

regularly occurring in Canada. Comparable scoters are solidly coloured dark brown without variegation except for gradual lightening of face, fore part, and below,—they are entirely without bars or streaks.

KING EIDER, *Somateria spectabilis*.

Plate II, Figs. 3, 3a.

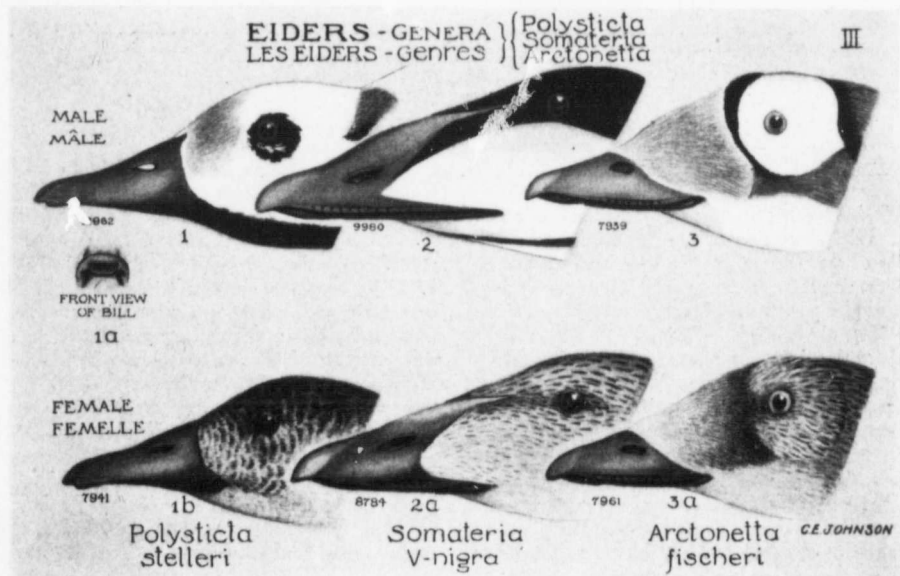
The greatly enlarged bill process, coloured bright yellow, easily distinguishes the male of this species. The feathering of the fore crown and the cheeks are diagnostic in other plumages. In this species the crown feathers extend down the ridge of the bill as far as the rear of the nostrils, whilst the feathering of the cheeks does not extend as far as that of the crown. In other comparable eiders the

the Northern Eider, *Somateria mollissima borealis* can be shown to exist. The American Eider therefore becomes *Somateria mollissima dresseri*. These two American forms can only be separated by the bill processes on the sides of the crown. In the American Eider these processes in either sex are broad and end in a well rounded instead of a pointed tip as in the Northern and the Pacific Eiders.

PACIFIC EIDER, *Somateria v. nigra*.

Plate III, Figs. 2, 2a.

The Pacific Eider can usually be told from the Atlantic Eider by the black V-mark on the throat similar to that of the King Eider. In occasional



cheek feathering projects forward of that of the crown.

ATLANTIC EIDER, *Somateria mollissima*.

Plate II, Figs. 1, 1a, 2, 2a.

The long Y-shaped arms of the bill processes extending up the sides of the crown are distinctive of the male Atlantic and the Pacific Eiders. In the females of these species the crown feathering not nearly reaching to the nostrils and the cheek feathers extending beyond those of the crown are diagnostic.

In the 1910 A.O.U. Check List, the standard authority, the American Eider is given as a full species, *Somateria dresseri*. Late investigation, however, has shown that it is only a subspecies of the eider common to the New and Old Worlds (Atlantic Eider), as all intermediates between it and

Atlantic specimens this throat mark is said to be present, in which case and in females, the relatively larger and heavier bill, the shorter and more acutely pointed bill processes on the fore crown, and the slightly blunter ending of the feathering on the sides of the bill of the Pacific seem to be the only diagnostic guides. None of these points are satisfactorily obvious or reliable but the ranges of the two species are so widely separated that it will only be birds from a limited section of the Arctic or occasional stragglers that need ever be confused.

SPECTACLED EIDER, *Arctonetta fischeri*.

Plate III, Figs. 3, 3a.

The white spot about the eye and the black spectacle mark of the male Spectacled Eider is unmistakable. In the female this white eye spot is indi-