

midst of a flock of several hundred birds, which chanced to settle right in front of us. They were very tame.

All birds taken previous to Sept. 26 were Northern Phalaropes, and while it is not possible to state that all the Phalaropes seen were of the same species, we can say that no individual was noticed with any specially distinct coloring to attract our attention. A single specimen of Red Phalarope was taken Sept. 26 about one mile off shore. It was swimming about alone, and on dissection proved to have been feeding on land insects, probably blown off by the stiff northwester then in full force.

What I desire to call attention to in this case is that a bird of not regular occurrence suddenly appears in large numbers, and once with us remains for six weeks.

As evidence that nearly all birds seen were included in the original flock, I would say that,—1st, the Phalaropes appeared in a flock, after a stiff although short northeast wind. 2nd, On days when many small bunches were seen, we did not see the large flock. 3rd, Birds startled did not seem to us to make any attempt to resume a flight, but simply flew off and settled down again.

Twelve or fifteen were taken, all being very fat.—W. A. JEFFRIES, *Boston, Mass.*

Golden Eagle at Shelter Island, New York.—A fine specimen of this noble bird was shot at Shelter Island Heights on the 19th of last October, and brought me to be mounted. It was a female, in young of the year plumage, and exhibited the following measurements (in inches), taken before skinning: length 36.25, extent 82.25, wing 24.87, tail 13.75, culmen 1.75, gape 2.70, tarsus 4.25. The crop and stomach contained the remains of a rabbit. The young man who shot it stated that it was in the act of swooping down upon him, being within a few yards, when he fired, and it fell dead at his feet. This is the first instance of the occurrence of this species here that has come to my notice, and it is a rare record for Long Island.—W. W. WORTHINGTON, *Shelter Island Heights, N. Y.*

Falco dominicensis Gmel. versus Falco sparverioides Vig.—Although the very different looking birds to which the above names, in a restricted sense, respectively belong, usually have been recognized as distinct species, their specific identity was claimed on good evidence as long ago as 1855 by Dr. J. Gundlach, who then stated,* as he has subsequently on various occasions, that he found the two paired together, and undoubtedly holding the relation to one another of light and dark individual phases. Such relationship, however, seemed so improbable, that most authors (the present writer among the number) have overlooked or declined to accept Dr. Gundlach's testimony, or (as in my own case) have

* Erinn. VIII, Jahresh. Deutsch. Orn.-Gess. p. lxxxiv (Journ. für Orn. 1854, extraheft).