

Otocoris alpestris (Linnaeus). HORNED LARK.—1938: Observed north to Fort Ross and Arctic Bay, at which points it was as common as farther south. Seventeen specimens were taken as follows: two at Port Burwell, four at Lake Harbour, three at Sugluk West, four at Port Harrison, two at Arctic Bay, and two at Fort Ross. 1939: One at Port Harrison; common at Churchill; one immature on ice-floe near ship in Prince Regent Inlet on August 28; about eight at Fort Ross and 10 at Arctic Bay.

Bailey took a specimen on May 22, 1930, at Lake Harbour.

Learmonth collected specimens at Cresswell Bay on June 16, 1938, and at Fort Ross on August 26, 1940.

Iridoprocne bicolor (Vieillot). TREE SWALLOW.—1938: A single bird was seen near the post at Chesterfield on August 10. It flew off, high over the water, in a southerly direction and could not be collected. 1939: Four seen around small ponds in the townsite at Churchill on August 7.

Corvus corax Linnaeus. NORTHERN RAVEN.—1938: Not common, but a few seen at Hebron and Wakeham Bay and many at Pond Inlet. Individuals were seen at Lake Harbour, Craig Harbour, Port Burwell, and Cape Dorset. One was collected at Pond Inlet. 1939: One at Lake Harbour, July 23; six at Cape Smith; one at Craig Harbour; two at Arctic Bay; three at Pond Inlet; about six at Pangnirtung; and one at Hebron, on September 18.

Sialia currucoides (Bechstein). MOUNTAIN BLUEBIRD.—1938: A male was collected from a small clump of spruces a few miles south of Churchill on August 6. This is the first definite record of the species at Churchill, but suggests the identity of a young bluebird taken by Twomey (9) on June 10, 1931, but lost before it could be identified.

Oenanthe oenanthe (Linnaeus). WHEATEAR.—1938: A family group was observed about half a mile from Cape Wolstenholme, Que., on August 14, and a specimen in the scale-marked juvenile plumage was taken. Immatures were observed at Arctic Bay and Pangnirtung, Baffin Island. Two were collected at Arctic Bay and one at the latter post. Constable Fitzrandolph, who was stationed at Lake Harbour, showed me on August 17 where a pair had nested in a rock-faced terrace near the Royal Canadian Mounted Police post earlier in the summer. The frequency with which this species was encountered in 1938 during the hurried *Nascopie* cruise would indicate that an increase in the number of wheatears has taken place in Baffin Island in the last 10 years (1). Soper writes (6) that this species was ". one of the rarest birds of Baffin Island."

Anthus spinoletta (Linnaeus). AMERICAN PIPIT.—1938: The most abundant land bird of the high rocky coastal region about Hudson Strait. Eleven specimens were taken, including juveniles at Cape Dorset, Lake Harbour, and Port Harrison. Other localities where specimens were taken were Port Burwell and Cape Wolstenholme. 1939: Found rather commonly at most ports of call. Common at Hebron, Lake Harbour, Sugluk, Harrison, and Churchill. Several at Port Burwell, Wakeham Bay, Cape Dorset, Wolstenholme, Cape Smith, and Chesterfield. Four were definitely identified at Fort Ross; two at Arctic Bay, four at Pond Inlet, and about four at Pangnirtung.

Dendroica virens (Gmelin). BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER.—1938: A male came aboard the *Nascopie* while the ship was out of sight of the coast of Labrador, about latitude 53° North, on September 17. The bird was in an exhausted condition, and though given food and water, died the next day.

Acanthis hornemanni (Holboell). ARCTIC REDPOLL.—1938: Observed only at Churchill, where an adult male and a juvenile were taken.

Acanthis linaria (Linnaeus). REDPOLL.—1938: Observed only at Sugluk West, Hebron, and Pangnirtung. A newly made nest was found at Hebron on July 15. Two adult females and two juveniles collected at Sugluk are typical *linaria*, while a female taken at Pangnirtung is *rostrata*. It is decidedly buffy in colour, indicating immaturity, and has a wing 80 mm. in length.

Passerculus sandwichensis (Gmelin). SAVANNAH SPARROW.—1938: Two adult specimens were collected at Wakeham Bay. The only other locality where this species was noted was Churchill, where it was common and two specimens were collected. 1939: A few seen at Sugluk, two at Port Harrison, and several at Churchill.

Spizella arborea (Wilson). TREE SPARROW.—1938: Met with only at Churchill, where three juveniles and one adult were collected on August 6.

Zonotrichia leucophrys (Forster). WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW.—1938: This species was common at Hebron, Labrador, inhabiting the scrub willows. On July 15 many juveniles just able to fly were observed and two were caught by hand. One singing male was seen at Port Burwell, N.W.T., but could not be secured. 1939: At Hebron a few adults were seen on July 17 and a nest with five eggs was found. A few seen at Lake Harbour on July 23; at Churchill it was common and one was heard singing at Hebron on September 18.

Calcarius lapponicus (Linnaeus). LAPLAND LONGSPUR.—1938: This was an abundant species at nearly all ports, but was not observed at Hebron, Lake Harbour, Port Burwell, or Wakeham Bay. An adult male was collected at Craig Harbour, Ellesmere Island. It was the only one seen there and appears to represent a northern record for the species. Twenty-two specimens were taken, including juveniles on the breeding grounds at Cape Dorset, Fort Harrison, and Southampton Island. 1939: Found to be abundant at Southampton Island; a few seen at Churchill; common at Chesterfield; one seen on the ice in Prince Regent Inlet, about 30 miles from Fort Ross, on August 28; six at Arctic Bay; two at Pond Inlet; four at Clyde River; a few at Pangnirtung; and an immature came aboard the ship on September 16 in Davis Strait.

Bailey secured specimens on May 14 and 16, 1930, at Lake Harbour.

Marsh took a female at Eskimo Point on July 5, 1936.

Learmonth got this species on June 18, 1938, at Cresswell Bay and on June 21 at Bellot Strait. A common bird on Somerset Island.

Calcarius pictus (Swainson). SMITH'S LONGSPUR.—1938: An adult female and a juvenile collected at Churchill on August 6. 1939: Several birds observed in company with Lapland longspurs about the gravel flats in the townsite of Churchill.

Plectrophenax nivalis (Linnaeus). SNOW BUNTING.—1938: The most abundant species of the trip. It was noted at every port with the exception of Hebron. Seventeen specimens, representing a variety of plumages, were taken. 1939: The most commonly observed land bird, being seen at every port except Hebron and Wakeham Bay.

Bailey collected specimens at Lake Harbour on May 22, 1930. He also collected two sets of eggs at Lake Harbour on July 2 and 23, 1930.

Learmonth found the snow bunting common on Somerset Island and took examples on June 20, 1938, at Cresswell Bay and on September 10 and 11, 1940, at Fort Ross.

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