

just 15 days before) had yellow feet and some dark head markings.

No attempt was made to flush the gull to observe the mantle pattern in flight, as I hoped it would remain on the breakwater until another observer had seen it. At about 4 P.M. on the same day David Peakall found the gull still on the breakwater (I had not remained to show it to him) and noted the same characteristics as I had. There were no further sightings of the bird.

Since foot color of the adult Lesser Black-backed is variable in winter (cf. Peterson, R. T., et al, *A field guide to the birds of Britain and Europe*), this note seems warranted as the bird's appearance in every respect was that of an adult *Larus fuscus*.

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Goshawk Attacks Covey of Gray Partridge: On 5 January 1967 near Philadelphia in Jefferson County while I was watching a covey of nine Gray Partridge (*Perdix perdix*) as they moved from the side of a road into an open field, a Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) flew towards them. Usually when flushed a covey of Gray Partridge will all fly together in the same direction. As the hawk approached these, each one flew in a different direction, except one which remained "frozen" in the snow. This flying in different directions by the partridges was rewarding, for the hawk seemed puzzled, banking one way and then another and ending up with no partridge. A lot of action in just a few seconds. The hawk then flew toward a small stand of trees and shrubs. Ahead of it two frightened cottontails scrambled in a hasty zig-zag retreat.

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Small Black and White Shearwater off Long Island: On 2 January 1967, about five miles south of the Jones Beach tower, Nassau Co., I observed a small "black and white shearwater." It was about 12:30 P.M., the sea was fairly calm, and there was little wind. The bird, somewhat smaller than a Bonaparte's Gull, approached within 75 feet and was observed in good light through 7×50 binoculars for 10–15 seconds before it disappeared behind an adjacent fishing boat. Size comparison was made directly with Herring Gulls, and the more distant Bonaparte's and Great Black-backed Gulls and Kittiwake.

The bird flew with rapid alcid-like wingbeats, interspersed with short periods of stiff-winged, tilting glides. It was sharply patterned black above and white below. The undertail coverts appeared white, but my view was most fleeting. Foot color was not noticed. The well-seen bill was typically tubinareform, but proportionately short. The wings were long and narrow, but not proportionately as long as the other shearwater species with which I am familiar. These include Sooty, Greater and Cory's Shearwaters, and more limited contact with the Manx Shearwater and the Fulmar. I am also quite familiar with grebes, "black and white" ducks and all the Atlantic alcids.

This observation fits rather well the description and picture of the Little Shearwater (*Puffinus assimilis*) given by Post in the *Kingbird*, 14(3): 133–141, July 1964. The time of year alone seems to rule out Audubon's Shearwater (*P. lherminieri*), although there is a late November report of the Manx Shearwater (*P. puffinus*) from Massachusetts (Post, *in press*). However, due to my shortage of experience with this difficult group and the fact that I was unable to determine the foot color or note the white inner webs of the primaries, I prefer to leave the identification as simply a "small black and white shearwater" of the genus *Puffinus*. Incidentally, no other form of Procellariiform from more distant places, other than races of the three species mentioned above, seems close enough to this bird's appearance to cause possible confusion.

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(continued on page 122)