BIRD NOTES FROM LONG ISLAND, N. Y.

By William Dutcher.

For the purpose of determining the date of migration, the species migrating, and the numbers that are destroyed by striking a lighthouse during a spring and fall migration, I have for the past two years received all the birds killed by flying against Fire Island Light. This light is of the first order, flashing white every minute; is 168 feet above the level of the sea, and is visible 194 nautical miles. It is located on the east side of Fire Island Inlet, south side of Long Island, N. Y., north latitude 40° 37' 57", west longitude 73° 13' 9".*

I also received from Great West (or Shinnecock) Bay Light part of those that were killed the night of September 30, 1883. This light is also of the first order, but is a fixed white light; is 160 feet above the sea level, and is visible 183 nautical miles. It is located 45 miles east of Fire Island Light, on the main land, about one mile north of the beach. Fire Island Light is built on the beach, which is separated from the main land by Great South Bay, which is here some six miles wide. I am not aware that a fully identified list of the birds striking any lighthouse has ever been published; the only work of this nature for the United States being the reports of a few light keepers (the birds not being identified), collated and published by Mr. J. A. Allen,† and the reports by Messrs. John A. Harvie Brown, John Cordeaux, and others for the British Islands.‡

The records herewith submitted cover so short a period that nothing can be deduced from them at the present time. I am

indebted for the notes and birds received during 1882, and in the spring of 1883, to Mr. C. A. Blydenburgh, First Asst. Keeper, and in the autumn of 1883, to Mr. S. R. Hubbard, Keeper of Fire Island Light. They are both deserving of thanks for the pains they have taken to keep accurate records, and also for sending me all the birds it was possible to secure.

**Spring Migration, 1882.**

"Some Robins and other small birds came against the tower one night this week; none were killed. I think these were the first small birds of the season."—C. A. B., March 16.

"I have not been able to get a single bird since I wrote to you last. We have had no bad weather since the flight of small birds commenced."

—C. A. B., April 18.

"I am sorry to keep you without birds. I see plenty, but the nights are so clear that they do not strike the tower."

May 9. Wind N. E. Rain.

Galeoscoptes carolinensis, 1. Spizella domestica, 1.
Siorus auricapillus, 1. Melospiza lincolni, 3.
Zonotrichia leucophrys, 1. Pipilo erythrophthalmus, 1.
Zonotrichia albicollis, 4. Tringoides macularius, 1.

"I send you thirteen birds which struck against the tower last night. A great many struck, but these are the only dead ones."—C. A. B., May 10.

"We have had bad weather all the time since I sent you the birds. It has been too rough for small birds to fly."—C. A. B., May 15.


Harporhynchus rufus, 1. Pipilo erythrophthalmus, 1.
Geothlypis trichas, 2.

"I forward you ten birds which struck during the past two nights. Quite a number more struck, but it was impossible to get them. Many fall in the grass at some distance from the foot of the tower, and cannot be found until after they are spoiled."


May 20 and 21. Wind N. E. Cloudy and thick.

Harporhynchus rufus, 1. Geothlypis trichas, 2.
Parula americana, 1. Setophaga ruticilla, 1.

Total in spring migration, 28.

**Autumn Migration, 1882.**

"I begin to hear birds about nights, but we have had no weather to get any yet. If we were to have a foggy night you would hear from me at once."—C. A. B., Aug. 11.


Dendroeca aestiva, young, 1.


Siorus naxius, 1.

Ammodromus maritimus, 1.

Sept. 3. Wind S. W., fresh. Foggy.

Dendroæca pinus, 1.

Gulls, sp.? 3. (Probably Terns of some kind. The birds were not sent to me.)


Dendroæca striata, 3.

Siurus auricapillus, 2.

Siurus nævius, 6.

Geothlypis trichas, 2.

Setophaga ruticilla, 1.

Sept. 10. Wind S. E., light. Thick.

Dolichonyx oryzivorus, 1.

Sept. 13. Wind, not stated. Weather, not stated.

Geothlypis trichas, 1.


Siurus nævius, 1.


Hylocichla unalascæ pallasi, 1.

Mniotilta varia, 1.

Parula americana, 8.

Dendroæca aestiva, 1.

Dendroæca maculosa, 1.

Dendroæca discolor, 1.

Siurus auricapillus, 1.

Siurus nævius, 1.

Geothlypis trichas, 8.


Parula americana, 1.

Sept. 24. Wind, ? Weather, ?

Siurus nævius, 1.


Sp.? 3. Birds not sent to me.


Vireosylvia olivacea, 1.

Melospiza fasciata, 1.


Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni, 2.

Galeoscoptes carolinensis, 1.

Anthus ludovicianus, 1.

Parula americana, 4.

Dendroæca coronata, 4.

Dendroæca striata, 2.

Geothlypis trichas, 6.


Vireosylvia olivacea, 1.

Sp.? 2 (Birds not sent to me.)

Melospiza palustris, 5.


There are a great many birds on the wing now, and if we could have a foggy night I could get you plenty.”—C. A. B., Oct. 13.
Dendroca coronata, 2. Passerculus sandwichensis savanna, 1.
Dendroca striata, 1.
Geothlypis trichas, 1. Melospiza fasciata, 1.
Vireosylvia olivacea, 1.
Oct. 15. Wind N. E., fresh. Cloudy.
Sterna fluvialis, 1.
Vireosylvia olivacea, 1.
"A number of Big Yellow-legs passed last night."—C. A. B., Oct. 19.
Dendroca striata, 1.
Oct. 21. Wind? Weather?
Geothlypis trichas, 1.
Nov. 5. Wind N. E., fresh. Cloudy.
Chrysomtitris pinus, 1.
Nov. 10. Wind N. E., moderate. Hazy.
Dendroca caerulea, 1. Passerculus sandwichensis savanna, 1.
Dendroca coronata, 11.
Podiceps holboelli, 1.
Spizella montana, 1. Passerella iliaca, 2.
Nov. 30. Wind? Weather?
Harelda glacialis, 1.
Dec. 2. Wind N. W. Hazy.
Regulus satrapa, 1. Junco hyemalis, 36.
Harelda glacialis, 1.
Total in Autumn migration, 228.
Total in Spring migration, . . . . 28
Total in Autumn migration, . . . . 228
Total for year, . . . . . . . . . . . . 256
Species in Spring, . . . . . . . . . . . . 14
Species in Autumn, . . . . . . . . . . . . 38

Spring Migration, 1883.
Ducks, sp., 2. (Birds not sent to me.)
Jan. 5. Wind N. E., fresh. Snowy.
Clangula glaucium americana, 1.
Jan. 13. Wind S. W., fresh. Rainy.
Scoter, sp., 1. (Bird not sent to me.)
Clangula glaucium americana, 1.
Mergus serrator, 1.
Plectrophanes nivalis, 1.
Feb. 27. Wind N. W., fresh. Snowy.
   Sp. ? i. (Bird not sent to me.)
   Plectrophanes nivalis, 1.
   Fulix marila, 3.
April 4. Wind S. W., fresh. Showery.
   Passerella iliaca, 3.
   Junco hyemalis, 1.
   Melospiza fasciata, 1.
   Merula migratoria, 2.
   Sayornis fuscus, 2.
April 11. Wind N. E., fresh. Foggy.
   Edemia americana, 1.
   Passerculus sandwichensis savanna, 2.
May 15. "Wind N. E. to N. Rain and fog. Cleared off at 11 p. m. No birds struck after the fog cleared away; although I saw a great many flying in the rays of the light, they did not strike hard enough to be killed."—C. A. B.
   Siurus auricapillus, 2.
   Vireosylvia olivacea, 1.
   Siurus navius, 1.
   Pyranga rubra, 3.
   Goeothlypis trichas, 5.
   Totanus melanoleucus, 1.
   Myiiodioctes canadensis, 1.
   Sp. ? 7. (Birds stolen in transit.)
   Total in spring migration, 45.

AUTUMN MIGRATION, 1883.

"I see that small birds are on their course, but they want a thick night to strike."—S. R. H., Aug. 22.

Aug. 29. Wind E. N. E. Cloudy.
   Siurus navius, 1.
   "This is the only bird which struck last night that was killed."—S. R. H., Aug. 30.
   Parula americana, 1.
   Dendroeca pinus, 1.
   Hylocichla unalascæ pallasi, 1.
   Goeothlypis trichas, 1.
   Siurus navius, 1.
   Parula americana, 1.
   Vireosylvia olivacea, 1.
   Siurus auricapillus, 1.
   "There don't appear to be any birds on the course."—S. R. H.
   Hylocichla fuscescens, 3.
   Hylocichla aliciae, 3.
   Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni, 3.
   Dendroeca striata, 5.
   Dendroeca blackburnie, 1.
   Dendroeca virens, 2.
   Siurus auricapillus, 5.
   Geothlypis trichas, 4.
   Vireosylvia olivacea, 9.
   Pyranga rubra, 1.
   Coccyzus erythrophthalmus, 1.
   Rallus virginianus, 1.
"I did not know as any more would strike. I have never in my stay here seen so few birds strike in a fall."—S. R. H., Sept. 29.

Sept. 30. Wind varying N. to E. Thick to rain.

Hylocichla fuscescens, 29. Pyranga rubra, 7.
Parula americana, 2. Sayornis fuscus, 2.
Dendroica striata, 230. Sphyropicus varius, 1.
Siusurus auricapillus, 3. Ceryle aequon, 1.

"I send you a box of birds which struck Sunday night, Sept. 30. It is the first regular flight this fall, when the weather has been favorable for them to strike. I send one bird I don't remember to have ever seen strike before, viz., a Kingfisher."—S. R. H., Oct. 1.


Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni, 1. Vireosylvia olivacea, 6.
Parula americana, 2. Pyranga rubra, 1.


Dendroica cerulescens, 48. Passerculus sandwichensis savan-

Oporornis agilis, 18.
Vireosylvia olivacea, 15.

Nov. 11. Wind, not stated. Thick fog and rain.
Regulus calendula, 3. Eremophila alpestris, 1.
Junco hyemalis, 1.

Total in Autumn migration, 517.
Total in Spring migration, . . . 45
Total in Autumn migration, . . . 517
Total for year, . . . . . . . 562
Species in Spring, . . . . . . 21
Species in Autumn, . . . . . . 27

**Autumn Migration, 1883.**

*Shinnecoek Bay Light.*

Sept. 30. Wind N. to E., varying. Thick to rain.

Hylocichla fuscescens, 1. Oporornis agilis, 3.
Hylocichla aliciae, 2. Geothlypis trichas, 1.
Hylocichla ustulata swainsoni, 1. Vireosylvia olivacea, 4.
Parula americana, 1. Pyranga rubra, 2.
Dendroica striata, 59. Sp. ? about 85. (Birds not sent to me.)
Siusurus auricapillus, 1.

Total, 160.

"I send you 75 birds. —About 160 struck Sunday night, Sept. 30, but a great many were spoiled by the rain-storm."—L. G. Squires, Oct. 1.

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