

condition, reported by Mr. W. E. D. Scott from one of the coast islands in 1877. He states that the Black Ducks were "Common [in summer], breeding in numbers about the small salt-water ponds on the beach."¹

Although this bird is still occasionally reported as breeding along the coast, the present find seems to be the only record of the discovery of a nest with eggs since the seventies. It is therefore welcome evidence that this fine bird will reside with us, if it is thoroughly protected during the early spring.

The Marsh Hawk (*Circus hudsonius*), though nesting regularly in the northern half of the State, is a rare breeder in the southern half. Apparently the last published record of the finding of a nest in southern New Jersey is to be found in the 'Bulletin' of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, 1879, p. 224, where Mr. W. E. D. Scott states, he took a nest with young and eggs at Long Beach, June 28, 1877. Another set of eggs seems to have been secured at the same place June 25, 1886.² On May 13, 1908, I discovered a nest containing five eggs on the edge of the Great Egg Harbor Meadows. It is perhaps interesting to note that it was found within sixty feet of the Black Duck's nest, above mentioned, though discovered nine days previously.³— ROBERT THOMAS MOORE, *Haddonfield, N. J.*

Concerning Three alleged "Erroneous Georgia Records."— Pressure of other matters has caused me to overlook until now Mr. Wayne's article in 'The Auk' for April, 1908, disputing the correctness of the citation on p. 208, Part II, 'Birds of North and Middle America,' of a breeding record for *Molothrus ater* in Georgia, offering as proof that "during the month of May, 1901," he "failed to detect the Cowbird" in Wayne, McIntosh, and Glynn counties, Georgia. Bendire, however, states positively (Life Hist. N. Am. Birds, 1895, p. 435) that, to his knowledge, the species *does* breed in Wayne and McIntosh counties, Georgia; consequently there are reasons for suspecting that Mr. Wayne's failure to find the species while making observations there (for part of a single month in each county) hardly proves Major Bendire to have been mistaken.

As to the breeding of the Bank Swallow and Short-billed Marsh Wren on St. Simon's Island, which Mr. Wayne rather positively discredits, it is only necessary to say that Mr. Bailey's records (Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, VIII, 1883, pp. 38, 39), cited by me, are based on eggs actually collected there and positively identified (both by Mr. Bailey and myself), and that therefore my citation of an alleged "unquestionably erroneous record" was in reality not "due to an oversight." It is of course quite possible that none of the species mentioned now breed in Georgia; but even were this established as a fact it would by no means prove that they did not nest there between 1853 and 1865.— ROBERT RIDGWAY, *Washington, D. C.*

¹ Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, 1879, p. 226.

² Birds of New Jersey, by Witmer Stone, in Report of New Jersey State Museum for 1908, p. 161.

³ For detailed account see 'Cassinia,' 1908, p. 35.



Ridgway, Robert. 1910. "Concerning Three alleged "Erroneous Georgia Records"." *The Auk* 27, 88–88. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4071006>.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/54324>

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.2307/4071006>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/87084>

Holding Institution

Smithsonian Libraries and Archives

Sponsored by

Smithsonian

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>.