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LOUISIANA STATE COMMISSION

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LOUISIANA PURCHASE EXPOSITION

ST. LOUIS, MO.

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State Commissioner.

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Assistant to State Commissioner.

Don't fail to see the Louisiana State Building, a replica of the Cabildo, in which the transfer of Louisiana took place in 1803.

See also Louisiana's exhibit in the following buildings: Agriculture, Horticulture, Education, Forestry, Fish and Game, Mines and Minerals, Liberal Arts, Transportation and Anthropology.

THE STATE OF LOUISIANA IS MAKING THE FOLLOWING DISPLAY AT THE WORLD'S FAIR, ST. LOUIS :

1st. Louisiana State Building—An exact reproduction of the "Cabildo" of New Orleans in which the actual transfer of Louisiana from France to the United States on December 20th, 1803, took place. It is furnished throughout with furniture of the Empire and Colonial styles.

2nd. A grand display of agriculture in the Agricultural Palace, showing the products of the field and the machinery by which they are wrought into merchantable forms. A complete sugar house, a rice mill, an irrigation plant, cotton gins and presses, cotton seed oil mill, etc., are shown in perfect forms on a reduced scale. Forage and garden crops: tobacco (yellow leaf, cigar leaf and cigars, and the famous Perique in all of its forms); fibre plants and products; grains, grasses, clovers, alfalfa, etc., are shown in profusion.

3rd. A fine display of fruits and plants in the Horticultural Building—

on the floor of the main building and in the conservatory. In this display will be found the best collection of the finest pecans grown.

4th. In the Forestry Building will be found all the trees of her forest, and the products manufactured from them.

5th. In the Forestry Building, but on a different space, will also be found all of the birds, fishes and wild animals of the State.

6th. In the Education Building will be found the school exhibits of the State, from the kindergarten to the universities.

7th. In the Mines and Minerals Building, the "Devil in sulphur," a "Pyramid in sulphur," Lot's Wife in salt, crude and refined petroleums, marbles, coal, etc., fresh from the mines of Louisiana, are exhibited.

8th. In the Liberal Arts Building will be found topographic maps of the levees of the State (35 ft. by 4 ft.), New Or-

leans of 1803 (2 ft. by 2 ft.), and New Orleans of 1903 (15 ft. by 15 ft.). Two hundred maps of the Gulf Coast from 1500 to the present time, some rare old books, and a working model of the great United States Dock in New Orleans.

9th. In the Transportation Building are illustrations of transportation on the Mississippi River, past and present, beginning with the Indian canoe and ending with the monster ocean liner of today.

10th. In the Anthropological Building is a fine collection of Indian relics, including a number of baskets of rare and beautiful types.

Descriptive pamphlets of each exhibit may be had on application. For fuller information of the State, apply at the Louisiana State Building for "Handbook of Louisiana." Louisiana has a fully equipped Department of Agriculture and Immigration, which will cheerfully supply any information desired.

Apply to MAJOR J. G. LEE, Commissioner of Agriculture and Immigration, Baton Rouge, La.
and your wants will be filled.

Louisiana State Commission, Louisiana
Exposition

Birds and Fishes



By H. H. KOPMAN

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Birds and Fishes.

HUNTING AND FISHING IN LOUISIANA.

By H. H. Kopman.

THE sport of hunting and fishing in Louisiana is most mixed with other affairs of life among the people who live near the coast, where the Mississippi and lesser streams have built marshes that rank with the most extensive and the most animated of any in the world. Gunners and anglers' sport there, every element considered, is an unusually attractive recreation. It is brilliant at times, it is always sociable, and the guarantee of its perpetuation is in the area of the feeding grounds to which snipe, ducks, and other game birds of the lowlands are attracted by thousands, and to which they are destined to be attracted indefinitely in the future if the prudent sportsmen are able to secure and hold the position towards which they are working.

If from month to month, one follows the opportunities for using gun and rod, he will find a delightful continuity, and a grading of all the phases of those pleasures. The variety of such outdoor life, the usually equable conditions under which it is pursued, the fact that it need have no abrupt ending as in other parts of the

country because of sharp turns in the year, are perpetual sources of satisfaction to the inveterate sportsman. The absence of interruptions develops in him an attachment that can never fail because so many-sided. Familiarity with conditions may be cultivated to a high degree by the Louisiana sportsman, and a feeling of confidence and establishment that is most attractive. The sport permits of a placidity that is the chief thing, after all, that the sportsman, away from cares of all kinds, seeks to find. Yet one can make the character of his sport. It can be as arduous or as gentle as he likes. But whichever it be, hunting and fishing in the right places in Louisiana are seldom flat. Further than the fact that the open winters make the hunting season itself very pleasant, it is to be recollected how nearly perfectly the hunting and fishing seasons overlap in Louisiana. While the less hasty migratory ducks and waders are even in the midst of their exodus, the salt water fishing season is already opening, and while it is not in full swing until June, even by the end of March it offers inducements well worth consideration. Once it is under way, it is a season of splendid sport. It holds its votaries by a variety of ties. The pleasant life of the Louisiana fishing camps, the camaraderie, the Creole cooking, the "redfish court-bouillons," the fine

breezes, the bright colors, and the peaceful scenes of the marshes, get a lasting hold upon the fisherman.

Moreover, to the sportsman who is heart and soul in his favorite pastime, it is a great satisfaction to look out upon the marshes and realize that they are always to be places for the man who carries a gun or whips a rod. Though other kinds of country in Louisiana afford excellent fishing and hunting, the marshes of the coast surpass all other spots where the wily fish swim, or where birds and other game gather. It is the extent of the marshes, the innumerable ramifications of water courses and inlets, the often swampy and little settled country that commonly borders them inland, that make the marshes so congenial a resort for the game. The whole coast of Louisiana is made up to a large extent of these marshes, which, in some instances, are slightly elevated, making them more like prairies, subject to tidal inundation. This is the case in southwestern Louisiana. This difference in the coast marshes splits the hunting country into two centres of abundance, one the lands adjacent to the mouth of the Mississippi, and northeastward, and the other, the great flats stretching between the rivers in the southwestern part of the State, making the district from the Sabine to the Mermentau, and even farther eastward, one of the greatest duck and geese regions in the United States. It is about Lake Arthur, in this corner of the State, that the glossy ibis, the roseate spoonbill, and other birds of rare occur-

rence now along most parts of the Gulf Coast north of Florida, are still to be found in comparative abundance. On these marsh-prairies of the southwestern section, the curlews, snipe, willets and innumerable smaller waders are to be found in the greatest abundance during both spring and fall migration.

The marshes of the southeastern parts of Louisiana are visited chiefly by ducks and snipe, though, of course, almost any of the birds found in the southwestern section may be found here also, though seldom if ever in numbers so great. The marshes of the southeastern section, however, are the most available as fishing grounds. The deep passes that connect the gulf and the several inlets east and north of New Orleans, as Lakes Pontchartrain, Borgne, and Catherine, are frequented by the game fish of the Gulf, and under conditions similar to those experienced in fresh-water fishing, one may catch the full variety of choice salt-water fish, sheepshead, Spanish mackerel, and red sea-bass, or "redfish," as the Louisiana fishermen call it, being the most abundant of the highly esteemed game fish. Still water nearly always prevails in these passes, though a current of almost incredible velocity is the rule when the tides are running. Such are the times, of course, when the fishermen endeavor to be on hand. Hungry redfish and sheepshead, following the incoming tide, often furnish a sport unsurpassed for the frequency of action. Over forty "redfish," with an average weight of ten pounds,

have been caught in about three hours at the most famous of these passes, the Rigolets, about thirty miles east of New Orleans on the Louisville and Nashville railroad. The excellence of these marshes as fishing grounds is readily conceived when one considers that while the devotee can fish in these streams and other bodies of water with the same ease as would be found in angling in a river or far inland lake, the source of the supply of fish is the wide sea, the fish that are most prized by the sportsmen coming up only in the warmer seasons from the lower strata of the deep parts of the Gulf, or from its more Southern waters. Thus, the stock of fish can never be in danger of sensible diminution, if of any whatever. A still further advantage is that several of the fresh-water fish visit the brackish waters of the marsh bayous in great numbers, such streams being equally attractive to the large-mouthed black bass, or "green trout," primarily a fresh-water fish, of course, and to the spotted squeteague, or "speckled trout," whose principal habitat is sea-water.

In good weather, the fishing on the outside Gulf water is extremely attractive. That kind of fishing is done more easily towards the Mississippi coast. There it is that the finest Spanish mackerel fishing is to be had, in the almost breezeless forenoons that often occur during the latter part of summer, and in the early fall. Most of the fishermen's experience with tarpon in Louisiana waters is limited to outside water, or at least to

bays, though occasions are not infrequent when these remarkable fish have been seen and hooked, and even sometimes caught, in the passes. The Gulf islands about the mouth of the Mississippi or to the eastward, are most interesting points for the energetic fisherman. The finest are Chandeleur Islands, along whose shores and in whose sand-bound lagoons is to be found a most remarkable assortment of sea-creatures. Cat and Ship Islands, also off the coast of Mississippi, are not difficult of access from the fishing points in Louisiana. Ship Island is a noted place for the interesting little spade-fish, great bait-stealers, but repaying for their annoyances when well hooked, for they make excellent fight. A day spent about the piling in this kind of sport gives one an experience full of its own peculiar circumstances. The fishermen find battles with sharks a form of excitement that may be had at the islands in summer almost any time one seeks it. There, as well as at all other points along the coast, the common jack-fish (*Caranx hippos*) sports at will throughout warm weather, and is the object of interest in more anglers' struggles than any other fish not a good fish; which the jack-fish fails to be on account of the oiliness and rankness of its flesh.

It is the most unusual variety possible in Louisiana sport that makes it certain of never palling. Except that the State contains no mountains, there is no important kind of topography lacking in Louisiana. And

some of the central and northern sections of the State are decidedly hilly, elevations of 400 feet or more occurring. Encroached upon to the west by the prairies, Louisiana still has prairie chickens towards the Texas border, and the prairie lands are widely famous for the character of their duck and goose shooting. All through the central and northern sections, and in fact anywhere except upon the immediate coast, and even, in some cases, there, quail and turkey shooting is as good as anywhere these days. The birds, that abound in the south-eastern lowlands have been referred to before. The flat pinewoods that extend from southern Mississippi into Louisiana somewhat north of the coast, and which become hilly but little farther north, delight the sportsman for the pure air and the exhilarating freedom which permeates them. He is delighted even if he does not bag game every time. But properly hunted, these pine lands should rarely fail to give one some luck with quails or turkeys. The trip through them is one of pure delight, and gives a rest and gratification hard to acquire more thoroughly anywhere else. The life through these woods is for the most part primitive. The hunter may walk half a day with little sign of life beside the game he seeks and smaller birds and other creatures that move this way and that. The calls of bluebirds, the sight of a flicker now and then, the quaint complaints of the little brown-headed nuthatches that move unaccountably about the pines, the occasional butterfly that

strays out upon a warm day in winter, force him out of whatever state of mind has been robbing him of the joy of natural living, and he fancies himself at the threshold of life again. The relaxation is perfect, the stimulation is nature's and so it demands no tax.

Hunting in the marsh, also, when arranged under the proper conditions and with good company, is ideal sport. The salt marshes east of New Orleans and stretching along past the Mississippi line, are most beautiful sights. A slender rush is the principal thing in their composition, though cat tails, grasses, and sedges also are generously interspersed. But the marshes do not offer an unbroken skyline. Woods edge them in many directions along their irregular borders. Bayous and coulées the most meandering are marked by the little oak and bayberry hedges. A large lagoon may lie here in clear view, or the marsh may be cut by a pass from the Gulf waters to one of the several inlets. What the hunter unacquainted with the country at once wishes to do is to follow one of the little streams, and wind with its many turns in hope of running in shot of game. Even if experience elsewhere had taught him better, he would probably be so dominated by this desire as to refuse the suggestions of his wiser ideas. The impulse of the sportsman on the marshes is to go on and on. But, of course, it is not the way to kill game. The abundance of the ducks does not obviate the necessity of "blinds," and the disposal of oneself therein at such hours as to

be accommodated to the habits of the birds. The fisherman, however, may indulge the desire for motion, exploration. To this spirit is due the discovery of some of the finest black bass holes in the Louisiana marshes. The geography of the little bayous in that region is to this day a subject awaiting the energetic investigations of even more enthusiasts. There may yet come a man who will find the spot for black bass that will top all records, though six and even seven pounders have already been brought from their lairs in triumph.

An expedition through the heaviest of the swamps and cypress fastnesses close to the coast is a feature of sport in Louisiana that should by no means be overlooked by the visiting lover of hunting and fishing. It is apt to result not in the destruction of much game, but in the possession of an experience most singularly absorbing and indescribably unique. One probably goes with some guide of nondescript nationality, but nowise repugnant, who has spent his days in precarious hunting and fishing, logging, woodchopping and trapping. The things one sees in the way of life hardly fall within the category of game, but the guide has some use to suggest for many of them. He values a "grosbec," or night-heron, about as much as the "correct" sportsman does a pintail, or a snipe in the pink of condition. The fact that he can bring down the handsome "beccroche," or white ibis, with considerable ease does not cut the edge from his real hunter's gusto. Possession is his creed,

and he does not consider very closely the ways in which it comes about. Other birds there are, of course, for which he can find no use. Having the woodsman's interest in almost everything of the outdoors, he would probably cast more than one glance at the curious water-turkey, or snake bird, that festoons its incoherent members from the upper branch of the tallest of a cluster of dead cypresses. So would the tourist be interested. It makes him feel certain that whenever he wants to work his mind entirely off his business or cares, he should plunge into the depths of a Louisiana swamp. There is no place more odd, or more thoroughly separated from the average notions we hold of things. The genius of the swamps is a thing alone in nature.

Everywhere that one goes in the swamps he will not see its prominent pictures, but from point to point, as they lie scattered over the landscape, the strength of their individuality dominates the entire country. They are finest where swamp borders marsh, worked out by streams that look as though their surface had never been troubled by storm or cloudy shadows, but that seem to have been spread motionless for centuries in mirroring the bright Louisiana skies. Then cypress and live oak, overhanging shadows soft and deep, if it be not mid-winter, set the marks of infinite repose by the banks of the lowland stream. The course of the heron, the day-long sailing of the vulture across the wide-vaulted sky, the languid voice of the blue yellow-back, and

the quicker sound of a large fish that swirls in the water, give the mind just the strain of life and movement that perfects the environment.

The chances for the hunter-naturalist in Louisiana are very inviting, as will be found the case both on account of the character of material for study, and of the conditions that govern its composition. There are no vertebrate animals in Louisiana peculiar to the State, but many forms highly interesting occur there, and the groups of life display aspects many of which are not observable elsewhere. Some species occurring in the neighboring States are not to be found in so large numbers in parts of Louisiana, while other species are abundant to an extent impossible to find elsewhere in this country. The peculiar mixed nature of the climate, combined with a topography not duplicated, creates many interesting studies in distribution and in habits.

The development of higher animal life in the unique part of the State is greatest in the case of salt-water fish, reptiles, chiefly turtles and harmless snakes, and water-birds. Fresh-water fish and mammals are found in reasonably large numbers within the State, but there is a distinct lack of abundance in these creatures in many sections. Reference is had, of course, to species, and not to individuals, as some fresh-water fish, such as buffaloes, gars, and catfishes, black basses and sunfishes are exceedingly abundant. The same is true of a few

mammals. There is no dearth of upland birds in many parts of the State, but the securely established kinds of upland birds are not many more in number than the winter visitors and the transients.

A LIST OF THE MOST ABUNDANT AND MOST CHARACTERISTIC FISH, REPTILES, BIRDS AND MAMMALS FOUND IN LOUISIANA.

- Southern Stingray (*Dasyatis sabina*).
- Short-nosed Gar-pike (*Lepisosteus platostomus*).
- Alligator Gar-pike (*L. tristoechus*).
- Mud-fish, or Shoupique (*Amia calva*).
- Mississippi Cat (*Ictalurus furcatus*).
- Mud Cat, Goujon, or Yellow Cat (*Leptops olivaris*).
- Sea Cat (*Hexanemataichthys felis*).
- Gaff Topsail (*Felichthys marinus*).
- Small-mouthed Buffalo (*Ictiobus bubalus*).
- Tarpon, or Silver-fish (*Tarpon atlanticus*).
- Gulf Menhadden (*Brevoortia patronus*).
- Common Mullet (*Mugil cephalus*).
- Spanish Mackerel (*Scomberomorus maculatus*).
- Jack-fish (*Caranx hippos*). A splendid fighter.
- Pompano (*Trachinotus carolinus*).
- Sac-a-lait, white, or chinquapin, perch (*Pomoxis amularis*).
- Warmouth Bass (*Chaenobryttus gulosus*).
- Sunfishes, or "perches" (*Apomotis cyanellus*, *A. symmetricus*, *Lepomis auritus*, *L. miniatus*, and *L. pallidus*).

Large-mouthed Black Bass (*Micropterus salmoides*).
 Sheepshead (*Archosargus probatocephalus*).
 Spotted Squeteague, or "Speckled Trout" (*Cynoscion nebulosus*).
 Silver Squeteague, or "White Trout" (*C. nothus*).
 Red Sea-bass, or "Redfish" (*Sciaenous ocellatus*).
 Croaker (*Micropogon undulatus*).
 American Whiting, or "Ground Mullet" (*Menticirrhus Americanus*).
 Southern Flounder (*Paralichthys lethostigmus*).

BATRACHIOUS AND REPTILES.

"Blind Eel," or "Conger Snake" (*Amphiuma means*).
 Bull Frog (*Rana catesbiana*).
 Horned Snake (*Farancia abacura*).
 Black Runner (*Zamenis constrictor*).
 Live Oak Snake (*Coluber confinis*).
 Long's Garter Snake (*Eutaenia sirtalis*).
 Graham's Water Snake (*Natrix grahamii*).
 Banded Water Snake (*Natrix fasciata fasciata*).
 Holbrook's Water Snake (*Natrix rhombifera*).
 Diamond Rattle Snake (*Crotalus adamanteus*).
 Banded Rattle Snake (*Crotalus horridus*).
 Copperhead (*Ancistrodon contortrix*).
 Water Moccasin (*A. piscivorus*).
 Green Lizard, or "Chamelon" (*Anolis principalis*).
 Soft-shelled Turtle (*Aspionectes asper*).
 Alligator Snapping Turtle, Loggerhead, or Caouane
 (*Macrochelys lacertina*).

Mudbox (*Cinosternum Louisianae*).
 Florida Cooter (*Pseudemys concinna*).
 Troost's Mobilian (*Pseudemys troostii*).
 Cumberland Terrapin (*Pseudemys elegans*).
 Diamondback (*Malaclemmys centrata*).
 Box Turtle (*Terrapene major*).
 Gopher (*Xerobates polyphemus*).
 Alligator (*Alligator Mississippiensis*).

The day of the extremely large alligator in Louisiana seems to have passed. The hunters, guides and fishermen seldom report larger than ten-footers, and it has been as long as twenty years since the report of a 15-foot alligator in Louisiana has been verified. This is due, of course, to the settlement of all except the marshes and swamps of the State, so that the hunters and professional woodsmen have found bases of operations to reach every marsh and swamp in the State, and the large alligators have fallen victims to the rifles. Smaller alligators appear to be as abundant as ever. The last hundred miles of the Mississippi form, of course, the center of abundance of the alligator in Louisiana.

BIRDS.

Most important of all birds found in Louisiana, from the hunter's standpoint, are the ducks. Ducks are found in the State chiefly in winter, of course, or, to be more accurate, they are found in greatest numbers at the beginning of winter and at its close. The heavy flights

are in October and November, and in the latter part of January and the early part of February. At those two seasons, respectively, the ducks bound South, and the ducks bound North, pass through the State in myriads. Taking all seasons together, they are found regularly in Louisiana, or there have been found from time to time, all but six of the 33 species of ducks occurring regularly in North America. The six exceptions are Barrow's Golden Eye, the Harlequin Duck, and the four American species of eiders. Thus the ducks of Louisiana include the Cinnamon, Teal, the Long-tailed Duck, and the several species of Scoters, or Surf-Ducks. Aside from the true ducks, both species of Tree-Ducks are found in the State, the Fulvous and the Autumnal, the former the commoner. All the principal geese, with the possible exception of the true Brants, not such as are called "brants" by the hunters, visit parts of Louisiana in abundance, and the two American species of Swans, the Trumpeter and the Whistling, are visitors to the Gulf.

Game birds among the waders are secondary only to the ducks. Snipe and woodcocks, tattlers, curlews, plovers, red-breasted snipe, and the larger sandpipers sometimes classified as game, occur in abundance in the extended feeding grounds of the coast. Rails abound as well, and even one of the herons, the Yellow-crowned Night Heron, is sometimes shot, being known as the "Grosbec."

Characteristic birds of the State, and all its ducks, and many of its waders, given in the order of their natural classification, are found in the following list:

Laughing Gull (*Larus atricilla*).

Royal Tern (*Sterna caspia*).

Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*).

Least Tern (*Sterna antillarum*).

Black Tern (*Sterna nigra surinamensis*). A characteristic migrant.

Black Skimmer (*Rynchops migra*).

Anhinga (*Anhinga anhinga*), Water-turkey; Snake-bird; Bec-a-lancette. Swamps on the edges of lakes, large ponds, sloughs, or sluggish streams, are frequented by the astonishing water-turkey. It is a resident in the State, and in the proper localities is as common towards the northern part of Louisiana as near the Gulf. The summit of a tall, water-side cypress is a favorite post for the water-turkey. Its dark, slender, curiously shaped form includes so many characteristic points that a water-turkey, once seen, will never be forgotten. From its elevated position it will often dive directly to the water, and at other times, when it sees one approaching, it will mount from its perch and will soar in widening circles over the swamp. The water-turkey nests in trees or bushes over the water, and the young usually drop from the nest to the water for their first experience of the world.

Florida Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax dilophus florida*).

nus). Called "Nigger Goose" in Louisiana, and rather common.

Brown Pelican (*Pelecanus fuscus*). The Brown Pelican, though not the bird selected as the original of the State seal, is the common pelican in Louisiana. It is never found far from the coast, and when it does move away from the actual coast line, the bodies of water selected are the salt inlets of the Gulf. In summer the Brown Pelican is very common on many parts of the coast. The view usually obtained of the pelicans consists of well-drilled, single-file flocks that fly close to the water short distances from the beach, always hunting for schools of small fish, into which they dive to secure their prey.

American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchus*). The White Pelican occurs in Louisiana only in winter, being found in either salt or fresh water.

Man-o'-war bird (*Fregata aquila*); Frigate-bird; Storm-bird. The flight of the slender but powerful Man-o'-war bird is one of the finest sights of the Louisiana coast in summer. The soaring of the Man-o'-war excels even the gracefulness of the Turkey-buzzard. In strong winds sometimes as many as a score of them will be seen in various directions high overhead set on different "tacks," and pointing truer and statelier than any ship that ever sailed. Though they often fly at a high speed, repose is never lacking in their movements, and there is always a fixedness and a sureness in their

course that shows their power to cope with any wind but a raging tempest. The force of the Gulf storms, however, sometimes drives them a considerable distance inland, and during very heavy summer storms, Man-o'-war birds have been seen in New Orleans.

THE DUCKS OF LOUISIANA.

American Merganser (*Merganser Americanus* Cass).

Red-breasted Merganser (*Merganser Serrator* Linn).

Bec-scie de Mer. These two diving ducks, or "saw-bills," are not among the well-known ducks of the State. They are usually found on the coast during the severest spells of winter weather. The name applied by the Creoles to the Red-breasted Merganser, bec-scie de mer, indicates the difference between these salt water loving birds and the following species, the common bec-scie of Louisiana.

Hooded Merganser (*Lophodytes Cucullatus* Linn); Bec-scie; Saw-bill.

The Hooded Merganser, one of the handsomest of American ducks, is a common winter resident of Louisiana, where it is considered practically unfit for food, but noted for the high rate of speed it attains in flight. It is occasionally killed by expert shots who are anxious to test their skill.

Mallard (*Anas boschas* Linn); French Duck. On the lakes and bayous of Louisiana, in Winter, the Mallard becomes probably as abundant as in any part of the

world. Owing to its strong flight and fine size, it is a favorite game bird and a good seller in the markets, despite the fact that the flesh at times proves "fishy." Mallards are found in Southern Louisiana in greatest numbers from the early part of October until about the beginning of February.

Dusky Duck (*Anas Obscura* Gmel); Black Duck; Black Mallard. Neither particularly well known in Louisiana, nor recognized by its correct name, "Black Duck" being a term reserved for the Ring-necked Duck in Louisiana, a favorite table duck.

Florida Black Duck (*Anas obscura fulvigula* Ridg); Canard des Isles. This is one of the two species of ducks that breed regularly in Louisiana, the other being the Wood Duck.

Gadwall (*Anas strepera* Linn), Gray Duck; Canard Gris. The Gadwall is one of the customary ducks shot by hunters in the winter. It is present in greater or less abundance from October until March, and is associated with Mallards, Pintails, Widgeons, Scaups and Green-winged Teals.

Bald-pate (*Anas Americana* Gmel); American Widgeon; Zin-zin.

This duck is not as common as the Gadwall, but is naturally associated with it.

Green-winged Teal (*Anas carolinensis* Gmel); Sarcelle d'Hiver; Cognotte.

The green-winged Teal is one of the commonest of the

ducks of Louisiana. The first arrive in the State about October first, with the van of the great flights of ducks that settle upon the marshes after the first cool days of real fall. While the species is probably commoner in Louisiana at that time than at any other, a great number remain throughout the winter. The return passage of Green-winged Teals through the State, and the departure of those that have remained in Louisiana all winter takes place before spring is very well advanced.

Blue-winged Teal (*Anas discors* Linn); Sarcelle printanniere; Printanniere; Spring Teal.

The migratory movements of the Blue-winged Teal in Louisiana furnish one of the liveliest chapters in the hunter's book. Probably no one kind of game comes so near attracting the undivided attention of the sportsmen at one particular time as do the "Printannieres" when passing through Louisiana in late spring from the Mexican and Central American waters, in which the bulk of them winter. The spring flight of Blue-winged Teals reaches Louisiana the middle or latter part of March, and continues in great proportions until the early part of May, some of the birds lingering even until after the middle of that month.

Besides being the last duck to leave in spring, the Blue-winged Teal is the first to appear in the fall, sometimes arriving before the middle of September. By the time the winter ducks of Louisiana have become most abundant, the majority of the Blue-winged Teals have

passed southward. A few remain in Louisiana all winter, however.

Cinnamon Teal (*Anas cyanoptera* Viell).

This uncommonly handsome duck, made so striking by its generally bright reddish brown body and the light electric blue of the wing specula, is a bird of decided rarity in Louisiana. Specimens have been taken in the State from time to time, however, and a male collected in Lake Borgne, January, 1900, is now in the museum of Tulane University.

Shoveller (*Spatula clypeata* Linn); Spoonbill; Micoine.

The male Shoveller is sometimes killed in Louisiana in that beautiful plumage that makes it one of the most beautiful ducks. This, of course, is most apt to be in the early fall, or late in spring, especially the latter, as Shovellers often linger very long in Louisiana, even appearing among the heavy spring flights of Blue-winged Teals. They are least common in mid-winter. Practically the only English name for them in Louisiana is Spoonbill."

Pintail (*Dafila acuta* Linn); Sprig-tail; Paille-en-queue. The hunter in Louisiana has few favorite ducks on which he lavishes as much praise as upon the Pintail. It is a reliable duck there, in every sense, and with the "Black Duck" ranks after the Canvasback. It is one of the ducks that continue moderately abundant all winter, though, of course, large numbers winter south of Lou-

isiana, and it is their passage in fall and at the close of winter that makes such splendid sport.

Wood Duck (*Aix sponsa* Linn); Brancheur.

Wood duck hunting is a thing apart from other duck-hunting, as the haunts of the bird are quite different, and the seasons of abundance not the same as in the case of the river and bay ducks. The law framed by the General Assembly of Louisiana in 1902 permits the killing of this species in August and September. The French name of "Francheur" is given to this duck on account of its habit of perching and nesting in trees.

Red-head (*Aythya Americana* Eyt); Violon.

About the mouth of the Mississippi is the district for Red-heads, as well as for the Canvasbacks. There they are decidedly common.

Canvasback (*Aythya Vallisneria* Wils); Canard Cheval.

The reputation of the Canvasback is by no means diminished in Louisiana by its feeding habits there, which are practically the same as in the case of the famous Chesapeake Bay birds. The Canvasback in Louisiana, as in other sections, is not as plentiful as some bon vivants would have it, but it is certainly not on the wane, and in the past few years more than a usual number appear to have been seep and killed by the hunters, especially about the Delta of the Mississippi.

American Scaup (*Aythya Marila* Stejn); Blue-bill; Dos Gris de Mer.

The larger of the two scaups is not the commoner, and is more of a coast bird than the following common species, as the French name in Louisiana indicates,

Lesser Scaup (*Aythya Affinis* Eyt); Little Blue-bill; Dos Gris.

This duck probably outnumbered all others in Louisiana in winter. It is positively useless as an article of food to any one with normal development of the gustatory faculties. Notwithstanding, negroes and other indiscriminating persons kill and eat a good many, and shooters, who would not eat them, sometimes kill the birds on the general principle of bringing down something.

Ring-necked Duck (*Aythya Collaris* Donovan); Black Duck; Canard Noir. There is probably more to say in favor of "Black Ducks" than of any species killed in Louisiana, except the Canvasback. Their flesh is usually delicious. But they are not as abundant as some less choice kinds. They generally remain in fair numbers in midwinter, but are commonest in the middle fall, and again at the breaking up of winter.

American Golden Eye (*Clangula, Clangula Americana* Bonap).

A fairly common duck in Louisiana, but not shot very frequently.

Buffle-head (*Charitonetta Albeola*); Butter-ball, Marionette.

Butter-balls are shot usually more as objects of curi-

osity, or to test cleverness with shotgun, than as birds of which use can be made as food, as they are practically inedible.

Long-tailed Duck (*Clangula Hyemalis* Linn.) This curious duck of the North was taken in Louisiana the very cold winter of 1898-1899, during a severe blizzard and snowstorm.

Surf Scoter (*Oidemia persipillata* Linn). This bird is only a rare winter visitor, as are the two following species:

Black Scoter (*Oidemia Americana* Sw. and Rich.)

White-winged Scoter (*Oidemia Deglandi* Bonap).

Ruddy Duck (*Erismatura Jamaicensis* Gmel). This is a common but worthless duck that visits Louisiana in rather large numbers. It is called "Marteau" by the French.

Blue Goose (*Chen Caerulescens* Linn). A coast bird in winter.

Lesser Snow Goose (*Chen hyperborea* Pall). Common on the coast in winter. Called "White Brant."

Greater Snow Goose (*Chen Hyperborea Nivalis* Forst). Not as common as the preceding.

American White-Fronted Goose, or Speckle-Belly (*Anser albifrons gambeli* Hartl). Common in winter in the localities haunted by other geese.

Canada Goose (*Branta Canadensis* Linn). No less common in Louisiana than elsewhere.

Fulvous Tree Duck (*Dendrocygna Fulva* Gmel). Fairly

common for awhile in the fall, and even at other seasons, but not in very cold weather.

Autumnal Tree Duck (*Dendrocygna Autumnalis* Linn). Rare in southwestern parts of the State.

Whistling Swan (*Olor Columbianus* Ord.). Of irregular occurrence on the Gulf in winter.

Trumpeter Swan (*Olor Buccinator* Rich) Movements about the same as those of preceding.

Roseate Spoon-bill (*Aiaia Alaia*). Now confined chiefly to heavy and well-watered swamps of the southwestern section.

White Ibis (*Guara Alba*); *Beccroche*; Spanish Curlew. Abundant in nearly all wet sections.

Wood Ibis (*Tantalus Loculator*). Locally distributed, but abundant in several sections.

Least Bittern (*Ardetta Exilis*). This curious diminutive bird of the heron tribe is common in all marshy sections of the State, but disappears in winter.

Great Blue Heron (*Ardea Herodias*). Abundant in Louisiana as elsewhere.

American Egret (*Herodias Egretta*). Common, especially in summer.

Snowy Heron (*Egretta Candidissima*). Has become very rare, but is protected at Avery's Island, and is found even in other localities.

Louisiana Heron (*Hydranassa Tricolor Ruficollis*). Not as common as several other species, but well distributed throughout the southern part of the State.

Little Blue Heron (*Florida Coerulea*). Abundant in summer, but strictly migratory, as is the preceding.

Green Heron (*Butorides Virescens*). Common in summer.

Yellow-crowned Night Heron (*Nyctinassa Violacea*). Abundant in summer.

Sandhill Crane (*Grus Mexicana*). More common in the western parts of the State.

King Rail (*Rallus Elegans*). Abundant, chiefly in fresh marshes. It is a good table bird, but too easily brought down to be of much interest to the sportsman.

Purple Gallinule (*Ionornis Martinica*); Blue Rail; *Ral Bleu*. One of the most beautiful of all Louisiana birds, and one that should be safe from the gunner.

Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula Galleata*). A characteristic marsh bird in Louisiana, and distinguished from the coot; or "poule d'eau," by the Creole hunter's name of "ral poule d'beau."

Woodcock (*Philophela Minor*). There are many good woodcock grounds in the State, but the birds are commonest in the coldest weather. Nevertheless, the species have been found breeding in the State.

Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago Delicata*). Louisiana has some incomparable snipe grounds, and in the fall, in October, and in November before it grows too cool, and again in March and April, the snipe-shooting is the very finest. The famous German shot, Pringle, made his inexcusable but astounding record of 365 birds in one day

on the prairies about Cypremort, in South Central Louisiana.

Red-breasted Snipe, or Long-billed Dowitcher (*Macrorhamphus scolopadceus*). This bird is known by Creoles as "Dormeur," and is often common in migrations.

Bartram's Sandpiper (*Bartramia longicauda*); Upland Plover; Papabotte. In its biennial migrations, the famous papabotte visits Louisiana in large numbers, and is considered one of the greatest of game delicacies.

Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius longirostris*). In the more remote parts of the coast, Long-billed Curlews are often plentiful, and the other species occur as well, as do the Golden Plovers. The Kildeer Plover is, of course, a common bird everywhere in winter.

Bob-White, or Virginia Quail. Normally plentiful in all sections.

Wild Turkey (*Meleagris galapavo silvestris*). Pine woods districts, as a rule, are the best for turkeys, though the birds are found in nearly every kind of country, including the little oak and bayberry thickets that run out from the woods into the coast marshes of the southeast.

Mourning, or Carolina, Dove (*Zenaidura macroura*). The Dove is very common in many parts of the State.

Turkey Buzzard (*Cathartes aura*).

Black Vulture, or Carrion Crow (*Catharista urubu*).

Swallow-Tailed Kite (*Elanoides forficatus*). A splendid hawk, commonest near the coast.

Mississippi Kite (*Ictinia mississippiensis*).

White-Headed Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*). Oftenest seen near the coast.

Barn Owl (*Strix pratincola*). Particularly fond of deserted sugar houses in the southern section.

Barred Owl (*Syrnium varium*). The commonest of all Louisiana owls.

Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*).

Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Dryobates borealis*). Restricted to the pine barrens, and in that kind of country found pretty well distributed over the State.

Red-bellied Woodpecker (*Centurus carolinus*). A characteristic woodpecker of the swampy sections.

Chuck-will's-widow (*Antrostomus carolinensis*). A summer resident, and commonest in the pine sections.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher (*Milvulus forficatus*). This characteristic bird of the Southwest invades Louisiana from Texas, and is fairly common in the western part of the State, but is rare at New Orleans.

Bobolink (*Dolichonyx oryzivorus*) Ricebird; Reed-bird; Ortolan. Compared to the Red-winged Blackbird, the Bobolink is a stranger in Louisiana, the Red-wing being the recognized "Ricebird" of Louisiana. In the middle of the fall, however, the Bobolinks are very common for a while.

Red-winged Blackbird (*Agelaius phoeniceus*). Ricebird. Red-wings occur in myriads in the marshes of the

Southern part of the State. In winter they desert the marshes for the shelter of the swamps and wet woods.

Boat-tailed Grackle (*Megaquiscalus major*). This large blackbird, or "Chock," as natives call it, is characteristic of the coast marshes. In winter the species retires somewhat inland to feed in bare fields.

Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*). Redbird. Whether Cardinals were formerly more abundant in Louisiana, they are at the present writing among the most numerous birds of the State. In the height of spring, when the nesting season is beginning to have full swing, hundreds upon hundreds may be seen in a single day's walk in the low woods of the Southern part of the State. They are protected by law except against those who catch them for "domesticating purposes."

Painted Bunting (*Cyanospiza ciris*). Nonpareil; Pape; Red Pop. The favorite cage-bird of Louisiana, the beautiful crimson, green, and Prussian blue creature, is still abundant in all southern sections of the State, especially on plantations, and in tree-dotted pastures and prairies.

White-bellied Swallow (*Tachycinetta bicolor*). No swallow is ever so abundant in Louisiana as this glistening bird. It does not breed in the State but is present by thousands in spring and fall.

White-eyed Vireo (*Vireo noveboracensis*). This cheerful little warbler and whistler is one of the most constant and noticeable songsters of the swamps and moist woods of the State. Its sharp, eccentric notes are cer-

tain to hold the attention. It is common only from spring to fall.

Prothonotary warbler (*Protonotaria citrea*). The slaty blue and golden Prothonotary is one of the gayest of the birds of the swamps, and is abundant from the end of March until the end of September. It nests in the stubs and rotten trees in the swamps.

Swainson's Warbler (*Helinaia swainsonii*). A species until the past twenty years considered almost the rarest of North American birds is now proved to summer in fairly large and regular numbers in the river bottoms of the State where wild cane grows.

Parula Warbler (*Compsothlypis americana*). The Blue Yellow-back is a summer bird of great abundance about New Orleans, but less common as a breeder in other sections.

Hooded Warbler (*Sylvania mitrata*). This warbler is essentially a bird of the swamps and moist woods of Louisiana. Its favorite haunts in the southeastern sections are spots to which the Swainson's Warbler is attracted.

Mockingbird (*Mimus polyglottus*). Still the pride of the State, and about as abundant as ever in most sections, though not seen so frequently in New Orleans. The Mockingbird is a species with which every stranger wishes to become acquainted at once, and in the accomplishment of that purpose, he will find little difficulty.

Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*). Probably

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the oftenest heard bird in the State is the Carolina Wren, as it is at home both in the woods and in gardens.

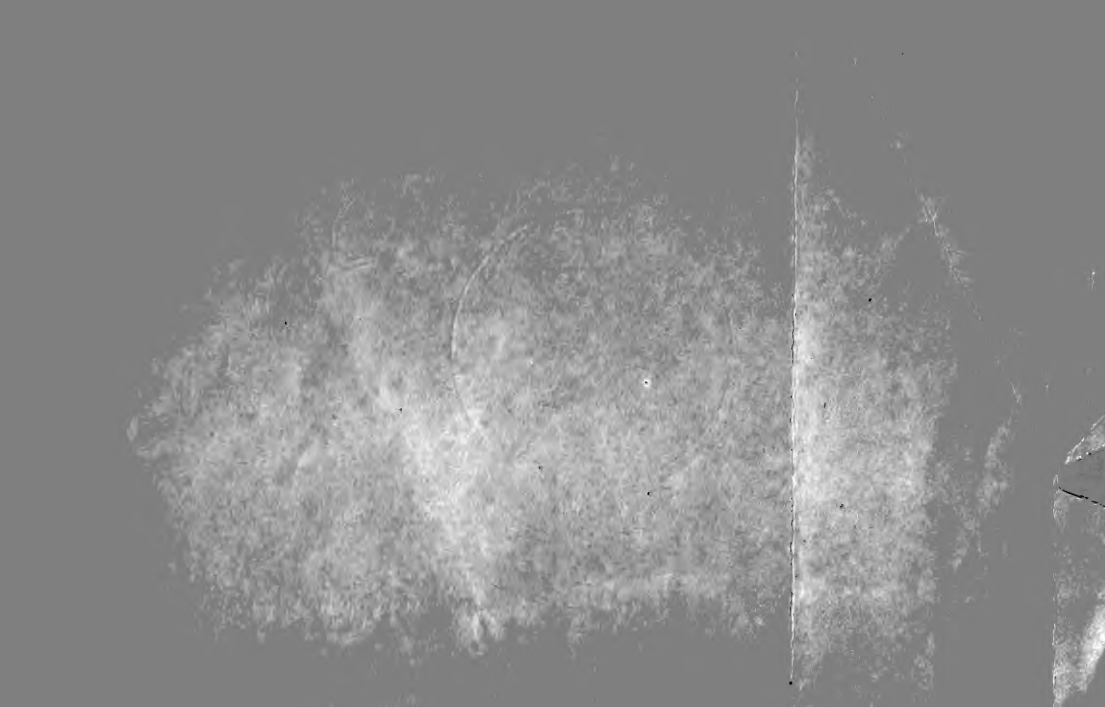
Brown-headed Nuthatch (*Sitta pusilla*). This is one of the species common to the pinewoods sections, where it is abundant.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila coerulea*). A diminutive bird of great interest is the Gnatcatcher, which is common in spring and until the middle of summer. It is a characteristic bird in live oaks.

American Robin (*merula migratoria*). The stranger from the North will be surprised to find the Robin considered a game bird in Louisiana, a condition of affairs

to be attributed to the French settlers, who brought with them the European custom of eating many small birds that became fat and well flavored. Efforts are being made to exclude the Robin from the list of game birds. Despite the number of Robins killed every year, the species comes South in apparently equal abundance every winter.

Other small birds shot in Louisiana in fall, when they become fat on magnolia seeds, are Woodthrushes and Catbirds, known as "Cailles," and Kingbirds and Red-eyed Vireos, known as "Grassets." Efforts are being made to protect all these small birds.



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