

Lake in the spring of 1880. It is a long way from normal range of the species and should be authenticated by specimens for unreserved acceptance. The Wards are unacquainted with the species.

35. BUFFLEHEAD, *Charitonetta albeola*.

Said by the Wards to have been a common migrant, but not known to breed. Seen on May 19, 1917, and a few in late April and early May in 1918.

36. HARLEQUIN DUCK, *Histrionicus histrionicus*.

Frank Ward tells us that in the spring of 1898 he shot three brilliantly coloured little ducks that he was unfamiliar with. At the time he thought they might be Wood Ducks, but upon seeing that species later realized the mistake. He identified them as similar to coloured pictures of the Harlequin Duck in Reed's Bird Guide. Taking everything into consideration I am inclined to accept this record with but few mental reservations.

EIDER, Sp?

The Wards tell of a large duck of unknown species, with greatly swollen bill, having been taken by Mr. Samuel Martin, of Winnipeg, about 1900. Plumage descriptions seem to suggest a female, either Eider or Scoter. If Eiders, ever occur they must be accidental stragglers and except for the above uncertain record they are unknown on the lake.

37. WHITE-WINGED SCOTER, *Oidemia deglandi*.

Seton found nest and eggs on Pelican Island on July 6, 1901. This is the only Scoter known to the Ward brothers, who say that when the lake was fished many were taken in the nets. We saw small flocks almost daily in the spring of 1917, and Young reports occasional individuals throughout the season until Aug. 10.

38. RUDDY DUCK, *Erismatura jamaicensis*.

Reported by Seton, 1886, on the authority Hine to breed at Sicel Lake. Said by the Wards to have bred very commonly but not often taken. It has practically disappeared from the marsh since the drying of the marshes. Young noted one individual on May 29, 1918.

39. SNOW GOOSE, *Chen hyperboreus*.

Single individuals seen on May 25 and 28, in 1917, a large flock on April 30, a smaller one on May 25, and two individuals on Oct. 2, in 1918. The residents are enthusiastic over the "Wavie" shooting. I take it for granted that all are Lesser Snow Geese, *C. h. hyperboreus*. It is locally called Greater, but apparently in contrast with Ross' Goose, which seems to be as well known as the "Lesser Wavie".

40. BLUE GOOSE, *Chen caerulescens*.

One was seen on May 29, 1917, in company with a Snow Goose and watched for some time in good field-glass range. The slaty black and white head and neck made identification positive. Young

noted a flock of one hundred on April 30, 1917, and a few more individuals on Oct. 1 and 2. The Ward brothers say that in most flocks of Snow Geese a few of this coloration occur, but not many are taken.

41. ROSS' GOOSE, *Chen rossi*.

The Wards differentiated between the Greater and Lesser Snow Geese, but upon questioning it appeared that the latter were little larger than Mallards. There can be little doubt but that this is the species referred to. They are only occasionally seen on the lake, but numbers have been brought into Winnipeg market.

42. WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, *Anser albifrons*.

May 26, 1917, one pitched on an isolated rock off the shore within sight of camp, from whence we watched it with glasses for a considerable time. The general brown colouration, white frontal patch and pink bill and feet were plainly visible and there can be no doubt as to the identification. The Ward brothers say it is scarce within their experience and know of but six individuals being taken on the lake.

43. *CANADA GOOSE, *Branta canadensis*.

Besides seeing the species during spring and fall in 1917, Young noted individuals as late as June 4 and as early as Aug. 10 in the following season. Arnold reports finding a nest on an island in 1894 and doubtless the present breeding ground is not far away. Two captive birds seen were evidently *B. c. hutchinsi*. One specimen obtained on April 30, 1918, is *B. c. canadensis*. The Wards and others say that the two large forms of Canada Goose can easily be told apart in life, having different voices and the flocks keeping more or less separate. The living birds of the small form do not make good decoys for the larger. They also upon their own initiative tell of occasional very small Canadas, scarcely larger than Mallards, and with voices like a hard *cack-cack-cack*. They are very scarce and there can be little doubt but that they are stragglers of the Cackling Goose, *B. c. minima*.

44. BRANT, *Branta berniola*.

Reported by Seton (*Auk*, 1886, p. 329), on authority of R. H. Hunter, to have been killed at Shoal Lake. As Geo. Atkinson records in his *Rare Birds of Manitoba* (Trans. No. 65, Hist. and Sci. Soc. Man., 1904), a specimen in his possession from Oak Lake, killed the spring of 1889, the record is not an isolated one for the province.

45. WHISTLING SWAN, *Olor columbianus*.

The Ward brothers tell us that Swans are still common migrants, especially in the fall and do not seem to be decreasing to any marked degree. We saw none in 1917, but in 1918 Young noted thirty on April 30, and six on May 6.