

September 2024

## The Hudsonian Godwit in the Dominican Republic

Alexander Wetmore

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/auk>

---

### Recommended Citation

Wetmore, Alexander (1931) "The Hudsonian Godwit in the Dominican Republic," *The Auk*: Vol. 48: Iss. 4, Article 32.

Available at: <https://digitalcommons.usf.edu/auk/vol48/iss4/32>

This General Notes is brought to you for free and open access by the Searchable Ornithological Research Archive at Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. It has been accepted for inclusion in The Auk by an authorized editor of Digital Commons @ University of South Florida. For more information, please contact [digitalcommons@usf.edu](mailto:digitalcommons@usf.edu).

There is a portage of about a mile and a half, from Coot Bay to the Lake on which this rookery is located, which was formerly used before the drainage canal route was available. As I saw no birds circling over the rookery, I presumed it is still deserted.

I returned to Coon Key on May 1 and in the mangroves adjoining Blue-bill Bay, off Marco River, I disturbed a flock of Roseate Spoonbills, which circled over me. I counted over seventy in the flock which, I think, is the largest flock seen in that country for a number of years.

On one of the reefs, about a mile distant from Coon Key, I saw a flock of eight Oyster-catchers. I was told that there was another flock of about the same size on one of the other reefs near Cape Romain; also, several very large flocks of Terns on the sand bars off the same Cape.

Going farther north, I noticed a very large colony of Man-o'-war Birds on one of the islands near the entrance of Blind Pass. At the entrance of Captiva Pass, the sand bar which has been formed by the results of the storms of the past few years, was covered with Terns and Skimmers.

In general, the number of wading birds seen by me was less than on any trip I have made over this country in the past ten years. The explanation given by the natives is that the birds have moved farther back into the Everglades for nesting purposes and on account of a more abundant supply of food.—EUGENE R. PIKE, *Tower Building, Chicago, Ill.*

**A Knot (*Calidris canutus*) in Montgomery County, Ohio.**—About an hour before sunset on August 17, 1927, on a visit to the lake at Englewood dam, about eight miles north of Dayton, Montgomery County, Ohio, I observed seven Knots (*Calidris canutus*) in a mixed flock of shorebirds. They appeared to be resting, as they stood quietly in a little group on a mud-flat. Their nearest associates were about a dozen Yellow-legs, a Stilt Sandpiper, five Dowitchers, and two Pectoral Sandpipers; nearby were a score of Semipalmated Sandpipers, a single Least, ten Killdeers and four Semipalmated Plovers. Altogether a remarkable shorebird assemblage in this part of Ohio. None of these birds was more than fifty or sixty feet from where I sat and all were actively feeding; the inactivity of the Knots was as conspicuous as was their lack of definite plumage markings. At such close range they were easily studied with 8x glasses for half an hour. In comparing them with other species present I found that in form they more generally resembled the Dowitcher except the bill was shorter; in coloration they were of a more uniform gray on the back, sides and breast than the Yellow-legs, and the legs were darker. I am aware of no other record for this species from the interior of Ohio since the days of Wheaton (1878).—BEN. J. BLINCOE, *Dayton, Ohio.*

**The Hudsonian Godwit in the Dominican Republic.**—Dr. R. Ciferri, Director of the Experiment Station at Santiago, D. R. has presented to the U. S. National Museum a specimen of the Hudsonian Godwit *Limosa haemastica* taken September 22, 1930, on the flats of the Río Yaque

del Norte, near Hato del Yaque, Province of Santiago, Dominican Republic, by Mr. E. Ciferri. Dr. Ciferri writes that a flock of thirty of these birds appeared following the severe hurricane of the season in question, and that four were taken. The species has been only casual in occurrence in the West Indies, and is here first reported for either the Dominican Republic or Haiti where its capture raises the total number of forms of birds definitely known for that island and its dependencies to 217.—ALEXANDER WETMORE, *U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C.*

**Wilson's Phalarope (*Steganopus tricolor*) in South Carolina.**—It is with pleasure that the writer is able to record the capture of the second specimen of *Steganopus tricolor* for the State of South Carolina, on May 15, 1931. The circumstances surrounding the taking of this bird are of considerable interest. In 'The Auk,' Vol. XLVI, 383, Mr. Herbert R. Sass records the sight observation of *S. tricolor* in a small pond on Sol Legare Island, near Charleston, on May 11, 1929. This bird, a female, remained in the pond for several days, leaving as near as the writer can recall, on May 13. On May 13, of this year Mr. Sass again saw the species in the same pond, two years to the day from the time the former specimen seen there, left.

On May 15, the writer, in company with Messrs. Peter Gething and John Slocum went to Sol Legare Island to look for the Phalarope and saw it in the pond together with another individual. A long shot by the writer missed the one aimed at and both flew off. Separating then, the three of us scoured the island in hope of locating the birds again and in about an hour, Mr. Gething secured one of the birds in a nearby pool. It is a female in very high plumage and constitutes the second specimen to be actually taken in South Carolina. Thus, the pond on Sol Legare Island has yielded another rare shore-bird to records of the State, other species taken there being Golden Plover (*Pluvialis dominica*) and Stilt Sandpiper (*Micro-palama himantopus*) while the Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) was seen but not taken.—ALEXANDER SPRUNT, JR., *South Battery, Charleston, S. C.*

**Red Phalarope in Ocean County, N. J.**—A splendid specimen of the Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*) in adult female summer plumage, was seen to excellent advantage at the North Point Flats of Barnegat Bay, on May 26, 1931. So unsuspecting was the bird, that members of the party were able to approach to within ten feet, while it floated on the water and picked at the surface. Several times it flushed, only to come back to the same spot, where it seemed to be attracted by food banked close against a sand bar by a slight breeze. The entirely red underparts, white side of head, yellowish bill (thicker than a Northern Phalarope's—*Lobipes lobatus*) with dark tip, were all clearly noted. A call, resembling that of a Northern Phalarope, was heard.—GLADYS GORDON FRY, CYNTHIA DRYDEN KUSER, CYNTHIA CHURCH, and LAIDLAW WILLIAMS, *Princeton, N. J.*