

XVIII. — ON SOME BIRDS OBSERVED IN THE NETHERLANDS.
BY PROF. DR. E. D. VAN OORT.

Among the birds and the eggs from the Netherlands received by 's Rijks Museum van Natuurlijke Historie in 1930 there are some ones of special interest, which I mention in the following lines:

Daption capense (Linnaeus).

Some days ago I received from Mr. J. J. TER PELKWIJK at the Hague the imperfect skull of a petrel, that has been found by Mr. S. BAKKER at the Hague between half August and half September 1930 on the shore of Hoek van Holland north of the Noorderpier. Comparing the skull with skeletons in our collection, I found that it belongs to the Cape Petrel, *Daption capense* (L.). This is the second time that this species is recorded from the Netherlands, for in the beginning of last century a specimen of the Cape Petrel has been found dead near Sloterdijk in the neighbourhood of Amsterdam, which is described and figured in the 4th volume of NOZEMAN en SEPP, *Nederlandsche Vogelen*, 1809, p. 369, pl. 188, under the name of *Procellaria puffinus*, B. Linn. I did not include this species in my list of the birds of the Netherlands (*Notes Leyden Mus.* XXX, 1908—'09, p. 129), nor in my *Ornithologia Neerlandica* (Vol. I, 1922, p. 28), but now I think there is no longer reason to exclude it from the list. Not only from our country the Cape Petrel has been recorded, but also three times from the British Islands and at least twice as much from France.

Puffinus puffinus (Brünnich).

Our museum received from Mr. A. W. LACOURT at Leiden a specimen of the Manx Shearwater, picked up dead in bad condition on the shore near Katwijk 27 September 1929. The specimen was preserved in formaline; it is a female (alae 220 mm.). Skinning was impossible, only the skeleton could be prepared. As to the occurrence of this species in the Netherlands, see my *Ornithologia Neerlandica*, vol. I, 1922, p. 34 and p. 238.

Hydrobates pelagicus (Linnaeus).

A female specimen of the Storm-Petrel, found dead on the shore of Hoek van Holland, September 21th 1930, has been presented to our collection by Mr. F. P. KOUMANS. This is the third specimen from our country received by me since 1904, when I took the charge of the ornithological collections of the museum.

Netta rufina (Pallas).

This year I received again a male of the Red-crested Pochard, shot August 14th 1930 at Nieuwkoop, province Zuid-Holland. There are at present 18 specimens from the Netherlands in our collection.

Gyps fulvus (Hablizl).

A young specimen of the Griffon Vulture has been killed at Twijssel, province Friesland, about June 19th 1930. Through the medium of Mr. J. DRIJVER, secretary of the „Vereeniging tot Bescherming van Vogels” this interesting specimen, the fourth one recorded from our country, has found a place in our collection. We received the bird when already stuffed; the sex has not been determined by the taxidermist.

Falco peregrinus Tunstall.

As stated in *Ardea*, XIX, 1930, p. 66, by G. A. BROUWER the Peregrine Falcon has been found nesting in the Netherlands again in 1930. The first statement of brooding in our country was made in 1926 (*Ardea*, XVI, 1927, p. 4). In both cases the locality cautiously has been kept secret. One egg taken in April 8th 1930 out of a nest with three eggs is now in the collection of our museum.

Stercorarius skua (Brünnich).

A male, caught alive at Noordwijk aan Zee on 18 November 1930, was presented to our collection by Mr. C. B. REUSER. Though still a rare autumn- and winter-visitor to our country, the Great Skua is in latter years more frequently observed than in former times.

Larus argentatus Brünnich.

As to the age attained by this species in the state of nature I mention here the capture of a female on October 28th 1930 at Oudemirdum in Friesland. This bird is more than 19 years old, being marked as a young in down on July 9th 1911 at Callantsoog, province Noord-Holland, with our ring 514.

Alle alle (Linnaeus).

The Little Auk is an irregular winter-visitor to our country; in some winters it is absent, in others it is tolerably common. In the last of December 1929 and in the beginning of January 1930 it was common in our country and I received several examples from Friesland, Noord-Holland and the neighbourhood of Leiden; about the middle of November 1930 it seems to have been again not rare in the north of our country, for at that time some examples from Friesland and from Texel were sent to the museum.

Leiden, 30 December 1930.