

LETTERS TO THE EDITORS

I read with special interest the comments on the recent range expansion of Double-crested Cormorants by Paul and Fran Buckley in the Summer 1984 issue of *The Kingbird*. A correction should be made to their otherwise fine article, regarding the chronology of inland nesting. Double-crested Cormorants first nested on the New York side of Lake Champlain in 1984 (*The Kingbird*, 34: 197-198 and this issue), not 1983 (*contra* Buckley and Buckley, 34: 147).

To review briefly the history of cormorants on Champlain, observations at the Four Brothers Islands, Essex County, date back at least 33 years, with the report of 18 on Island B on 13 July 1951 (unpublished field data, Vermont Agency of Environmental Conservation). I have observed them on or around the islands annually since 1974. The first Champlain nesting, however, took place in Vermont waters when a single nest was found on Young Island (South Sister) in 1982, with 55 nests this year, according to David Capen of the University of Vermont. This summer they finally nested on the Four Brothers, with a total of 22 nests about evenly divided between Islands A and B.

I hope that this information will correct the record before this small *lapsus* begins to take on a life of its own, and I again congratulate the Buckleys on an otherwise fine article.

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The Brambling at Pleasant Valley, N.Y., "if accepted will add another species to the NYS list" (*Kingbird* 34: 173, 208). One was seen at Tupper Lake, N.Y. April 6, 1962 by Charlie Delehanty (*Audubon Field Notes* 16: 393). During that winter of 1961-1962, two were seen in western Massachusetts (*AFN* 16: 315). There was one at Blairstown, N.J., Dec. 15, 1958 (*AFN* 13: 280). Whatever the status of these birds, the one seen by Mrs. Delehanty, an experienced observer, has as much a place in the state list as the Pleasant Valley bird; she has now submitted a report to NYSARC, which has the species on its "want" list (*Kingbird* 28: 173).

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