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WILD GEESE AND DUCKS
ABUNDANT IN CHESAPEAKE BAY

Reports on the abundance of wild waterfowl in the Chesapeake Bay region during the past open season have been very gratifying to officials of the Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, who are charged with the enforcement of Federal game laws. Data gathered by the Survey from these reports of observations, from notices in the daily press, and from sportsmen are to the effect that there have been many more ducks and geese in the waters of the Chesapeake during the past winter months than for several years. Especially does this appear to be true of the canvasback, the most sought after of all our ducks.

In the Hooper's Island section on the eastern shore of Maryland, large numbers of geese, brant, and many species of ducks have congregated, sometimes in such numbers that their noise has disturbed people in their sleep at night. This is especially true of the waters in the vicinity of what is known as Barren Island Bar, a large, shallow-water area extending several miles into the Chesapeake, on which the birds can not be hunted even during the open season without violating some State or Federal law. In consequence they gather there, seeming to know that they are protected and, spreading out, afford shooting to the hunters of the clubs located along many miles of bay and river shores, in places where licensed blinds are located and where it is legal to shoot waterfowl between November 1 and January 31.

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