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SOME RECORDS ON BIRDS NEW OR RARE TO GREENLAND

(MISCELLANEOUS NOTES ON GREENLAND ORNITHOLOGY II)

BY

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The following notes dealing with some records on birds, rare or quite new to Greenland, are based on skins or information which are put at my disposal from various sides. The skins belong to several collections, viz: The SCHIØLER collection (in the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen), the Zoological Museum in Berlin, the British Museum (Natural History) and some private collections. For the permission to examine the specimens in question I am much indebted to Dr. R. HØRRING, Dr. P. R. LOWE, Director K. OLDENDOW, Mr. RUDOLF SAND and Prof. E. STRESEMANN.

Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris L.

Sturnus vulgaris LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, p. 167 (1758—Sweden).

The Starling.

a. West-coast: An unsexed specimen — but doubtless a young male in fresh-moulted first winter-dress — was captured the 2nd Sept. 1932 at Augpilagtaq in Nanortalik District. The wing measured 129 mm, bill (from skull) 30 mm. The bird was received by Director KNUD OLDENDOW, who kindly presented it to me. It is now in the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen.

The European Starling is a rare spring- and autumn-visitor to Western Greenland and it has been captured here about half a dozen times. The first record was Godthaab 1851[1]); later it is found Julianehaab Nov. 1904; Julianehaab early spring 1905 (two specimens); Nanortalik 1st Nov. 1909; Sarfanguak autumn 1911[2]); Julianehaab 10th Sept. 1925; Fiskenæsset 7th Nov. 1925; Godthaab 13th May 1927[3]).

b. East-coast: A young bird with wing measuring 127 mm was captured by F. SPENCER CHAPMAN somewhere between Angmagsalik and Kan-

[1]) J. REINHARDT, Notitser til Grønlands Ornithologie, Videnskabelige Meddelelser for den naturhistoriske Forening i Kjøbenhavn 1853, p. 70.

[2]) E. LEHN SCHIØLER, Om nogle for Grønlands Fuglefauna sjældne samt to nye Arter, Chaulelasmus streperus (L.) og Passerella iliaca (Merrem) typica, Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Vol. VI, 1911—12, p. 79.

[3]) KNUD OLDENDOW, Fugleliv i Grønland, Det Grønlandske Selskabs Aarsskrift 1933, p. 164.

gerdlugsuak 1930—31, on the British Arctic Air Route Expedition[1]). It is now kept in the British Museum, where I have examined it. — Also East Greenland has been visited half a dozen times by the starling. It has been captured at Angmagsalik, Sermilik or Sermiligak 27th Oct. 1896[2]), 30th Oct. 1898, early May 1901, Dec. 1906, Sept.—Oct. 1914[3]) and spring 1926[4]). Thus the new record is the seventh from East Greenland.

The Starling breeds both in Europe and in North America (where introduced in 1890) north to New Brunswick and southwestern Quebec[5]), but there is in my opinion no doubt, that the Greenland specimens (at any rate the East Greenland ones) originate from Northern Europe (most probably Norway) and by strong winds are driven off their way when on migration. This theory also agrees with the fact, that all Greenland starlings are captured either in spring (until May) or in late autumn (Sept.—Dec.), *i. e.* in the migration-time of the starling. In Iceland the starling is a rather common guest on the migration and is regularly wintering; it has increased in the last years and breeds possibly exceptionally[6]). In the Faroes it is captured only once[7]). The reason why the typical Scandinavian Starling is only secured a single time here, but rather often in Iceland and Greenland, is probably that the inhabitants of the Faroes confound it with their own sedentary Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris faroensis* FEILDEN) and do not realize that besides this, migrating visitors also occur. When the typical Starling only exceptionally is captured in the Faroes, it is thus due to the fact that its similarity with the Faroe Starling prevents it from being noticed and secured.

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[1]) A preliminary ornithological report of this expedition is published in The Geographical Journal, Vol. LXXIX, 1932, p. 493—496, in which paper, however, the bird described here, is not mentioned.

[2]) O. HELMS, Ornithologiske Iagttagelser fra Angmagsalik, Ost-Grønland, af J. Petersen, Videnskabelige Meddelelser for Naturhistorisk Forening i Kjøbenhavn, 1898, p. 173.

[3]) O. HELMS, The Birds of Angmagsalik, Meddelelser om Grønland, Vol. LVIII, 1926, p. 262; cf. also J. PETERSEN, Ornithologiske Iagttagelser fra Angmagsalik i Aarene 1902—08, bearbejdede og sammenstillede af O. HELMS, Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Vol. III, 1908—09, p. 18.

[4]) K. OLDENDOW, *l. c.*, p. 164.

[5]) Check-List of North American Birds, prepared by a Committee of the American Ornithologists' Union, Ed. IV, 1931, p. 273.

[6]) B. SÆMUNDSSON, Zoologiske Meddelelser fra Island XVI, Nogle ornithologiske Oplysninger og Iagttagelser, Videnskabelige Meddelelser fra Dansk Naturhistorisk Forening, Vol. 97, 1934, p. 44.

[7]) K. ANDERSEN, Meddelelser om Færøernes Fugle med særligt Hensyn til Nolsø. 3dje Række. Efter skriftlige Oplysninger fra P. F. PETERSEN, Nolsø, Videnskabelige Meddelelser fra den naturhistoriske Forening i Kjøbenhavn, 1900, p. 127.

Bombycilla garrulus garrulus (L.).

Lanius Garrulus LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, p. 95 (1758 — Sweden).

The Bohemian Waxwing.

The members of the Wegener Expedition 13—14th June 1931 observed a flock of four waxwings at Cape Tobin on Liverpool Land near the outlet of Scoresby Sound. One of these four specimens was shot and skinned by Dr. HERMANN PETERS and is now in the Zoological Museum in Berlin. I have not examined this specimen myself, but Professor STRESEMANN of the Berlin Museum kindly confirmed the determination of the bird and gave me the exact date and locality (*in litt.* to me). This is the first Greenland record of the Bohemian Waxwing; formerly it was never met with here. The occurrence in East Greenland of a flock of this species is extraordinarily interesting, as Greenland lies far away from its breeding-range. As it breeds in the northern parts of the Scandinavian, Russian and Siberian coniferous forests it must have crossed the Atlantic ocean to reach East Greenland. On Iceland it is an irregular winter-visitor[1]), on the Faroes it is only met with twice[2]). On Spitsbergen and Jan Mayen it is never captured, neither in North America, where it is, however, replaced by a closely allied form *Bombycilla garrulus pallidiceps* REICHENOW in the Northwestern parts.

Dendroica virens virens (Gmelin).

Motacilla virens GMELIN, Syst. Nat., Vol. I, 1789, p. 985; based on EDWARDS.

The Black-throated Green Warbler.

A fresh-moulted adult male of the Black-throated Green Warbler was captured at Sukkertoppen in the autumn 1933 and by fishing-manager NIELSEN sent to Mr. RUDOLF SAND, in whose collection it is kept now.

It is the second Greenland record of this species. Previously, only a single specimen was known from Greenland, captured at Julianehaab in 1853[3]). The Blackthroated Green Warbler is a North American bird breeding from central Alberta, southern Manitoba, central Ontario, central Quebec, and Newfoundland south to southern Minnesota, southern Wisconsin, northern Ohio, northern New Jersey, Connecticut, and New

[1]) B. SÆMUNDSSON, *l. c.*, p. 40.

[2]) Viz: 3rd Nov. 1852 and 2nd Sept. 1866. Cf. H. C. MÜLLER, Færøernes Fuglefauna med Bemærkninger om Fuglefangsten, Videnskabelige Meddelelser fra den naturhistoriske Forening i Kjøbenhavn, 1862, p. 10; and K. ANDERSEN, Sysselmand H. C. MÜLLERS haandskrevne Optegnelser om Færøernes Fugle; i Uddrag, *ibid.*, 1901, p. 244.

[3]) REINHARDT, 1853, *l. c.*, p. 72.

York, and in the Alleghanies south to northern South Carolina, northern Georgia and northern Alabama, and it is replaced by another subspecies *D. v. waynei* BANGS (unknown to me) in South Carolina[1]). In Europe it is captured once (19th Nov. 1858) on Heligoland[2]).

Loxia curvirostra curvirostra L.

Loxia Curvirostra LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, p. 171 (1758—Sweden).

The Common Crossbill.

a. West-coast: A young male in yellow plumage was shot 5thAug. 1933 at Napassok in Sukkertoppen District and was given to Inspector O. BENDIXEN. It is now in the collection of Director K. OLDENDOW, who kindly allowed me to examine the bird. It is the first time the European Crossbill has been captured in Greenland. The American Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra pusilla* GLOGER) is once secured in Western Greenland (under the name *Loxia curvirostra minor* (Br.)), viz: autumn 1928, at Kangamiut; cf. OLDENDOW[3]). However, I do not know, whether this bird belongs to the form *pusilla* or to *curvirostra*, as I have not examined the bird myself, and OLDENDOW gives no reason, why he has referred it to the American form; but it is not at all improbable that *pusilla* may occur in Greenland, as it breeds as far North as Alaska, northern Mackenzie and central Quebec. Of the White-winged Crossbill the American form (*Loxia leucoptera leucoptera* GMELIN) has been captured four times in West Greenland. The new specimen of *L. c. curvirostra* from Napassok 5th Aug. 1933 measured wing 99 mm, bill 18 mm and is thus a true *curvirostra*. The American *L. c. pusilla* is smaller. I measure in a little series (4 specimens) in the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen ♂♀ wing: 84—90 mm, bill: 15—17 mm, whereas a long series of Scandinavian *L. c. curvirostra* measured (♂♀) wing: 92—100 mm, bill: 16—20 mm. *L. c. pusilla* is also as a rule somewhat darker, but the male from Napassok is of the same colour as the Scandinavian form. As western Greenland is included in the Nearctic region, this is the first record of this Crossbill in the Nearctic region.

b. East-coast: An adult male in splendid red plumage was captured by F. SPENCER CHAPMAN between Angmagsalik and Kangerdlugsuak 1930—31, on the British Arctic Air Route Expedition; the exact date and locality is not known. The bird is kept in the British Museum, where I have examined it. This is the first record for East Greenland, where the Common Crossbill has never been captured before. The wing measured 101 mm, the culmen 20 mm, and it is thus a rather large specimen of

[1]) American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list, *l. c.*, p. 289.
[2]) E. HARTERT, Die Vögel der Paläarktischen Fauna, Vol. I, 1910, p. 311.
[3]) *l. c.*, 1933, p. 177.

L. c. curvirostra having nothing to do with *L. c. pusilla*. The large proportions might perhaps give the impression that it is a specimen of *Loxia pityopsittacus* BORKH., which is larger than *curvirostra* and especially has a stronger bill (length of bill: 19—22 mm, in *curvirostra* 16—20 mm), but the height of bill at base is only 10.5 mm, corresponding with *curvirostra*, which measures 10—14 mm, whereas *pityopsittacus* measures 14—16 mm.

Hirundo rustica erythrogaster Bodd.

Hirundo erythrogaster BODDAERT, Table Pl. Enlum., 1783, p. 45; ex DAUBENTON.

The American Barn Swallow.

A young bird was captured at Godthaab the last days of July 1912 by Inspector O. BENDIXEN, to whose collection the bird still belongs. Director OLDENDOW kindly gave me access to examine the bird. The wing measures 115 mm. It is a typical *H. r. erythrogaster* with the dark band on the fore-breast present only as a brownish patch on each side, whereas in *H. r. rustica* it is an unbroken band. *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster* has several times visited the Westcoast of Greenland; WINGE already mentions five records of the race, viz: Frederikshaab 1828, Nanortalik 1856, Godhavn 1866, Umanak about 1887, Jakobshavn 25th Sept. 1893[1]); of the European form he gives two records: „Greenland", and Julianehaab 12th June 1882. Since that time some few new records are added by OLDENDOW[2]); they are the following: Sukkertoppen 4th June 1904[3]), Fiskenæsset mid-May 1930. On the East coast the Swallow has been met with only once, Sermilik summer 1904[4]), but to which race this specimen belonged is unknown.

The American Swallow breeds as far North as Alaska, Mackenzie and Quebec, and is exclusively in the summer-time (May-Sept.) met with in Greenland.

Chordeiles minor minor (Forster).

Caprimulgus minor FORSTER, Catal. Anim. North America, 1771, p. 13; ex CATESBY.

American Nighthawk.

A specimen of this Nighthawk was captured about 15 kilometers south of Frederikshaab in early September 1933. The bird is kept in the collection of Director K. OLDENDOW. Wing-measurements: 196 mm.

This is the second record of this bird in Greenland. The first specimen

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[1]) H. WINGE, Grønlands Fugle, Meddelelser om Grønland, Vol. XXI, 1898, p. 273.

[2]) *l. c.*, p. 162.

[3]) First time mentioned by SCHIØLER 1911, *l. c.*, p. 79.

[4]) O. HELMS, 1926, *l. c.*, p. 261.

— hitherto the only one known from Greenland — was captured the 10th Oct. 1927 at Kangamiut in Sukkertoppen District[1]). Formerly this bird was called *C. virginianus*, but on account of priority it has to be changed into *minor*.[2])

The American Nighthawk breeds in eastern North America as far North as Yukon, Mackenzie, Manitoba, Quebec and Newfoundland, and it is replaced by several allied forms in the southern and western states of U. S.

Stercorarius skua skua (Brünnich).

Catharacta skua BRÜNNICH, Orn. Bor., p. 33 (1764—Faroes).

The Great Skua.

A specimen of the Great Skua was shot at Sukkertoppen by fishing-manager NIELSEN in the summer 1933 and was incorporated in the collection of Mr. RUDOLF SAND, where I have examined it. Mr. SAND tells me, that in the summer 1934 he saw another specimen on the sea off Sukkertoppen, however without securing it.

The Great Skua has sometimes been met with in Greenland. WINGE mentions four records[3]), but only one of the four birds observed was secured (viz: Umanak 1881). Bertelsen mentions a specimen from Ivigtut 1899 and another from Ujaragssugssuk 1902[4]). SCHIØLER mentions a young bird from Julianehaab about 1910[5]), and OLDENDOW adds no less than five new records (1926, 1927, 1928, 1929, and 1931), the four first belonging to his own collection, the last specimen to Mr. SAND's collection[6]); all are captured on the central part of the West coast. On the East coast the Great Skua is still more rare, and only a single record is known: two specimens, both adult females, obtained by PEDERSEN May-June 1928 at Scoresby Sound[7]).

The West Greenland specimens of the Great Skua most probably originate from the breeding-places on the southeastern Baffin Island[8]), the East Greenland birds probably come from Iceland.

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[1]) OLDENDOW, *l. c.*, p. 156.

[2]) Cf. RICHMOND, The Auk, Vol. XXXIV, 1917, p. 88; and OBERHOLSER, The Auk, Vol. XXXV, 1918, p. 208.

[3]) *l. c.*, p. 214.

[4]) A. BERTELSEN, Fuglene i Umanaq Distrikt, Meddelelser om Grønland, Vol. LXII, 1921, p. 174.

[5]) SCHIØLER, 1911, *l. c.*, p. 78.

[6]) OLDENDOW, *l. c.*, pp. 105—106.

[7]) A. PEDERSEN, Fortgesetzte Beiträge zur Kenntnis der Säugetier- und Vogelfauna der Ostküste Grönlands, Meddelelser om Grønland, Vol. LXXVII, 1930, p. 480.

[8]) Cf. American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list, *l. c.*, p. 129. The nesting record from Baffin Island needs confirmation (TAVERNER, Birds of the Eastern Arctic; Can. East. Arct., Dep. Int. 1934, p. 124).

Philomachus pugnax (L.).

Tringa pugnax LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, p. 148 (1758—Sweden).

The Ruff.

An adult male was shot in June 1925 at Upernivik, Northwest Greenland and by Dr. SYLVESTER M. SAXTORPH sent to SCHIØLER, in whose collection it is kept. In this specimen the pectoral ruff is barred black and yellowish and the occipital tufts are purple-black. Wing measures 187 mm.

This is the third Ruff known from Greenland; the first one, a female, was shot in the last years of the nineteenth century at Nanortalik in Southwest Greenland[1]); the second, a young male, was shot in the autumn 1919 at Kangek near Godthaab[2]). The nearest breeding-places of the Ruff is Norway[3]), from where the Greenland specimens probably originate.

Squatarola squatarola squatarola (L.).

Tringa squatarola LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, p. 149 (1758—Sweden).

The Grey Plover.

An adult male in summer-dress was captured the 24th June 1923 at Carlshavn in Northeast Greenland (about 74° n. lat.; in Hudson Land) by the trappers of the Northeast Greenland Company. It was bought by SCHØILER for his collection, in which it is kept now.

It is the first record of the Grey Plover for East Greenland[4]), but in Western Greenland it is met with several times, viz: Godthaab about 1832, Nanortalik Sept. 1840 (three specimens), Ameralik Aug. about 1840, "West Greenland" 1851, Nugsuak Pen. spring 1868, Egedesminde spring 1869, Egedesminde July 1883, Grønne Ejland (Disko Bay) 25th June 1889, Holstensborg June 1893[5]), Sukkertoppen 29th June 1910, ♀ Holstensborg 24th May 1901, a young bird Nanortalik Sept. 1907[6]), Ikerasak (at Umanak) June 1913, Nugsuak Pen. June 1916[7]), Narssak 10th Nov. 1926[8]), Sarfanguak autumn 1927[9]).

[1]) WINGE, *l. c.*, p. 162.

[2]) A. JORGENSEN, Bartrams Klire (*Bartramia longicauda*) og Brushane (*Machetes pugnax*) i Grønland, Dansk ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Vol. XVII, 1917, p. 118.

[3]) Formerly bred England, where extinct since about 1910. Cf. H. WITHERBY, A Practical Handbook of British Birds, Vol. II, 1924, p. 560—61.

[4]) PEDERSEN (1930, *l. c.*, p. 502) gives, that the Grey Plover is captured once on the 66° n. lat. on the East coast (*i. e.* at Angmagsalik), but this obviously is erroneous; the Grey Plover has hitherto neither been captured here nore elsewhere in East Greenland.

[5]) WINGE, *l. c.*, p. 148.

[6]) SCHIOLER, 1911, *l. c.*, p. 77.

[7]) BERTELSEN, *l. c.*, p. 161.

[8]) H. SCHEEL, Nathejre, *Nycticorax griseus*, og Sjagger, *Turdus pilaris*, nye for Grønland med Bemærkninger om forskellige sammesteds sjældne Arter, Dansk ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Vol. XXI, 1927, p. 80.

[9]) OLDENDOW, *l. c.*, p. 56.

It is impossible to say from where the Greenland specimens of the Grey Plover come, as the distribution of this species is circumpolar, but most probably the East Greenland specimen originates from Arctic America. American ornithologists do not accept any races of this bird[1]), and most probably the American form proposed (*Squatarola squatarola cynosurae* THAYER & BANGS[2]) does not differ from the typical European form[3]). The East-Asiatic specimens, however, are on an average larger — but are not differing in color — and the name *S. s. australis* REICHENBACH has to be applied to them[4]). I have personally measured only two specimens of *australis*, both in the Zoological Museum in Copenhagen, viz:

♀, Meklong, Siam, 23rd March 1927; wing 204 mm.
♀ juv., Letti Island, East India, 13th Nov. 1902; wing 200 mm.

These birds are a little larger than the typical *Squaratola s. squatarola*, which as a rule measure about 190 mm and only very rarely exceed 200 mm. The specimen from East Greenland measures 190 mm, and therefore belongs to the smaller form *Squatarola squatarola squatarola*, as it was to be expected.

Porzana porzana (L.).

Rallus Porzana LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. XII, p. 262 (1766—Sweden).

The Spotted Crake.

A bird in winter-dress was shot 4th Nov. 1919 at Sukkertoppen by Governor LANGSKOV, and is now kept in the SCHIØLER collection.

This is the fourth record of the Spotted Crake in Greenland. It was formerly captured the following three times: Godthaab 28th Sept. 1841[5]) Nanortalik about 1856[6]), and Julianehaab 1878[7]). All these localities lie in Southwest Greenland, and the new record is from a place which is farther to the North than the other localities, in which it has been caught in Greenland. It is neither known from East Greenland nor from Iceland and the Faroes. The Spotted Crake is a boreal, Eurasiatic species, and the Greenland specimens are probably coming from Western Europe or Southern Norway.

[1]) American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list, *l. c.*, p. 107.

[2]) This subspecies was described in Proceed. of the New England Zoological Club, Vol. 5, 1914, p. 23.

[3]) Cf. J. L. PETERS, Remarks on the proposed Races of *Squatarola squatarola* (LINN.) and Comments on the Nomenclature, The Condor, Vol. XXXVI, 1934, p. 27.

[4]) For reasons to accept this name cf. PETERS, *l. c.*, p. 29.

[5]) C. HOLBØLL, Ornithologiske Bidrag til den Grønlandske Fauna, Naturhistorisk Tidsskrift, Vol. IV, no. 4, 1843, p. 368.

[6]) J. REINHARDT, List of the Birds hitherto observed in Greenland, The Ibis, 1861, p. 12.

[7]) A. T. HAGERUP, The Birds of Greenland, Boston 1891, p. 53.

Porzana carolina (L.).

Rallus carolinus LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, p. 153 (1758—Hudson Bay).

The Carolina Crake.

A young male was shot near the settlement Timerdlet at Evigheds-fjord 8th Sept. 1919 by the manager NIELSEN, and is now in the SCHIØLER collection. The difference between the young *Porzana porzana* and *Porzana carolina* is conspicuous, *P. porzana* has the throat and breast brownish with small white dots, *P. carolina* has throat whitish, breast uniform buff.

Previously, the Carolina Crake was met with four times in Greenland, all on the Western coast, viz: Sukkertoppen 5th Oct. 1823[1]), Umanak spring 1881, Nugsuak Pen. 30th Sept. 1882 and "Western Greenland" without date; all the specimens appear to be young birds[2]).

The Carolina Crake is nearctic, breeding as far North as British Columbia, southern Mackenzie, Manitoba, and New Brunswick. It has been captured five times on the British Isles.

Anser anser gambelli Hartlaub.

Anser Gambelli HARTLAUB, Rev. & Mag. Zool., Ser. 2, Vol. IV, p. 7 (1852—Texas).

The American White-Fronted Goose.

An adult bird, probably male, with wing measuring 425 mm, exposed culmen 54 mm, was captured by F. SPENCER CHAPMAN somewhere between Angmagsalik and Kangerdlugsuak, on the Southeast coast, 1930—31, on the British Arctic Air Route Expedition; the exact date and locality is not known.[3])

The White-Fronted Goose is frequently met with on the passage in the Southern part of East Greenland[4]), and it has even been suggested, that it breeds here somewhere, but there is still no proof of this[5]). The specimen mentioned above is interesting as it is the first adult White-fronted Goose brought home from East-Greenland (only some few young birds were hitherto collected), and it belongs no doubt to the form *gambelli*. This subspecies has been regarded as invalid, and the name has been placed in the synonymy of *Anser anser albifrons* (SCOP.) — which

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[1]) J. REINHARDT, 1861, *l. c.*, p. 12; cf. also WINGE, *l. c.*, p. 146.

[2]) Cf. WINGE, *l. c.*, p. 146.

[3]) In his paper (*l. c.*) CHAPMAN mentions a White-fronted Goose, which was brought him by an Eskimo, and which was shot 3rd May 1931 (p. 494); probably this is the specimen in question, skinned and brought home by CHAPMAN.

[4]) Cf. HELMS, 1926, p. 231.

[5]) Cf. E. LEHN SCHIOLER, Danmarks Fugle, Vol. I, 1925, p. 446, and PEDERSEN, *l. c.* 1930, p. 443.

I regard as subspecies of *Anser anser* (L.)[1]) —. Recent investigations of SCHIØLER[2]) and MEINERTZHAGEN[3]) have shown that the American and Greenland birds generally have a larger bill, and besides have on an average larger wing and are more heavily marked with black on the under-parts. The Greenland birds are intermediate (*albifrons* ≷ *gambelli*). I have measured the long series of the White-fronted Geese in the Zoological Museum of Copenhagen and come to the same conclusions. I measure:

A. a. albifrons (Danish winter-birds):	exposed culmen	43—50 mm.
A. a. albifrons ≷ *gambelli* (Greenland birds):	—	47—55 -
A. a. gambelli (U.S.A. winter-birds):	—	50—57 -

The new specimen thus is a very large-billed specimen (exposed culmen 54 mm) belonging to the Greenland population, being either on migration from (or to) Western Greenland, or being an East Greenland breeding-bird.

Anser caerulescens caerulescens (L.).

Anas caerulescens LINNAEUS, Syst. Nat., Ed. X, vol. I, p. 124 (1758—Canada).

The Lesser Snow Goose.

Two specimens (a ♂ and ♀) in white plumage of the Lesser Snow Goose were captured by Mr. TCHERNIAKOFSKY, the naturalist on "L'Expédition française de l'Année polaire internationale 1932—33" in East Greenland (in the Scoresbysound district) and are kept in the Paris Museum, as told me by Dr. J. BERLIOZ. On my request Mr. TCHERNIAKOFSKY kindly meassured the two specimens. The measurements are as follows:

	♂	♀
Length of Wing	420 mm	420 mm
Exposed Culmen	58 -	51 -

These measurements show that these birds belong to the small western race *Anser caerulescens caerulescens* (L.)[4]). This is the first record of the Snow Goose from East Greenland. Its occurence in East Greenland

[1]) The White-fronted Goose and the Grey Lag Goose (*Anser anser* (L.)) must be considered conspecific. They are very closely allied, the dark blotches on the under-parts and the white spot on the fore-head of the White-Fronted is often approached in the Grey Lag. Their field-habits are similar, only notes differ. Breeding-areas are quite distinct, everywhere the White-fronted breeds to the North of the Grey Lag; in Siberia their breeding-ranges are separated by vast areas, at least 200 miles broad.

[2]) *l. c.*, 1925, p. 447.

[3]) R. MEINERTZHAGEN, The Relation between Plumage and Environment, with special Reference to the outer Hebrides, The Ibis, 1934, p. 55.

[4]) For differences between the two forms of Snow Geese met with in Greenland (*viz*: *Anser caerulescens caerulescens* (L.) and *Anser caerulescens atlanticus* (Kenn.)), cf. FINN SALOMONSEN, The Status of the Greenland Snow Goose, *Anser caerulescens atlanticus* (Kenn.), Miscellaneous Notes on Greenland Ornithology I; Meddelelser om Grønland, Vol. 92, Nr. 5, pp. 9—10.

is very interesting, as it indicates, that the Lesser Snow Goose from its breeding-places in Arctic North America sometimes crosses Greenland probably to winter in Europe, where it is, however, only rarely observed.

Cygnus cygnus islandicus Brehm.

Cygnus islandicus Brehm, Handb. Vögel Deutschl., 1831, p. 832 (Iceland).

The Iceland Whooper Swan.

Two skins of the Whooper Swan are recently sent down from Western Greenland.

1. The one specimen was captured at Sukkertoppen the 15th of March 1935. The swan came flying over the ice of the colony-harbour and pitched in an opening in the ice. Startled by the hunters it lifted again but returned after an hour and was then shot (*in litt.* to Director Daugaard Jensen from Svend Aage Jensen, Sukkertoppen). The swan was a rather large specimen, with wing measuring 603 mm. The bird is now kept by Director K. Oldendow, but a removal to the seminary-collection in Godthaab is intended.

2. The second specimen was an adult male captured in the first part of March 1935 at Nassak in Julianehaab District, and was by the teacher in Julianehaab, Mr. Bjerge, sent to Editor Harald Thomsen, in whose collection in Svendborg it is kept. These two specimens probably belonged to the same little flock, when judging from their arrival to Greenland to the same time. — The race *Cygnus cygnus islandicus* is a very poor race, being only somewhat smaller than *C. c. cygnus* (L.), and a specimen as this mentioned above (No. 1) is as large as a *C. c. cygnus*. The Iceland and Greenland swans, however, are on an average slightly smaller than the Scandinavian ones, but the difference is inconsiderable.

The Whooper Swan has been captured hitherto about a dozen times in Western Greenland. Schiøler[1]) gives the following records: Cape Farvel spring 1830 (two specimens), Julianehaab 1849 and 1850, Godthaab and other localities 1852 (flocks), Atangmik June 1859, Arsuk 6th Oct. 1890, Tunugdliarfik May 1899 (two specimens), Kanajormiut male Febr. 1912, Godthaab June 1920; besides, some older and newer records not exactly dated or localized. In former times it has bred irregularly in Southwest Greenland. From East Greenland there are many records too: Cape Dan 20th April 1900, Sermilikfjord 19th July 1901 (two specimens), Sermilikfjord 6th July 1903 (a flock), Angmagsalik 20th May 1924, Kingak 19th June 1925[2]), Scoresbysound 15th June 1928[3]); besides, some other records not exactly dated.

All Whooper Swans met with in Greenland no doubt originate from Iceland.

[1]) E. Lehn Schiøler, 1925, *l. c.*, p. 400—402.

[2]) Helms, 1926, *l. c.*, p. 227.

[3]) Pedersen, 1930, *l. c.*, p. 428.

Podicipes griseigena holboellii Reinhardt.

Podiceps Holboellii REINHARDT, Vidensk. Medd. Nat. Forening 1853, p. 76 (Greenland).

Holbøll's Grebe.

Three new specimens of this Grebe are brought down from Greenland, all from the southern part of the West-coast.

1. A specimen in winter-plumage, not sexed, captured in the southern part of Julianehaab district in the first part of Oct. 1913. It was sent to SCHIØLER in whose collection it is now kept.

2. A specimen in winter-plumage, not sexed, captured at Frederiksdal on the southernmost part of the West coast in the winter or spring 1902. It was by Dr. MELDORF sent to the Zool. Mus. in Copenhagen, where it is kept now.

3. A specimen in juvenile plumage, not sexed, captured at Akuliarusak (near Sydprøven) Nov. 1931 and by FR. JOHANSEN sent to the Zool. Mus. in Copenhagen, where it is now kept.

As to the measurements of these three specimens cf. below.

Holbøll's Grebe is an irregular winter-visitor to Western Greenland, where it is met with, however, only in the southernmost part, commonest in Julianehaabs district and not extending further north than to Sukkertoppen district. The following records previously were known: Julianehaab Nov. 1839, Nanortalik 1851, Julianehaab 1856, Nanortalik 19th Dec. 1880[1]), Arsuk summer (spring?) 1899[2]), Julianehaab Nov. 1905, Julianehaab ♀ 21st Nov. 1908[3]), Frederikshaab 12th April 1927 adult ♂[4]), Avigait in Frederikshaabs district end Jan. 1929 (♂ & ♀ captured, 4 more observed), Sukkertoppen 15th Jan. 1930, Frederikshaab 20th Febr. 1930, Narssak in Godthaab district 15th Febr. 1931[5]). Almost all specimens were in winter-plumage, only the specimen from Arsuk 1899 and the one from Frederikshaab 1927 were in summer-plumage)[6]. It is once

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[1]) WINGE 1898, *l. c.*, p. 131. The specimen from Nanortalik 1851 is the type of *P. Holboellii*.

[2]) O. HELMS, Nye Arter for Østgrønland, Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Vol. 4, 1909, p. 130.

[3]) E. LEHN SCHIOLER, *Podicipes griseigena major*, Temm. & Schl. og *Tringa maculata*, Vieill. skudte paa Island, Dansk Ornithologisk Forenings Tidsskrift, Vol. 5, 1910, p. 149.

[4]) SCHEEL 1927, *l. c.*, p. 80.

[5]) OLDENDOW 1933, *l. c.*, p. 43.

[6]) On the photo p. 45 in OLDENDOW 1933 the latter bird in summer-plumage is figured.

met in East Greenland (Angmagsalik 23rd Jan. 1909[1]) and once in Iceland (Øfjord June 1907[2]).

Holbøll's Grebe breeds in the northeastern Siberia, northern Alaska, northern Canada south to Washington, North Dakota and Minnesota[3]).

Podicipes griseigena griseigena (Bodd.).

Colymbus grisegena (*rectius griseigena*) Boddaert, Table Planch. Enlum., p. 55 (1783—France, fixed by Witherby).

The Red-Necked Grebe.

A specimen of the Red-necked Grebe in full summer-plumage was captured in Sukkertoppen district 1933 (no exact date) and by Mr. PEDER ROSING sent to Mr. RUDOLF SAND, in whose collection it is kept now. This is the first record of this bird not only in Greenland but in the entire Nearctic region. *P. g. griseigena* and *P. g. holboellii* are distinguished only by the much smaller proportions of the former. On the following table are measured some Danish breeding-birds of *P. g. griseigena* and some Greenland and Iceland winter-birds of *P. g. holboellii* to show the considerable difference in size.

Sex	Locality	Date	Wing	Exposed Culmen	Tarsus	Middle-toe
			P. g. griseigena:			
♂	Mors	25. 5.1899	181 mm	40 mm	53 mm	69 mm
♂	Søborg Mose	8. 5.1905	175 -	42 -	54 -	73 -
♂	Isefjord	22. 9.1907	180 -	43 -	55 -	69 -
♀	Mors	23. 5.1899	173 -	38 -	49 -	65 -
♀	Hundested	23.11.1906	174 -	40 -	50 -	70 -
♀	Bogense	11. 9.1921	185 -	46 -	55 -	70 -
♀	Nakkebøllefjord	14. 4.1930	186 -	39 -	52 -	66 -
			P. g. holboellii:			
	Julianehaab	x.10.1913	197 mm	50 mm	69 mm	76 mm
	Øfjord, Iceland	x. 6.1907	205 -	51 -	65 -	75 -
	Julianehaab	21.11.1908	207 -	53 -	64 -	77 -
	Sydprøven	x.11.1931	203 -	53 -	63 -	75 -
	Nanortalik	19.12.1880	198 -	52 -	63 -	72 -
	Frederiksdal	x. x.1902	199 -	55 -	68 -	76 -

[1]) HELMS 1909, *l. c.*, p. 129.

[2]) SCHIØLER 1910, *l. c.*, p. 148.

[3]) American Ornithologists' Union's Check-list, *l. c.*, 1931, p. 3. — In this work the Greenland occurrences of Holbøll's Grebe are not at all mentioned, although the type-locality is Greenland.

The measurements of the two subspecies then are as follows:

	P. g. griseigena:	*P. g. holboellii:*
Wing	173—186 mm	197—207 mm
Exposed Culmen	38— 46 -	50— 55 -
Tarsus	49— 55 -	63— 69 -
Middle-Toe	65— 73 -	72— 77 -

The Greenland Red-necked Grebe (from Sukkertoppen 1933) measures: Wing 174 mm, Exposed Culmen 40 mm, Tarsus 51 mm, Middle-toe 65 mm. Thus it is an even small specimen of the European subspecies (*griseigena*). The nearest breeding-places of the Red-necked Grebe are in Sweden, Denmark, and Germany; it is not uncommon in winter off the coasts of the British Isles. It is interesting that the European form now has been found as far West as Western Greenland and the American form as far East as England[1]), both having crossed the Atlantic.

Summary: In this paper has been published:

First record in Greenland of:

Bombycilla garrulus garrulus (L.), *Loxia curvirostra curvirostra* L. (both on East and West coast), *Podicipes griseigena griseigena* (BODD.). The two last-mentioned species are new to the Nearctic region.

First record in East Greenland of:

Squatarola squatarola squatarola (L.), *Anser caerulescens caerulescens* (L.).

Second or third record in West Greenland of:

Dendroica virens virens (Gm.) (second), *Chordeiles minor minor* (FORSTER) (second), *Philomachus pugnax* (L.) (third).

New Records on rare birds from West Greenland:

Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris L., *Hirundo rustica erythrogaster* BODD., *Stercorarius skua skua* (BRÜNN.), *Porzana porzana* (L.), *Porzana carolina* (L.), *Cygnus cygnus islandicus* BREHM (two records), *Podicipes griseigena holboellii* REINHARDT (three records).

New Records on rare birds from East Greenland:

Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris L., *Anser anser gambelli* HARTL.

[1]) Cf. Sixth Rep. Comm. etc. of the B. O. U., The Ibis 1928, p. 321.

Færdig fra Trykkeriet den 30. September 1935.