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Corrections or omissions should be called to the attention of the Bibliography Committee: Sally Hoyt Spofford, Chairman, John B. Belknap, Allen H. Benton, and Kenneth C. Parkes.

## FIELD NOTES

**A Misplaced Petrel.** Petrels are pelagic birds ranging widely over the world's oceans, and are rarely seen on land except on islands where nesting takes place. The occurrence of a petrel at an inland point is purely fortuitous.

A petrel found near Mt. Morris in Livingston County, N.Y. in the spring of 1880 was the subject of considerable speculation until its true identity '*Pterodroma inexpectata*' was determined many years later. Details as to its discovery can be found in Eaton (1909) and Bent (1922) and will not be repeated here. The bird was sent to a taxidermist in Concord, N.H. for mounting. The specimen, wings outstretched, appeared shortly thereafter in the window of a natural history store in Boston, Massachusetts.

It was soon spotted by a sharp eyed ornithologist, William Brewster of Cambridge. Brewster, then twenty-eight years of age, was already a leader in American ornithology, having been the moving spirit in the formation of the Nuttall Club and later one of the founders of the American Ornithologists Union. Recognizing it to be something out of the ordinary, Brewster purchased the specimen, reporting the occurrence in the NOC Bulletin (1881) under the title "Critical Notes on a Petrel New to North America."

Believing it to belong to a species unknown to science he proposed the name Scaled Petrel (*Aestrelata scalaris*) giving a detailed description in the "Auk" (1886). For years the specimen was considered the only one extant and was so designated in the third edition of the AOU Checklist (1910). Later it was determined that the Scaled Petrel of Brewster belongs to a south Pacific species that had been known since 1844. The confusion stemmed from the fact that the Livingston County bird was an immature lith somewhat different markings from an adult *Pterodroma inexpectata*. It has, at various times, been called the Scaled, Peale and Mottled Petrel. Breeding is restricted to the New Zealand area and the normal oceanic range is the south Pacific between the thirtieth parallel and the Antarctic continent. Some birds of this species range as far as the Alaskan Peninsula, and there are a few records from the Pacific coast of North America. It would appear that the Livingston County bird had wandered some five thousand miles from home.

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