vious nest, one found at Bay Pond, Franklin County, in 1942. Interestingly, a second nest of this species was discovered in the Niagara Frontier Region on 11 June 1977 at Windmill Point, a short distance west of Buffalo on the Niagara Peninsula of Ontario. It will be of interest to see whether this kinglet expands its range in New York as has the Golden-crowned, or whether these are merely sporadic extralimital occurrences. If it does, I think it unlikely that it will do so with the rapidity and to the degree that the latter species has. I thank R. H. Zander and H. W. Charnley, Jr., for their analysis of nest materials.

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Hooded Merganser breeding in Schoharie County: On 26 June 1977, William Sharick, a biologist with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, observed a hen Hooded Merganser *(Mergus cucullatus)* with ten unfledged young on Franklinton Vlaie, south of Middleburg in Schoharie County. As this was the first evidence of breeding of this species in Schoharie County (Bull, 1974, *Birds of New York State,* p. 153; Browne, 1975, *N.Y. Fish and Game Journal* 22: 68-70), Sharick notified Stephen Browne, also of the Department of Environmental Conservation. Since Bull (1976, *Supplement* to *Birds of New York State,* p. 11) called for documentation "in greater detail" for this species, on 5 July 1977 William Corbett and the senior author went to Franklinton Vlaie to observe the brood of mergansers.

We proceeded north by canoe along the west shore of the impoundment, and at 7:05 p.m. we spotted five young Hooded Mergansers scattered in sparse Buttonbush *(Cephalanthus occidentalis)* about 50 yards from shore. As we approached, the birds gathered together and quietly preened on open water. There was no hen in sight, and no sign of the other five ducklings reported by Sharick on 26 June. The birds were first observed at about 50 yards with both a 20X telescope and 10X binoculars. As we slowly and quietly approached to within 20 or 25 feet, we could see much detail in the young birds. The narrow, pointed merganser bill was dark below; the upper mandible was orange-yellow at the base. The plumage was white below and chocolate-brown above. The brown wings showed the characteristic white patches when a bird flapped on the water, and the primaries were almost completely emerged from the sheaths. This places the young in Age Class III of Gollop and Marshall (1954, *A Guide to Aging Duck Broods in the Field,* Mississippi Flyway Council, Tech. Sect., 14 pp., mimeo), or about seven to eight weeks old. We watched the birds for ten minutes while they seemingly ignored our presence. Only when we pressed closer than 20 feet did they begin to move slowly away. We finally paddled around the mergansers, toward the north end of the vlaie, and the brood could be seen proceeding southward into drowned vegetation.

Other ducks and broods seen included five broods of Wood Ducks (*Aix sponsa*) of various sizes and ages, one brood of Mallards *(Anas platyrhynchos),* and a Black Duck *(Anas rubripes).*

The northern portion of Franklinton Vlaie, where most of these birds were observed, appears to be ideal breeding habitat for Hooded Mergansers; it is not unlikely that they have bred there before.

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Noddy Tern on Long Island: On the evening of 7 November 1977, a large high pressure system of cool air over the Maritime Provinces and New England combined with a low pressure system in the Gulf States, and with the remains of a tropical depression in the Atlantic, to produce a north-easter. This storm lashed the New York City region with gale-force winds and five to seven inches of rain.

On the following morning (8 November), while observing the ocean from the lee of the restaurant at Parking Lot No. 2 in Robert Moses State Park, Fire Island, Suffolk Co., I saw what I believe to have been a Noddy Tern *(Anous stolidus).* At the time of this sighting (10:30 a.m.), the rain had ceased and the visibility was clear for approximately three quarters of a mile; the wind velocity was 25-30 mph, and the sky was cloudy. I was using a 20X spotting scope.

As I scanned the ocean from left to right with my scope, I caught a glimpse of a dark bird, some 200 yards from the shore, as it entered a trough in the extremely rough sea. Anticipating where the bird might reappear, I swung toward the east and saw a fairly large tern flying low over the water. The most outstanding characteristic was its white cap. As it beat laboriously into the wind, I could see that it was dark brown both above and below. The tail was rather long and pointed, similar in shape to that of a gannet; I could not, however, confirm that the tail was actually wedge-shaped. As the bird passed directly in front of me, I had an unobstructed view of it for about five or ten seconds. It then flew into another trough, from which I did not see it emerge.

Having had the opportunity to study this species at length in Tobago, I am certain that the above observations constitute a legitimate sighting. However, since a remote possibility exists that the bird was a Black Noddy *(Anous minutus),* I felt compelled to visit the collections of the American Museum of Natural History, to compare specimens of the two species. Having done this, I feel there are three salient characteristics that tend to eliminate *A. minutus* from consideration. First and foremost, *minutus* is very dark brown, specimens appearing black even when viewed at a distance of only 60 feet (the length of the