

flew. Other fieldmarks noted were the light (not bright yellow) bill and throat, the all-black appearance of the plumage other than flank patches and throat, and the apparently large size (although there was no other bird in the near vicinity for direct comparison.)

A (or "the") Great Cormorant was seen at Oswego Harbor later in the day by F. G. Scheider and others, and on May 20 by Schieder and by Spies and myself. The intriguing possibility remains that my initial sighting was of two Great Cormorants.

May 19th was a day of diminishing NW wind, and the 20th one of rain on a SE wind. The evening of the 18th had been rainy, with strong wind off Lake Ontario.

Dayton Stoner in *Ornithology of the Oneida Lake Region* (1932) lists two nineteenth century Great Cormorant specimens from Oneida Lake, and W. Earl Godfrey in *The Birds of Canada* (1966) notes a nineteenth century Toronto record. I have found no twentieth century Great Lakes area records. Unfortunately no photos were obtained of the 1973 Oswego bird.

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Black-necked Stilt at Town of Perinton, Monroe County, New York: On June 3, 1973 a Black-necked Stilt (*Himantopus mexicanus*) was observed at the corner of Wakeman Road and Rt 31F in the Town of Perinton, 3 miles east of the village of Fairport, Monroe County. It was standing on a small island in a farm pond of approximately 3/4 acres. The time was approximately 9:00 a.m. and light conditions were excellent.

Although this was a "life bird" for me, the shape and contrasting white and black pattern left no doubt as to its identity. The black of the back extended from the crown to the tip of the tail, including the wings, while the white extended from the forehead to the under tail coverts. The legs were very long and light red; the bill black and seemed slightly upturned. The light and distance were such that even the red iris was visible with 10X binoculars.

Some references state that the female has a brownish cast to the back. If this is the case, I would be inclined to call this bird a male.

The bird was observed by at least 20 persons including the farm manager who stated that it was also present on June 2.

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Editor's note: This appears to be the first record for a Black-necked Stilt for western New York—Regions 1, 2, 3 and 5. While the photographs taken of it are readily recognizable, they are not of sufficient quality for publication. JWT.

Additional data on the Razonbill specimen: — Recently the body of the Razonbill (*Alca torda*) reported as the first inland specimen for New York (Cutright, N.J. 1973. Kingbird 23:138-140) was given to me. The body had been frozen since the skin was removed for mounting. Dissection revealed that the bird was a non-breeding male, with testes measuring 5 mm X 2 mm. The bright yellow mouth lining of an adult bird was present. However, characters of the bill and plumage indicate that the bird was in the first winter.

All internal organs were intact and free of gross lesions except that the lungs and lateral airsacs were blackened with the sporulating hyphae of *Aspergillus*. *Aspergillus*, a fungal disease of birds (and mammals) is caused by *Aspergillus fumigatus*, a near relative of black bread mold. This disease, reported from many

kinds of birds, affects water birds frequently. This slowly developing affliction would probably ultimately been responsible for the death of the Razonbill.

A partial skeleton has been prepared from the body and is deposited in my collection as JLT number 646.

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Swainson's Warbler in Central Park, New York, New York: On 11 May, 1973 a Swainson's Warbler (*Limnothlypis swainsonii*) was found in the "Ramble" about fifty feet south of "Warbler Rock" in Central Park, New York Co., N.Y. at 7:30 a.m. It was discovered and positively identified by the authors.

It was initially found beneath a large bush where we studied it for about five minutes; it then disappeared. At about 12:00 noon Davis Finch rediscovered the bird in a nearby patch of Japanese Knotweed where the bird remained for the day.

We were able to study the bird at a distance of about ten feet feeding beneath the bush in a thick dead leaf ground covering. It foraged like a Towhee shuffling its feet and poking its bill among the leaves. One characteristic peculiar to this individual was that it trembled while it searched for food. This trembling is said to be diagnostic of this species by Brooke Meanly in his paper, the "Natural History of the Swainson's Warbler" (North American Fauna, No. 69, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, 1971)

During the day of the sighting about thirty-five people, including John Bull, Robert Arbib, Thomas Davis, and Roger Pasquier, saw this bird. The weather conditions preceding this discovery were extremely favorable. There had been seven days of north-easterly winds which had seriously hindered the migration. During the night of May 10-11 the winds shifted to the south and opened the bottle-neck. On May 11 there were, in Central Park, three or four Worm-Eating Warblers, two Hooded Warblers, and two Yellow-breasted Chats.

There are two previous records for Swainson's Warbler in New York State — one seen May 5 and 6, 1950, at Prospect Park, Kings County (Bull, 1964, *Birds of the New York Area*, Harper & Row) and one seen May 6, 1963, at the Bronx Botanical Gardens, Bronx County (Bull, 1970, *Supplement to Birds of the New York Area*, Proceedings of the Linnaean Society, of New York)

Many thanks to Tom Davis for his assistance in the preparation of this note.

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