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February 17, 1920. LIAM BREWSTER

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## Exchange Column.

Annathe 16

Our Exchange Column is free to all subscribers. All Cash offers for this column must be puid for at the rate of ½ cent per word.

TO EXCHANGE. — Opals both rough and polished, Garnets and all New England Minerals, for Western minerals and ores. Robert Burnham, Dennis, Mass

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I HAVE—several skins of the Beautiful Trogon from Mexico, good native skins, for exchange. Write what you have to the Portland Bird Store 110½-First St. Portland, Or,

WANTED— Eggs in sets and singles with full data: for which I offer good exchange in fine fossils, Indian relics: minerals, books, polished agates, mounted birds, Send list and state which lists you desire exchange from. Have a good gold filled, gents, hunting case watch American style movement case warranted 20 years movement to years will exchange for \$3,00 worth of fine sets, George W. Dixon, Watertown, S. D.

I WOULD — like to exchange California shells for those of Oregon — land, fresh-water and marine. Fred L. Button, 059 Broadway, Oakland, Cal.

WANTED-No. 11 and 12, vol.1 Oregon Naturalist, and No's, 2 and 5, (Austia) Naturalist, D. M. Averill & Co. EXCHANGE-I will give 25 varieties of foreign stamps for each Arrow head sent me. Good singing canary for Indian relics. Stamp album with 300 stamps in good condition for curios, old fire arms or fossils. W. D. Humphrey, 103 Webster Ave. Yonkers, N. Y.

WANTED-A copy of No. 1 vol. 1 of the Cactus Journal, for which I will give viz: No's. of vol. 1, of the Austin Naturalist. Nos. 1, 2, 3, 7, or No. 4 vol. 2 Am. Mag. of Nat. Science, (Sac City, Iowa,) or can give izsects and shells from this locality, or will buy a copy. Philip Nell, 878 Marshall St. Philadelphia, Pa.

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[ A paper on "Chinese Games with Dice and Dominoes," by Stewart Culin, Director of the Museum of Archæology, and Palceontology, University of Pennsylvania. ]

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<sup>& CO.,</sup> PORTLAND, ORE. **Subscribe** For The Oregon NATURALIST.

### Vol. III. Portland, Oregon, January, 1896.

No. 1

A LIST OF THE BIRDS OF OREGON. SYLVANIA PUSILLA PILEOLATA. Pileolated Warbler. (Continued from Vol. II.) Reported rather rare migrant of Washington County. ZONOTRICHIA CORONATA. Golden-crowned Sparrow. ANTHUS PENSILVANICUS, Rather common migrant of Washington American Pipit. Common winter resident. County. SPIZELLA SOCIALIS ARIZONÆ; CINCLUS MEXICANUS. American Dipper, Western Chipping Sparrow. Common summer resident in mountainous Common summer resident. localities. **JUNCO HYEMALIS OREGONUS.** OROSCOPTES MONTANUS. Oregon Junco. Abundant resident. Sage Thrasher. Common summer resident of Eastern Oregon. MELOSPIZA FASCIATA MONTANA. Mountain Song Sparrow. SALPINCIES OBSELETUS. Rock Wren. Common resident of Eastern Oregon, Common summer resident of Eastern Oregon. MELOSPIZA FASCIATA GUTTATA. Mr. A. W. Anthony took a specimen in Rusty Song Sparrow. Washington County in May 1885. Common resident of Western Oregon. More common in summer than winter. THRYOTHORUS BEWICKII SPILURUS. Vigor's Wren, DENDROICA NIGRESCENS. Not uncommon summer resident, a few re-Black-throated Gray Warbler, main all winter. Ouite common summer resident of Washington county. TROGLODY JES ÆDON PARKMANII, Parkman's Wren. DENDROICA TOWNSENDI. Very common summer resident. Townsend's Warbler. Reported rare in Washington County. TROGLODYTES HYEMALIS PACIFICUS, Western Winter Wren. DENDROICA OCCIDENTALIS Not uncommon resident, Hermit Warbler. Reported not uncommon summer resident of CISTOTHORUS PALUSTRIS, Long-billed Marsh Wren, Washington County. Reported a summer resident of Washington GEOTHLYPIS MACGILLIVRAYI, County. Not very common. Macgillivray's Warbler. Common summer resident. MELOSPIZA LINCOLNI. Lincoln's Sparrow. GEOTHLYPIS TRICHAS OCCIDENTALIS. Western Yellow-throat. PASSERELLA ILIACA UNALASCENSIS, Common summer resident. Townsend's Sparrow. Not uncommon in Washington County, a ICTERIA VIRENS LONGICAUDA, few being seen in spring and fall and occasion-Long-tailed Chat. ally in winter. Common summer resident.

PIPILO MACULATUS ARCTICUS. Arctic Towhee, Common migrant of Eastern Oregon. PIPILO MACULATUS OREGONUS. Oregon Towhee, Common resident. HABIA MELANOCEPHALA. Black-headed Grosbeak. Common summer resident. PIPILO FUSCUS CRISSALIS. California Towhee. PASSERINA AMŒNA. Lazuli Bunting, Common summer resident. PIRANGA LUDOVICIANA, Louisiana Tanager, Quite common summer resident. PROGNE SUBIS, Purple Martin. Summer-resident of Benton, Multnomah and Clackamas Counties. PETROCHELIDON LUNIFRONS. Cliff Swallow. Common summer resident, CHELIDON ERYTHROGASTER. Barn Swallow, Rare summer resident. TACHYCINETA BICOLOR, Tree Swallow. Reported abundant summer resident of Washington and Multnomah Counties. TACHYCINETA THALASSINA, Violet-green Swallow. Abundant summer resident, CLIVICOLA RIPARIA, Bank Swallow. Common summer resident of Yamhill County. AMPELIS GARRULUS, Bohemian Waxwing. Winter resident of Eastern Oregon; rare in Western Oregon. AMPELIS CEDRORUM, Cedar Waxwing.

Common summer resident.

LANIUS, BOREALIS. Northern Shrike. Noted in Linn County, by Dr. Prill. VIREO GILVUS SWAINSONI, Western Warbling Vireo, Common summer resident. VIREO SOLITARIUS CASSINH, Cassin's Vireo. Common summer resident. VIREO HUTTONI. Hutton's Vireo Reported from Washington and Yamhill Counties. Rare. HELMINTHOPHILA CELATA SORDIDA," Lutescent Warbler. Common summer resident. DENDROICA ÆSTIVA, Yellow Warbler. Common summer resident. DENDROICA AUDUBONI. Audubon's Warbler. Common migrant, a few remaining to breed. CERTHIA FAMILIARIS OCCIDENTALIS, California Creeper, Reported common during winter of 1894, by Mr. G. D. Peck. SITTA CAROLINENSIS ACULEATA, Slender-billed Nuthatch, Not uncommon resident; SITTA CANADENSIS. Red-breasted Nuthatch, Found common in favorable localities of Washington County. SITTA PYGMÆA, Pigmy Nuthatch. Noted in winter in Linn County by D1. Prill. PARUS ATRICAPILLUS OCCIDENTALIS, Oregon Chickadee, Common resident. PARUS GAMBELI, Mountain Chickadee, Specimens have been taken in Umatilla County, in October.

PARUS RUFESCENS.

Chestnut-backed Chickadee,

Not uncommon in winter. Quite rare in summer.

CHAMÆA FASCIATA, Wren Tit.

PSALTRIPARUS MINIMUS,

Bush Tit,

Common resident.

PSALTRIPARUS PLUMBEUS,

Lead-colored Bush Tit,

Reported common resident of Benton, Clatsop, Multnomah and Clackamas Countios.

REGULUS SATRAPA OLIVACEUS,

Western Golden-crowned Kinglet, Not uncommon winter[resident,

REGULUS CALENDULA,

Ruby-crowned Kinglet,

Not uncommon winter resident of Washington County.

MYADESTES TOWNSENDIL,

Townsend's Solitaire,

, Mr. Swallow of Clatsop County took a speci. men March 16 1892.

TURDUS USTULATUS,

Russet-backed Thrush,

Abundant summer resident.

TURDUS AONALASCHKAE,

Dwarf Hermit Thrush,

Quite rare summer resident of Washington County.

MERULA MIGRATORIA PROPINQUA,

Western Robin,

Abundant resident.

HESPEROCICHLA NÆVIA,

Varied Thrush or Alaska Robin,

Common winter resident. Its nest and eggs have been taken in Yamhill County. Very rare occurence.

SIALIA MEXICANA,

Western Bluebird,

Common summer resident. A few remain during winter,

SIALIA ARCTICA.

Mountain Bluebird,

Common summer resident of Eastern Oregon. Reported from Clackamas County.

This completes the list of Oregon Birds which embraces two hundred and fifty four species and sub-species. It will be the object of the Association to add to this list other species, as evidence of their occurence in the state is produced.

ARTHUR L. POPE.

#### THE NORTHWESTERN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized Dec. 28th, 1804.

Object-To advance the science of ornithology in the Northwest.

Officers.

- Pres. William L. Finley, 237-4th st. Portland, Or.
- First Vice Pres. Ellis F. Hadley, Dayton, Or.

Second Vice Pres. Guy Stryker, Milwaukie, Or.

Sec. Arthur L. Pope, McMinnville, Or.

Treas. Dorsie C. Bard, Portland, Or.

Any person interested in ornithology, residing in the Northwest may become an active member.

Any person interested in ornithology may become an associate member.

The membership fee for all members shall be fifty cents; this shall cover all dues to the first of January after initiation,

The Oregon Naturalist shall be sent free to all members

Applications for membership should be sent to the secretary.

The work of the Northwestern Ornithological Association for the next few months will be the study of the family Tetraonidae, including the grouse and quail found in this locality.

All persons having any items on the Bob-White are requested to send their observations to the president before Feb. 20 '06.

Answers to the following questions are earnestly desired from any one interested, especially those in whose locality the bird is found.

When was the Bob-white first introduced into Oregon? In what part of the state is it now found? What other parts of the coast do they inhabit? Are the birds increasing in number?

The work of the association for March will be on the four species of partridge in the list of Oregon birds, viz: Mt Partridge Plumed Partridge, California Partridge, and Valley Partridge.

What evidence is there, that each of the above birds inhabit Oregon?

What is the distinguishing feature of the Plumed and Mountain Partridge?

How far north has the Valley and California Partridge been found?

Is there any record of the eggs of these two species being taken in Oregon?

Any answers to the above questions or any other items of interest should be sent to the president not later than March 20th

The cooperation of all-western ornithologists is earnestly desired in order to make the report of any value in determining the distribution of the above species.

Report of the President of the North-Western Ornithological Association for in importance will be the enlargement of the Year 1806.

is to consist of two parts - first, a report of it is not stated whether they are common the work accomplished during the year, - or rare, resident or visitant, whether they second, of the work to be accomplished are found in every part of the state or only the coming year.

the past year is the compilation of a list of of the most value. Oregon birds, numbering 254 species and so be added to the list as rapidly as possible. sub-species publication of which was be- But this work cannot be completed in a gun in November number of our Official year, or in two years.

Organ. The most complete list of the birds of Oregon heretofore published was a list of the birds of Washington County by A. W. Anthony published in the "Auk" for April 1886, which contained 110 species and sub-species. So the association can justly claim to have accomplished a work of considerable value and importance, although the list as now compiled does not contain all the species to be found in the state, probably by at least fifty species.

In addition to compiling the list of Oregon birds, the association has published articles on several Oregon birds, compiled from notes sent in by the members. An article on Gambel's Sparrow was published in the May number of our Official Organ one on Rusty Song Sparrow in June number, and one on Oregon Junco in July number. There were no notes sent in which would justify compiling articles on the birds which were chosen for June, July, August and September work. It is to be regretted that so few of the members sent in notes for the monthly work adopted by the association. We have enough members to make valuable and interesting articles, if only all would send in a few notes. We cannot expect to accomplish good work unless all will co-operate and each one do what he is abie.

As to work to be attended to the coming year there is any amount of it. First will be the plan of work for the year which will be adopted at this meeting. Next our list of Oregon birds, There are a large According to the Constitution this report number of species on our list of which in one locality. These details should be The main work done by the association ascertained and published to make the list New species should al-It will take a

4

.number of years, and much diligent field work, before our list can be brought to a degree even nearing completion. Or as far as that is concerned it can never be brought to completion in the full sense of the word, but a few years of faithful work and study by members of the association will bring the list to a state of as great perfection as is ever attained in compiling lists of birds of localities.

Another work which should receive the attention of the association is securing then presented to the Association by Mr. the passage of a law favorable to ornithologists. The present law protects only a part of our useful native birds, and does not make any provision for scientific collecting.

A just law takes into consideration all classes of people, and is in the interest of the whole people, not of any one class.

The sportsman is recognized and is permitted to kill game during a certain length of time each year. The ornithologist is not recognized, or permitted to collect specimens. Is it because the sport of the sportsman, who kills for the love of killing, is more noble and worthy of being encouraged than the collecting of specimens for the purpose of studying Nature? I think were offered and discussed, and finally adnot. It is because the sportsman has organized and demanded recognition, and the ornithologist has not.

law passed protecting all our useful native was to change Article V so that persons inbirds, and making provisions for scientific terested in ornithology not residing in the collecting?

#### ARTHUR L. POPE.

You can be an associate member of the N. O. A. and receive its Official Organ free for only 50 cents, by application to the secretary and complying with its by-laws,

#### SECOND ANNUAL MEETING OF THE N.O.A.

The second annual meeting of the Northwestern Ornithological Association was held at Portland, Oregon, Dec. 27th. 1895. The Association was called to order by Pres't Pope at 10 a. m., The roll was then called by Sec'y Weeks, most of the members responding. Then followed reports of officers, which showed the Association to be in a flourishing condition.

A plan of work for the coming year was Finley in behalf of the Council, and discussed by the members. It was adopted as presented, which may be outlined as follows. A family of birds is to be taken up for special study and divided into monthly work; taking one or more species each month until through with the family. when another family will be chosen.

Each month there will be an article prepared on the bird which is under special consideration, by a member who has been previously appointed by the president.

This article, together with a synopsis of articles sent in by other members on the same bird is to be published in the Official Organ.

Two amendments to the constitution opted. One was, in effect, to make it the duty of the secretary to "prepare results of investigations for publication" instead Would it not be worth an effort to have a of the president as heretofore. The other Northwest may become associate members.

> The matter of dues was then discussed. and the by-laws amended so that the membership fee shall be fifty cents, which sum shall cover all dues from the time of initiation to the first of next January. The aunual dues of all members shall be fifty cents, and the official organ, the OREGON

NATURALIST, shall be sent free to all members, who are not in arrears. The meeting was then adjourned until 2 p. m.

In the afternoon session the following papers were read, each one being followed by an interesting discussion. The Sooty Grouse by Ellis F. Hadley; The Oregon Vesper Sparrow by Harvey M. Hoskins; Nesting of the Red-breasted Sapsucker by Fred H. Andrus: (the author being absent, it was read by the secretary;) and the American Bittern and Nashville Warbler by C. W. Swallow, Mr. Benj. Roop also gave an interesting talk on the globules of the blood as a means of determining the family to which a bird belonged. He stated that the shape of the globules of the blood, of one species of bird was precisely the same shape as those in the blood of another species of the same family "Thus" he said " the Magpie of America was shown to be of the same family as the Bird of Paradise of New Guinea."

After reading of the papers, officers were elected for the ensuing year as follows.

President, William L. Finley, Portland, Or., first vice president, Ellis F. Hadley, Dayton, Or., second vice president Guy Stryker, Milwaukee, Or., secretary, Arthur L.Pope, McMinnville Or., treasurer, D. C. Bard, Portland Or., It was decided to hold the third annual meeting at Salem, Oregon.

#### A LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE NORTHWESTERN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

### January 1 1896. Omission of date indicates a founder. Honorary Member. A. W. Anthony, SanDiego, Cal. 1894 Active Members. Andrus, Fred H. Elkton, Oregon. 1894 Averill, A. B. Portland, "

Brazee, A. J. Portland, Or.	
Bard, D. C. Portland, Or.	1895
Cheney, G. B. Oregon, City, Or.	
Cauthorn, Dr. Frank. Portland, Or.	1896
Finley, Wm. L. Portland, Or.	
Gibson, J. MMcMinnville Or.	1895
Haines, Robt. W. Baker, City. Or.	1894
Hadley, Ellis F Dayton, Or.	
Hoskins, Harvey_M. Newberg, Or.	
Malleis, W. B. Cedar Mills, Or.	
Pope, Arthur L. McMinnville, Or.	
Peck, Geo. D. Salem, Or.	1895
Pfluger, C. F. Portland, Or.	1 <b>8</b> 96
Stryker, S.Rey. Milwaukee, Or.	
Stryker. Guy. Milwaukee, Or.	
Swallow, C. W. Willsburg, Or.	1895
Washburn, Prof. F. L. Eugene, Or.	1894
Weeks, D. F. Portland, Or.	

#### THE AMERICAN BITTERN (Botaurus Lentiginosus) and NASHVILLE WARBLER

(Helminthophila Ruficapilla.)

Read at the second annual meeting of the N. O. A. at Portland, Oregon, by C. W. Swallow:

As both of these birds are more especially eastern species, my description of them may not be just in line with the object of this meeting, but I hope it may be of intrest to some present.

The American Bittern is one of those birds that is known by various common names in different localities. It is called Post-driver. Stake-driver, Indian-hen, Bog-bull, Thunderpumper, and I presume has still other names. Its range is given by Coues as the entire Temperate America and South to Central America. I have never seen the bird myself west of the Rockies. In the New England States it is a common summer resident. It is a low ground 1804 dweller, haunting the bogs and meadows, nesting in some thick tangle of bushes, weeds or 1804 grass. Its nest is little more than a rude pile - of sticks and roots, making a kind of platform for its three to five gravish-brown eggs, The

bird is ungainly and awkward, with long neck and legs and short tail. It has a long, stout, pointed bill, yellow below, with brown ridge. They utter a gutteral "squawk", besides their peculiar post-driving note. In color they are a servers have shown, there are manifold rusty brown, blotched with black and white. with a black patch on each side of the neck and the top of the head is brown. The birds are rather more than two feet in length, with expanse of wings over three feet. Oftentimes when alighting they have a peculiar trait of remaining rigid some time, with neck stretched out and bill pointing upward. On one occasion I found a nest of eggs only a few feet from a nest from which I had taken eggs about two weeks before.

#### THE NASHVILLE WARBLER.

This is a very shy, retiring, plainly dressed bird, but, like some of the small birds, has a Helminthophilia is very long scientific name. taken from the Greek Helminthos, meaning "a over great distances by the wind and in bug", and phileo, meaning "I love". This is other ways which I shall point out later, more appropriate, I think, than the specific these probably depend upon some means name ruficapilla, derived from two Latin such as the sudden dehiscence of the seed words one of which means "rufous" and the pod. It is in this way that the seeds of other "a hair". This bird is yellowish olive- that beautiful plant Impatiens or jewel green above, with ashy neck and head; the weed are scattered and also those of its male having a chestnut crown. The under parts are clear yellow, this being a distinguishing lady's slipper. feature of the species, as they are the most yellow below of any of the warblers. The shape, may be carried in other ways than wings and the tail are more of a rusty brown, that for which some character has adapted than the back, a faint white ring around the them. Thus many seeds are eaten and eye. They are birds of rather retiring habits, subsequently voided. An examination of and ground builders, the single nest that I found the tops of stumps in a Western Oregon in Massachusetts being in an old Pine field clearing during the fall will result in the growing up to White Pine and Birch. The discovery of seeds of the flowering dognest was by the side of a tuft of grass, partially wood (Cornus Nuttallii) divested of their sunk in the ground, and pretty well concealed. covering of red pulp, lying white and It was well made, of grass and rootlets, lined bleaching in the sun. with finer material. It contained four eggs, of associated with the excrement of birds and a light, grayish; slate color, quite thickly spot- the writer has repeatedly observed that the ted with brown about the large end, forming blue jays and other birds feed on these something of a wreath. Not knowing the seeds. Now the seeds thus found on bird at the time. I went back a day or two stumps are merely those which happened later with my gun and secured one of the old to be voided in those positions. Many birds for identification.

### CONTRIVANCES FOR THE DISPERSAL OF SEEDS

As Darwin and many subsequent obcontrivances for the dispersal of the seeds of plants. Familiar examples of such contrivances may be seen in the hooks and viscid hairs of the involucre and seed pods of various plants (Desmodium, Madia, etc.) which thereby are attached to the hair of animals; or in the down or pappus of the dandelion or epilobium and the wings of the seed vessels of the elm and maple which materially increase the surface of the fruit without to an appreciable extent the volume thas enabling them to be wafted by the wind. Many seeds however are small and round, and although it has teen shown that these too may be carried congener, the commonly cultivated

Seeds however, whatever their color or They are often others doubtless find their way from the

parent tree in this way and so too with parents were without wealth or position. myriads of other seeds.

or less distant situations.

My attention was drawn some time ago to four curved lines running across a bare spot - in fact a tennis court. They were readily observable because of their green appearance which was due to large numbers of seedlings of grass and other plants growing along them. The curves were continuous and even and on closer examination showed that they were wagon The tires and felloes of the tracks. wheels, while the wagon was being driven through the wet grass, had picked up numerous seeds and these. deposited in the soil of the tennis court, had germinated along the tracks.

These few examples have been given to stimulate if possible the habit of observing such facts. Those interested in birds would find many opportunities to collect data on the subject of seed dispersal.

> FRANCIS E. LLOYD, Professor of Biology.

Forest Grove, Or.

#### AN INTERESTING MEDAL

possession, which has been in possession the inscription, ECCLESIAM SANCTAM ations. The medal was cast in commem- separated by the bust the name IOA HVS Catholics in the town of Constance, in while twice divided by the figure are the Bohemia, in 1415.

Huss was born about 1369 at Hussinecz,

His pious mother thought only of educa-An examination of the mud sticking to ting her son. After great sacrifices and the feet of birds will frequently discover by prodigious industry the young man seeds which have been thus picked up and was graduated from the University of would without doubt be deposited in more Prague and ordained to the ministry at the are of 30. \_He was elected rector of the University at Prague and confessor to the queen.

> Meeting with the writing of Wyckliffe, he was deeply stirred against the errors of his time. But he was concerned more with the practice than with dogma. He dwelt with great force upon the claims of this life, and urged more complete imitation of Christ and his apostles. Huss was a preacher of righteousness in daily life.

> He dwelt upon practice and upon the conduct of life. The weight of his rebuke fell whenever he thought men ought to mend their ways. This earnestness brought him into conflict with some of the more selfish spirits of his time. He was denounced as a heretic. But from his impassioned plea for right living he had nothing to retract. His position was misunderstood or his zeal was dreaded, until at last he was summoned to the Council of Prague; unfairly tried, degraded of his priestly office and sentenced to be burned.

He was gentle and forgiving to the last and prayed for the forgivness of his enemies.

The medal is of silver, and was cast in For the benefit of such readers as may a mold. The inscription is Latin, and in be interested in numismatics, I present high relief, as are also the bush and figure herewith a sketch of a medal now in my on the reserve. Surrounding the bust] is of members of my family for several gener- CATOLICAM CREDO VNAM ESSE, and oration of the burning at the stake of John The reverse side reads, in the inner circle: Huss, who was burned for heresy by the NATO 1415 IO HVS ANNO A CHRISTO, words, CON-DEM NA-TVR.

The outer circle reads: CENTVM not far from the Bararian frontier. His REVOLVTIS ANNIS DEO RESPVNDEDITIS

#### ET MIHI.

Translated, the rinsciption on the obverse reads: "I believe that there is one church, the Holy Catholic. Joa Hus." The outer inscription on the reverse: "One hundred years having rolled away you will answer to God and to me." The inner inscription: "Jo Hus was condemned in the year 1415 from Christ having been born."

The medal is in strictly fine condition, and having a blackish appearance, caused by casting. Two duplicates of it were seen by a former owner, one in the museum at Vienna and one in Berlin.

ED. A SCHLOTH,

Portland, Oregon.

#### AN INTERESTING RELIC.

Charles F. Cummings of Waliula owns an nteresting relic of the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804–5. This expedition was sent overland by President Jefferson, and its objects were explorations and the negotiation of friendly relations with the various Indian tribes of the great West. The expedition carried with it presents, and medals for the chiefs, and the relic now owned by Mr. Cummings is one of these medals.

This medal is of silver. It is about three inches in diameter, and upon one side is a bust portrait of President Jefferson, with this inscription surrounding it:

"Th. Jefferson, President of the U. S., A. D. 1801."

On the opposite side appear two hands clasped in greeting, with a pipe and tomahawk crossed, and the phrase "Peace and friendship."

This medal was found last summer on an island in the Columbia river, presumably an old Indian burying-ground. It is believed it was given to Chief Yellept, of the Walla Walla tribe, as an account of the presentation of such a medal to that chief is found in the journals of the expedition.

#### EASTERN DEPARTMENT,

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

#### WINFER BIRD LIFE IN SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS

#### C. C. PURDUM.

#### Continued from page 169 Vol II.

Having discussed at some length in the last two papers the habits etc. of the common and Arctic terns we will pass over the other two varieties viz: the Roseate (Sterna dougalli) and the Least (Sterna antillarum) varieties, which resemble in most points the two previously considered. The food supply of the terns, consists entirely of small fish which they take in an interesting manner. Flying along about ten or fifteen feet above the surface of the waters; when a proper opportunity affords, the bird makes a quick upward turn and describing a complete though small circle, drops straight into the water, gen erally entirely disappearing beneath the water. Rising with its capture, it\_starts away as if to devour it] at leisure, but be fore many seconds you will look in vain for that unhappy fish. He has disappeared down that capacious throat and its well satisfied captor has turned his eyes to the water again as if to say "Oh! There are others." As 'indeed there are, for suddenly as you watch him, he again drops into the water and another "minnow" has joined his luckless comrade. Again and again this is kept up till one is almost bewildered at, "where he puts em." Digestion is very rapid and strong in these birds however and as long as the food supply lasts, just so long will you find "Sterna" splashing here, rising there and always keeping up that incessant -chee-chein- as if their lives depended upon it,

To make the acquaintance of our next "item of interest" let us take our trusty Parker, a large lunch pail, and start about 4 o'clock a. m. for After a short pull a short collecting trip. during which despite the exercise our ears and toes tingle with the cold, for the sun is not up yet, although a faint reddish tinge is noticeable, where only a short time ago stretched the long gray herald of the approaching morn, we arrive at a jutting point where tha wind blows from "off shore" and proceed to "set" the decoys within easy shooting distance of the point and going ashore conceal ourselves behind some of the large boulders on the shore. Now comes a short wait and then - whive - splash! What was that? Oh yes there he is right in a. mong the decoys; no! yes! there are two - three! No time to count any farther for your trusty old Parker has somehow gotten to your shoulder and then you press the trigger as your friend's gun speaks close to your ear, and out there on the water, in their last struggle lie a male and female, (130) Merganser leviator (637) Redbreasted Merganser: Shelldrake; and picking them up we examine them. The first thing that strikes us is the long bill, which looks for the world as if it were supplied with a row of teeth. Then the head with its long scraggily plumes, the short tail and relatively short wings, all make an impression at once, and togethe with the pure whiteness of the belly and vari gated breast of the male, make you involuntarily exclaim "A Beauty!" These birds are much esteemed by the fisher folk for eating, and the "sea fowl stews" of Cape Cod have become almost proverbial, certain however it is, that the flesh of Merganser Leviator is not to be desstomach. pised by a hungry

nostrils are rather nearer the The base of the bill than in most of the species hitherto mentioned. The head and neck all around are a beautiful dark green; the back quite dark; the breast a delightful brownish red, streaked with dusky, and the and each of its sides is ornamented by two whole under parts with a long pointed occipit. 1 rows of black dots upon a reddish brown ground. crest is present in both sexes and when erected. give the bird a most ferocious appearance. shape, yellowish, or orange brown, in color.

number of heavily loaded shells, decoys and and presents a more sombre appearence. A peculiar tendency to alight at decoys has been mentioned. This is intensified in the spring on account of the birds being anxious to form into flocks for the migration. This feeling is so strong that the birds will frequently alight to pieces of wood or "debris" floating upon the surface.

#### (To be concluded.)

#### POTATO BUG AND HESSIAN FLY.

Thirty-five years ago the worst enemy to the potato crop in the eastern part of the United States was a species of beetle having dark striped wing covers, elongated form, and narrow thorax. but in 1861 a far more destructive insect, classified long before as Doryphira decemlineata. made its first great onslaught upon the cultivated potato.

The insect had previously fed mostly or entirely upon various species of the Solanum indigenous to the West but it soon began its progress eastward, traveling at the rate of sixty miles a year. It would be useless to enlarge upon the destructiveness of this insect, but although its ravages and its appearance are known to every one, its metamorphoses may not be understood by all.

The eggs are deposited on the under side of the leaves in clusters of from ten to twenty five. each female laying from seven to twelve hundred eggs. From these eggs the larvae soon hatch out, and after feeding upon the plants for some eighteen or twenty days hide them selves in the earth, where they remain as pupae for ten or twelve days, then emerge as fully developed beetles, to begin again the work of destruction with all the vigor of renewed youth, and to produce fresh generations.

The head of the larva is black, there is a ring of black upon the first segment of its body

The perfect insect is a shortened oval in The female is much smaller than the male and has upon its wing covers the ten black lines that give it its name, decem-lineata.

It is difficult for the casual observer to follow the career of many of our most common insects, and fully understand their habits, on account of the many changes they undergo, and this is doubly true of the Hessian fly, It is said that this insect made its first appearance in America about the time of the Revolution, and travelled westwards with the star of empire. However that may be the flies are with us, and in vast numbers. During the first warm weather in the spring, as soon as the wheat has bigun to grow the flies appear. The female alights upon the plant, and standing with her head toward the extremity of the leaf deposits her eggs in the minute depressions or furrows in the stalk, or in the shelter afforded by the sheath, where the leaf branches from the stalk, or sometimes in the creases in the blades. When the weather is favorable these eggs will sometimes hatch in four days, though the hatching is sometimes delayed to fifteen days. The larvae, currently termed maggots, feed upon the wheat until they are fully grown, and then become pupae, in which state they look very much like flax seeds, and from this resemblence are said to be "in the flax seed state". At this stage of its developement the insect is hidden in the sheathing of the leaf where it clasps the wheat stalk near its base. In due time the larva tears open its puparium, crawls upwards through the straw, which by this time is dead, and when it reaches an opening it discards its larval skin, unfolds its wings, and after "pluming" them a moment, to prepare them for use, flies away, the imago or perfect insect. The first brood of the flies issue early in the spring, the second late in the spring or summer, and if the weather continues warm until late, a third brood is sometimes hatched. The injuries they have done to the wheat crop may be discerned in the fall and winter by the yellow color of the leaves, and in the summer by the undeveloped head and shrunken stalks.

or escaping from their ravages have been tried, Address, OREGON NATURALIST, 392 Morrison but with little or no success Late planting Street, Portland, Oregon.

of wheat has been recomended, on the supposition that the insects' eggs are all deposited before the 20th, of September, which is not always the case. Pasturing sheep upon the wheatfield has been tried to some advantage. the sheer, turned in late in the fall and early in the spring, cropping the plants close enough to destroy many of the eggs and larvae.

Salt sprinkled over the field, about one barrel to the acre, is said to be good, but although salt will doubtless improve the soil, enough of it to destroy the flies could not fail to be injurious to both soil and crops. Farmers sometimes plant an early strip of wheat near their main fields to attract the flies and serve as a trap, hoping to check their increase in this way, but with no marked success, for the flies will lay their eggs in the grass and keep up the supply, no matter how many are destroyed.

ANGUS GAINES.

Vincennes, Indiana.

The annual meeting of the Kent Ornithological Club was held at Grand Rapids, Michigan December 12th.

At this meeting the name was changed to Michigan Ornithological Club and the following were elected to active memberhsip: Prof. C. A. Whittemore and Hattie M. Bailey of Grand Rapids, Dr. Morris Gibbs of Kalamazoo, L. Whitney Watkins of Manchester, T. L. Hankinson of Hil'sdale and W. A. Davidson of Detroit.

The following officers were elected for 1896: President, A. B. Durfee, Vice President, R. R. Newton; Secretary W. E. Mulliken; Treasurer Prof. C. A. Whittemore and Librarian Leon J. Cole.

All Michigan ornithologists should address the Secretary at 191 First Ave. Grand Rapids, Mich. for particulars.

By special arrangement with the publishers we can send the "Nidologist" and the "Oregon Innumerable devices for destroying the flies Naturalist," both one year for \$1.00 only.

#### "CHAT."

What facts are you going to endeavor to establish in the interests of science this year?

We have a nice article on hand; upon "How to take notes on the migrations," which we will print in the March issue, and which will undoubtedly be of general interest and benefit.

The Editor is pleased for recognize the receipt of several very useful and interesting notes to his "Report on odd and peculiar nests and nesting,,' and desires to take the opportunity of formally thanking his friends who have thus far aided nim. Anything you may have, will be equally acceptable.

If you want a definite plan of work for the coming season; join the Oologists' Association and write to President Isador S. Trostler, 4246 Farnam St., Omaha, Neb. for full particulars. We are going to lay out a particular line of work, and hope to make our efforts appreciated. "In Union there is Strength."

#### EVOLUTION AND DISEASE.

#### BY THE EASTERN EDITOR.

(Continued from Page 170, Vol. II.) The shedding of pathological cutaneous horns and their subsequent reproduction has more than one physiological type, Among birds the horned puffin (*Fratercu/a corniculata*) will be selected. Growing from the eyelid of this bird is a slepder, pointed, black-colored horn, eighteen millimeters in length.

There was also a thin horny scale connected with the lower lid. In the adult bird these horns are shed and reproduced annually.

It has also been mentioned that the corneous Palisades of the Hudson River, one, in attemptcap of the cavicorn ruminants is merely modiing to portray its wonderful magnificence soon fied portions of the integument. In the Prongfinds himself lost among a countless host of buck, (*Antilocapra americana*) the hard cap beautiful visions. Visions of river and cloud,

of the horn is annually shed: an observation first made in 1865, in the Zoological Gardens of London. Subsequently, doubt was thrown upon the matter, but the observations of Mr. W. A. Forbes, have definitely settled the matter. Thus we are able to furnish types among normal cutaneous horns, not only in birds, but among mammals, as parallels to the annual shedding of *Pathological* cutaneous horns of birds.

Not infrequently tumors are found in certain abdominal organs and in the sub-cutaneous tissues of man and other mammals, posessing skin and its appendages, such as hair, wool and glands. Such tumors, contain in man, horses and oxen, hair; in pigs, bristles; in sheep, wool and in birds, feathers; thus harmonizing with the physiological characters special to the animal in which such tumors occur. Further the hair in such tumor becomes grey as age advances and may—and generally does—fall out, leaving the tumor literally "bald" as is the case with the hair upon the exterior of the body.

This—together with the two previous papers —paper will give the reader a general insight as to the "reason why" the supposition that what is generally regarded as abnormal (so f ar as many structures are concerned at least) may be truly regarded as merely stages of gradation from a previously existing normal tendency, In the succeeding papers I shall endeavor to discuss severa! questions which necessarily arise from such a hypothesis.

C. C. PURDUM.

#### THE PALISADES OF THE HUDSON.

Among the wonders of this Western World of ours which excite the interest and admiration of travelers from foreign countries, stands prominently among their foremost attractions, the Palisades of the Hudson River, one, in attempting to portray its wonderful magnificence soon finds himself lost among a countless host of beautiful visions. Visions of river and cloud, of hill and tree and visions too, of goblin and the life of reptiles, insects and birds of the ghost and good old days as told to us in merry legends and songs.

sleep, but still yet in the Highlands 'tis said, may be heard the sound of the " balls" and the "pins" when thunder storms come - and not long ago - but the dreamer must don her science cap and leave visions and ghosts to flit away as do mists of the Indian summer from Palisade's crest, when the cold frosts come.

The Palisades of the Hudson as recalled by the tourist, consist of a perpendicular ledge of brown gray rock on the western banks of the Hudson River, rising to the height of from 200 'to 500 feet in almost an unbroken line, for a distance of something like 20 miles northward from New York City. This natural bulwark is but a part of what is known as the Highlands of the Hudson, and which in turn is but a po:tion of a range of hills extending from Rockland on the Hudson River, southwest through New Jersey, Pennsylvanin and Virginia east of the Blue Ridge, a distance of 110 miles and with an average width of 20 miles .

Geology tells us that during the third great age or period in the history or the North American Continent, known as Mesozoic, these Highlands were formed. The tock of which they are composed, is generally a reddish sandstone, with occasionally a region of shale or conglomerate and again in two or three vicinities chiefly south of New York, are found valuable beds of bituminous coal. It might be well for a moment to cast a thought back to the first and second periods of our Continents history, in order to connect this condition of affairs in this Mesozoic Period with those which preceded after the Azoic Time, in which the rocks found were chiefly Metamorphic, (granite gneiss syenite,) and the life chiefly of the vegetable kingdom and that of the lowest order, came the Paleozoic Age. This Paleozoic Period, produceing the animals of all the lower orders, piling up rocks of a stratified nature upon the granite foundations and storing away coal for the use of man, laid the way for what was to come -

Mesozoic Time.

Of these last named branches of the animal Washington Irving is sleeping his last long kingdom, do we find innumerable signs in the rocks forming the Palisade Highlands. Footprints of various animals, the claw of the bird, the wing of the insect have been seen again and again in ths sand-stone rock.

> If some time the reader should find himself in the region of Amherst, Massachusetts, and if he will make a visit to the College collection, he may see for himself thousands of these very prints and fossils, brought from different sections of the Highlands by Prof. Hitchcock, who has made this study a specialty. All this, to prove the time in the history of our continent at which these hills were formed and of which the Hudson Palisades eonstitute the most marked feature.

> It would be of interest to picture to the reader the Palisades themselves as they are seen from the river, on the New York Central Road which winds along following closely the river's bank on the opposite side. But how shall I describe their beauty to you, what language use? For the Palisades, on a winters day when the sky is clear, and the sun well up and the river nine miles wide at one place forming a great white sheet of glistening ice, are not the Palisades of an early March day, when a thousand desolate cakes of gray ice jostle about in a murky sea, and the clouds are low down, and the Palisade's sides seem dreary and dead.

> But when Maytime comes, the rocks put on a garb of fresh green verdure, and each opening tree nods laughingly down to the bright sparkling river, which glistens and flashes back its own happiness to the soft white clouds and smiling Palisades. Riding along the banks of the Hudson on a midsummer day just at the time when the sun will set, gives one perhaps the most transcendent view which can ever be seen of River and Height.

> The sun is gradually sinking, a ball of crimson light, down into some break in the mountain ledge. The sky is aglow with crimson and gold sent off from the sun; a long broad path

way of light, opalescent in hue, leads away and away over the expanse of the water, until it seems to unite itself to the glow of the sun in the distance. Tiny white sails cross and recross and sail down again toward the light from the sun, while the Hills loom up, solemn and grand in deep purple shades and are crowned by gold bands from the fast sinking sun.

Once again, during the October days, the Palisades assume a vet novel aspect. Of all their glories this is the culmination. For in October, the foliage of the trees which clothe their side and crown the summit, is changed to red and gold, and the old Palisades stand gloriously forth, one glowing, gorgeous mountain. So, indeed, the reader will now perceive why it is that I exclaim, - "How describe the beautiful Palisades of the Hudson to you?" But a few pertinent facts must be related which will give a clearer Geol gical conception of their appearance. The Palisades proper, as has been said, consist of a nearly perpendicular wall of trap rock some three or four hundred feet in height, and extending for twenty miles northward from New York City along the banks of the Hudson River. The Palisades following apparently the river's course bend in and out, occasionally throwing forward a rocky promontory in the form of a single precipice overlooking the expanse of the water. In other localities, may be seen breaks in the precipice, where the slopes of two adjacent hill-sides shelter pretty farms'and sometimes even villages, But in general the Palisades stretch out one unbroken line of rocks in winter, and green mantled in the summer season. In exceptional localities mry be seen at all seasons of the year, the rock completely bare and dark, extending in a perpendicular plane to the river's brink apparently. But this sight is now rare. In the wintertime when the leaves have all fallen away, leaving the precipice as a background, against which the collective tree trunks and branches stand forth with an ashen gray tint. seems the suitable time for carefully noting the list ever published on the "Birds of Kodiak structure of the rock mass. This is seen to be Island," by Bretherton, with notes, will soon entirely perpendicular for heights of over a b e begun in the columns of this paper.

hundred fect, and then at the base gradually stretching out to the river by a rocky incline.

The perpendicular rock shows on its surface. immense vertical columns extending the entire height and which seem like mighty buttresses placed there by nature to ward off further destruction of the great bulwark. Although I never have heard it so stated, from the appearance I am of the opinion that these columns are but "joints," (to use a Geological term) as the jointed structure occurs commonly in trap rock formation.

In the summer seasons when the Palisades are again covered with verdure, signs of life and business may always be noticed, not only in the villages nestled between the mountains as mentioned before but all along the scattered roads which wind in and out, up the precipitous mountain sides, only made visible to sightseers on the opposite banks at occasional openings among the trees, where the road white and ribbon like, in its appears distant windings. Along at the summit of the cliffs, are palatial homes, all partly hidden from view by the fringe like trees on the Palisade's crest. Then again, along the further bank of the Hudson at the base of the cliffs. are cottages, farms, immense summer hotels and places of business, built close to the river brink.

All this land on which they stand has been made by gradual deposition, fron age to age, of loosened material brought down from the Palisade's side and the heights above and to that is also due the verdure which so completely hides the rock during the greater part of the year.

"In olden climes, on foreign shores, In lands across the seas, Where find, throughout the whole wide world, Old rocks so grand as these."

- Anon.

WHAT will probably be the most complete

#### A MICHIGAN RELIC.

Some time ago I found on the shore of Bear Lake, this vicinity, a curiosity that has puzzled me considerably. It is a stone in the exact shape of the earthen vessels of the Indians, fragments of which are found in large quantities around the lake. It is 10 inches in height  $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width through the widest part, 9 inches at the neck, and weighs about 60 pounds.

It is not quite perfect, perhaps a third of it is missing, split off in clean fractures. It seems to be a kind of limestone and in layers, thin at the bottom and gradually widening at the top. Where the piece is gone from the top it shows about an inch of the outside to be lighter than the inside. I cannot imagine what it can be, it is certainly not a natural formation, unless an earthen vessel had been dropped in the lake, filled with marl and hardened. It shows the action of water and also of fire. I found it at the water's edge, where I supposed it had been heaved out by the action of the frost.

I would like to correspond with collectors who could give me any information about it.

H. M. CONNELL.

Clarion, Mich.

#### DENDRITES.

Dendritic rock is abundant. The arborescent, slender, spreading branches, resembling ferns upon cleavable surfaces, are better known by the amateur as "Forest Rock," etc., and there are many vague, senseless theories advanced toward solving the cause. The effect is apparent, but what produced it? The idea that the sun's rays photograph the surrounding trees and herbage is preposterous. The finest dendrites are frequently far beneath the surface. The theory of electricity photographing surrounding objects on stone is less objectionable; but no one can examine the porphyry beds, through which dendiitic ferns run in every conceivable direction, and believe for a moment in

either of the above theories. I examined the outcropping of a hill of porphyry the other day and found the whole mass brittle, easily broken into small angular pieces, and full of imperfect arborescent forms, and but few fine specimens could be obtained from the whole vast ledge. One mile from this point is an old tunnel, abandoned by some unfortunate prospector "rustlin " for a "grub stake," boping to "strike it rich." Fifty feet into this drift is a ten-foot yellow porphyry vein. Here are fine and large dendrites. Upon studying the overlying formations the direction of seams containing the finest "fern pictures," the coloring matter which stains the porous rock, often dark brown, one cannot but come to the conclusion that these flowering delineations have been formed by the infiltration of manganese in solution, which has entered between the seams and spread into branches resembling trees, ferns, etc. The handsome dendrites are usually in porphyry. White quartz, quartz mica, chalcedony, etc., become dendrites. The moss like forms in chalcedony are dendrites from dissemination of iron oxide, and are called moss-agate.

L. W. STILWELL,

The oldest bank-note probably in existence in Europe is one preserved in the Asiatic Museum, at St. Petersburg. It dates from the year 1309 B. C., and was issued by the Chinese government, It can be proved from Chinese chronicles that, as early as 2697 B. C., banknotes were current in China under the name of "flying money." The bank-note preserved at St. Petersburg bears the name of the imperial bank, date and number of issue, signature of a mandarin, and contains a list of the punishments inflicted for forgery of notes. This relic of over three thousand years old is probably written for printing from wooden tablets is said to have been introduced in China only in the year 160 A. D. · - Exch.

Deadwood, S. D.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

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A. B. AVERILL,	Portland, Ore.
Dr. C. C. PURDUM,	BALTIMORE, MD.
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THE OREGON	NATURALIST.
392 MORRISON ST.	Portland, Oregon.

ANUARY, 1896.

Mr. Angus Gaines's admirable work for The Oregon Naturalist is suggested by the characteristic and delightful article entitled, "My Water Snakes," which appears in the New Year's double number of the Youth's Companion. It is to be followed by others, so highly valued by The Companion that they have a conspicuous place in its Announcement for 1896, of which, by the way, more than a million copies have what is the average life of a bat? been circulated.

#### CORRESPONDENTS' COLUMN

I have a catalogue of all the books, etc. ever published by the U.S. Government. It is a finely bound book of portentious size and is of no value to me. Any one who has any use for it can have it by paying expressage.

Vincennes, Ind.

ANGUS GAINES.

Can any reader of this Magazine supply a list of the Ophidians of Oregon? Such a list would probably be found good matter for the Oregon Naturalist, and certainly be highly appreciated by all those who are interested in the problems of distribution and local variations.

ANGUS GAINES.

#### GROUSE NOTES

How will it do for some of your corespondents to try and express in letters, some of the bird's notes aud songs? Here is what I tried to write for the Blue Grouse at three different dictations. Hoop-hoop-op-op-op-hp.

Hoop-hooh, - hooh; - hoh, - hoh.

Hoop — hoo — hoo - hop — h- hop — hup. Who can say which we have in the Willimette Dendragapus obscurus vallev? D. O. fuliginosus or D. O. richardsonii? Three specimens that I have examined had eighteentail feathers, with a broad slate bar.

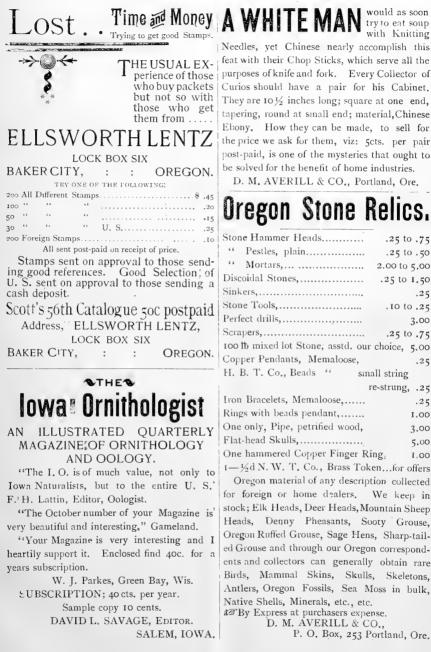
C. W. SWALLOW.

## Jueries and Replies.

[We invite contributions to this column from any subscriber who has a question to ask, or who can answer a question asked by some one else. The only condition will be: the utmost brevity consistent with clearness of statement, and that questions are not asked that can readily be answered by consulting a dictionary or an encyclopedia.]

(Ouerv No. 13.) How long do bats live, or,

I. Maurice Hatch, Escondido, Cal.



with Knitting Needles, yet Chinese nearly accomplish this feat with their Chop Sticks, which serve all the purposes of knife and fork. Every Collector of Curios should have a pair for his Cabinet. They are 10 1/2 inches long; square at one end, tapering, round at small end; material. Chinese Ebony. How they can be made, to sell for the price we ask for them, viz: 5cts. per pair post-paid, is one of the mysteries that ought to be solved for the benefit of home industries.

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A small lot has been received from a remote point in Oregon, not yet reached by railroads. They are of various shapes, but a singular feature of this lot, is that every one is made of a blackish translucent Obsidian. The price on this lot is 25cts., 50cts., 75cts., and \$1.00 each according to size.

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50 broken Points,	\$1.50
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Owl Shell or Giant Limpet,	, 10
Helix fidelis,	. 10
Helix townsendiana,	.05
Yellow Helix,	.15
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White " " " " " "	. 10
Sharks Teeth, Hawaii, 3 for	. 10
Mushroom Coral,	.05
15 named Shells, 25 examples	.25
Anodonta Wahlmatensis,	, 10
Copper Beads, Memaloose, Is	.10

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Small specimen about an oz
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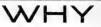
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East Indies, .15-.35 Agates, eut and polished, Azores

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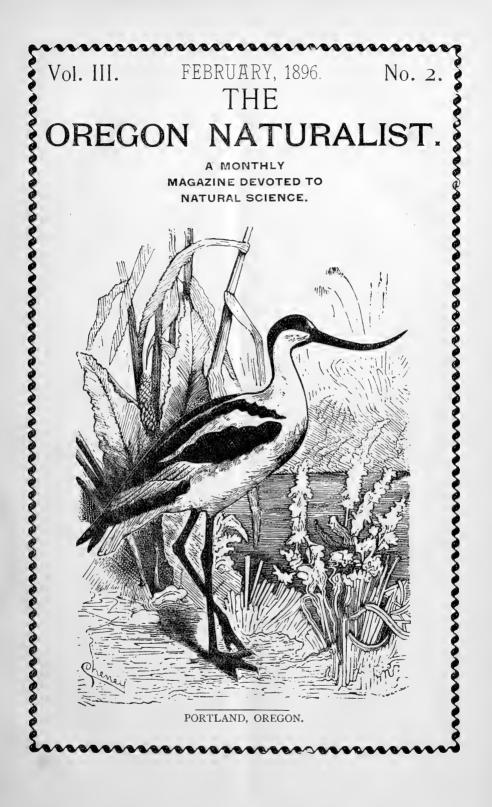
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FOSSILS

AGATES

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1876



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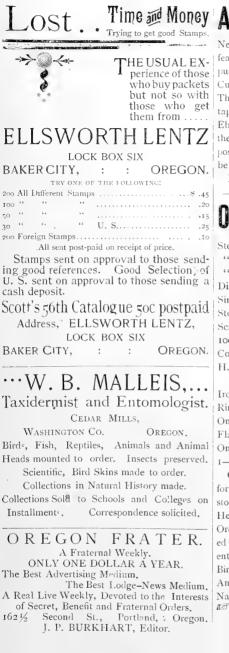
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#### VOL. III. PORTLAND, OREGON, FEBRUARY, 1896. No. 2

THE OREGON VESPER SPARROW. (POOCÆTES GRAMINEUS AFFINIS,)

Read at the second annual meeting of the N. O.A. at Portland, Or., by Mr. H. M. Hoskins.

The Oregon Vesper Sparrow is quite a common summer resident in this part of the state, [Yamhill county,] and in a found what I took to be an incomplete short time after its arrival in the spring, from its winter home — usually about the under the side of a thick bunch of briers first of April - it may be seen in pairs in and was about to leave intending to return the open fields and pasture-lands, which in a few days when the nest was compleseem to be its ravorite haunts. It is not ted, when I saw a narrow passageway as musical and does not have as attractive leading farther into the bunch. I explored plumage as many other birds, yet to me it it carefully for about a foot when to my is one of the most interesting of our sum- surprise I found the real nest, containing mer residents.

April or the first of May. From my own 1 found another path similar to the first experience I would judge that the best one. These two paths, as far as I could time for finding fresh eggs is from the find, were the only ones by which the bird first to the 15th of May; although the could reach the nest. breeding time varies considerably according to the season.

of grass or a brier, in a slight hollow so clouded and spotted with burnt umber of that the top of the nest is flush with the various shades." Some eggs are marked ground and is almost invariably well hid- very heavily while on others the markings den. It is composed of rather coarse grass are barely visible. They average about

and straw and lined with hair. About an average measurement, I think, is, inside: diameter, two inches, depth, one and one half inches; outside: diameter, three and one half inches, depth, two and one half inches.

I once flushed a female Vesper Sparrow from her nest and upon examination, nest - a few straws in a small depression a beautiful set of four fresh eggs. Lead-They begin nesting about the last of ing in the opposite direction from the nest

The eggs are almost invariably four in number. The ground color "is a dull The nest is usually placed under a tuft pinkish white or sometimes bluish white .80 of an inch in length by .60 in breadth.

In the spring of 1804 a friend of mine, while plowing in an orchard, covered up the nest, eggs and bird of this species. It was the first furrow he had plowed and he did not turn the nest over but simply piled a lot dirt upon it. He did not notice it until he saw the old bird flutter out from among the clods. He immediately suspected what had been done, and upon removing some of the dirt, found the nest containing four eggs and an abundance of dirt. He then carefully removed the eggs and in order to get all of the dirt out took out all of the lining. Having thus rid the nest of all of the dirt, he replaced the eggs and marked the place so as not to cover it up the next round. He did not expect the bird would return, but thought he would try, as anything would do as well as to leave them covered. But the next day when he returned to his work he found the faithful old bird setting on her precious eggs as though nothing had happened.

My friend told me about the circumstances but did not tell me where the nest was So a few days afterwards I started out to hunt for the nest, and it was not until I had gone over almost the entire orchard that I found the nest, which was close to the last tree in the last row. At my approach the old bird slipped off of the nest and went hopping from clod to clod, pecking occasionally at something as if busily engaged hunting for food. This, I believe is their usual method in alluring or trying to allure the intruder from their nests. On examining the nest and its contents, I found them to be exactly as represented:

the nest without any llning and all the weeds near it covered up except a part of the bunch of briers under which it had originally been concealed. The nest was now left unprotected and in plain view. The bird didnot abandon the nest as I would have expected, and a few days afterward four little birds made their appearance and were raised in safety. Here again comes up the perplexing question, " Do birds have reason?" and considering this bird alone we are compelled to answer it in the affirmative. At least it seemed that this bird knew that the person who cleaned out her nest was a benefactor and not one of those persons sometimes styled "egg cranks. " It certainly seems that this bird's conduct could not be attributed to either "chance" or "instinct". But I do not, think this is a common occurence, in tact I believe it is an exception. I have more than once found their nests while plowing and rather than cover them up I would remove the nest together with a portion of the adjoining sod, returning it to the same place when the plow had passed. I would then withdraw for some distance and watch the actions of the bird. She would hop along and peck at worms until quite near when she would suddenly slip inside of the bunch of grass. While inside I could not see her but upon my approach she would slip off, only to return when I had disappeared. After awhile however, she would leave it and not return.

A Mollard, (possibly a hybrid) recently shot on the Columbia river, weighed 4 lb and measured:  $24\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length,  $11\frac{3}{8}$  wing,  $36\frac{5}{8}$ stretch of wings and 4 inches tail.

#### NESTING OF THE RED-BREASTED SAPSUCKER.

[Read at the second annual meeting of the Northwestern Ornithological Association.]

In presenting the following notes to the Association it is not my intention to contradict the statements of others on this subject, but to call attention to the variation in nesting of *Sphyrapicus ruber*.

In "Davie's Nests and Eggs." it is stated on the authority of Captain Bendire, that the Red breasted Sapsucker breeds "in healthy live aspen trees" and also that the nest "is situated fron fifteen to twenty-five feet from the ground and usually excavated below the first limb of the tree." In these particulars my observations differ from those of all other reports that I have seen.

My first record of a nest of this species, is June 25th, 1892; when I saw a pair of these birds feeding their young, in a hole in a dead firitree. I did not measure the height, but estimated it to be 60 feet. This was when on a fishing excursion to Loon lake. The remainder of my finds were about half a mile from my present home, near Kelloggs, Or. and as all the nests were near each other it is not only possible but probable, that they were made by the same bird.

In 1893 I found another nest in a dead fir tree about fifty feet from the ground, but in 1894 the birds had come down some, nesting only twenty-two feet above the ground, in a dead fir stub about three hundred yards from the tree occupied in 1893. This nest was found June 6th and contained young.

May 27th 1895 I collected my first eggs, The nest was in the same dead fir as the nest found in 1894 and about three feet higher up. The hole was seven inches deep and four inches in diameter at the bottom. The entrance was one and one half inches in diameter. I had to cut away the wood with a hatchet to secure the eggs and a chip falling in, cracked one of them thus damaging the set. They were one fourth incubated; pure white when blown, with but slight variation in the ends and averaged .72 x .90 inches.

Some time after, I found the birds feeding young in the hole occupied in 1894. I cannot give the date, for I failed to make a note of it at the time. In closing I desire to state that the nests which were excavated nearest to the ground, were but a few feet from the stub in which they were situated.

FRED H. ANDRUS.

#### RECENT PUBLICATION.

The tenth Bulletin of "North American Fauna" published by the U.S.Department of Agriculture comes to hand this month containing a revision of the Shrews of the American Genera, *Blarina* and *Notiosorex*, by C. Hart Merriam; The Long-tailed Shrews of the Eastern United States, by Gerrit S. Miller jr.; Synopsis of the American Shrews of the Genus *Sorex*, by C. Hart Merriam.

The first two parts of the Bulletin contain nothing relating to Oregon Species but the third part, (Synopsis of the American Shrews of the Genus Sorex.) contains a description of six Oregon species, two of which are new. They are as follows: Sorex (at phyrax) bendirii .Sorex (atophyrax) bendirii palmeri. Sorex vagrans. Sorex bairdi. Sorex troubridgii. Sorex pacificus; and are described, in part, as follows:

#### SOREX VAGRANS, Baird.

General characters.— Size, small, tail medium about equaling body without head; third unicus-

pid smaller than the fourth. Color, - Upper localities in Oregon, Astoria Beaverton, Yaparts dark brown, varying to almost russet; quina Bay, Marshfield and Siskiyou, under parts ashy. Tail dusky above, pale below

Cranial and dental characters. - Skull normal, presenting no marked peculiarities and measuring about 17 mm, in greatest length by 8 mm. in greatest breadth, this being the smallest of the Northwest Shrews. Interpretygoid fossa, rather broad and short.

Measurements. - Average of 20 apecimens from Aberdeen, Wash. total length 103 mm.. tail vertebræ 43 mm., hind foot 12.3 mm.

Remarks, - Sorex bairdi is the common small shrew of the Northwest coast. Specimens were examined from the following localities in Oregon, Salem, Oregon City, Sheridan, Gold Beach, Port Orford, Florence and Fort Klamath.

SOREX BAIRDII, Sp nov.

General characters, - Size rather large; tail long; color dull brownish chestnut, Color, --Upper parts, dull dark chestnut brown, under parts, dull chestnut brown (similar to back but lacking the admixture of black-tipped hairs).

Tail bi-color; dark brown almost dusky above flesh color or pale buffy brownish below.

Cranial and dental characters. -Skull 20 mm, in length and 9 mm, in breadth.

First and second unicuspid very large and broad differing markedly from any known species.

Measurements. — Total length 129 mm. tail vertebræ 57 mm. hind foot 15.1 mm.

Geographical distribution, restricted so far as known to the coast near Astoria.

> SOREX TROWBRIDGII. Baird.

General characters, - Size rather large, tail long, ears conspiuous, color dark slate or sooty plumbeus, with no brownish or chestnut.

Color, - Upper parts blackish slate or sooty plumbeus. Tail sharply bicolor, blackish above whitish beneath; feet; flesh color.

Measurements. - Total length, 121 mm. Tail vertebræ 57.7 mm. Hind foot 13 mm.

Specimens were examined from the following

#### SOREX PACIFICUS, Baird.

General characters. - Size, largest of the long tailed shrews of the restricted genus Sorex.

Color, unique cinnamon rufus. Ears, conspicuous. Hind foot large. Tail about equal to body without head.

Color in snmmer, pelage uniform cinnamon rufus above and below; in winter, pelage everywhere darker, the upper parts darkened by dark-tipped hairs.

Measurements. — Total length 150 mm. Tail vertrebræ 63 mm, Hind foot 17 mm.

Specimens were examined from the following localities in Oregon, Yaquina Bay, Umpqua River, Marshfield and Myrtle Point,

#### SOREX (ATOPHYRAX) BENDIRII, Merriam.

General characters, - Size, large. Tail. long, coloration, uniform sooty or sooty-brown, sometimes paler below,

Color. - Dull sooty blumbeus changing in worn pelage to sooty brown, faintly paler on under parts. Tail, dusky all round.

Measurements. - Type specimen (measured from alcohol in good condition ). Total length 150 mm. Tail vertebræ 68 mm. Hind foot 20 mm. Of twenty-one specimnns examined only one (the type specimen) was from Oregon; it having been collected in Klamath Basin.

SOREX (ATOPHYRAX) BENDIRII PALMERI.

General characters. Similar to S bendirii, but larger, blacker, skull heavier.

Color. - Upper parts, glossy black changing gradually to sooty plumbeus on under parts. Tail dusky all round. The black of the upper parts is less pure on the head and shoulders than the brownish subapical part of the fur.

Measurements. — Total length 165 mm. Tail vertrebræ 73 mm. Hind foot 20 mm.

Only three specimens examined, one each from Astoria, Beaverton and Oregon City.

B, J. B.

#### SOMETHING ABOUT SAGE GROUSE. 2.05x1.47, 2.09x147, 2.03x1.47, 2.13x1.47

The Sage Hen, Sage Cock or Sage Grouse, as it is variously called, is truly the largest of the family known to exist in North America and comparatively little has been written about it. Its range includes the sage-bush covered regions of nearly all of the western states. In this locality and in fact the whole of Eastern Oregon, it is an abundant and a constant resident.

Among the sportsmen of this section this grouse is considered a favorite game bird, and by many, it is esteemed as excellent food; but, in the winter months the flesh is rank and unpalatable, owing to the sage leaves on which they feed during this season, which imparts an unpleasant flavor to it.

The food of this bird in summer is sage leaves various kinds of berries and insects, but they subsist entirely on sage leaves in the winter.

They may be found in large flocks during the winter, and until about the first of April, when they begin to pair and scatter out, building their nests about the last of the month.

This is a slight depression at the foot of a sage bush, lined with feathers from the breast of the bird, and sometimes a few grass stems. The nest is placed on the hillside. Instinct teaches it to build its nest in such a position as to command a good view of the approach of an enemy from any direction.

While nesting, this grouse is quite fearless. It sits so close that it will allow a person to approach within a few feet of it. Once while out hunting, I stepped within three feet of one before it took flight.

The number of eggs deposited is seven to fourteen of a greenish-buff color, speckled with reddish-brown spots, pretty evenly distributed over the entire surface.

In shape the eggs resemble those of the domestic fowl, in some a little more pointed, but averaging smaller. Before me lies a typical set of twelve taken by me May 10th, 1893, which exhibit the following measurements, 2.05X1.47, 2.09X147, 2.03X1.47, 2.13X1.47 1.98X1.47, 2.08X1.48, 2.09X1.45, 2.07X1.50 2.02X147, 2.08X 1.47, 2.06X147, 2.10X1.47.

During the season of incubation the females remain solitary; the males do not assist in these duties, but flock together, and remain thus until fall. when they are joined again by their mates.

About the last of May or the first of June, depending somewhat on the season, the young are hatched and leave the nest at once directed by the cluck of the mother bird, something after the manner of the domestic hen.

Sometimes one may find the old bird with a brood only a few days old, and at the cry of alarm, uttered by the mother bird, it is really surprising how quickly these little fellows can hide and it is almost impossible to find them, as their color so closely resembles that of the ground and the surrounding sage-bushes.

Their growth is so rapid, that by August they are as large as quail.

September has come and now is the time for the eager hunter, the grouse are in better condition for the table at this season, as they feed principally on partridge berries, which impart to the flesh a very delicate flavor.

As winter approaches again and the ground is covered with snow, they confine themselves to the sage-bushes on whose leaves they feed during the long dreary winter. The merciless storms are beating down upon them coupled with the piercing cold while this brave bird is anxiously awaiting the appearance of the warm days of spring, when he comes forth in search of a change of diet. He has not been fooled; he had faith in the change of seasons. Spring has opened at last, and with it came the verdure of sweet vegetation. Now he may be seen along with his industrious mate searching for a suitable place to build their nest and rear their young.

#### ROBERT. W. HAINES.

Baker City, Or.

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#### PALEOBOTANY.

#### AN HISTORICAL SKETCH.

It is only in our own times that Paleobotany, the study of ancient plants by means of the remains and imprints found in geological formations, has risen to the rank of a science. Even now it has not entered upon the full light of day, yet it has behind it a misty dawning of centuries of duration, a twilight in which earnest investigators have groped in a vain search after truth.

The first definite mention we have of vegetable petrifactions is in the **De Mineralibus** of Albertus Magnus in the thirteenth century, for strange to say the ancients, although acquainted with various other kinds of fossils and devising ingenious theories to account for their origin, have left us no mention of fossil plants. Considering the vast extent of Greek and Roman public works and the rich beds of fossil plants now found in what were once Roman territories it seems remarkable that the attention of thinking men was not earlier attracted to the remains of ancient vegetation.

Brongniart's explanation, that coal was not mined by the Greeks and Romans and that fossil plants were not studied until coal mines were opened applies only to carboniferous vegetation and fails to account for their inattention to the fossil plants found in the vast Roman mines and quarries. The true explanation is to be found in the artificial civilization which leads men to disregard natural phenomena until the multitude of new facts compel their attention.

The mention made by Albertus Magnus of petrified wood attracted no attention until Agricola repeatedly discussed the subject (De Re Metallica, 1546) and led other writers to take the matter up. Specimens were discovered at different places from time to time and described by various writers who urged fantastic theories to explain their origin and nature. Thus a new complication was added to the controversy which had been raging for centuries regarding fossils in general.

Aristotle's doctrine of spontaneous generation was revived and enlarged upon by some who declared that it was possible for stones to produce themselves in any form, while others, like Libavius, protested that fossils came from true germs or seeds.

A specimen was at length found in which one side was stone and the other coal and this excited great curiosity and gave Matthiolus a clue from which he elaborated a new theory. Wood, he said, changed into stone, and stone into coal, stone being the second and coal the third and final step in a systematic transformation.

A few incrustations and impressions of the folia organs of plants had been discovered and described without attracting especial notice. even among those who had given their attention to fossil wood, and the study of fossil plants as we understand it remained untouched until the close of the seventeenth century.

In 1699 Lhwyd published his! *Lithophylacii Britannici Ichnographia* in which he described and figured with marked fidelity a considerable number of fern leaves from the British coal measures. This publication opened all departments of paleontology to discussion and a peniod of research and great activity in this branch of study followed.

At that time men had not yet learned that the first steps in a new science must be the investigation of facts, and theory and speculation proceeded far more rapidly than the accumulation of material for study. One mystic view would be held for a time and then be replaced by another equally irrational and maintained by the slightest show of proof. The belief in a creative "stone spirit", an inherent tendency in all nature to turn to stone, vis lapidifica, and finally in an all pervading petrifying juice, succus petrificus, each had its adherents, while still others looked upon fossils as meaningless freaks of nature. The belief which gained widest credence was, however that of Comerarius (1712) who taught that when God created the the earth he made the fossils in its interior just as He made the plants and animals on its sur-Nor was the subject kept entirely out of face. the demonology of the time, for there were people

who chose to imagine that the devil, trying ito vian, including such obviously recent deposits imitate the living creations of God had succeeded only in making stone images of animate objects and had not the power of endowing them was so forcible that it carried conviction with with life.

Early in the eighteenth century all these crude and vague speculations were swept entirely away by the general acceptance of a hypothesis which had been quietly advanced from time to time far nearly two centuries. Thus the 'flood theory', that is the idea that all the plants and animals now found in the earth as fossils had lived upon its surface up to the Noachian deluge, and then had been tossed and floated about during that great cataclysm and had finally been covered with debris and left to be petrified by natural agencies where we now find them. A poor and fantastic theory indeed, but philosophically a great advance upon all former hypotheses, for, as Huxley says, it is easier for truth to make its way out of error than out of confusion.

Martin Luther in his commentary on the book of Genesis suggested that abundant evidences of the action of the deluge might still be found, and it was this hint that had finally turned speculation into the new channel.

· This?theory was highly elaborated and fortified by laborius arguments by Dr. John Woodward, a collector and student of fossils, in his great work published in London in 1695. According to his hypothesis the earth's crust had been broken up and dissolved at the time when "all the fountains of the great deep were broken up", and when the waters receded all this debris was deposited according to its specific gravity in strata containing organic remains as we now find them.

There arose soon after this another and still greater champion of the flood theory, Johann Jacob Scheuchzer, a man of rare ability, who had at his command all the learning of his time. He divided the history of the earth's crust into three periods: Prediluvian, including the minerals, supposed by him to constitute the solid parts of the globe; Diluvian, including all fossil bearing or stratified deposits; Posl-dilu-

as are left by certain streams.

His learning was great and his reasoning it, and he left the imprint of his genius upon the thought of his time. Investigators accepted his views without demur, vied with each other in their eagerness to find arguments and facts to sustain the position he had taken, and the dissenting voices were few and feeble indeed.

While it cleared away one set of difficulties and gave a new basis for research it called out a new set of problems, profounder and more difficult of solution than any propounded before. The most important of these were: Are these fossils the remains of plants of the same species as those now living on earth, and when did the vegetation thus preserved flourish?

The manner in which these topics were discussed appears inconceivable to us, but we must remember that Geology had not then become a science, and the densest ignorance preailed regarding the earth's crust. Science was made subordinate to an inspired cosmogony which declared that the earth was but a few thousand years old.

Scheuchzer asserted that fossils were the remains of ordinary plants and that their living representatives were still to be found on the surface in the same locality, and in his Herbarium diluvianum (1723) he attempted to arrange them according to the system of Tournefort. He determined the genera to which they belonged, to his own satisfaction, and even gave the species of some of them, Papulus nigra for example.

(Concluded in March.)

ANGUS GAINES,

Vincennes, Ind.

A STEEL BIRD'S NEST. - The "English Mechanic" says there is reported in the Museum of Natural History at Saleure, in Switzerland, a bird's nest made entirely of steel clock springs, which had been thrown away by the clockmakers.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

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A. B. AVERILL,	PORTLAND, ORE.
Dr. C. C. PURDUM,	BALTIMORE, MD.
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392 MORRISON ST. Portland, Oregon.

FEBRUARY, 1896.

#### N. O. A.

The work of the N. O. A. for April will be the study of the Dusky Grouse (Dendragapus obscurus) and Sooty Grouse (D. obscurus fuliginosus.)

All members are requested to send any information they have in regard to the above species to the president not later than April 20, 1896.

We desire to discover any difference in the habits of these birds and especially to

find in what regions each bird is found.

In order to accomplish this we must hear from the members in different parts of the state. No matter how small an item you have, send it in for it may be of some value.

W. L. FINLEY. 287 Fourth St. Portland, O.,

We would call attention of readers to the "ad" of Mr Ed A. Schloth in this issue, advertising South Sea Island Curios. We have had dealings with Mr. Schloth, and find him reliable in every respect.

#### THE DWARF HERMIT THRUSH.

While out collecting Jannary 18 1896, I secured a bird of this species. Is not this a rare occurence during winter? It was alone, in a heavy fir timbered spot, taking a bath in a small pool. Mr. Pope gives it as rare in summer. I am sure of its identity, and Mr. Peck of this place, also identified it as the dwart hermit thrush.

Salem, Or.

J. Earl Ludwick.

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THE MAINE SPORTSMAN says; Amos P. Abbot of Dexter, [[Me.] recently shot an albino partridge with feathers delicately tinted in pink.

#### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

#### CHAT.

F. V. Coville, Botanist to United States Department of Agriculture, in his admirable "Flora of the Death Valley Expedition," dwells upon a point incidently treated of by other authors, that apparently herbaceous plants in our "American deserts" have really underground trunks, after going to great depths into the earth.

In this way plants can live through the long drought with very little moisture. Mr. Coville also remarks upon the comparatively smaller foliage surface of the plants of these regions, large leaved plants being very rare. Out of forty-one specimens of woody plants the leaves of which were measured, only four had leaves of over the fifth of a square inch. Plants which in other parts of the world have berried pulpy fruits, have allied representatives here, bearing dry fruits. How these desert plants become co-related to the circumstances is a great question. Some contend that they gradually changed through the influence of many years of environment, while others contend, that the geological and geographical conditions, known under the general term environment, were not of gradual, but of sudden introductions, and that plants unsuited to these sudden changes would all have died before the change could have been effected. The great question of the origin of this peculiar desert flora will possibly be settled when more facts are brought to bear on the generalizations.

Now is the time to join the Oologists Association if you wish a definite and systematic plan to work on during the coming migrations, and collecting season.

Do not forget that you, by earnest work may make a discovery of importance to science.

#### WINTER BIRD LIFE IN SOUTHERN MASSACHUSETTS.

#### C. C. PURDUM.

#### (Continued from Page 10.)

In this article I shall only attempt to enumerate and give a few concise notes upon the rarer species of the water birds and with it bring to a close the discussion of the, 'Winter water birds", after a few papers upon 'General" and ''Field" ornithology, I will then return to the consideration of the ''Winter land birds" and present a few papers upon them, touching espeially food supply, time of migration, etc.

To resume then.

#### (133) Anas obscura, (602) BLACK DUCK.

Seen often in small numbers. Generally travel in pairs and frequent the large fresh-water ponds in the evening. Also found feeding over shallow ledges, etc. along the coast. Subsist upon both animal and vegetable life.

#### (140) Anas discors, (609) BLUE-WINGED TEAL.

Often seen on our fresh water ponds in small numbers. One flock generally remaining for some time upon the same body of water, but not nearly as abundant as,

#### (139) Anas carolinensis. (612) GREEN-WINGED TEAL.

These birds "used to be" very abundant here but my notes fail to disclose a record of any having been observed for the past two years.

(146) Aythia americana. (61-8)

#### RED-HEAD.

A few have been taken recently but older notes show a decided diminution in number during the past ten years.

#### (154) Clangula hyemalis. (623) OLD SQUAW.

Always seen in winter in great numbers, some flocks containing several hundred individuals.

The male is a gaudy bird and makes a very handsome figure, with his two long tail feathers. The flight is a series of quick zigzag movements, making them very difficult objects to shoot. They never alight at decoys although many times they will swing in over a "string" thus affording the gunner a fine shot. In the water they are as quick as when in the air and often succeed in avoiding destruction by 'shutting the door' or diving at the flash.

#### (160) Somateria Dresseri. (627) AMERICAN EIDER; ISLE OF SHOALS DUCKS.

Often seen in large flocks during the winter One of our most brightly colored months. birds and the great difference in the plumage of the male and female add additional interest to the birds. They are of large size, measuring about 24.50 inches in length. Their food consists entirely of mollusks which they swallow, shell and all, consequently the muscular walls are of great thickness and capable of doing a large amount of work. This spring I shot one from a flock flying by the decoys and upon dissection found a huge lump, measuring nearly two inches in diameter lodged in the intestine. Extensive adhesion had developed, but perforation of the gut had not taken place; from the extensive inflammation I should judge that it soon would have resulted. The mass was composed entirely of partially digested mussel (Mytilus) shells and the whole mass was deeply stained with bile. Despite this huge "tumor" the bird was flying swiftly along with the rest of the flock as if nothing whatever was the matter with it.

Among the few remaining water birds which remain or are observed with us in the winter are to be mentioned as usual occurences:

American Golden-eye, - (Glaucionetta clangula americana) has been observed in fairly abundant numbers, but not lately.

Harlequin Duck, (Histrionicus histrionicus). One shot by Mr. V. N. Edwards during the winter of '93-4. Velvet Scoter, (Oidema fusca) often observed but not abundant. Whitewinged Scoter, (Oidemia deglandi) observed in small numbers during the winter, but very abundant about the first part of May when they pass along the coast in large flocks, from their feeding grounds, northward. The Surf Scoter, (Oidemia perspicillata) is often observed in small numbers, as is also the Ruddy Duck, (Erismatura rubida). A few flocks and scattered individuals of the Canada Goose, (Branta canadensis) and large numbers of the common Brant, (Branta bernicla) and often a few Black Brant (Branta nigricans).

But, by this time the winter has been fast disappearing, and some frosty morning while the air still shows traces of the icy touch of the fingers of winter; while you are setting your decoys to have a last morning's sport with the spring Mergansers, suddenly with the breaking dawn overhead, you hear a hoarse "Quawk" and high up, in the dim light there moves laboriously along a black-crowned night heron, heralding the approach of spring which soon bring to a close the study of "Winter Bird Life in Southern Massachusetts,"

THE END.

#### A FEW NOTES ON MIGRATION IN EASTERN MASSACHUSETTS.

Bird migration undoubtedly arises from a source of direct instinct which each individual has inherited from its predecessors. Love of the nesting ground probably constitutes part of the object in the movement, but birds as well as other forms of life have an irresistable impulse to migrate at certain seasons of the year.

When one considers the family *Sylvicolida*, or warblers, of which a few species extend their

flight hundreds of miles south of the equator. The natural theory suggested is the failure of the food supply or the changing conditions of the weather. Birds are not at all punctual in their arrival until the middle of April, as the earlier visitants are generally those that pass their winter in the states. The song sparrow is undoubtedly the first spring visitant although it often passes its winter here in Massachusetts. The following, uppear in order as the vernal tide increases, including the bluebird robin, phoebe and golden-winged woodpecker. The meadow-lark might also be placed in the above list. The blackbirds passing the winter throughout the Southern States make their appearance in March, the red-wing, crow, rusty, bronzed grackle and cow-bunting representing the family. The swallow tribe appears in New England by April 15th, one species, the whitebellied, often by the first of the month. The purple martin enters the United States early in February and speeding northward, arrives in Ohio by March 20th and New England by April 15th The cliff or eave swallow is a bird of wide range, extending its summer sojourn to the Artic shores and its winter rambles to Southern Mexico. The thrushes spend their winter in the tropics. The hermit arrives in New England from the swamps and everglades of the Gulf States in April; within a month he passes onward to the deep primeval forests of New Brunswick and Nova Scotia, where it breeds,

The brown thrush appears by April 25th.

Of the family of warblers, the vellow-rump is umdoubtedly the first to arrive, quickly followed by the pine-creeping, while the snow still lingers in unsheltered localities. The former winters along the Atlantic coast from Massachusetts to the West Indies, migrating with the red-poll. Nearly all of the family sing in passing.

The Baltimore oriole and rose-breusted grosbeak enter the United States in March and arrive in New England by May 10th, taking their man, increased function develops its special journey northwards very leisurely.

The chimney swift arrives by the 20th of the same month and the kingbird by the first.

#### EVOLUTION AND DISEASE.

#### (Continued from Page 12.)

It is well established that the increased use of a part, tends to enlarge and to strengthen it. That disease on the other hand often leads to its diminution and enfeeblement. Structural modifications thus are indeed inherited.

The truth of the first part of this statement may be demonstrated by a simple experiment. Let the arm of a healthy person, be firmly strapped for several consecutive days upon a splint, in a few days the muscles will be softer than usual and actual measurements will show that the limb has diminished in size. Allow the arm to resume its function; the lost ground will be quickly recovered.

When a young and vigorous person has the misfortune to lose a limb, the remaining arm or leg being used for all purposes, will rapidly increase in size and strength. The same facts may be observed in dogs and cats who have lost a limb or a part of a limb.

A woman in the Baltimore City Hospital had her great toe amputated, three months ago, the wound having entirely healed, the second toe has enlarged and stands out from its fellows. in such a way as to resemble in size and general apperance the lost toe-indeed when the foot was exhibited to a class of students this large second toe was mistaken for the hallux. This observation is of interest, the large size of the first toe and the great development of its muscles are owing to the greater use and importance of the hallux in mammals which mantain an erect position when walking upon the ground as in man, or climbing trees as in monkeys. Humphreys, in reference to the large developement of this toe, says "Man literally stands in the animal world on his great toe".

The same remarks apply to the thumb in muscles, thickens the bone and toughens the nail.

In man we may attribute the disproportion C. B. HADLEY, Arlington Heights, Mass. of the hallux and pollex, in comparison with the neighboring digits, to inheritance through a long line of ancestors of gradual increments of size, induced by excessive use.

Such gradual enlargement of a digit and its hereditary tendency or transmission may be demonstrated in Equidæ. The modern horse walks upon the greatly enlarged third digit of the hand and foot respectively, the hoof representing the nail. Hidden in the tissues on each side of this functional toe we find vestiges of the second and fourth. These are familiar to veterinarians as the splint bones

(To be continued)

C. C. PURDUM.

#### A RELIC OF THE PIONEERS.

Last summer a curious relic was unearthed in the central part of the city of Vincennes, Indiana. This was a Crusader's sword, two edged, cross hilted, brass mounted and ivory handled. It was found about 18 inches below the surface in a spot which as the "oldest inhabitant" well remembers, was once a pond. The blade was badly eaten by rust, the brass mountings were awry, and the ivory was yellow and crumbling.

This dilapidated weapon became the subject of much speculation, and newspaper correspondents united in declarlng that the gaps rusted in the edges of the blade were the marks of some deadly encounter.

When General George Rogers Clark was commander at Vincennes, Virginia, whose territory this whole region then was, did not give him adequate financial support, and he often spoke bitterly of his state. It is said that when Virginia presented the general with a sword of honor he threw the weapon away exclaiming: "I asked Virginia for bread and she gave me a sword!"

Powerful imaginations have proclaimed this

to be that identical sword. It is possible however; that it may have a still greater antiquity for it is quite different from the swords usually carried by the colonists during the Revolution.

When the French pioneers descended the Wabash and founded a settlement at this place, not in 1702, as is absurdly stated by a ridiculous tablet in the facade of our county courthouse but over 30 years later, they built a fort near the river, just below the Piankeshaw Miami town of Chippecoke.

After the close of the French and Indian war the great chief, Pontiac, continued hostilities making Vincennes the base of his operations.

Vincennes, or Au Poste, as it was then called, did not come into the possession of the British until 1765, when the fort was rebuilt and christened Fort Suckville. Fort Sackville was a primitive, quadrangular affair, 40 feet back from the river bank. It was furnished with a large magazine, which was probably always empty. and afforded quarters for 1000 men who certainly never materialized.

This fort was twice captured by General Clark, once by intrigue and once by a desperate game of bluff, and the British general, Hamilton, who had made it his headquarters when paying rewards for colonists' scalps, was taken to Virginia a prisoner.

After that the history of the fort was of a very pacific description and the "oldest inhabitant" is silent regarding its ultimate fate and the final destiny of the 6 and 10-pounders that defended it.

It was near the place where the eastern wall of the fort, an eight-foot wall of earth and a double row of 20-feet high palisades, had once stood that the relic was found.

ANGUS GAINES.

## SOUTH SE ISLAND CURIOS

There has lately been placed in my hands for sale a private collection of curios from the South Sea Islands for disposal. These articles will be found the finest ever offered for sale, and are the cream of a large San Francisco collection recently broker There are also included some fine up. Sioux and Arctic curios. You may never have a chance again to obtain articles such as these. Order them while you can get them. Send registered letter or postal order.

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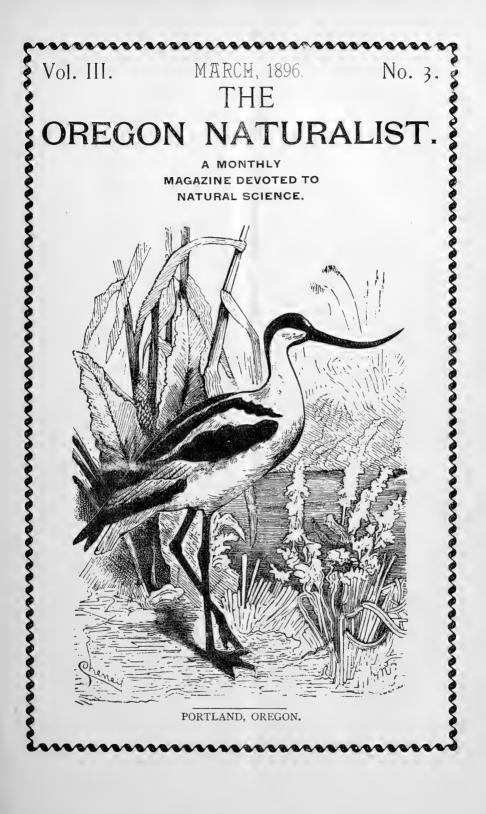
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  - " " Marsh Hawk. ,, 22
  - " " Swainson's Hawk. •• ,,
  - " " Red-head Duck. 22 ,,
  - " Lark Bunting. •• ... ...
  - • " Prairie Horned Lark. ,, ,,
  - •• ,, ,, " McCown's Longspur. [2 views]
  - ,, " " " Burrowing Owls. [2 views]
  - ,, " Chestnut-collared Longspur. ,, ...
- Nest of Long-b lled Marsh Wren.

  - Brown Thrush. 22 • \*
  - Parkman's Wren, ,,
  - Yellow-headed Blackbird.
- Double nest of Yellow Warbler.

Young Cowbird in Yellow Waobler's nest Bartram's Sandpipers.

- ,, Swainson's Hawk. [wings spread.]
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#### A FEW BARGAINS.

100 var. good Foreign Stamps,	.15
I Confederate Bill, genuine,	.10
I Old Bank Bill,	.10
I State Bank Bill,	.05
3 Var. of Old Bills,	.15
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#### OREGON NATURALIST THE

PORTLAND, OREGON, MARCH, 1896. VOL. III. No. 3

#### NOTES ON A NEW ALKALI MINERAL.

Mr. C. H. Northup, of San Jose, [Cal.] as in chiastolite. while searching at Borax Lake, California, for the new species sulphohalite, yellow and greenish gray to dark brown: discovered small crystals of what he con- the lighter colored crystals closely resemble sidered to be a new form of that mineral senarmontite, Cleavage is imperfect. and is described in the Mineral Collector, is brittle and shows - uneven fracture. as follows:

Crystallization, etc.-The regular octahedrons, Hardness 3.5 to 4. crystallizes in whose diameter rarely reach one centi- Chemical examination.-In powdering meter. They occasionally exhibit triang- the mineral a fetid odor is distinctly perular markings and a habit of parallel ceptible. It is easily fusible before the grouping in more or less regular aggre- blowpipe; in the closed tube it blackens gates. Fractured crystals show in the and gives off a burnt odor with violent interior a cross of faint lines running per- decrepitation and liberation of water pendicularly to the crystal faces. These (which subsequently proved to be meare divided by darker planes lying parallel chanically included,) finally fusing to a to cubic symmetry, and passing through gray mass. Boiling water effects partial the angles of the octahedron, dividing it decomposition of the powdered mineral, into eight parts. The same thing is with separation of a bulky white residue. noticeable in the clearest of the complete consisting mainly of basic carbonate of crystals, a bundle of striæ coming from magnesia. It is decomposed with efferythe center of the crystal to the center of escence in cold dilute hydrochloric acid. each face with the dividing planes clearly with slight residue insoluble. visible. This phenomenon is strikingly A careful qualitative analysis of crystal similar to that observed in cubes of boleite fragments showed it to consist essentially

mimetical pyrite, Bologna, 1803.) The markings in the present instance are probably due to inclusion of organic matter,

The color varies from dirty white, pale It Luster, vitreous on broken surfaces, ocmineral casionally bright on crystal planes.

(figured by Bombicci in a memoir on of sodium, magnesium, hydrochloric and

carbonic acids, indicating a double chloride and carbonate of sodium and magnesium. Traces of phosphoric acid, silica, iron, calcium and organic matter were also found. This composition is quite as remarkable as that of other species peculiar to the Borax Lake region.

The name "Northupite" is proposed for this new species, since it was entirely due to Mr. Northup's indefatigable zeal in collecting that the mineral was brought to light. The entire find was forwarded to Dr. A. E. Foote, of Philadelphia.

#### PALEOBOTANY.

#### AN HISTORICAL SKETCH.

(Continued from Page 23.)

In 1706 Leibnitz called attention to the presence in Germany of what he thought to be the fossils of Indian plants, and in 1718 the celebrated Antoine de Jussieu, published a monograph upon the carboniferous flora of St. Chaumont, discussing the features wherein it differed from the indigenous flora of to-day, and resembles that of the tropies. Thenceforth the theory that fossil plants were the remains of exotic forms, was frequently advanced, and was given its final shape by Walch who pointed out that the living floras of France, Germany and England were very dissimilar while their fossil floras were substantially the same. This he thought could only be explained by assuming that the fossil floras were all brought from the There were fossils, to be tropics together. sure, in which he could find no resembance to living plants, but he was helped over this difficulty by the assumption that their congeners must still be living in the unexplored tropics.

When it was supposed to be fully demonstrated that the fossil plants had grown in the tropics, it was assumed quite as a matter of course, that they had been transported by the flood to their final resting places.

Volkmann, in his *Silesia subterranea*, gave a new complication to the question by advancing the degeneration theory. He thought that antediluvian vegetation was of a much higher order than that of to-day, that plants had been degenerating and wholesome, fruitbearing trees had been changed into thorns, thistles and other familiar pests. Ideas like these became common, and even the great Buffon believed that retrogressive atavism had [taken place in both animals and plants.

Still another theory began finally to take shape. This was that a considerable [number of species both of animal and plants had been utterly exterminated by the flood. [][The fossil flora was supposed to contain the forms once indigenous to Europe, but wh ch were destroyed, leaving no living representatives. In this way they also explained the presence of a fossil vegetation on desert islands destitute of living plants.

Vague theories and speculations, however, gave way before the growing mass of facts and at last it ceased to be possible to check investigation by an authoritative allusion to the literal six days of Moses. The principles of deposition and stratigraphy were beginning to be understood. Geology was fast becoming a real science and about the close of the eighteenth century the sound views of Blumenbach prevailed, and the real dawn of Paleobotany marked the beginning of the nineteenth.

The diluvian theory, as we have seen was the prevailing one throughout the eighteenth century. It was thought to be the only one by which the teachings of nature could be reconciled with those of revelation, and to question, its correctness was equivalent to discrediting revealed religion. Yet all this time knowledge was increasing and a great store of facts were accumulating which demanded a more rational explanation and forced a revolution in human thought. A great advance upon the mysticism which preceded it, the theory had outlived its usefulness, and had become a barrier in the way of intellectual progress when Blumenbach overturned the tottering ruin and opened the way 'for the 'modern science' of The first work to bear strictly modern ap-Paleontology.

study of animals, but he was closely followed portion of this work was devoted to animal by Schlotheim, who began his scientific career remains, but the plants mentioned were arin 1801 by publishing his "Treatise on Vege- ranged in families, genera and species accordtable Impressions in the Tile Clay and Sand- ing to the binomial system of classification of stone of the Carboniferous Deposits." ("Ab- Linnaeus, handlung uber die Krauter - Abdrucke in Schiefethon und Sandstein der Steinkohlen Steinhauer, laid the foundation of Paleobotany Formation.") his "Description of Remarkable Plant Impress- literally, for although the Rev. Henry Steinions and Petrifications of Plant, a Contribu- hauer resided at that time in Bethelehem, Pa., tion to the Flora of the Primeval World," and his paper, "On Fossil Reliquia of Un-(Flora der Vorwelt.)

well drawn figures of carboniferous plants, giv- osophical Society," he confined himself almost ing us the most rational and comprehensive exclusively to the discussion of the fossils of account of fossil plants published up to that the British Isles, where he appears to have date, and constituting the first really scientific spent most of his life. work on Paleobotany.

the primeval world" (Flora der Vorwelt.) Granger's "Notice of Vegetable Impressions declaring his belief that fossils "were the re- on the rocks connected with the coal formation mains of an earlier, so called preadamite cre- of Zanesville, Ohio." ation, the originals of which are now no longer Science, 1821,) to be found." Almost all later German works Corda, the eminent Bohemian Paleobotanist on Palebotany have borrowed this title and was sent to Texas in 1847 to collect scientific

gan with the 'century. England, although down in the middle of the Atlantic and the slower to throw off the shackles of current scientist, was lost with his collections and the fallacies, began to do her share of the labor of results of his studies. research, and in 1804 there appeared a great Sir J. W. Dawson, who was born in Pictou, work on "Organic Remains of a Former Nova Scotia, in 1820, has given us the larger World," by Dr. James Parkinson, Parkinson was a very learned man, and was vegetable remains of Canada and the British assisted by the distinguished botanist Dr. Northwest. His very volumenous works are James Edward Smith of the Linnaean Society. accurate and painstaking. Their value is uni-Together they studied and compared all the versally rocognized, and well deserved honors specimens obtainable, and their work was a have been heaped upon him. compendium of the knowledge of their time, yet Heer, the Swiss Botanist and Entomologist, they were unwilling to adopt the modern united with his many other scientific pursuits modes of thought but "conjectured" that fossil the study of the fossil floras of many lands and plants "were all foreign, and productions of a wrote a work on the "Fossil Plants of the warm climate ''

pearance was Schlotheim's "Petrefactenkunde" Blumenbach confined himself chiefly to the which appeared in 1820. By far the larger

It is frequently said that in this same year This was soon followed by in America. This is scarcely to be taken known Vegetables in the Coal Strata" ap-These works were copiously illustrated by peared in the "Transactions of the Am, Phil-

The work which marked the beginning of Schlotheim defended the expression "Flora of the study of American deposits was Ebenezer (Am. Jour. of

appear, as "Beitrage zur Flora der Vorwelt." material. He remained there two years, but A period of great activity in Paleobotany be- the vessel on which he was returning went

Dr. part of the information we possess regarding the

Lower Cretaceous Beds of Kansas and Ne-

braska," and also figured the "Phyllites Cretacees du Nebraska," collected by Marcou and Capellini. Sir Charles Bunbury confined his labors mainly to other lands, yet he elaborated the material collected in America by Lyell and Dawson.

Leo Lesquereux, who like Agassiz and Guyot, abandoned his native Switzerland for America, has studied the Carboniferous, Cretaceous and Tertiary floras over wide areas in the United States and has probably done more than any other one man to diffuse a knowledge of the vegetation of former epochs.

Dr. John Strong Newberry, of the School of Mines, Columbia College, N. Y. began his scientific career as a member of the Ives Exploring Expedition, and at once gained a reputation as a Paleontologist. He is the author of many excellent works on the extinct floras of North America, several of which have been published by the U. S. Geogical Survey.

This hurried sketch is merely a brief and imperfect outline of the progress of the knowledge of fossil plants, as it emerged from mysticism and rose to the great science of Paleobotany. The writer has sought merely to show the various stages in the growth of the science, and has not tried to mention the names of all the great workers in this field, and of course has not touched upon the labors of the host of great investigators of to-day.

ANGUS GAINES.

#### IMPORTED AND ACCLIMATED GER-MAN SONG BIRDS IN OREGON.

By C. F. Pfluger, Sec'y of the Society of the Introduction of useful song-birds into Oregon, at Portland.

#### THE CROSSBILL (Loxia Pytiopsittacus. Der Kreuzschnabel.)

Of these song birds 20 pairs were introduced into Oregon by the Society in 1889.

of which the tail measures 21/2 inches. The amateurs the Crossbill's crow; they are very

beak is almost one inch long, blackish, very thick and bent crosswise at the point the upper mandible bending downwards, and the lower mandible upwards, cross each other; hence arises the name of the bird. The general hue of most males, is vermillion mixed with brown, and varying in shade on different parts of the body. The neck, breast and rump, are a purer red, the wing and tail feathers dark grey, with black shafts. This bird also like some others, appears to vary in colour according to its age. The female is dark grey, tinged on the back with olive green; the rump is a lighter green; the belly and vent, whitish.

This bird is a native of Germany. It frequents fir and pine woods. If not, seen in summer, the traces which they leave behind them in winter, in the fir and pine cones lying stripped of their seed beneath the trees, are unmistakeable. They sit very still, and eat nearly the whole day, and only when hopping from tree to tree do they utter a harsh call, "Gep, gep, gep!" They are generally seen in rarties of from twelve to twenty-four. They are not at all shy, nor will a flock of them disperse even if fired at.

Its food, chiefly consists of fir seeds, which it partly extracts from the scales of the cones with its bill, and partly collect from the ground. It also eats the seeds of the pine and alder.

Its time of incubation is the most remarkable of its peculiarities, for it breeds between December and April. It builds its nest in the upper branches of coniferous trees, of thin pine or fir twigs, on which is placed a thick layer of earth moss, lined within with the finest coral moss. The female lays three to five greyish white eggs, having at the thick end a circle of reddish brown stripes and spots. The heating nature of their food preserves both old and young from the effects of the winter's cold. They feed their young with food disgorged from their own crops. The Crossbill uses its bill and feet for purposes of locomotion, like This remarkable bird, which is about the the Parrot. The males often utter the ringing size of a Bullfinch is about 61/2 inche in length, note like "Reitz," or "Kreitz," called by

constant singers, and their song is not unpleas- spring and autumn. ant in low but very agreeable notes.

### Die Wachtel.)

the Society in 1889, they were turned loose in cry, however which is very peculiar, is its chief the Waldo Hills in Marion County. This bird recommendation. In pairing time it consists in appearance almost like the Bobwhite, is of the syllables: Verra, verra! very softly utlittle more than 7 inches in length. The beak tered, followed by Pikvervik, pikvervik! reis short; blackish brown in summer, grayish in peated with a loud voice, closed eyes, and a winter and resembling in form that of the continued nodding of the head. The more a Partridge; the iris is olive brown the feet a bird utters the former of these words, the whitish flesh colour. The upper part of the less does he pronounce the latter; and a body is spotted with blackish brown and rust Quail which repeats Pikvervik! ten or a dozen color, with a few small white stripes; the throat times, is highly prized. As the call is chiefly blackish brown, and encircled by a double heard in harvest time, the peasants in Germany streak of chestnut brown. The lower part of interpret it into Bueck den Rueck! (Bend the the neck and breast are pale rust color, marked Back) and consider it as an exhortation to by indistinct longitudinal stripes; the belly industry, The song of the female is merely dingy white; the shanks reddish grey; the wing Verra, verra! and in pairing time Peu, peu! feathers dark grey, crossed by narrow streaks Peupeu! when discontented or alarmed, they of rust color. The tail is dark brown, with utter the syllables Ghillah, and when pleased, transverse stripes of rust color and white, and a sound like the purring of a cat. very short. The female may be distinguished by the fact that the throat is white, and the soon after Christmas, and continue to do so breast like that of a Thrush, spotted with black. till September.

This Quail which is a native of the old country, is a bird of passage; arriving in Germany in May, and departing about the end of September. It chiefly frequents the fields of grain; and especially those of autumn-sown wheat.

hole scratched in the ground, and lined with a servation. The idol is carved out of lava, is 21 few straws or grass stalks. The female does inches high; widest breadth across the face, not lay her eggs, which are 10 to 14 in number, 121/2 inches; the face and neck is 16 inches and bluish white with large brown spots till and the bust 5 inches long. The carving prelate in the year, often not till July; the brood serves true lines, and the whole figure reminds is hatched in three weeks, and the young birds one of Phoenician handwork, as recently unrun about with their mother before they are covered in portions of Central America. fledged, though this takes place before the bust carving, in defining the arms, makes a autumn migration. The males are exceed- nearly perfect keystone of the base, with a ingly ardent.

grain; for example, wheat, millet, rape, hemp inches in the thickest part, but a portion of the and poppy seeds. It feeds also on green back has been broken off, probably struck by plants. It moults' twice a year, namely in a plow share .- Exch.

This Quail is a clean and lively bird; and THE SINGING QUAIL (Tetras Coturnix, creates amusement by the singular manner in which it walks on tiptoe, with outstretched Of these birds 5 pairs were introduced by neck, and continually nodding its head. Its

In confinement, the male will begin to sing

#### A WELL-PRESERVED IDOL.

According to the Nooksack Reporter, an idol has been discovered on Dr. Thompson's The only nest formed by this Quail, is a ranch, near Nooksack, in a good state of pre-The smaller one on the breast. No hieroglyphics Their food consists of all kinds of, seed and are visible. The block has been about seven

#### THE ELK'S SENTINEL.

## OF THE OLYMPICS.

were described as the last tract of unex- uals being found that are nearly black, plored land within the United States, and while some are gray, But the predominthe same statement holds good today, for, ating color is tawny rufous, generally although a few parties have crossed the blotched with black and gray. range from east to west, no one has yet pelage is composed largely of hair, and traversed the entire distance from the Sko- the fur is so short and poor as to render komish river to Cape Flattery, and even the hide of no commercial value. the location of the largest peaks-Olympus and Constance-is to a great extent un- in the Cascade range, but not decided.

As a game region, the Olympics have dwells in large colonies, gained a world-wide reputation, and a numbering over 100 individuals. goodly number of dollars are annually As the weary traveler toils laboriously spent by hunting parties in attempts to up the mountain trail his progress is sudpenetrate into the interior of the well- denly arrested by the sound of a long, known Jupiterhills, where the cow elk clear whistle, floating down the canyon. raises her calf in security; the she bear, The sound is so human that unless he has guards her cubs against the attacks of heard it before he instinctively answers of the gaunt gray wolf, and the doe with it, thinking it to be the call of a comrade. fawn flees to a higher altitude for security The cry is repeated at short intervals, unwhen she hears the warning cry of that til the traveler approaches too near the guardian of the gorge, the whistling mar- warren, when it suddenly stops, and all mot (Arctomys caligatus). The whistling is as still as the grave, and nothing is to marmot is the largest of American rodents, be seen to indicate the animal's presence being equaled in size only by the beaver. except the few holes among the rocks. The marmots are thick-set animals, It is this cry that gives the animal its weighing, when full grown, from forty to name, and so peculiar is the call that, sixty pounds, and measuring overall from once heard, it is never forgotten, and twenty-six to thirty inches, with a short, bushy tail of about eight inches in length. The head is broad and massive, and rests on the powerful shoulders with hardly an apology for a neck. The fore limbs are short, thick, five-toed, and armed with

strong claws for digging. Like all the other members of this family, they are HABITS OF THE WHISTLING MARMOT provided with powerful gnawing teeth. which can bite through a shoe-lace or an alpine staff, as the case required. In Five years ago the Olympic mountains color the animal is very variable, individ-The

> This species of marmot is also met with SO numerously as in the Olympics, where it sometimes

> several times when making inquiries of Indians as to whether the animal inhabited their locality the writer has had recourse to imitating it, when the Indian would recognize the animal desired at once.

These rodents choose their homes in

commonly known as elk meadows, which agricultural purposes; therefore it is safe are located close to the line of perpetual to say that they will never be looked upon snow. Here they excavate deep burrows as a farm pest. This, unfortunately, of considerable extent, in which they live, cannot be said of their next of kin, the the entrance in some cases being con- woodchuck (Arctomys monax). cealed by a large boulder or other natural protection, but oftener being plain to be mountains is of a dirty slate color, and seen. In the selection of their food they about one-half the size of the whistler. are strictly vegetarian; their chief diet be- It inhabits the same regions, but also de ing grass and stalks of alpine plants. scends and makes its home along the A peculiarity of these animals is that they headwaters of the mountain streams. Its spend nearly eight months of each year diet is the same as that of the whistler, in their underground dwellings, and a but it prefers for its dwelling place a considerable part of the time is passed in grassy meadow, where rocks are not so hibernation. In May the young, four or plentiful, and it does not live in colonies. six in number, are born in the burrows, The cry of the woodchuck resembles a and about the first of June the paren's weak, poor imitation of the whistler, but appear active above ground, even if the as the animal is shy and dodges into its snow has not yet gone off. At first they hole on the approach of danger, instead of turn their attention to a general house- warning its comrades, as does its larger cleaning, and all the old remnants of relative, it is not so often heard. The cry grass and other food that has been left of the whistling marmot is a danger over from the last winter's supply is signal, but the woodchuck's cry is a call thrown out of the mouth of the burrows. to its mate, and is only heard when every-Then comes a short period of fun and thing is still and no danger apprehended. end of September the marmots hole up for head. the winter, which commences about that dwell. The regions in which the whist- pretty evenly distributed throughout the

the grassy glades of the higher ranges, lers live are too high to be of use for

The woodchuck of of the Olympic frolic, during which time the young of the In habits and life history the woodchuck previous year choose their partners, and resembles the whistler so closely as to build, or more literally, dig their homes, render its needless to describe it further, for only one family live together in a bur- except in one respect, which is the slight row. By this time the alpine herbage on proclivity of the woodchuck to climb which they live is well grown, and these small trees. These are the only true busy little workers commence to gather marmots found in the Olympic range, but large quantities for winter use, first care- the next species is so nearly related to fully drying it in the sun. and then carry- them and so far removed from any other ing it into their burrows. Toward the genius as to be treated under the same

The mountain boomer (Aplodon rufus), time in the high altitudes at which they also known as the mountain beaver, is

ington, but its range is restricted to these really very slight relationship to Castor two states. This wonderful little animal, fiber. It should be of especial interest to whose industry surpasses that of the residents of Washington and Oregon, for beaver, was first discovered by Lewis and it is found only in these two states, and Clark on their expedition to the Pacific in it has no counterpart in the fauna of the 1804, but it attracted little attention until world. brought more prominently to notice by The sewellels live in large colonies, Dr. C. Hart Merriam in 1885, and its ex- often covering three or four acres. They act distribution has yet be defined. This are more industrious than the two species animal was known to the aborigines for described, and in their workings show a ages back by the name of "showtl" or great similarity to the gophers, not only "sewellel," and by them held in super- excavating burrows in which they dwell stitious regard, their belief being that by like the marmots, but also runways underits constant excavations and incessant ground, of great extent, in which they labor it had dug out the valleys and built travel from one burrow to another. the mountains of the universe; but commercial enterprise has taken the place of winter store of dry grass in the same mytholology, and the siwash of today manner as the marmots, but in localities recognizes but the fact that the hide of where little or no snow falls they rely for the sewellel is worth "tenas dollar," food in the winter months on evergreen which is willingly paid by his new found shrubs, roots and ferns. They remain friend, John Chinaman. The mountain active all winter, and do not hibernate, beaver, as it is most commonly called, is but reach their food by tunnels through a heavy-set, sturdy little fellow of mar- the snow when necessary. mot-like appearance, measuring over all These animals, in spite of their clumsy about twelve inches. The limbs are appearance, are fairly active climbers, short, powerful and five-toed, each toe and ascend small shrubs to a height of being armed with a strong claw. The four or five feet in order to obtain the eyes are very small and deep set, and the young shoots and leaves. place where the tail ought to be is indicated by a tuft of extra long hairs, but naked trap set in their runway, and therethe tall is conspicuous by its absence, giv- fore they disappear rapidly before the aping the animal a decidedly incomplete ap- proach of settlers, but were it not so they pearance. This rodent is found in suit- might do considerable damage to the able localities, from the highest altitudes farmers, several instances having come down to nearly the ocean beach. Its to the writer's notice of their having defondness for damp or swampy ground, stroved fine rose trees. together with the color of the fur and general appearance, have given rise to its in Post-Intelligencer.

mountain ranges of Oregon and Wash- name of mountain beaver, but it has

In high altitudes the sewellels lav in a

Sewellels are easily caught with a

BERNARD J. BRETHERTON.

#### THE NORTHWESTERN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized Dec. 28th, 1804, Object-to advance the science of Ornithology in the Northwest. President; William L. Finley. 287 4th, St., Portland, Or., Secretary; Arthur L. Pope, McMinnville, Or.,

Any person interested in Ornithology, residing in the Northwest, may become an active member.

Any person interested in Ornithology may become an associate member.

The membership fee shall be fifty cents: this shall cover all dues to the first of January, after initiation.

The OREGON NATURALIST, shall be sent free to all members.

Applications for membership should be sent to the Secretary.

The work for the N. O. A., for April will be the study of the Dusky Grouse, (Dendragapus Obscurus) and Sooty Grouse, (D. obscurus fuliginosus.) Any items on the above species should be sent to the Pres. not later than Apr. 20th.

The study for May will be on the Oregon Ruffed Grouse(B. Umbellus Sabini), and Sage Grouse (C. Urophasianus). All members should send in their observations on these birds not later than May, 20th,

The regular monthly meeting of the Portland Annex, of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, was held on Feb., 22d, to discuss and I have every reason to believe that they the subject under consideration of the Association.

A fair number were present and a very successful meeting was held. The work for son, of Portland, imported 25 birds.

last month was the "Bob-white," in Oregon. Mr. Henry Hoskins, of Newberg, conducted the work for the month. The following article, written by him was read and discussed, and proved to be interesting, and was appreciated by those present.

#### THE BOB-WHITE IN OREGON.

Several attempts have been made to introduce the Bob-white into this state, but all have been more or less unsuccessful. However, at the present time there are a great many scattered throughout the Willaamette Valley.

In the spring of 1890, I saw my first wild Bob-white, in Oregon. I do not remember the exact date, but I think it was sometime in May. They were in pairs, and it is quite probable that they had nests at the time. This was about six or seven miles south of Dayton, on the road to Wheatland. I saw several pair, and I supposed that they had either been introduced for some time and become quite common, or several birds had been They appeared to be liberated near there. quite tame and would let me approach within a few feet of them. It is possible that these were some of the original birds and had become tame during their confinement.

About the last of June, 1892, a male Bobwhite, was seen and heard as he stood on top of a fence giving at intervals his clear whistling notes. This one seemed to be the only one in the vicinity at the time, and from what I heard from others I think it came from the south, and was slowly making its way northward. It remained near here for a day or two and then disappeared.

The next spring there were several seen and heard near here. Last year they were quite common during the whole spring and summer, nested near here, but I was not so fortunate as to find one.

A little over a year ago Mr. D., P. Thomp-In answer to inquiries, Mr. Thompson writes: "About one year ago I had twenty-five Bobwhite Quails sent me from Omaha. They reached me in good condition. I kept them in a house I had on my farm, until in February, I turned them out in a small park I have on my farm. I never saw nor heard of them The experience of raising the afterwards. 'Bob-white,' has been a failure in Oregon and Washington. Several attempts have been made, but the result in most cases have been similar to mine. The Bob-white, roosts near the ground, and it is believed it is the victim of minks, weasels, rats and other small destructive animals with which our Oregon and Washington woods are filled."

Mr. Thompson's belief that many of these birds are destroyed by small rodents is probably not incorrect, and no doubt this is the main reason why they do not increase more rapidly. At least it does not seem that their scarcity could be attributed to the lack of the climate to meet their requirements.

I am informed that several pair were liberated along the Columbia river, and from there they have spread south until they have reached the suburbs of Portiand, in considerable numbers.

found in Yamhill county, and that was de- President. Mr. Howe, writes that; "In 1893, stroyed before the set was complete. I know Mr. Chas. E. Ladd and myself purchased six very little about the nesting habits of the Bob- dozen Bob-whites, in Wichita, Kansas, and white, except what I have read. Therefore I had them shipped by express, to my residence, cannot perhaps do better than to quote from an at Carleton. The birds came through in article in a recent number of the "Oologist": poor condition, one dozen having died upon "The nest of the Quail is very easy to find, as the way. they build on the ground. It is usually a hollow, scratched in the ground, well lined with a very high ceiling, putting fir brush and arched over with grass; with an entrance on the floor to make a covering for them at one side. \*\*\* Their nests with fresh eggs and kept them there until the snow had may be found from April to July, and one of entirely disappeared. I finally liberated 52 their favorite places to build, is in the ridge of strong birds, some of which were liberated an old road, where the grass has been left near Carlton, and the rest on the farm of standing. Both birds assist in building the Ladd & Howe, two miles from North Yamnest. The material of which it is composed is hill From all appearances, these birds bred gathered close at hand, and I have seen the and did well during the first year, and are female in the nest seemingly fixing things to still to be found in these localities \* \* \*

suit herself, while the male was on the outside carrying material within reach of his mate. When the birds are disturbed during the process of building, they will abandon the nest."

In another place we read: "The eggs vary in numbers. I have found a great many nes.s, ten eggs were the least, and twenty-seven the most, found in one nest, fifteen to twenty are the usual number. The eggs being of such a pure white color, are very easily stained, and it is very seldom a full set can be found. without a number of stained ones,"

Again, "The young have a peculiar peep, similar to a young turkey and usually utters two or three peeps in succession. When disturbed while quite young they give several loud peeps when the old ones will fly about the iutruder and run around with their feathers ruffled up and their wings down making a crackling noise.

The flock will stay together if not disturbed during the whole winter. When roosting they sit close together in a banch with their heads outward and when disturbed, they start from the bunch in a flutter in all directions, In spring they disband and mate."

#### HERVEY M. HOSKINS.

An interesting letter from Mr. W. A. Howe, I have never heard of but one nest being of Carleton, Oregon, was then read by the

Upon arrival I placed them in a room

"I am inclined to believe that the numerous skunks, weasels and mink, interfere seriously with them while breeding, and in the course of time, when the vermin of this locality shall have been more subdued, our Bob-white will increase and flourish to a marked extent \*\*\*

"Some ten or twelve years ago two pair of birds were brought here as I am told, by Hon. R. P. Bird, and set free at his place near La Fayette, but never have increased to any extent. Some were also liberated near Denny, Or., but they are only found in small numbers."

Mr. Howe, has had a fine opportunity for studying the habits of this bird, consequently his letter was of great interest at the meeting.

Mr. G. D. Peck, of Salem, in a short letter says; Bob-whites are heard whistling in that vicinity every June, which he believes is a sign that they are mated. In Nov. last he saw a flock of five or six, an old bird and her young; the young, being about half grown.

A very valuable letter was then read from Mr. Ellis F. Hadley, of Dayton. He writes: "The first Bob-white Quail that were introduced into Yamhill county, Or., to my knowledge was in 1875, by Hon. A. R. Burbank, of LaFayette, who brought two pair from Whinby's Island, Washington, which were formerly brought from Illinois. The two pair cost him eight dollars, and were kept in eonfinement a while, but escaped and what became of them is unknown.

"I first saw a Bob-white in 1878, also in '88 and again in '92. Several are now seen every year. In '94 a nest and 14 eggs were found near here as was the case last year."

Mr. Rey Stryker, of Milwaukee, Or., remembers having seen a few Bob-whites near Albany, about '82 or '84, which were quite tame and which he evidently believed had recently been turned loose.

Other facts were given by the members present and a general discussion was indulged in, much valuable data was produced and it was generally conceded that the Bob-white Quail was slowly, but surely increasing in Oregon.

Mr. Bard, of Portland, read a short article on the Bob-white, which was very interesting. D. F. W.

#### THE PIED-BILLED GREBE.

I do not know of a more interesting bird than our common grebe, or dab-chick and as it is common in Oregon, I think it must breed here. In Iowa, it breeds in rather small marshes, and its nest is the most curious thing connected with its life-history. It is composed of half decayed flags and rushes in sufficient quantity to fill a half bushel basket.

The nest floats, rising and falling with the water in the marsh and only a small part shows above the water. It is neatly finished off and hollowed just enough to keep the eggs in place and as it is nearly on a level with the water the Grebe climbs on with out trouble. I have examined a number of these nests and they were as warm as a hot-bed. It may not be the design of the Grebe to incubate her eggs in this way, but she could leave the nest for hours with out injury to her eggs.

When she hears an intruder approaching, she covers the eggs with decayed vegetation, which I think she keeps on hand for the purpose, and then tries to decoy the intruder away from the nest. I once surprised one of these Grebes with a young one on her back, as I approached she sank, leaving the chick struggling in the water, being helpless it would have drowned I believe, if I had not placed it The young Grebes are very upon a nest. neat and pretty, and when two or three days old can slip under water as easy as their parents. Full sets of from five to eight eggs are found from the first to the twentieth of June. GEO. D. PECK,

Salem, Ore.

THIS winter the Western Robin has failed to make its appearance as usual. In previous years it came about Nov., Ist, with the bluebirds. I would like to know if the W. Robin is present as usual in other localities in southern California.

J. MAURICE HATCH,

Escondido.

Feb., 10th, S. Rey Stryker, secured a specimen of Townsends Solitaire, male, near Milwaukee, Or.

### JAPANESE DAIMIO SWORDS.

Among the nations of Eastern Asia, the Japanese were known as skillful workers of iron, which their a morers transformed into famous weapons of steel. They produced blades by which one could cut through iron, without nicking the blade in the slightest degree. Skillful sword cutlers gained for themselves high social positions, and won immortal glory and fame with their swords. In no country has the sword been made an object of such honor as in Japan. It was at once a divine symbol, a knightly weapon, and certificate of noble birth. Previous to 1876 the wearing of swords was the custom in Japan. but that year (March, 28) the wearing of them by any individual was abolished, unless in court dress, a member of the military, naval force, or a police officer.

### LEE ROY J. TAPPAN.

TO-DAY, Feb., 10th, I saw for the first time a live Pigmy Owl. For three years I have searched for this little Owl. It seemed to be fearless and I had a good opportunity to observe it, for the sun was shining bright, but it was evidently on a hunt, for it dropped into a thicket in pursuit of a small mammal and I saw it no more. Is it not very rare in western Oregon.

### GEO, D. PECK,

Sslem, Ore.

[Mr. C. W. Swallow, reports several seen near Oregon City, during February. Mr. W. B. Mallies, reports them in the vicinity of Cedar Mills, and one was shot near Portland, with a dead junco in its talons. ED.]

### EDITOR, OREGON NATURALIST:

Dear Sir:—In the August number of the OREGON NATURALIST, 1895, Mr. H. C. Lillie, of Visalia, Cal., questions the identity of the Hummer that I observed bathing near Santa Barbara. I want to say in justice to Mr. Lillie and the readers of the "NATURALIST," that I believe him to be right. It was many years ago that I made the observation and had carried the idea that the "Anna" and "Rubythroat were identical.

G. W. HARVEY, Kanab, Utah, Feb. 9th, 1896.

### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

### CHAT.

Look out for the migrants.

We are pleased to announce the addition to our staff of writers of Mr. F. P. Drowne, whose first installment of "Spile Scraping," appears in this number. Mr. Drowne is in every way capable of discussing "invertebrata" and we can safely promise many interesting articles from his pen.

The writer has received notes appropriate to "Odd and Peculiar Nests" from the following gentlemen; Mr. Angus Gaines, Mr. L. B. Gilmore, Mr. J. H. Bowles and desires hereby to thank them for the interest shown. As before stated stated, this "Report" is made under the auspices of the Oologists Association, and will probably be out sometime in June.

The articles following Evolution and Disease viz: "Disease and its Effects," "Vestigial Structures," "Dichotomy," "Atavism," "Malformation," etc. will begin in the May number.

### SPILE SCRAPING AND SOME OF THE MARINE INVERTEBRATES OBTAINED BY IT.

Spile scraping or post scraping yields to the collector of marine invertebrates a great many interesting and important forms. Those who live near the salt water, in places where there are wharves, can, with the aid of a scrape-net, become acquainted with a good many of the lower forms of animal life, which live either attached to the spiles or in the masses of hydroid and algae usually found on sunken posts.

The only articles required for this kind of col- boat among the spiles. Upon arrival at the lecting are a small boat, narrow enough to pass wharf the "scraper" should let the net between the posts in the wharves, a couple of down into the water as far as he can withpails and a scrape-net.

### Fig. I.

The scrape-net, is of a quite peculiar shape which I have tried to illustrate in Fig. I. In this drawing A represents the handle, which should be eight or nlne feet long, and of tough wood, BBC the iron frame work of the net, and D the net itself. The net should be of strong twine with meshes about a quarter of an inch in diameter. The part C or the blade is sharp and curved inward slightly so as to scrape the spiles more effectively.

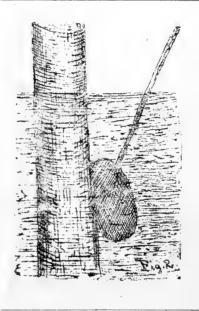
To meet with the most success a good day should be chosen, when low tide comes at the time which is to be spent collecting and when the water is smooth.

Having provided ourselves with the necessary tools we will get into the boat row to the nearest wharf which we will suppose to be a good one for collecting.

I will say at this point that the collector must learn by experience where to go to obtain the best results, for, while one wharf may yield an abundance of specimens another seem very hard at first, after a while it will wharf, perhaps within a few hundred feet of become easier although I do not think that the first, may be an exceedingly poor col- even a skilled operator would call it easy. lecting ground.

to manage the work properly, one to do invertebrates which I found on the spiles at the scraping, and the other to guide the Woods Holl, Mass.

out letting go the handle and clasp it against the post he intends to scrape, in the manner shown by Fig. 2.



Then pressing hard on the handle so as to keep the blade against the post pull up the net scraping the side of the post as clean as possible.

Thus the animals detached from the spile fall into the net and in a good collecting ground this operation does not have to be repeated many times before the pails begin to fill with specimens.

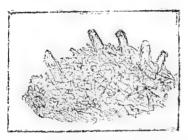
Although the handling of the scrape-net may

Now that I have described the methods of Two persons make just the right number collecting, I will note briefly some of the



This little calcareus sponge was quite common. They vary from one-half to over an inch in length, and are found aftached to the spiles by a root like base, usually in clusters. They are of a dirty straw color.

### LEUCOSOLENIA SP.



This is another sponge which is not so easy to obtain as the preceeding. Its color is the same as that of Grantia. A fair idea of how it looks can be obtained from the cut.

### METRIDIUM MARGINATUM.

The common Sea Anemone was brought up in the scrape-net quite often. It was found attached to Mussel shells and more frequently to the spile itself. None of those found were very large.

When expanded the Metridium is very beautiful but as it draws in its tentacles when in the least disturbed, it must be carefully approached if one would see it in its full beauty. When detached from the spile, if they are placed in some  $fre_{bil}$  sea water, they usually expand.

### CRIBRELLA SANGUINOLENTA.

Once in a while one of these bright red starfish come up in the scrape-net. The bright red soon disappears in preserving liquid and they become pinkish white in color. They have five rays and measure three inches or more in diameter.

### ARBATIA PUNCTULATA.

This urchin was very seldom met with on the spiles, though it was quite common in running water on the under sides of the rocks. The color is dark, almost black, and the spines are quite long.

> F. P. DROWNE. (To be continued.)

#### NOTES ON MIGRATIONS.

To every true student of ornithology there is no more interesting or more pleasurable occupation than that of watching the migrations of his feathered friends.

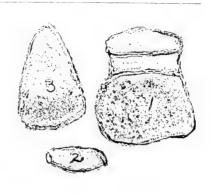
To many, however, who would desire to "go about it" in a systematic manner, the difficulty of finding an appropriate method, resents itself as an all but insurmountable obstacle, and with this view in mind I offer my little experience to "ye editor" and as he was gracious enough to allow it to pass his waste basket, I will proceed. First as to our stationery: First and most important, a note book. The most convenient size is an oblong book about five inches long by three inches wide, opening at the end, and held together when closed by a strong rubber band. Next a large plainly ruled invoice book, about the size of an ordinary sheet of "legal cap" when it is properly folded. These are all you need as far as paper is concerned. The rest of your outfit must consist largely of enthusiasm. Now of course we know that we can find the birds any where, but the best way by far is to select a certain route and go over it twice a day regularly at, say about 9:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. each day. Now in selecting a "route" I have always found one which if possible takes in a variety of topographical features, the most lucrative. For instance, my route consists of a stroll of about a mile in length, first down into a valley along the *south side of a hill*, which slopes gradually to a marsh and is thickly covered with oaks; and here let me say, is where I find my birds the most plentiful—from here across a pasture and through some isolated clumps of trees standing in it, thence across a low marshy stretch of land to the sea shore, and then for some distance along the sea shore to where the forest runs down to the shore, and then through the pine forest home.

Of course, all are not blessed with such a wide variety of "locations" as have been desscribed, but where it is not, the route should be made as varied as possible. As you walk along with your eyes on the tree top, or bush top as the case may be, each species or if possible each individual (approximate) should be carefully noted in your note book and then when you return, be sure and note the temperature direction and force of wind, aud condition of atmosphere, and don't forget to put it down. Then at night after having gone over the route again, you should reduce the whole to as compact a form as possible, draw your own deductions from your notes as to the effect of temperture etc., upon the number of birds seen, and enter the whole under its proper date in your note-book.

If this is kept up throughout the year; by glancing over your notes you will be at once able to tell the beginning, height and ending of the migration of any of the species you have observed, and many a valuable hint have I received from my notes as I have read them over. At the end of the migration season I always make it a practice to recapitulate the seasons work and write it out in full.

Before you are fully familiar with the birds of your location, take along your gun for the purpose of identification, and if you are a collector, carry it with you always; you will learn why, before you have gone over the route very many times.

MERGANSER.



The above are outlines of some Indian relics I found in Champaign county not long ago. Fig. I is a grooved stone ax. Fig. 2 a stone bead made of jet black material with bluish green lines running through it, Fig. 3 is a stone hatchet which I found when I found the ax. All three are perfect specimens and highly polished. The bead has been used considerably as can be seen from the worn end.

HARRY E. SPALDING.

Champaign, Ill.

In OREGON NATURALIST for January, I advertised a catalogue of Government Publications. The first order for it came by telegraph, reaching me the same day that the magazine, containing the notice. Other orders have been coming in ever since. Hereafter I will not advertise a book in your journal unless I have a whole library to dispose of. I don't know how many readers you may have but those whom I hear from are widely scattered.

ANGUS GAINES.

"Blue Jays, in several instances have been seen preying on the English Sparrow."

CHAS. C. CAMP,

Portage, Wis.

43

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146<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> SIXTH ST. Portland, Oregon.

March, 1896.

Now that the Oologists' harvest has begun, young collectors should bear in mind, that a set of eggs about which there is the least question in the collectors mind, is worthless. If you are not sufficiently familiar with the bird to recognize it by sight, secure the parent bird, and here again mistakes are often made. Be sure you get the owner of the set. When this can not be done, let the eggs remain to fulfill their destiny.

A good field-glass will he found an useful adjunct to the Oologists' outfit.

Fred H. Andrus, of Elkton, Or. who is working to secure our 'premium offer of Davie's Taxidermy, writes: "I find that nearly all live collectors are already subscribers to your paper."

Patrons of the Dr. A. E. Foote's establishment, during this month can secure large reductions on minerals and books, owing to removal to new quarters. The lowa Ornithologist, was so unfor-

The Iowa Ornithologist, was so unfortunate as to have its entire January issue burned, while in transit from the printers. Mr. Savage writes, that it will be reprinted at once.

Mr. C. A. Sharpe, the "Erie and Huron" agent, at Pt. Lambton, Ont. has perfected a system by which telegraphy, can be learned by mail. A sample lesson will be sent for stamp, by addressing A. E. Pub. Co. Box 24, Roberts Landing, Mich.

The following publications have been received. Sixth Annual Report Missouri Botanical Garden. St. Souis, Mo. 1895. Pp. 134, Pl. 56 plus 6.

Regular agents for the sale of Garden publications, are Dr. A. E. Foote, of Philadelphia, W. Wesley & Son, of London, and R. Friedlander & Sohn, of Berlin.

"Second Report of the State Zoologist including a synopsis of the Entomostraca, of Minnesota," with descriptions of related species comprising all known forms from the United States, included in the orders Copepoda, Cladocera, Ostracoda. By C. L. Herrick and C. H. Turner. Pp. 525, Pl. 81. This work is "Zoological Series II," of the, "Geological and Natural History Survey of Minnesota. Henry F. Nachtrieb, State Zoologist."

Electric Light Bug or Belostoma. By Theodore William Schaefer, M. D. Kansas City, Mo. Birds of Narbeth, Pa. and vicinity, by W. E. Rotzell, M. D. Narbeth, Pa. Some Vestigial Structures in Man By W. E. Rotzell, M. D. Narbeth, Pa.

The Observer, March. The Naturalists Chronicle, February. Vegetarian, February. The Nidologist, March. The Oologist, January. The Baltimore Cactus Journal, February. Le Naturaliste Canadien, January. The Dog Fancier, February. Gameland, February. The Mineral Collector, March. The Numismatist, February. Printers' Ink, February. The Naturalists Journal, February.

# DO YOU WANT CURIOS? THEN READ THIS:

There has been placed for sale in my hands a fine collection of curios of the savages of different islands in the South Sea and Oceanica. The articles are strictly first-class, as is also everything else I present in this issue. I would especially call attention of lovers of the curious and artistic to the Japanese Devil Faces. They are of the highest type of Japanese art, no two being alike. The accompanying cut will give an idea of their appearance. I respectfully solicit your order.

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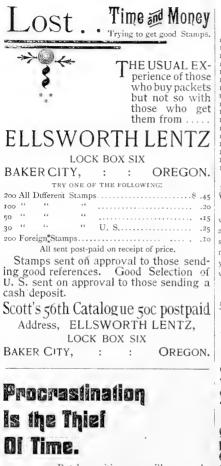
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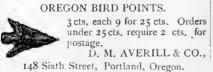
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Vol. III. Portland, Oregon, April, 1896. No. 4

### KODIAK ISLAND.

### A CONTRIBUTION TO THE AVIFAUNA OF ALASKA.

Research has shown that geographical distribution of species, is governed largely by climatic conditions, to a certain extent regardless of latitude. With this in mind, the writer will endeavor to familiarize the reader, with the climatic conditions existing on Kodiak Island, before passing to the máin object of this paper.

Kodiak Island, lies on the west side of what is known as the Gulf of Alaska, in Lat. 55.00, N. and Long 153.00, W. It is separated from the mainland on its west coast by Shelikoff Straits, which have an average width of thirty marine miles. The total length of the island is about seventy-five miles, and an average breadth of forty miles, but its coasts are so heavily indented with bays, that in several places the island may be crossed from east to west by a portage of only ten or fifteen miles. It is bare of timber, excepting a small portion on the northeastern extremity, which, together with the adjacent islan of Afognak, is thickly covered with spruce and small fir.

The main island is entirely surrounded

with small islands varying in size from the needle like structures rising abrubtly from the sea, to the larger bodies of land such as Sitkalidak, Spruce and Whale islands.

Topographically, Kodiak is extremely rough, there being no main chain of mountains or back bone, it might appropriately be described as a lump of bumps rising out of the ocean; for as the highest peaks only reach an altitude of two thousand feet, they are hardly to be considered as mountains. The two principal settlements on the island, are Karluck and Kodiak, the former on the southwest corner of the island, is the center of the Salmon Cannery trade, and probably the largest plant of its kind in the world.

Kodiak, is the 'headquarters' of the Alaska Commercial Co., and also the North American Commercial Co., the tur trade of Alaska being divided between them. It is one of the oidest settlements of Alaska, and Baranoff, the celebrated Russian ruler, maintained his headquarters at Kodiak, for many years before he founded the town of Sitka.

Although Sitka and Kodiak, are in the same degree of latitude, they vary greatly in temperature, climate and fauna, in fact slight similarity exists between the two

### places.

to convey a correct impression to the birth to myriads of wild reader's mind, will be to describe, an characteristic of this northern territory. average year, month by month.

covered with a deep mantle of snow, used to than the dark winter months; for furious gales sweep over hill and valley, it is not easy to go to bed and sleep in tearing shingles off the houses, blowing broad daylight, at least, not to most down fences and occasionally driving the people. July and August, are generally thermometer down to a point at which warm, and would be pleasant months, cattle freeze to death in the very settle- were it not for the frequent heavy winds. ments, snow falling almost continously. About the middle of September, the rains During February, the winds are not so commence, and last with but little interboisterous, and the snow-storms are less ruption through to the end of November. frequent, and bright sunny days begin to Then it begins to freeze, and continues to break the monotony of the long dark do so until the ground is frozen solid for winter: for it must be borne in mind that a considerable depth, how deep I do not at this time of the year, there is but from know, because I never could succeed in five to seven hours of daylight, and on driving a pick down deeper than a couple snowy days not half that number. The of inches. ocean does not freeze, but as the tide I wish to call the readers attention to recedes, the water on the beach freezes so two facts in this connection; first, that that the bowlders in time, accumulate the ground freezes to considerable depth coat upon coat of ice, and assume prodig- before the snow falls; second, that the ious proportions, and great rolls of ice fall of snow is quite heavy. mark the height to which each tide has risen. sheltered bays freeze over. March, and the "agricultural resources" of Alaska, the first half of April, differ but little from and particular stress has been laid on the February, excepting that the days grow advantages of Kodiak Island for cattle longer, snow storms less frequent, so that raising, all of which is pure and unadultera crust forms and snow-shoe travel is ated "trash." then practical. Towards the latter end of first week in May, bare spots on the large terrestial mammals found on Kodiak

southern hillsides appear. Then comes In climate, Kodiak is neither arctic nor June, with its extremely long days and temperate, but rather intermediate be- warm sunshine, soon driving away the retween the two, and perhaps the best way 'mainder of the winter's snow, and giving flowers,

To the traveler, these long days almost The first of January, finds the island devoid of night, are really harder to get

I do so because a good deal has been In extreme winters, the small written by unscrupulous persons about

Before passing to the avi-fauna of this April, the heat of the sun begins to make region, a few words relating to the maman impression on the snow, so that by the mals, may not be out of place. The only

46

island, is the barren-ground bear-the then depart. American black bear, having been intro- Visitants are birds which stop on the duced during the writers residence there. island while on their way to, or from their Two races of foxes; the black and red, breeding grounds. and a hybrid between the two, locally In compiling the following list, I known as the cross fox, the otter, a am greatly indebted to Mr. William J. local variety of Spermophile, or ground Fisher, for the use of his notes, also for squirrel, the ermine-weasel, brown-rat, a description of the capture of "Fisher's common house mouse, brown-bat, also, Petrel." probably shrews, comprise the list as far as known.

In a community whose inhabitants subsist almost entirely by hunting, it becomes and retiring to the lakes in summer to almost impossible for any animal to exist breed. without its presence being known; therefore it is safe to say that the above small from December to the following May, this list contains nearly all the mammals Grebe is very common in all the small found on the island.

following list of birds, though small, is reasonably complete, yet, the peculiar they raise their young in security. geographical position of the island makes it almost impossible in anything short of a life's experience, to compile a list containing all the migrant species that visit not associate with it. this island on their route to their breeding grounds farther to the north.

The birds of the island may be divided into four classes, namely: Residents; middle of May; nests in June, and leaves Winter Migrants: Summer Migrants and Visitors.

By residents is meant those birds which pass their entire existence on the island, or the waters surrounding it. Winter migrants, are those northern species the east, flying very high and in pairs, which spend the winter months in the seeming at once to give their attention to vicinity, but breed in higher latitudes. Summer migrants, are those which come fly from one lake to another, describing to the island to raise their young, and large circles in the air, and giving forth

### Aechmophorus occidentalis, WESTERN GREBE.

A resident living on the coast in winter,

During the stormy months of winter, bays on the island; it then resorts to the Although the writer believes that the lakes on the island, choosing those in the interior and most inaccessible, where

### Columbus nigricollis californicus,

### AMERICAN EARED GREBE.

Like A. occidentalis in habits, but does

### Urinator pacificus, PACIFIC LOON.

A summer migrant, arriving about the about the first of September. On account of its large size, and a habit it has of flying round before it finally alights, makes the arrival of this bird very noticeable.

These birds approach the island from selecting a suitable place to nest. Thev

their harsh cry, which gives rise to their native name of "Googara," They were never noticed to arrive in the night, as many migrants do. Eggs of this species were obtained in June, of June, and nesting on the small islands; and on the ninth of July a downy chick was associating with the next species, but is not taken from a nest on Lesnoy island, that nearly so numerous, being in a ratio of about had been visited four days previous, and then one to twenty. contained eggs. A number of the young remain throughout the winter, and specimens in were in crevices in the rocks, and not in burthe first plumage were taken November 3, rows. 1891, and December 9th, 1892.

### Lunda cirrhata, TUFTED PUFFIN.

A summer migrant, arriving about the first

But four nests of this species were found; all

About the first of September they all leave



SECTION OF BLUFF, SHOWING NESTING TUNNEL OF FRATERCULA CORNICULATA. A Sea entrance. B. Land entrance.

and are seen no more until the following spring.

### Fratercula corniculata, HORNED PUFFIN.

June, and remaining until September. On first arriving, these birds do a great deal of flying; they gather in bands, and sit perched on the rocky face of some high bluff, and keep up a continuous whistling call, at irregular intervals the whole band will leave the bluff and fly a short distance out to sea and return.

The eggs of this species are laid in a tunnel, or burrow, dug in the ground by the bird, and a few handfuls of dry grass and feathers constitute the nest. (From my own experience, I have never known the nest of this species to be in crevices in the rocks).

The construction of the tunnel is unique; it always has an opening at both ends. The nesting site, is some high rocky bluff overhanging the sea, and near the top where the soil lies on the rock, the bird commences its excavations, first constructing a sort of runway for a few feet along the face of the bluff, then going directly inward, sometimes in a straight line, while others are crooked. In the same way, the length of the tunnel is very variable. and the nest may be at most any distance from two to ten feet from the face of the bluff. From the nest, the tunnel passes on inland, making a sharp upward turn to the surface of the ground. Only one egg is laid; it being of a dead white color and lusterless, having much the appearance of chalk. The surface is very rough.

Both parents assist in incubation, and the chick is hatched about the the first part of July.

On the eleventh of July, 1893, a nest containing an egg was found: the possession was desperately contested by the parent bird; on investigation, the egg was found to contain Summer migrant, arriving about the first of a chick ready to hatch, which was covered with a heavy black down.

> The same burrows are used year after year, but whether by the same birds or not was not ascertained. Some burrows have by long usage become as large as rabbit holes, while newly made ones, are only just large enough to admit the birds. Both entrances are used indiscriminately by the bird, and it is surprising to see with what accuracy they can fly directly into the holes in the ground.

> > BERNARD J. BRETHERTON.

### MOUNTAIN PARTRIDGE.

[The work of the N. O. A., for February.]

The members of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, living near Portland, held their monthly meeting Friday evening March, 20th.

The subject under study for the past month, was the Mountain Partridge; after a well prepared article had been read by Mr. Rey S. Stryker, the topic was thoroughly discussed.

The principal characteristics and nesting habits of this bird, are probably too well known, to need publication again.

Mr Stryker, records this bird as very common several years ago in southern Oregon, and says that as many as twenty-five or thirty, have been caught in traps at one time. Several times he remembers of catching the California Partridges, with the Mountain Partridges, so that in Southern Oregon these two birds intermingle. But contrary to the statements of some of the works on Ornithology, no record can be found of the California Part- tree. ridge inhabiting the region any where around Portland

"Last summer, as I was going through a wooded piece of land, I suddenly ran on to an old mother quail, and when she flew, the ground seemed literally alive with young ones. I caught nine of them and by that time all the rest had escaped. Six to fifteen eggs of a were found in June, and I have collected fresh cream color are usually layed. Of six nests I eggs in the latter part of that month. have examined, two were beside large fir trees, have not known of any eggs being found in and contained ten and fifteen eggs respectively, any other month, I am led to believe that two were beside small stumps, and contained ten only one brood is raised in a season. and fifteen eggs; one was under a cedar bush, nests do not differ materially from those of the and had six eggs, and the last was near an old grouse. Sometimes they are well concealed, house, and contained twelve eggs. Only two and at other times conspicuously in plain view. of these sets were fresh."-

and as well contented as those outside. pair I have had about three years. For a was the Partridge's nest, containing fourteen while, I had about a dozen of these birds, but fresh eggs-a queer place furnished with the they all escaped, and with the exception of finest of natures curtains. The eggs are nearly four birds, they all went away, but these four, always badly stained on one side." stayed about the yard and tried to get back in us catch them and put them back.

cubate the eggs.

of from eight to forty in the fall, and stay in get. They layed fourteen eggs, laying I bebands all winter, till about March 15th, when lieve, about one every three days. they begin to pair.

"They sometimes lay their eggs in a Grouse, or Pheasant nest."

Mr. Arthur L. Pope, of McMinnville, writes: "The Mountain Partridge, begins its call about the same time as the Sooty Grouse, the time varying with the season."

"All the nests that have come to my notice, As I Their A nest found last season was situated in the Mr. Ellis F. Hadley, of Newberg, writes: side of a small bank; a tree was growing on "I have several Mountain Partridges, in con- the bank, and its roots which had been washed finement in an aviary, and they are as healthy bare by high water, were hanging down the Two side of the bank, and in behind these roots

Mr Hoskins states that this bird usually be the aviary, and they were tame enough to let gins its call in February, but this year he heard one on January 23d. He has a pair of these "They lay in confinement, and begin about birds in confinement, and at the proper time April 25th; but I have in the past, had too last year they made a nest inside a small box, many in the inclosure, and they would not in- that was in the avairy, scratching out a small hollow in the ground and lining it with fir "Mountain Partridges, gather in bands leaves, which was the only material they could The hen set on them, and about the last of June hatched "They generally roost on the ground, but I them all. Although small, they were very have a few times, on a wet stormy night seen bright, and when any one came near the ena whole band go up in some bushy young fir closure, they would get out and hide in the

50

grass. The chickens took advantage of this, less they had a large series of specimens to and it was soon discovered that they had killed compare them with. Take for instance the the last one.

ain Partridge, as being very common in the species, and from the works on Ornithology, southwestern part of Oregon, in certain parts one has no way of distinguishing one from the of Coos and Curry counties.

seems to be the last of June and the first of difference claimed, is that one is a little darker July, and only one brood is raised. While out than the other, and an amateur has no way of on a hunting trip on August 9th, and 10th, telling, when he collects a set of Flicker's eggs 1895, he saw large numbers of these birds, in Oregon, whether he has a set of Colapates They were all in coveys of from ten to forty, cafer, or C. cafer saturatior. and most of them were just about half grown, kill each bird when he took a set of their eggs, while some were just able to fly. The only but even then he could not determine. old birds that were seen, were one or two with might send them East for identification, but it each covey.

They are not hunted much in that locality, more about it. . and are quite tame.

If one is quiet for a few moments, after a covey has been flushed, the old bird will get on a log, or's some raised place and begin calling, and soon is answered by others of the scattered covey, and in a very short time they are all together again.

The Mountain Partridge, is the only species of the partridge that was seen in that locality.

An effort has been made to find the difference between the Mountain Partridge and the Plumed Partridge, as they are given as separate species, but no distinction has been reported. They are probably one and the same bird, and is merely another instance, of a species, that has been divided and sub-divided, until one cannot positively identify a bird even if he has the best works on Ornithology, that are It is doubtful in the extreme, published. whether the very men that did the dividing, could tell one of the birds from the other, un- Dayton, Or.

Flicker, it has been divided from the western Mr. William L. Finley, records the Mount- species, into the western and north western other; they inhabit the same territory: build The nesting of this bird in that locality, the same nests, and lay the same eggs; all the He might He is a question whether he would then know any

### W. L. F.

### AN ALBINO JUNCO.

Feb 16th, 1896, an Albino Oregon Junco, was around all day with a large band of Oregon Juncos.' Its under parts were pure white; upper parts cream colored; head and neck, which are generally black, were a very light tan; wings and tail white; all the dark on it was a very narrow ring around the base of its mandibles, which was brown, It seemed to be in full plumage and good health.

ELLIS F. HADLEY.

Dayton, Or.

March 25th, I collected my first set this season; 14-Western Meadow Lark, incubation begun. The earliest record previous to this that I have, is April, 14th, 1895.

ELLIS F. HADLEY,

### NATURAL HISTORY IN A PRIMARY year ago had almost exterminated them. SCHOOL.

Natural History had penetrated the public me a description of them, which showed schools, I visited a primary school lately at once that he was a close observer, and to investigate. The teacher was a lady that the bird he had seen, was not a Bluewell known as a writer of juveniles and bird, Sialia sialis, but a Bluejay, Cyanoof historical sketches, and who under the citta cristata. Another boy who had seen name of "A. Hoosier," assisted in com- Bluebirds, described the Indigo bird, piling the Life of Lincoln, now running in Passerina cyanea, which is fairly common McClure's Magazine.

any branch of science was included in the inisolated bushes, often near the ground. curriculum, but that she was allowed considerable freedom of choice, and could make fine birds, but town boys naturally impart information and direct studies in think that blue feathers do make blue lines not directly included in the school birds, and I am afraid that my own work as she saw fit.

allowed to hear a recitation, but was re- and I was glad to shift the subject to quested to talk to the school.

Almost all the boys, and most of the girls, informed me that they had been fish- graphs of birds nests, some taken by mying, and they knew the names and self and others by Mr. E. S. Cheney, well peculiarities of many kinds of fishes, known to the readers of the Oregon something about their food, and how little Naturalist. catfishes, burrowed in the mud, or hid themselves in mussel shells. They had their curiosity. Few of them knew the no acquaintance however, with with the Grebe by that name, though most of habits of nest building fishes, and did not them were acquainted with our representknow that certain species took care of ative of the Podicipidae, the "Didipper," or their young. The habits of the Stickle- "Dabchick," Podilymbus podiceps. backs, were new to them, and when I told These curious tailless birds, breed how I had once "seen a father Stickleback, farther north, but are always common whip his wife, for eating up her own here in October and November, and babies, the children were delighted, but the school knew much of their habits, the teacher gravely remonstrated with me. how they refused to take flight, and could

and I learned that they had been keeping Several boys confessed that they had horse hairs in bottles of water in the thrown stones at them, at which their school room, to ascertain whether or not teacher was very properly horrified, though their teacher was right when she told I refused to be shocked, callously regardthem that horse hairs would not turn to ing stoning "Didippers," as the most worms or snakes.

I spoke of the rarity of Bluebirds, and

At this, several hands went up in various parts of the room. One boy declared that Wishing to ascertain whether or not he had seen Bluebirds lately, and gave here, frequenting the edges of old fields, She informed me that no instruction in and nesting in clumps of shrubbery, or

All boys know that fine feathers do not explanation, that a bird may be blue without To my disappointment, I was not being a Bluebird, was not very luminous, birds' nests.

I showed the school a series of Photo-

Some pictures of Grebe nests aroused

The children were of an enquiring turn, dodge stones and bullets by diving. innocent sport imaginable.

One small boy knew the Wren, "very declared that the severe weather of over a little fellows, who hold their tails differand build their nests in sheds and barns." the use of each object in studying Ge-He described their eggs pretty accurately, ology. and said that the family he had watched, raised their young safely and flew away. also several turtle shells.

birds, and before our topics were ex- so harmless an animal should have been hausted the hour for dismissal came. sacrificed, but was informed that only the When the pupils had departed, I had an dry shell had been found, and that none opportunity to examine the schoolroom, of the boys were cruel enough to kill little and found it a very attractive place. animals. There was a good array of maps and charts, a painted vine with green leaves used as texts for school talks, and every and red blossoms was twined about one one contributing a specimen was expected of the blackboards, a grooved stone celt to contribute some facts regarding it. served as a paper weight on the table, Being asked to furnish an outline for a and in the window, there was a row of talk on some specimen I selected a small thrifty pot plants and a glass jar contain- olive-green turtle shell, and having been ing bones immersed in some liquid, informed that one of these turtles had probably to show that an acid will make been kept in an aquarium in the schoolbones flexible by acting upon their carbon- room and that the school was interested ate of lime. The walls were hung with in it, wrote: the portraits of great men, though I tailed to recognize any naturalist among them, at which I was surprised, for who could be more appropriately introduced children as a subject of study and a model called scutes. to emulate than Darwin, or Agassiz?

corner of the room, and in the only other scutes, and red crescents on the outer available corner was the school"museum." scutes; which are called marginals. A number of shelves had been nailed in Marks now faded. Neck and legs beautithe corner, and the collection they held fully marked with yellow. had been made exclusively by the children. I think that there was not an object there, Burrows in mud. Goes into water to that had been bought, or that had been avoid rain. Fond of basking in sunshine given by any older person. There were and of floating near surface of water with several boxes of stones, many of which only tip of nose exposed. were simply water-worn pebbles collected because they looked pretty, but there were also crinoids, crinoidal limestone, tober, and sleeps until April." Zaphrentes, Holocystes, impressions of carboniferous plants and a fair display of received no training in Natural Science, fossil corals. mostly Favosites and Organ yet I inferred from what I saw of the pipes.

enough in this line, to illustrate, many the study of nature, and for prompting

ently from other birds, come about houses valuable lessons in Biology, and to show

I noticed the skulls of a cat and of a rat. Picking up Other children had watched various one of the latter I expressed regret that

All the articles in the cabinet had been

### "PAINTED TORTOISE. (Chrysemys marginata)

Upper shell called carapace. Lower to shell called plastron. Divisions of shell

In life, carapace was marked with a There was a well-filled bookcase in one narrow red stripe along middle row of

Harmless. Feeds on worms and insects.

Lays eggs 14x7/8 inches in diameter. Buries itself in mud in middle of Oc-

The teacher informed me, that she had school, that she possessed in a marked de-The children had certainly gathered gree, a talent for interesting her pupils in them to investigate and find things out conversation with them that the boys and labor, instead of adding to them. girls had done remarkably well, considering their circumstances, and I appreciated Vincennes, Ind. the knowledge and tact that had been exercised in training them to think and observe.

Where schoolrooms are over-crowded, and teachers over-worked, it is not easy to see how any school could do much Journal, speaking to a conference of teachers, better than this one, yet I venture a few suggestions regarding primary school History would be brought forward in schools "museums."

them, or furnish little boxes to display conference laughed. The progress of events, them in, and all specimens should be however has shown that he was right, and now labelled. This would dignify the specimen, we find learning from things, in preference to and add to its importance.

discoverer and preserved.

folks" do, and all gifts should be credited to the donor either on the label, or in the catalog.

their own which they cannot give away, but which they would be glad to lend if thing, and we wish it had been our lot. such loans were appreciated.

ing-which inflicts suffering or death place-along with other subjects. upon any animal, should not be tolerated. progress during the last ten years has been

to the ordinary school cabinet. large heavy book of no value for anything give lessons there to the pupils, and mark their else, could be used for this purpose. Con- attendance as if they were at school. every day pressed and dried, and the that Natural History Object Lessons are to be "Curator of the Herbarium," chosen from more frequently given, and the children enamong the pupils, could secure the speci- couraged to bring objects to the school, for the mens to the leaves with slips of gummed purpose of eliciting information upon them; paper.

of suitable objects for the school.

I believe that the plan of work 1 have for themselves. I was sure from my suggested would lighten the teachers'

ANGUS GAINES.

#### SCHOOL MUSEUMS.

Ten years ago the Editor of the 'Naturalists' ventured to predict that before long Natural as a class subject, and some things then rigidly Pupils giving specimens, should mount insisted upon would have to give way; but the an exclusive book-learning, more and more A catalog should be kept of all speci- insisted upon. The reason is not far to seek, bemens, and after each entry, any interest- cause the evidence is so plain. The study of leaf ing facts should be written down by the nature is in itself an education, and a naturalist, although perhaps an unlettered man, is Children value their rights just as "old nevertheless an educated man. We know naturalists who can neither read nor write (few of this sort certainly) who for exercise of mental capacity, are far ahead of others who Boys and girls often have collections of have had a college education, not that we deprecate a good schooling-it is a desirable But what we do insist on is that the study of Nature Any form of collecting, or experiment- shall have its proper place-which is no mean The An herbarium would be a good addition very gratifying indeed. To be brief: a teacher Some may take his or her class to a public museum, The tributors should bring in their offerings Education Department, has issued an order. there is in consequence, a growing desire to Any boy or girl could learn, with a form School Museums. In this special matter little showing, how to make plaster casts there is however, one thing more that needs to be done, and that is the appointment of Instructors whose duty it shall be to go from for this work. Representative objects of deplace to place, giving instructions to teachers partments not obtainable in the district would how these Museums must be formed, and in- be presented by someone, or in some cases it specting what has been done. The establish- may be necessary to purchase. The Museum ment of a School Museum, is by no means an Room should be so situated as to be accessible expensive matter if properly carried out; it is a to all the school, and to other schools under work which may largely be done by teachers the same board, and it should be open free on and pupils, who in doing it receive the in- Saturdays to anyone. - The Naturalists' formation they seek, and the health they need, Journal, Huddersfield, England. but now so often lack.

At present the matter is left, in most cases, entirely with the teacher. School authorities too seldom vote money for this object, and the teacher has to do it out of his or her own pocket. The consequence is that little or no regard is paid to what is obtained, anything is accepted and put in a cupboard (if the school happens to have one) in most cases without any plan or system, and if the objects have their names attached, that is usually all. The time is probably not far distant when the Education Department will issue instructions how these School Museums should be formed, but as they have not done so yet, it may be useful if we give our opinion.

In the first place the school should be provided with a folding-door glass-fronted specimen case, the lower part having drawers, of a size proportionate to the size of the school, and also a number of small boxes with glass movable lids. The next important thing is to have a plan to work to, and whenever anything is obtained to put it in its proper place, so that Dusky and Sooty Grouse, and in the early the Museum shows at a glance to every scholar future the Sage Grouse, will be taken up. Let who looks at it what the system of Nature is, every person on the coast send in his notes, In addition to this, every object should have giving especial attention to mating habits. attached to it, not only its name, but an ex- does not seem probable that one species of planatory note giving its life-history in brief, grouse remains paired only a short period in and its economic utility. Within easy reach of spring, and another the whole season, but most schools there is 'ample material in the possibly it is a fact. If so, we should confirm way of rocks, plants, insects, shells, etc., it, if not, the facts should be made known. which need only to be gathered in, and this The young ornithologist, need not be discourcould very well be done by the class going out aged and think that there is no field in which one half-day a-week, and surely in every school he may gain fame. there is at least one teacher who could manipulate the objects, and put them up in their will take an interest in this question, I am, exhibition boxes, and it should be so arranged that he could have at any rate one day a week

Editor Oregon Naturalist:-In Robert W. Haines,' valuable and interesting article in February Oregon Naturalist, a point suggests itself to me, which I think would bear investigation.

In his article, he says of the Sage Grouse: "They may be found in large flocks during winter, and until about the first of April, when they began to pair and scatter out. \*\*\*1 During the season of incubation the females remain solitary; the males do not assist in these duties, but flock together, and remain thus until fall, when they are joined again by their mates," From this it appears that the Sage Grouse remains paired only a short period in early spring, or if paired. the mates remain apart from each other. If this is true, it is a habit worthy of notice, as nearly all birds, even of the grouse family, in my experience, remain mated at least through the whole nesting season.

Now the N. O. A. work for April, is on the It

Hoping that the ornithologists of the coast Yours in Ornithology.

ARTHUR LAMSON POPE.

### PETROGLYPHS IN OREGON.

Bureau of Ethnology, Pages 104-106].

ate.

1878, of rock etchings 4 miles from Gaston, an arm and three-fingered hand (similar to

est the mouth of the canyon, consists of horizontal zigzag lines and a detached straight line, [Taken from the "Tenth Annual Report of the also horizontal. On another side of the same rock is a series of oblique parallel lines. Some Many bowlders and rock escarpments at the of the most striking characters found upon Dalles of the Columbia river, Oregon, are other exposed portions of the rock appear to be covered with incised or pecked glyphs. Some human fligures, i. e., circles to which radiating of them are representations of human lines are attached, and bear indications of figures, but characters of other forms predomin- eyes and mouth, long vertical lines running downward as if to represent the body, and Mr. Albert S. Gatschet, of the Bureau of terminating in a furcation, as if intended for Ethnology, reports the discovery by him, in legs, toes, etc. To the right of one figure is

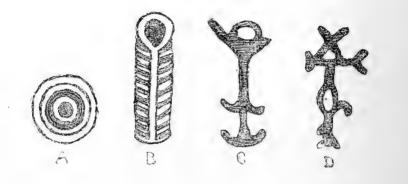


FIG. 69, ---PETROGLYPHS IN LAKE COUNTY, OREGON.

projecting from the grassy hillside of Patten's tween some of valley, opposite Darling Smith's farm, and are numerical marks of some kind. surrounded with timber on two sides.

of a mile horizontally along the hillside, upon with two horizontal lines drawn across the the projecting portions of which the inscrip- shaft, and with vertical lines having short tions are found. These rocks differ greatly in oblique lines attached thereto. size, and slant forward so that the inscribed Mr. Gatschet remarks that the Tualati tell a that region. The first rock, or that one near- pictures, the substance of which is as follows:

Oregon, and 21/2 miles from the ancient settle- some of the Moki characters), bent downward ment of the Tualati (or Atfalati) Indians. from the elbow, the humerus extending at a These etchings are about 100 feet above the right angle from the body. Horizontal rows of valley bottom on six rocks of soft sandstone, short vertical lines are placed below and bethe figures, probably

Other characters occur of various forms, the This sandstone ledge extends for one-eighth most striking being an arrow pointing upward,

portions are exposed to the frequent rains of trivial story to explain the origin of these

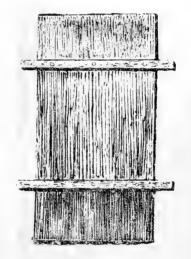
The Tillamuk warriors living on the Pacific coast were often at variance with the several Kalapuva tribes. One day, passing through Patten's valley to invade the country of the made by any one, at small or no expense, by Tualati, they inquired of a woman how far they were from their camp. The woman, desirous not to betray her own countrymen, said they were yet at a distance of one (or two?) days' travel. This made them reflect over the intended invasion, and holding a council, they decided to withdraw. In commemoration of this the inscription, with i.s numeration marks, was incised by the Tualati.

Dr. Charles Rau received from Dr. James S. Denlson, physician at the Klamath agency, Lake county, Oregon, a communication relative to the practice of painting figures on rocks in the territory of the Klamath Indians in Oregon. There are in that neighborhood many rocks bearing painted figures; but Dr. Rau's description refers specially to a single rock, called Kta-i Tupakshi (standing rock), situated about 50 yards north 'of Sprague river, and 150 yards from the junction of Sprague and Williamson rivers. It is about 10 feet high; 14 feet long; and 12 or 14 feet deep. Fig. 69, drawn one-twelfth of the natural size, illustrates the character of the paintings seen on the smooth southern surface of this rock. The most frequent designs are single or concentric circles, like Fig. 69, a, which consists of a dark red circle surrounded by a white one. the center being formed by a round red spot. Fig. 69, b, painted in dark red and white colors, exhibits a somewhat Mahadeo-like shape; the straight appendage of the circle is provided on each side with short projecting lines, alternately red and white, and almost producing the effect of the so-called herringbone ornament.

Fig. 69, c and d, executed in dark red, are other designs seen on the standing rock above mentioned. The colors, which, as the informant thinks, are rubbed in with grease, appear quite distinct on the dark surface of the rock.

#### A HOME-MADE PRESS.

A cheap portable botanical press can be taking two pieces of half inch board-the sides of any small box can be taken, if of suitable thickness-and sawing them any convenient size; Sx13 will be found a good size, and large enough for most specimens; then nail two cleats, three inches longer than the width of the board, across each board near the ends, allowing the ends of each cleat to project beyond the edge of board.



SHOWING ONE SIDE OF PRESS.

Place the boards together, with the cleats on the outside, and a quantity of paper and cloth, cut the same size as boards, between them. Pressure is applied by four strong rubber bands, such as can be bought at any stationers. Slip a band over the projecting ends of opposite cleats.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

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Articles and items of interest on different branches of Natural History solicited from all.

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THE OREGON NATURALIST.

146 1/2 SIXTH ST. Portland, Oregon.

April, 1896.

All mail for the Oregon Naturalist, should be addressed to  $146\frac{1}{2}$  Sixth Street.

Read special offer for new subscribers in another column.

Some of the articles to appear in May are continuation of "Contribution to the Avi-fauna of Kodiak Island," by B. J. Bretherton, "Imported German Song Birds in Oregon," by C. F. Pfluger, "Mountain Ash and Rattlesnake," by Angus Gaines, and "Some Haida Tattoo Marks." The following manuscript will be published shortly. A Mocking Bird, Animal Parasites, Peru and Peruvians, Leaf Printing, Sea Urchins. Sketches in Alaska, pertaining to its Natural History, and Mr. C. F. Pfluger, will contribute each month an article on the introduced European species of birds in Oregon, until the list is exhausted. The regular work of the Northwestern Ornithological Association, will pot be neglected, and a contribution may be expected each month.

Why not become a member of the N. O. A. the dues are only 50 cents per year entitling you to all its benefits, including the official organ free. It is rumored an exchange department among members will soon be instituted.

Manuscript for "Eastern Department," has not been received up to time of going to press.

Some very fine sets yet remain in the Pope collection, that can be secured at a bargain, mostly Mr. Pope's personal collecting and identification.

Frank Blake Webster's (Txaidermists, Hyde Park, Mass.) series of photographs from work and from life, has taken ten years to make, aside from their value to the taxidermist, they will grace the album of any lover of Nature.

Collectors in want of fine quartz, in groups, crystals, inclusions, rare planes, or anything in quartz from North Carolina, or crystalized zircon, mica, garnet, hiddenite, rutile etc., would do well to correspond with Mr. E. H. Harn, of Henry, N. C. who is offering some very fine specimens in his advertisement on another page.

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### THE IMPORTED AND ACCLIMATED ance. The song-thrush builds by preference GERMAN SONG BIRDS IN OREGON.

#### BY C. F. PFLUGER.

or marvis, die Singdrossel).

pairs were introduced into Oregon in 1889 and one inch in height, have a pale lead color. 1892, and since that time they have increased All the upper part of the body is olive-brown; remarkably well.

throughout Europe, and frequents woods near and its breast, light reddish yellow, covered streams and meadows, and is one of those with numerous dark brown heart-shaped spots. birds which, whether in a state of liberty or The belly is white, with dark brown oval confinement, may always be listened to by spots. Both rows of the larger wing coverts the lover of melody with gratification. It is have triangular orange spots on the tips, the the finest of the imported singing-birds, not inner coverts are light orange; the only for the sweetness and the great variety feathers greyish brown, as are also the tail of its notes, but for the long continuance of feathers, the outermost of which are edged them, as it delights us with its song for two- with white on the external plume. thirds of the year.

tember, and it returns about the first of is a pale whitish yellow, and the orange tips March, when every male may be found of the wing coverts are not so large as in singing his spring song, perched on the same the male. tree from which he sang the year before.

with which they feed their young, and the arrival of spring by its varied and beautiful various flying and creeping insects, larvae song, and continuing its melody throughout and caterpillars, is very partial to snails and the summer. It is especially fond of singing is also fond of berries like all other birds, in the morning and evening twilight.

on small pine or fir trees, or on oaks, pear charming song, which, as early as February, and apple trees. The nest is large and is at times is heard in such sonorous and constructed of various kinds of lichen, mixed melodious strains as to delight the whole with earth, loam or cow dung. The female neighborhood. lays twice a year, from three to six greenish eggs, covered with blackish brown spots. tention to the circumstance that thrushes The first brood is usually fledged about the render great service to men by destroying middle or end of April. On the upper part vast numbers of snails and injurious insects of the body the young have a spotty appear- and their larvae.

near water. It is eight inches and a half in length, of which the tail measures three inches and a half. The beak is nine lines THE SONG THRUSH, (Turdus musicus, Throstle long, horn brown, except the half of the lower mandible, nearest the root, which is Of these lovely and useful song-birds, 35 yellow. The iris is nut-brown; the feet, the throat whitish yellow, with a black stripe The song-thrush is a well-known bird down each side; the sides of the neck and pen In the female several little streaks are substituted It migrates south about the middle of Sep- for the black lines on the throat; the breast

The song-thrush is a great enlivener of Its food consists principally of worms, the woods-announcing from the highest trees Am-The song-thrush prefers to build its nest ateurs prize it chiefly on account of its

The naturalists have oftentimes called at-

### TURTLE MORTAR.

There has recently been found on the Lower Columbia River a splendid specimen of Indian work in stone. A turtle, about six inches long by four in width. The head and tail project at right angles to the shell. The legs have the position observed in life, when at rest, and upon its back is a small mortar, with a comparatively deep bowl. This relic of an ancient race, is carved out of trap rock, the entire surface worked smooth and showing a decided polish in many places. The workmanship and resemblance to life is marvelous, when its supposed origin is considered. This specimen now rests in the collection of an enthusiastic Portland collector, and is one of his most cherished possessions.

TACOMA, WASH.,-April 6th, 1896.—The Tacoma Rifle, Rod and Gun Club, is taking a very active interest in the introduction and preservation of new species of game birds in Washington. At a recent meeting of the Club, the following resolution complimentary of one of our citizens was unaminously adopted:

"Whereas, Frank Alling has for the past two years been importing from the Orient, many valuable species of Pheasants, Quails and other game birds, and as said birds will within a few years add greatly to the number, value and variety of the game birds of Washington.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Tacoma Rifle, Rod and Gun Club, as a mark of its appreciation, does hereby make and constitute said Frank Alling, an honorary member of this Club, and further pledges to him its hearty cooperation in his work.

### MERIDEN S. HILL.

At the last meeting of the Portland Annex, Mr. Rey Stryker, exhibited a Bullock's Oriole nest, in which a Western Bluebird had become entangled and died. The Bluebird in its search for material to build its nest, had been caught around the neck by the horse-hair, in the Oriole's nest and could not free itself.

### THE NORTHWESTERN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized Dec. 28th, r894, Object—to advance the science of Ornithology in the Northwest. President; William L. Finley, 287 4th, St., Portland, Or., First vicepres. Ellis F. Hadley, Dayton, Or. Second vice-pres.Guy Stryker, Milwaukie, Or. Sec. Arthur L. Pope, McMinnville, Or. Treas. Dorsie C. Bard, Portland, Or.

Any person interested in Ornithology, residing in the Northwest, may become an active member.

Any person interested in Ornithology may become an associate member.

The membership fee shall be fifty cents; this shall cover all dues to the first of January, after initiation.

The OREGON NATURALIST, shall be sent free to all members.

Applications for membership should be sent to the Secretary.

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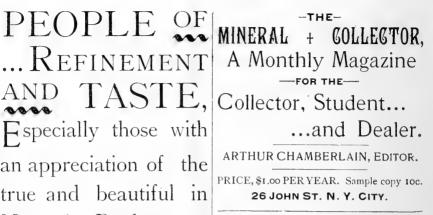
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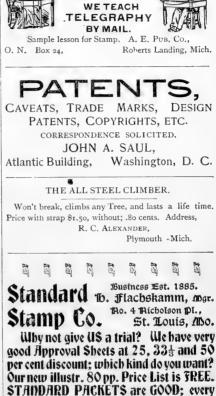
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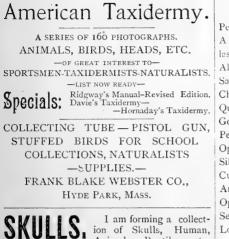
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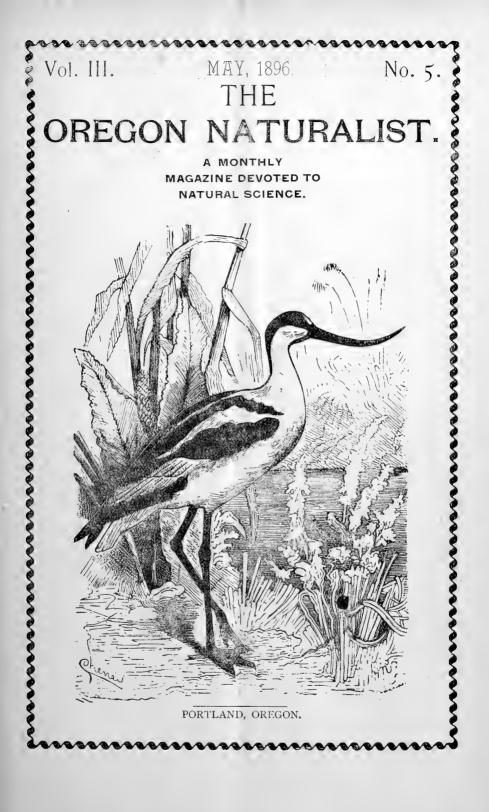
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# ARTHUR L. POPE, McMINNVILLE, - OREGON.



#### OREGON NATURALIST. THE

VOL. III. No. 5 PORTLAND, OREGON, MAY, 1896.

#### KADIAK ISLAND

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE AVIFAUNA OF ALASKA. Cyclorrhynchus psittaculus. PAROOUET AUKLET.

Mr. Wm. J. Fisher informed the writer • that this species is occasionally met with, but it was not the writer's fortune to obtain a specimen.

> Simorhyncl:us cristatellus CRESTED AUKLET.

A breeding resident more numerous in winter than in summer.

These quaint little birds are locally known as Sea Quail, their chief breeding ground lays off the south end of Kadiak Island and the writer was not able to visit them. They are very numerous all round the coast; during the winter gathering in large the last week in March in bands of from flocks in the small sheltered bays. Like everthing else with feathers on they constitute an item in the diet of the natives.

The eyes of all specimens taken had a white V shaped iris.

> Simorhynchus pusillus LEAST AUKLET.

Reported by Mr. Wm. J. Fisher. met with by the writer.

#### Sunthliboramphus antiquus ANCIENT MURRELET.

A common but not plentiful resident shunning the neighborhood of settlements except when driven in by stress of weather.

This species undoubtedly breeds in the island but no nests were found.

### Brachyramphus marmoratus.

#### MARBLED MURRELET.

Only two specimens of this species were obtained and nothing of their habits was ascertained. A few are said to breed on the island.

#### Cepphus columba PIGEON GUILLEMOT.

A summer migrant but numbers of the young of the year remain through the first winter.

These birds arrived at the island about ten to thirty individuals and at once resort to the localities frequented in former seasons. They are by far the commonest sea bird on the island in summer; nesting in every headland and small island along the coast and their low toned but penetrating whistle may be heard almost in-Not cessantly.

They choose for their nesting site a

crevise in the rock which may be only slaty black. just large enough to admit the bird and in which but one pair will lay, or an aperture large enough to admit the body of a man and in which several pairs will lay.

made and in a few instances the eggs were localities. found laid on the bare gravelly beach out the middle of May till the end of June, natives and said to be Yarra, but for that is, fresh eggs may be found during reasons that will be shown when treating that period. how many eggs the bird is capable of lay- learnt to mistrust all native ornithologists, ing in a season is hard to tell. The writer has taken six eggs from the same stupid that it has been my fortune to deal nest and to all appearances laid by the with The writer was camped on Chineak same bird.

covered with a heavy down, black on the beach swimming along leisurely, as I dorsal and dirty white on the ventral sur- reached for my gun one of the natives faces. By the middle of October they touched my arm saying in Russian not to have all left the island except some of the use it, at the same time picking up a rock young birds as before stated. Two about the size of a brick he quietly strolled theories may be advanced to account for down to the waters edge and that fool bird these young birds remaining neither of came right on to meet him until they which may be correct but both of which were within a few feet of each other, then are reasonable. The first and most the native let fly his rock and Mr. Yarra probable is, they are hatched late in the literally turned up his toes. Afterwards season and are not strong enough to fly several specimens were taken in this manwith their parents, and so are left to shift ner by the natives many of whom are for themselves. The second is that the quite proficient at stone throwing. parents have been killed.

In the museum of the Oregon State Agricultural College may be seen a series of these birds collected by the writer illus- was taken in July 1893 which might be mature bird; also one unique specimen in of birds were seen all during the summer which every alternate feather of the entire months and undoubtedly nested there. plumage is white while the others are The writer spent several day and rowed

#### Uria Iomuia arra

#### YARRA, [PALLAS'S MURRE]

Resident. The great egg bird of Alaska is not so abundantly plentiful on Kadiak In either case no pretense of a nest is Island as they undoubtedly are in other

The writer never found their eggs, alof the reach of the tide. Eggs are laid from though many eggs were brought by the Two eggs form a set but of the Black Ovster-catcher the writer

This bird is without doubt the most Bay with a party of natives in January The young are hatched in July and are when a Yarra was seen approaching the.

#### Stercorarius pomarinus. (?). POMATORHINUS JAGER.

A young and badly damaged specimen trating every phase from the egg to the refered to this species, and in 1894 a pair

62

specimen for indentification or to find their when he stated in the U.S. Senate some nest, but in vain for the birds, wary and time ago that ship loads were annually shy of approach, would fly from one island gathered on Kadiak and sold for albumen. to another, alighting on all but showing a preference for none.

The natives know the bird by a Russian get them safely home. name a yard long which when translated is not edifying, they assured me'it bred on the island which it undoubtedly does,

#### Rissa tridactyla pollicoris PACIFIC KITTIWAKE.

In the months of April or May vast schools of small fish about two inches long called sand eels swarm into the bays and harbors and with them come kitta- abundant. wakes in countlesst housands feeding on these fish and following them wherever they go, and until the ragged edge is taken off their hunger, they show no fear small bands about the middle of May. of man. They nest in May choosing the most inaccesible places in the face of high bluffs overhanging the sea.

Fresh eggs were obtained until the end of June which may be accounted for by the fact that the natives collect the eggs for food. After the young are raised ithey all leave for the south.

#### Larus glaucescens.

#### GLAUCOUS-WINGED GULL.

Resorts to the island to breed arriving gulls eggs are two in number. about the same time as the Kittiwakes but remaining at least a month longer. They associate with Gulls, but different species and using the same material with which eggs of these birds. to construct them. Great numbers of these eggs are annually gathered by the natives for food, but the writer feels sure Not so plentiful as the last species but

many weary miles trying to obtain a that Senator Mitchell was misinformed

It takes a good many eggs to make a ship load and a good deal of packing to

#### Larus occidentalis.

#### WESTERN GULL,

Arrival, departure and habits same as the last described species, but is not nearly so common.

Larus argentatus smithsonianus.

#### AMERICAN HERRING GULL.

Similar to the last in habits but more

#### Sterna paradisaea.

#### ARTIC TERN.

This elegant little sea bird arrives in They nest in June choosing low sandy islands for the nesting site which is in marked contrast to the Gulls which always nest on the high rocky islands. They nest in colonies but the nests are not placed close together.

The nest is a poor affair placed in a tuft of grass and composed of the same material.

The eggs which resemble minature sea

As far as noted the Terns do not nest in May on the out lying islands, nest in the same colonies. The natives building their nests on the tussocks of grass annually destroy great numbers of the

#### Sterna aleutica

#### ALEUTIAN TERN.

associating with it and of like habits.

Hydrochelidon nigra surinamensis,

#### BLACK TERN.

Reported by Mr. Wm. J. Fisher, but not met with by the writer.

#### Diomedea albatrus.

#### SHORT-TAILED ALBATROSS

A single male bird obtained in Shelikoff Straits October the first 1803.

#### Phalacrocorax uri'e

#### RED-FACED CORMORANT.

more numerous in the summer than winter months. The nests of this species are built on the face of a high bluff overhanging the sea; in most case in inaccessible known by the writer to breed on the isplaces. The eggs, two in number are of a land. very pale blue color and a rough lusterless surface, when blown sometimes drying out white.

#### Merganser americanus MERGANSER.

This species arrive at the island about the same time as the Loons. They are not so plentiful as the next species but in banks of rivers and lakes, building the a visitant upon the island. nests of reeds and rank grass. The eggs are laid in June and are of a cream color. ten to thirteen in number.

#### Merganser servator.

#### · RED-BREASTED MERGANSER

In habits resembling the last species. Lophodytes cucullatus.

#### HOODED MERGANSER

A few of these birds resort to the island to breed they may rightly be styled a rare bird in this locality. No nests were taken and as but two or three birds were seen

nothing was learned of their habits.

#### Anas boschas.

#### MALLARD.

The Mallard nests on the island but not very numerously. Their great breeding grounds being in the neighborhood of Illiamna Lake on the mainland further to the north. A number stop for a while on Kadiak Island during the fall migration and a noticable feature of these birds is the immense amount of fat that they carry. A common but not plentiful resident They are also extremely fishy in flavor.

#### Anas penelope.

#### WIDGEON.

Not at all a common bird and not

#### Anas carolinensis.

#### GREEN-WINGED TEAL.

A few specimens of this species were obtained:-All migrants and nothing learned of their habits.

#### Spatula civpeata.

#### SHOVELLER.

Three specimens obtained during) the habits are similar. They nest along the spring migration. Can only be considered

#### Dafila acuta,

#### PINTAIL.

Four seen May 11, 1804.

#### Avthva marila nearctica.

AMERICAN SCAUP DUCK. One specimen obtained March 28, and

a large flock seen May 19, 1894.

Glaucionetta clangula americana.

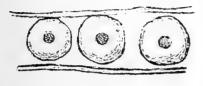
#### AMERICAN GOLDEN-EYE.

Reported by Mr. Wm. J. Fisher, but not met with by the writer.

#### BERNARD J. BRETHERTON.

#### WOOD IN WELLS.

Recently, in the town of Forest Grove, Or., two deep wells have been sunk. At a depth of 78 ft. in one of them, some wood was struck, while in the other similar pieces of wood were brought up from a depth of 138 ft.



#### FIG. I. PINE.

great interest to the geologist can be After probably many many generations of gathered together by the systematic ob- these trees had passed away, some of

comes possible for a clever dendrologist, or one who studies trees in the fullest sense, to determine very nearly what kind of a tree produced a certain specimen of wood, and it happens that it makes no difference how old the wood may be so long as certain conditions, such as may be found in any swamp or marsh, are present. In other words, wood buried in mud and water and organic matter, may be preserved indefinitely. On the other hand, wood left exposed to the air is attacked by all manner of living forms, which very soon change it back to the simple chemical compounds of which it was made.

If this be true, it follows here that at some time, a long while ago, the general surface of the ground was a good deal lower at Forest Grove, than it is now. Now a great deal of information of very and that trees were growing at that time.



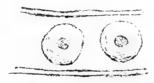
#### FIG. 2, 78 ft.

well digging and boring; and it has oc- already indicated. Afterwards some gecured to the writer that a little talk about ological agency has been at work, piling the wood found in these two wells at up on these tree remains, in one place 46 Forest Grove, would set some of the feet in thickness of blue clay, then some readers of the "Oregon Naturalist," to pebbles and sand which strongly suggest thinking about, and studying the wells glaciers, and finally a thick body of clay which may be dug in their vicinity.

another kind of tree produces, and this but to be very correct it was not very long difference extends to the minute or micro- ago according to a geologist's way of thinkand general appearance. Hence it be- mountains and plains were clothed with

servation of the materials discovered by their remains being preserved in the way and soil. It has further occurred to the Now the wood which one kind of tree writer that it would be interesting to know produces, is different from that which what kind of trees lived in that long ago, scopical structure as well as to the quality ing, and so to get some idea of what the when, perhaps, there was no human eve to see it all. I say perhaps because if were beautified by a clothing of evergreens! some readers eves are sharp enough, he such token, buried along with the wood, in which case it would be very necessary to be sure of the depth and the kind of material it was associated with.

In order, then, to satisfy curiosity, though not idle, I hope, I took the wood and cut some very thin slices of it with a razor, and these I placed, after proper preparation, under a microscope and it was soon evident that the trees which produced these specimens, at least, were of the kind to which are closely related the spruce, fir, pine and their cousins. Let us see how this may be determined. If we take a piece of



#### FIG. 3, 138 ft.

pine or cedar in this same way, we shall find upon examination that many of the vessels making up the wood are marked with rows of double concentric circles. These are termed by botanists "bordered pits" and are means of communication between the contiguous vessels. Pits of this particular form are very characteristic of the cone-bearing trees. They are as represented in Fig. 1.

Now, on comparing the specimens taken from the wells with' pine and cedar, it was found that these same bordered pits were present and the drawings reproduced in Figs. 2 and 3 were made by means of a camera lucida, and are magnified about 300 times.

So it appears that these ancient lanscapes

It is hoped that some will be stimulated may find some implement of stone or some to make collections of the different materials found in wells and the depth at which they are found. All such facts and specimens will be of great value when the time comes for unravelling the later geological history of Oregon.

FRANCIS E. LLOYD,

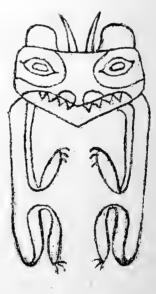
Pacific University,

Forest Grove, Or.

#### SOME HAIDA TATTOO MARKS.

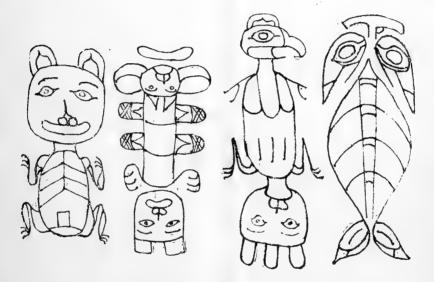
[Extracts from the Tenth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, ]

"During the summer of 1884, Dr. Hoffman, met at Port Townsend, Washington, a party of Haida Indians, from Queen Charlottes Islands, who were encamped there for a short time. Most of them were tattooed after the manner of the Haidas, the breast, back, fore-



MOUNTAIN GOAT,

arm, and legs bearing partial or complete ployd in tattooing are painted upon property designs of animate forms relating to totems or belonging to various persons, such as boats, myths. \*\*\* In persons tattooed upon the house-fronts, etc. In such instances colors breast or back, the part operated upon is first are used that could not be used in tattooing." divided into halves by an imaginary vertical The eagle, or skamskwin the thunder bird line upon the breast through the middle of the figured, was copied from the tattooing on the sternum and upon the back along the middle left arm of a woman. The sculpin represents of the vertebral column. Such designs are kul, a totemic animal and was copied from the



#### BEAR;

DRAGON-FLY;

THUNDER-BIRD;

SCULPIN.

drawn double, facing outward from this im- left forearm of a woman. aginary line.

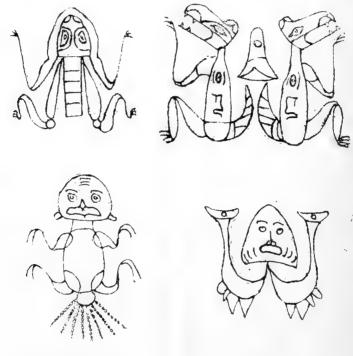
consisting of finely powdered charcoal, gun- woman. Kahatta, the dog fish, copied from powder, or India ink, while the latter is the back of a subject. Met, the mountain Chinese vermillion, formerly performed with sharp thorns, spines flkamkostan, the frog; wasko, the wolf; the of certain fish, or spicules of bone; but recently cod and the squid were all copied from various a small bunch of needles is used, which serves parts of the body. the purpose to better effect. \*\*\*

The dragon-fly, a mythic insect, represents mamathlona and "The colors are black and red, the former was copied from the right arm of the same The operation was goat, copied from the leg. Hoots, the bear;

"Wasco is a mythological being of the "Sometimes the simple outline designs em- wolf species, similar to the chu-chu-hmexl of the Makah Indians, an antediluvian demon thunder bird and double raven.

Mr. James G. Swan made a valuable contri-

"I am of the opinion, judging from my own supposed to live in the mountains." Other observation of over twenty years among the designs were observed and copied, notably, the coast tribes, that but few females can be found tshimos, a mystic animal, and the double among the Indians, not only on Vancouvers island, but all along the coast to the Columbia river, and perhaps even to California, that are bution on tattoo marks, published in the not marked with some device tattooed on their Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of hands, arms, or ankles, either do.s or straight



#### FROG. SQUID.

in the Tenth Annual Report, as follows:

Alaska.

WOLF. COD. :

Ethnology, and reproduced, much condensed lines; but of all of the tribes mentioned, the Haidas stand preeminent for tattooing, and "Among all the tribes or bands belonging to seem to be excelled only by the natives of the the Haida family, the practice of tattooing the Fiji islands or the King's Mills group in the person in some manner is common; but the south seas. The tattoo marks of the Haidas most marked are the Haidas proper, or those are heraldic designs or the family totem, or living on Queen Charlotte islands, and the crests of the wearers, and are similar to the Kaiganis, of Prince of Wales archipelago, carvings depicted on the pillars and monuments around the homes of the chiefs, which casual

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observers have thought were idols.

"These designs are invariably placed on the men between the shoulders, just below the back of the neck, on the breast, on the front part of both thighs, and on the legs below the



#### DOG-FISH.

knee. On the women, they are marked on the breast, on both shoulders, on both forearms, from the elbow down over the back of the hands to the knuckles, and on both legs below the knee to the ankle.

northwest coast have tattoo marks on their as early as the end of March.

hands and arms, and some on the face; but as a general thing these marks are mere dots or straight lines having no particular significance. With the Haidas, however, every mark has its meaning, those on the hands and arms of the women indicate the family name, whether they belong to the bear, beaver, wolf, or eagle totems, or any of the family of fishes. As one of them quaintly remarked to me, 'If you were tattooed with the design of a swan, the Indians would know your family name,""

#### THE IMPORTED AND ACCLIMATED GERMAN SONG BIRDS IN OREGON.

#### BY C. F. PFLUGER.

#### THE BLACK THRUSH (Turdus merula, Merle, die Schwarzamsel).

Of these most useful birds 35 pairs were introduced in 1889 and 1892 into Oregon by the society.

It is a native bird of Europe, and is very numerous in Germany and Great Britian. It is the only species of thrush which is not migratory.

The haunts and habits of the black thrush are nearly the same as those of the song thrush, its size being nine inches and a half in length, of which the tail measures four inches. The beak is one inch in length, and bright yellow; the iris dark brown; the feet black and fourteen lines in height. The male is black all over the body; the female blackish brown, tinged on the breast with rust-color, and on the belly with gray, and is somewhat larger than her mate. Its food is the same as that of the song-thrush, though, in winter, it is often obliged to be content with the berries of the elder and white thorn, and at the same season of the year it can frequently be seen near warm springs, in search of insects and worms. As the black-thrush is not a bird of passage, it pairs very early in the year, so that "Almost all of the Indian women of the the young birds may often be found in the nest

The nest is placed in some thick bush, often not very high from the ground, and is constructed of earth and moss interlaced with twigs, and lined with fine grass-stalk and hair, The female lays twice or thrice a year four to six eggs, of a grayish green color, covered with light brown and liver-colored spots and stripes.

The song of the male is melodious and consists of deep sonorous passages, like those of a nightingale, though intermixed with others which are rather harsh. It sings from March to the end of July, especially by might, and in so loud and joyous a tone as to be audible at a considerable distance. Although the black thrush sings at all times of the day, it is more especially in the morning and evenings that it pours forth its delighful melodies which are as loud, rich, mellow, and much more surpassing in effect than those of any other song bird, excepting the nightingale, black-cap, song thrush and mocking-bird.

Considering the great usefulness of this bird as a destroyer of insect pests, I will illustrate by the following anecdote:

A grass plot attached to a country house was once visited by a dozen or two black thrushes for several days in succession. They ploughed it up so diligently with their bills as to make the surface look rough and decayed. The owner of the property, unwilling to shoot the intruders, caused the grass plot to be dug up in several places when it was found to be overrun with the larvæ of chafers. The birds were left in undisturbed possession; and, although the walls were covered with ripe fruit, they left it for the grubs which they effectually destroyed, and the grass plot soon resumed its original apperance.

The term "Merle" is derived from the habit of this bird of flying mera, or solitary; hence, too, its generic name, me-ula.

#### MOUNTAIN ASH AND RATTLESNAKES. BY ANGUS GAINES.

Nearly two years ago an eastern paper of wide circulation published a letter from a Mississippi lady who complained that by this discussion was that there was once

she had been annoved by snakes entering her greenhouse. The visits from snakes were not frequent but the knowledge that the serpents could invade her premises was a source of constant uneasiness to her and she was anxious to obtain plants ot the Mountain Ash alluded to by Oliver W. Holmes in "ElsieVenner" as having a fatal influence over Rattlesnakes.

Negroes, she said, planted gourds around their cabins to keep snakes away, but the first frost killed the vines and then the snakes could enter unchecked whenever the weather permitted them to travel. Any one who could furnish genuiue Mountain Ash of the kind warranted to keep away snakes was assured that he could find a ready market for his plants.

This letter attracted a great deal of attention among the readers of the journal which published it and many suggestions were offered by other correspondents regarding the plant which was fatal to venomous serpents.

One writer stated that the plant which was so obnoxious to snakes was the beautifnl shrub, the White Ash, or White Fringe Tree, Chionanthus virginica. which, by the way, is not on ash at all although it belongs to the same natural order. Another maintained that the plant sought was the real White Ash, Fraxinus americana, which is a magnificent tree, attaining a height of over 100 feet. Still others insisted that Dr. Holmes was right and that the noxious plant was Mountain Ash, but there was still uncertainty as to what was meant by "Mountain Ash".

No Ash at all, some one who knew informed us, but the Pyrus americana, which is commonly called by that name. It was said to be commonly believed in Connecticut that this tree would drive away snakes and that Fraxinus acuminata was useful as an antidote in case of snake bites.

The most important fact brought to light

cised a fatal effect upon venomous serpents. said that such 'beliefs were prevalent in That Rattlesnakes held it in such fear that various parts of Europe, while others dewhen one of them was surrounded by a clared that it was a legend borrowed from circle half of fire and half of the leaves of various tribes of the North American Inthis plant the terrified serpent would dart dians. Probably both were right. into the flames to escape from the green leaves. Birds, it seems, possessed a very edifying to the student of Herpetology knowledge of the virtue of this tree and but it was interesting to the student of sought safety from nest robbing snakes by Folk Lore. building amog its branches. Birds nesting elsewhere so the story goes, on seeing their nests invaded by some scaly monster. have had the rare presence of mind to gather leaves of the fatal tree and drop them down upon the intruder's head. whereupon the terrified Ophidian would straightway yield up the ghost, or would seek safety in flight.

Most narrators related this story as a curious tradition, while others seemed to accept it in perfect good faith, but unfortunately could not agree as to the indentity of the tree possessing this marvellous power. Some of those who related the story with the greatest apparent sincerity insisted that the same tree would also and the explanation is plain to any one keep away witches.

Of course Dr. Holmes had nothing to do with the origin of these singular beliefs but had simply woven into his narrative the material already at hand.

question which can be settled positively by experiment, and although I felt inclined to question the authenticity of these stories. I knew that it might be possible for some plant to be poisonous to serpents but harmless to man so I offered to try the effects of any leaves or twigs sent me on some of my pet snakes.

Quite a number of people responded and the variety of leaves sent me was surprising. I tested them all'impartially and the result of my experiments was negative.

the singular tradition had been handed a portion of a stone image or idol.

a wide spread belief that some plant exer- down to them by their fathers who had

Taken altogether this matter was not

One of the stories brought to my notice during this correspondence would seem to point to a very singular combination of inaccuracies. It is the story of a man who found a Rattlesnake in the woods and in the presence of witnesses proceeded to test the virtues of Mountain Ash upon it. The reptile indulged in very threatening demonstrations, but when touched with the twigs of the potent tree it subsided, turned upon its back and lay still. apparently dead. The twigs were removed in a short time, the reptile recovered and became as pugnacious as ever, but was again subdued by the Ash twigs.

This story was told in evident sincerity familiar with snakes and with the general ignorance regarding them. The common "spreading adder," Heterodon platyrhinus, is frequently mistaken for the Copperhead and even for the Rattlesnake. When There should be no dispute about a this snake is tormented it will make threatening demonstrations and will frequently go into hysterics and turn upon its back as if dead, just as the snake in the story did. A man who mistook this serpent for the Rattler and experimented upon him with twigs, those of the Mountain Ash would do as well as any other. might, if his faith were sufficiently robust, prove the legend true.

It is reported from Kelso, Wash. that workmen while excavating preparatory to placing Some of my correspondents stated that a new boiler in position in a mill, unearthed

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THE OREGON NATURALIST.

Portland, Oregon,

#### MAY, 1896.

We hope that a number of our readers will follow out the suggestion made by Professor Llovd in his article on "Wood in Wells". All questions, we are sure, will be cheerfully answered by him.

About four pages of the work of the N, O. A., owing to its late arrival and a desire to print it entire, was unavoidably left over for next month from lack of space. The number of pages of the Oregon Naturalist will be doubled just as soon as its receipts will permit. There is not much money behind it, but it is conducted on business principles, and it is self sustaining. Although its circulation is large for a paper of this class, yet it is not sufficiently large to warrant an increase of pages. If all of its friends, who think it is worth the subscription price, will secure for the Naturalist, one new subscriber; it would be enlarged at once, The price is cheaper than any other paper on Natural Science, and attention is called to special offer, "for new subscribers," in the advertising columns.

"The Stamp Collectors Hand-Book, Kissinger.

This pamphlet of 64 pages, bound in flexible cloth covers, is a veritable 'mine of knowledge' for the philatelist. Especially useful to the beginner, yet may be read and studied with profit, by the more advanced collector.

Mr. H. R. Taylor, writes: "The climate and bird life of the West, are so alluring to me that I shall remove with the Nidologist, to my old stamping grounds, at Alameda, California, before issuing the May number.

"Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, conforming to the Nomenclature of the New A. O.U. Check-List." Compiled by H. R. Taylor, with the assistance of eleven Oologists. Gives valuation of nests for exchange, and a partial list of introduced species.

#### N. O. A.

In our work for the last few months we have continually been compelled to face this objection in the study of our birds, viz: that in all the works on Ornithology, that we have access to, and that includes all the principal ones, we are unable to positively identify the birds of some families from the sub-species of those families. We have decided that the only method we have of finally over-coming this difficulty is to bring together a series of skins of those birds, and establish for ourselves the difference between them if there is any, We have therefore determined to form a collection of skins to be the property of the N. O. A. We cannot expect to accomplish anything definitely very soon, nor maybe in quite a time to come, but if the plan is carried out there will be a time when we can accomplish our purpose.

We do not expect to acquire skins very fast because at present, it is merely a voluntary offering on the part of our members, and others, but it is hoped each will take an interest now and then if they come across a skin that they feel like donating to a good cause, we will be glad to receive it. Each skin ought to have the sex, where collected, by whom, and the date if possible. We have A a good start, and any skin may be sent to the lexiccn of terms and hints to philatelists," by secretary of pressident, and the N. O. A., for the Chas. W. Egan, and edited by Clifford W. next few months, will be on the Woodpeckers.

WILLIAM L. FINLEY.

#### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

#### CHAT.

The editor owes his sincere apologies to the many readers of the Oregon Naturalist for the failure of the department to appear in the April issue. However sickness is a matter that attacks each and all of us unexpectedly and for which we are not responsible.

The editor will carefully review any articles, magazines, etc. fowarded, and comments upon same may appear from time to time in this department.

We are pleased to recognize the reception of a charming monograph "The Electric-light Bug or Belostoma" by Theodore William Schaefer, M. D. Kansas City, Mo. The matter is carfully written in a scientific manner and his application of the bug to medical science, with the deductions drawn are of considerable merit.

If you want a definite system of work  $c_T$  want your notes incorporated in a scientific compilation, join the Oologists Association. Full particulars from President Isador S. Trostler, 4246 Farnham St. Omaha, Neb. or from the Eastern Editor.

Articles on Osteology, by "Ossa" begin next month.

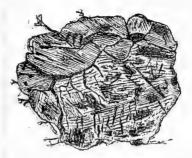
Did you do your duty with your notes on the Hawks and Owls?

For a few months the Eastern Editor will be located at Woods Holl, Mass. All mail pertaining to Eastern Department, should be addressed to him at that place.

SPILE SCRAPING AND SOME OF THE MARINE INVERTEBRATES OBTAINED BY IT.

(Continued from Page 42.)

AMAROECIUM.



Amaroecium or "sea pork" was very common at some wharves. It resembles a chunk of gelatine as much as anything I can think of. The specimens, when fresh from the water, vary very much in color. There are some colored white, others different shades of red and still others a greenish yellow. In preserving liquid these colors bleach out.

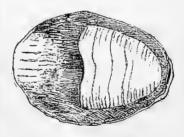
#### MYTILUS EDULIS.

This common mussel grows in large colonies on the spiles usually near the surface. The specimens in these colonies are generally small.

Farther down are found the old mussels with their shells covered with Serpula tubes, small Metriduims, Crepidulas, and various other things.

These old and large mussels and sometimes some of the smaller ones are inhabited by a little parasitic crab which I shall treat of later.

CREPIDULA.



Crepidulas were often found on the spiles.

Frequently three or four would be attached to each other. A very good idea of their appearance can be obtained from the cut.

#### SERPULA DIANTHUS.

The round crooked tubes of the Serpula were found on the old mussel shells and sometimes on the spile itself. When disturbed the worm with-draws into its tube and closes the end witha little plug called the operculum. When fully displayed the branchiæ are very beautiful. They are in a round cluster parted into equal halves with about eighteen delicate filaments on each side. The colors vary remarkably but are always brilliant. The usual color is purplish at the base with narrow bands of light red or yellowish green. In other varieties they are all citron yellow or whitish banded with brown.

#### NEREIS PELAGICA.



This worm was found in the masses of hydroid. It varied from an inch and a half to over four inches in length. It is light trown in color. I think that this was the commonest of all the worms which I met with and it was certainly the easiest to obtain.

#### LEPIDONOTUS SUBLEVIS.

This is another of the worms and was found in the same places and in company with Nereis pelagica. It is a smaller worm, (the largest I saw did not measure much over an inch) and is broader. The color is about the same as that of the preceding species. BALANUS BALANOIDES.



The common acorn barnacle can be seen on almost any spile or rock on the sea shore. When the tide goes down their shells  $appea_r$  as a band of white.

#### LIBINIA DUBIA.

Of this crab I found only two or three specimens. Those were taken from a mass of hydroid and were themselves covered all over with hydroid or algae. I preserved no specimen and so am not able to furnish a drawing, but I do not think that this species can be mistaken for any other. If I remember correctly it was about two inches long.

PINNOTHERES MACULATUS.



Many stolies are told about these little crabs acting as guardians of the shells which they inhabit but science has shown that all these tales are false and that they seek these homes merely for protection and convenience in obtaining food. They live on the nutritive matter in the currents of water caused by the cilia on the gills and mantle of the mollusca. There are two species; P. maculatus inhabits the mussel and P. ostreum the oyster.

Several species of hydroid are found on the spiles but I am not familiar enough with them to describe them. There are also other tunicates, several species of small shells and probaly many more species of various orders which f did not happen to find. And now in closing I wish to say that although there is plenty of hard work, still there is a great deal of enjoyment to be derived from this kind of marine collecting.

F. P. DROWNE.

#### PRINCIPLES OF ORNITHOLOGICAL CLASSIFICATION.

#### C. C. PURDUM M. D.

Every student of nature knows what a bird really is; knows its history, how it has gradually evolved from the lowest and can trace its relation to mammals. But to the majority of students of ornithology the question of classification presents itself more as something which has been gone over thoroughly and about their ancestry-as it were-to find and prove which they need not bother their heads. As a matter of fact however, classification is the prime object of our study, and brings the science out of the chaos of a meaningless terminology, and places it upon the sound foundation of reality and practice. Classification strives to make an orderly disposition of facts, and to arrange them with reference to the reciprocal relation of the things it knows, Classification presupposes that such relations do exist and that the relations are the result of certain fixed inevitable laws. It is therefore a rational disposition of observed facts, and with regard to the varieties of facts, and their arrangement, we speak of "Taxonomy" (or the natural affinities defined and compared) and "Morphology" (or a classification based entirely upon structure or form). It would be readily seen then that a complete taxonomic classification could only be completed by having before us , a specimen of every kind of bird which exists and thoroughly comparing their like points and separating their unlike points. This is obviously impossible; in fact we do not know all the birds which now exist, and only a comparitively few extinct birds have been discovered; consequently many of our links in the chain are thus quickly found to be missing and in many cases great difficulty arises in joining the others together.

The result of all this has been the rearing up of separate schemes of classification by different leaders in the Ornithological world, (each having some natural advantages) and although depending in the main upon the old

"natural" system, still in some points, branching out on different points of structure.

The reaction from the "partial" method of classification has been complete. As if internal and external parts were not reciprocal and mutually exponent of each other! As if a natural classification should not be based upon all points of structure, internal as well as external! But the taxonomic goal is not now to find the way in which birds can be classified with the least inconvenience, but to establish their pedigree, and this would be the only "natural classification" and becomes necessarily "morphological classification" for these a reasons. Every offspring tends to take on precisely the same structure as its parent and no outside influences being imparted to it continues to "breed true" forever; but counter influences are incessantly at work in consequence of different surrounding conditions or environment.

The plasticity of organization rendering them more or less susceptible of modification by such means, and they become unlike their ancestors in various ways. Obviously in this manner, degrees of likeness or unlikeness, denote with greater exactness the nearness or remoteness of physical kinship. Huxley has so clearly and completely stated the "Reasons why Morphological Classification is Important" that I can do no better in concluding this paper, than to quote his masterly words on the subject. In the introduction to his "Classification of Animals" page 2-3, he says.

"As a matter of fact no mutual independence of animal forms exists in nature. On the contrary the members of the animal kingdom from the highest to the lowest are marvelously connected. Every animal has something in common with all its fellows; much with many of them; more with a few, and generally so much with some that it differs but little from them.

"Now a morphological classification is a statement of these gradations of likeness which are observable in animal structures, and its

objects are two-fold. In the first place it strives to throw our knowledge of the facts which underlie and are the cause of the similarities discerned, into the fewest possible general propositions, subordinated to one another, according to their greater or less degree of generality; and in this way it answered the purpose of a memoria technica, without which the mind would be incompetent to grasp and retain the multifarious details of anatomical science."

"But there is a second and even more important aspect of morphological classification. Every group in that classification is such in virtue of certain structural characters, which are not only common to members of the group, but distinguish it from all others; and the statements of these constitutes the group. Thus, among animals with vertebræ, the MAMMALIA is definable as those having two occipital condules, with a well-ossified basi-occipital: which have each ramus of the mandible composed of a single piece of bone and articulated with the squamosal element of the skull; and which possess mammæ and non-nucleated red corpuscles in the blood",

"But this statement of the character of MAMMALIA is something more than an arbitrary definition. It does not merely mean that naturalists agree to call such and such animals mammalia; but it expresses, firstly, a generaliza. tion based upon, and constantly verified by wide experience; and secondly a belief arising out of that generalization. The generalization is, that in nature the s.ructures mentioned are found associated together; the belief is that they through bushes, over rotten stumps and always have been and always will be found so associated. In other words the definition of the class mammalia is a statement of a law of correlation, or coexistence of animal structures, from which the most important conclusions are deducible".

#### COLLECTORS DIFFICULTIES AND HOW TO AVOID THEM.

#### BY MERGANSER

To the old soldier in the field, to the ex-

perienced collector, this article does not apply, but to some of the more inexperienced who through lack of knowledge "how to go about it", the following hints may be of benefit.

This paper will deal entirely with the bird collector's troubles and should it succeed in running the gauntlet of the editor's waste basket and shears, I will in some future papers endeavor to help some of our brother collectors in other branches, to "get at 'em'"in the proper manner. Now in the first place to be a good collector, is in itself a very small affair, but to be a good scientific collector, is a great deal. A collector goes out and destroys life to satisfy his longing for a lot of well made skins, to display. A scientific collector, goes out to observe the habits of the feathered denizens of the forest, and destroys a few that he may understand them more thoroughly. But I wander! "Where shall I search for birds?" I am often asked. I invariably answer, "Every where"

"When shall I search for them? "Always".

"What kinds shall I collect?"

"All kinds".

But as a matter of fact, we can not search every where; we can not search always; and we cannot collect all kinds of birds. What shall we do then? Why! Choose that locality that affords the greatest variety of topographical reculiarities, and there you will find the greatest variety of "flora" and consequently the greatest variety of birds. Here then is your field. The early spring and the autumn are the best times to collect. Of course I do not mean to collect only in those seasons. One of the greatest difficulties of the novice; is-strange as it may seemin finding birds to collect. He may range field, valley and woodland, and when he returns, report nothing but robins, song sparrows and bluebirds. You follow him once and you will see him go crashing scarcely waiting for a breath. No wonder he is unsuccessful. What bird would stand such a racket? Tell him to sit down for a moment and keep quiet. Mark the change; from here and there appear the birds, and in a short time you have material enough to keep you busy for a long-time, not merely shooting, but with open note-book observing and writing down actions, notes and habits of the little fellows and with a bag full of birds and a book full of notes about them, you have work enough to keep you busily employed till long after the lamps are lit that evening.

(To be continued)

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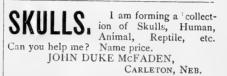
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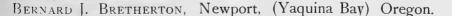
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- ,, ,, ,, " Western Grebe.
- 11 ... ,, " Mourning Dove. (2 views)
- 22 ,, •• " Forster's Tern.
- ,, ,, " Russet-backed Thrush .[Oregon]
- ... ,, " Marsh Hawk,
- ... 99 " Swainson's Hawk.
- •• 22 ., ... Red head Duck.
- ,, ,,, Lark Bunting.
- " Prairie Horned Lark, ., 11 • •
- 22 " McCown's Longspur. [2 views] 99 ...
- ,, " 99 99
- Burrowing Owls. [2 views] Chestnut-collared Longspur, ,, \*\* 99
- Nest of Long-billed Marsh Wren.
  - Brown Thrush.
  - 22 Parkman's Wren.
  - Yellow-headed Blackbird.
- Do'uble nest of Yellow Warhler,

Young Cowbird in Yellow Warbler's nest

- Bartram's Sandpipers.
  - Swainson's Hawk. [wings spread.]
- Burrowing Owls. [ 3views] Lapland Longspurs,

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50c,       11       11         50c,       11         3c,       bright claret,         10,       deep claret,         11,       1891,         11,       11,         11,       11,         12,       11,         11,       11,         11,       11,         12,       11,         12,       11,         12,       11,         13,       11,         14,       11,         15,       11,         16,       11,         16,       11,         17,       11,         18,       11,         11,       11,         12,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,         14,       11,	75
3c,       bright claret,       1891,       unused,       """".         3oc,       """".       """".       used,       """".         1c,       deep claret,       1894,       unw'm'd,       unused,       """.         2c,       """"."".".".".".".".".".".".".".".".".	25
30c,         used,           1c,       deep claret,       1894, unw'm'd, unused,            2c,	10
Ic, deep claret, 1894, unw'm'd, unused, '' '' . 2c, '' '' '' '' '' '' '' '' ''	75
2c,	05
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5c,	10
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### OREGON NATURALIST. THE

Vol. III.

PORTLAND, OREGON, JUNE, 1896.

No. 6

### KADIAK ISLAND

A CONTRIBUTION TO THE AVIFAUNA OF ALASKA.

> (Continued from Page 64.) Clangula hyemalis OLD SQUAW.

winter months having not been met with during the summer, but it is more than creation. probable that they breed on the island, which they could do in many of the un- throughout the year but to associate it frequented bays or inlets, many of which are never visited by travelers.

From November to the following April they were frequently met with on the open waters outside the smaller islands, generally in small flocks of six to twelve where it well knows no boat can follow. individuals, but sometimes they were noted associating with Steller's Eider. As a but never ascend them far and regularly general thing they were wild and did not fly back and forth to the ocean to feed. approach so near the shore while feeding Their cry is a shrill whistle descending in as other ducks.

as expert divers, in fact they are about off in a long trill. the most aggravating water fowl with which the collector has to deal and to get in spring, calling, and the actions of these them one must kill them sufficiently dead birds may justly be said to resemble the to guarantee their remaining dead, for, as crowing of a rooster. In giving forth long as they have an atom of life left they their call the head is thrown far back will endeavor to dive. Their food consists with the bill pointing directly upwards and largely of mollusks of which the Wrinkled widely open; then with a jerk the head is Purple (Purpura crispata) forms a large thrown foward and downward, as the cry part, the shells being swallowed whole as is uttered and at the same time the wings

shown by many examples taken from their crops.

### Histrionicus histrionicus HARLEOUIN DUCK.

A bird of the surf; loving the breaking water and deserting its ocean home only to raise it's young on some adjacent river and again return to wage endless war A rather numerous species during the upon the decapods and mollusca, to check whose increase seems to be its mission in

> This duck is a resident on Kadiak with ponds and lakes as is so often done in pictures seems a misconception as the bird is as much a surf lover as any of the "surf ducks" and when hunted or wounded will dodge in among the rocks

In June they resort to the rivers to breed cadence from a high to lower note, com-These ducks are surpassed by no others mencing with two long notes and running

The writer has often watched the males

are slightly expanded and drooped. Afterflap their wings.

more than eight or ten and from the and luring hungry and weary migrants to writer's observation the conclusion was their doom with a lot of decoys. Any way, reached that the mated birds remain to- a collector is a pot hunter by force of gether all the year. Mature birds are circumstances and does not kill for the much shyer than the younger ones so that love of taking life but only as a means to a large percentage of the specimens taken secure specimens. Can our sportsmens are in immature plumage and full plum- friends say as much in defense of their aged birds are not common. The method favorite pastime? employed in hunting this duck is extensively used in hunting by the Alaska natives and as it may be of use to some of the readers on some future occasion, it is winter visitor from November to the given here.

he tried hunting with a boat relying on the King Eider. wing shooting to get his birds, but without much success, and seeing that the of the last species they seek it in deeper natives always got more birds he changed water and seldom feed near the shore. his plan and took to the natives' method Dr. Coues states that this duck associates as follows: When a band of ducks was with the Pacific Eider and therefore the seen feeding, a landing was made and the writer concludes that it does so in some beach approached from the land, the localities but at Kadiak it does not, as hunter being careful not to be seen. By they leave for the North about the first of watching the flock it would be seen that April and the Pacific Eider does not arrive they all dived about the same time and untill the end of the same month or the the time they remained down was about first part of May. the same length each time When the last duck dives the hunter runs toward them dropping in the grass or behind a rock about the time he calculates the first first of May and nesting in any suitable duck should be coming up again. In this locality approximate to the ocean. These manner he can approach close to the flock birds arrive on the island in pairs and at that nearly always feed in the shallow once go to nesting. The localities chosen water along the shore. When the last for making the nests are so varied run is made, the hunter, if an old hand, that it is almost impossible to describe stands on the edge of the water, the gun what would be a typical location; but they at "ready," and a couple of extra shells are seldom situated more than a hundred in the hollow of his right hand, the flock yards from the ocean beach and generally all being down. The first duck that on low ground, as the nest is always more comes up gets it, and the second one gets or less hidden. They are always placed the second barrel and in this way by sharp among long grass or reeds. The nest is practice it is often possible to bag six or composed almost entirely of down plucked seven out of one flock.

Sportsmen might call it pot hunting, wards they will raise in the water and but if they try it once they will find that it calls for a good deal more mental and These ducks do not gather in flocks of physical exertion than sitting in a blind

### Eniconetta stelleri.

### STELLER'S DUCK.

This beautiful species is a common following April, during which time they When first the writer went to Kaliak gather in small flocks and associate with

Although their food is the same as that

### Somateria v-nigra PACIFIC EIDER.

A summer resident, arriving about the by the female from her own body, the other, or bottom materials, are a few layers the summer months and they were not of dry grass, but many nests were found known to breed in the island as far as the composed of nothing whatever but down, writer could ascertain. The first egg is laid about the first of June and a set contains eight or ten greenish colored eggs that greatly resemble common tame duck eggs. The males show no way to their breeding grounds in Cook's interest in either nest-building or incu- Inlet, about the middle of April, but seldom bation, but it is said that they help to care even stop to rest except on the south and for the young when hatched.

ever the female leaves the nest to feed, not breed on the island. she carefully pulls the down over the eggs in such a manner as to entirely cover them with a thick coating and this seems to keep them warm.

If the first nest is taken they at once make another, and it is stated that to supply the down for the second nest, the female strips it off the male. The writer's residents assured the writer that it was experience, has unfortunately, done much to shake his belief in this little romance, for almost all nests found late in the a young female was obtained. Why this season contained very little or no down; in fact a great many were nothing but inexplicable, for the island abounds in forms scraped in the sandy soil.

### Somateria spectabilis KING EIDER.

the winter months, sometimes gathering the island as stragglers only. in flocks of fifty or sixty individuals associating with Steller's Duck and Old Squaw.

They arrive at the island in November coming from the North and leave again in the following April. The native name of this duck is "Skatch" while the Pacific Eider is known as "Pistreek".

### Oidemia americana

### AMERICAN SCOTER:

Common from November until the following May; gathering in large flocks and feeding on mollusks and crustacea.

### Oidemia deglandi

### WHITE-WINGED SCOTER.

Habits same as last named species. Neither of these species were seen during breeding rapidly .- Tacoma Ledger.

## Branta canadensis

### CANADA GOOSE.

These geese pass over the island on the where they are said to be numerous in the During the period of incubation when- fall migration. As far as known they do

### Branta nigricans BLACK BRANT.

Passes about the same time as the last species, but a few remain to breed.

### Ardea herodias

### GREAT BLUE HERON.

This is a rare bird on the island and old not known there, yet on August 16, 1891 the writer saw one, and on March 1, 1894 bird should not breed on the island is shallow lakes teeming with fish and on the northern end are plenty of large firs suitable for nesting. Still there can be no King Eider are tolerably common during question but that this species occur on

> BERNARD J. BRETHERTON (To be continued.)

### MORE PHEASANTS FROM JAPAN.

May 30, 1806-Frank S. Alling received three coops of golden pheasants on the Victoria. They came in care of Capt. John Panton, R. N. R. The birds are pretty well used up by their long voyage. Mr. Alling will place them in his chicken hospital and after a couple of months, when they are recruited will turn them loose on Fox island. Mr. Alling reports that the pheasants he has previously placed on the island are doing well and

### LEAF PRINTING.

most important and interesting departments of Place the paper, sensitized side upward, on the Botany, their infinite variety of color, form and venation affording an inexhaustable fund of cover it with a piece of glass of the same size as entertainment and instruction.

The leaves must be seen and studied as they grow in bewildering multitudes and in apparently endless variety and they must be gathered and compared that the order which prevails in their confusion may be traced and that the system may be found in their resemblances and differences. It is useful to preserve the leaves themselves for reference, for comparison and as mementoes, and the skeletonizing of leaves is also an excellent practice. Still another way of studying leaves, not to take the place of the methods I have mentioned but to supplement them, is by making photographic leaf prints.

No expensive materials are necessary for no camera is required, the leaves themselves being used as negatives and the print being made directly from them upon the sensitized paper.

Instead of using the paper employed in ordinary photography it is the best to use ferroprussiate paper and make blue prints, these being much cheaper and far easier to make, while they are quite as satisfactory as the costly gold-toned salt of silver prints.

If you wish to prepare your own paper take one ounce each of ferroprussiate of potash, and of citrate of iron that has been neutralized with ammonia, and dissolve them in one half pint of water. This will make a rather thick dye which must be kept in a stone bottle, or if in a glass bottle must be carefully wrapped to exclude the light.

sensitized surface will appear of a dirty yellowish inches. hue, giving but little promise of the rich blue

then it is ready for use.

A substitute for a printing frame may be The study of leaves is at once one of the made of any smooth board of suitable size. board, lay the leaf to be printed upon that and the board Fasten the glass and board together by attaching a common clothes pin to each end and place it in the sun.

> After it has been exposed to the sunlight a sufficient length of time take out the paper and wash it in an abundance of clean water. Wherever the paper has been exposed to the direct sunlight the dye will have become "fast" and the paper will remain a dark blue, while in the spot shaded by the leaf the coloring will wash off leaving the paper white, showing the white print of the leaf on a blue background.

> If the exposure has been sufficiently long all the details of the leaf structure will be accurately and beautifully printed in, but if the sun has not had time to do its work thoroughly the lighter shades of color will be entirely washed out, the venation disappear and the print show only in outline.

> The thickness and opacity of leaves varies as greatly and the sunlight has so many degrees of brightness that no rule can be given as to the exact length of time necessary in exposing a print. The beginner must experiment and learn to use his own judgment. It will be found a great convenience if the board used as a printing frame is made of two pieces fastened together by a hinge so that one end may be folded back and the paper examined to ascertain how fast the printing is going on.

I have frequently prepared my own paper in the manner described but I find it much more In the evening by a dim lamp light pour out convenient and almost as cheap to buy ferroa little of this dye in a saucer and with a prussiate paper of some dealer in photographer's feather or flat brush spread it over your paper, supplies. The usual cost, postage included, which should be stiff and unruled. The is three cents for two dozen leaves, size 4 x 5

It has been my practice to mount prints on which it is to assume, for the dye needs direct cheap white cards, writing the name of the sunlight to make its real color appear. Put the order to which each specimen belongs at the paper away in a dark place until it is dry and top of the card and the generic and specific names at the bottom, together with any memoranda deemed helpful.

ANGUS GAINES,

Vincennes, Ind.

### GOLD MINES TRIBUTARY TO BAKER CITY, OREGON.

A complete list of the mines tributary to Baker City, compiled by Mr. F. R. Mellis of Baker City, gives in addition to name and owners, the district, mineralogical formation, character of output and other information. There are given 36 districts as follows:

Auburn District, formation porphyry, has ten gold mines.

Bay Horse District, formation limestone, has five silver and gold mines, one coal, one gypsum and one kaolin mine.

Big Creek District, formation dolorite, has two copper and gold mines.

Bonanza District, formation metamorphic slate, has 16 gold mines.

Cable Cove District, formation metamorphic slate; north wall, granite; south wall, porphyry; has 47 gold mines.

Cabell District, formation metamorphic slate, has 15 silver and gold, and three gold mines.

Camp Carson, formation slate and granite, has three gold mines.

Cow Creek District, formation porphyry, has five gold mines.

Conner Creek District, formation limestone, has four gold mines.

Cornucopia. District, formation slate and granite, has 14 gold mines.

Cracker Creek District, formation slate, has 20 gold mines.

Elkhorn District, formation metamorphic slate; north wall, granite; south wall, porphyry, has one silver and gold, and 24 gold mines.

Granite District has one silver, two silver and gold, and 23 gold mines.

Greenhorn District, formation metamorphic slate; north wall, granite; south wall limestone has 18 silver and gold mines.

Hannover District, formation metamorphic slate, has five gold mines.

Idol City District, has one gold mine.

Malheur District, formation porphyry and granite, has 11 gold mines.

Minersville District, hase three gold mines.

Mormon Basin, formation granite and porphyry, has 17 gold mines.

North Fork District, has six gold mines.

North Powder District, formation porphyry, has five gold mines.

Pedro Mountain District, formation granite, has 15 gold mines.

Pocohontas District, formation porphyry and limestone, has one lime, and 21 gold mines.

Quartzburg District, has 18 gold mines.

Robinson District, formation porphyry and metamorphic slate, has one silver and gold, and nine gold mines.

Rock Creek District, formation metamorphic slate, has eight silver and gold, and four gold mines.

Rye Valley District, formation 'slate and granite, has two silver, one coal, and 17 gold mines.

Sanger District, formation slate and porphyry, has one copper, and 27 gold mines.

Sparta District, formation porphyry, has 21 gold mines.

Stice's Gulch District, has six gold mines.

Sumpter District, has five gold mines.

Sutton Creek District, formation porphyry; has two gold mines.

Susanville District, formation slate and porphyry; northwall, granite; south wall, limestone, has nine gold mines.

Timber Canyon District, formation gneiss and granite, has seven gold mines.

Virtue District; formation metamorphic slate and limestone, has 33 gold mines.

Weatherby District, formation slate, has 15 gold mines. Making 483 mines tributary to Baker City, nearly all of which are gold.

### N. O. A.

The regular monthly meeting of the Portland Annex was held on April 24, at the residence of President, W. L. Finley. Secretary, A. L. Pope reported the following members as having been admitted to the Association.

N. A. Shaw, Grand Forks, N. D.

E. B. Guthrie, Washington, Pa.

F. A. Stuhr, Portland, Or.

C. R. Bean, Salem, Or.

Communications on the Sooty Grouse, from Messre. A. W. Anthony; C. W. Swallow; H. M. Hoskins; A. L. Pope and E. F. Hadley were read. Mr. Anthony writes.

"The Sooty Grouse—Dendragapus obs. fuliginosus—ranges from the Southern Sierra Nevada in California to Sitka, being confined to the mountains in the southern part of its range, but extends to the coast in Oregon, where the heavy fir timber affords it shelter.

"The Dusky,—var. *D. obscurus;* inhabits the mountains of Northern New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Utah and as far north as; perhaps, Southern Idaho and Montana, where it gives place to Richardson's—var. *richardsonii* which extends northward along the Rocky Mountain system into the British possessions.

"The difference in plumage may be briefly given as follows: taking as a standard the Oregon bird. The Dusky Grouse is lighter colored, the band on the end of the tail is much broader, the throat is mostly whitish, in males; blackish with a white border in the Oregon birds, males. The Richardson's Grouse only differs from the Dusky in the tail, which lacks the terminal band of gray in Richardsons, but is very prominent in both Dusky and Sooty.

"As far as the habits of the two species; Dusky and Sooty are concerned, I see but little difference. Both are much given to 'hooting' in the nesting season; a note that is familiar to every Oregon and Washington sportsman. I have on several occasions heard the notes at all hours of the night during the spring months on the Columbia, but do not think I ever heard the Dusky 'hoot' at night. though I have been in their haunts in the Rocky Mountains a great deal. Either species is remarkably hard to discover when they have once disappeared in the branches of a fir or spruce, and I have often spent considerable time looking for a bird that was in plain sight, within easy gunshot, a fact that was not discovered until the bird took wing, which bythe-way, very often occurs just as the hunters eye falls upon the object of his search. It is probable that some involuntary movement on the part of the hunter, warns the watchful bird that it is discovered,

"In Colorado I have often found flocks of Dusky Grouse, consisting of a pair of adults and brood of young, at a distance from timber; at times along the willow-lined streams, but more often in clearings where wild berries had attracted them. As a rule they stay well within the shelter of the coniferous timber. In winter they seldom descend to the ground, a habit shared with the Sooty also, but spend the time in the tree tops often living for days. or even weeks in a small grove of thick spruce, living on the leaves which give their flesh a rather bitter taste at this season. Their presence is usually discovered by their droppings on the snow under the trees and the spruce 'needles' which they dislodge.

"I was once descending from a high pass in the mountains, between the headwaters of the Rio Grande and the tributaries of the Rio San Juan, in Southwestern Colorado, I think it was July 15, I was still in the snow banks, for the timber line lay far below the sea of alpine willows that surrounded me on every side. The sun had set, and I knew that I had a trip to make in the dark, for several miles perhaps, before I could fined a suitable camping spot, and that two, over a broken country and without a trail. Just before dark a female Dusky Grouse flushed at the pack horse's feet and I found a set of nine eggs in a leaf lined nest at the base of a willow, far above timber line; hastily laying the eggs in my hat I followed on after the horses and for the next two hours

had all I could attend to climbing over fallen timber, rocks, etc. in the dark, often Pheasants and Sooty Grouse layed in the same carrying my hat in my teeth. At camp I nest and the grouse was the one that did the 'dug up' a box and packed the eggs away, hatching. The reason they are becoming so carrying them behind my saddle for ten days scarce in the valley, is undoubtedly because the find them on the point of hatching. These they are never satisfied unless they have a eggs were very similar to those of the Sooty grove of fir timber for their home, nor are two which I have since taken in Oregon.

"In Oregon I have often found nests by looking along the openings in the timber along trails until I found the piles of droppings which indicated a setting bird, then a short search among the ferns under the 'shelter of logs, etc. usually revealed a nest with from five to pine eggs. One nest was found in an old hay stack, near an old unsed barn, and was exactly such as an old hen might make under similar conditions-a hole dug out of the edge of the stack. Another set was found in a field of growing grain, usually however, they select a dry sunny hillside where the trees are not too thick, and hide the nest under a bunch of ferns."

Mr. Pope writes: "About the middle or latter part of March the Sooty Grouse begins to 'hoot'. The nesting season extends from about April 20, in the valley until July in the foothills and mountains. The earliest date on which I have known of a full set being taken was April 18, containing five eggs. In the valley fresh eggs are rare after the first of May. The latest date on which I have known of fresh eggs-being found in the valley was May 10".

Mr. Swallow writes: "A number that I have examined only had 18 tail feathers, while they are credited with 20".

"Mr. Hadley writes: "The eggs are creamy buff, speckled with reddish brown. The was done they went to work carrying more markings are mostly at the large end, but one pitch and daubing it around the entrance. set of six had a wreath around the smaller end. About 24 days are required for hatching, the four eggs I took them. They were almost female doing the incubating. As soon as the fresh. They looked much like the eggs of the young are hatched they leave the nest with the Chickadee-ground old birds. While young they live almost ish-white before blown) spotted uniformly with entirely on insects and larvæ. When older they reddish-brown. On three eggs the spots are are taken by the old birds to the grain fields \*\*\* rather large; on the other they are very small.

"I have known of several cases where Denny before I had a chance to blow them, only to timber is being cut at such a rapid rate, and females satisfied to nest near each other".

GUY STRYKER.

### NESTING OF THE RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH.

March 24 while working near a piece of timber I heard a tapping much like a woodpecker's and upon investigation, found it to be a Red-breasted Nuthatch (Sitta canadensis). After watching it for some time Т decided that it was going to nest there. I found several holes bnt only one looked like it was being prepared for nesting. It was about 91/2 feet from the ground in an old snag about 12 feet high.

April 24 thinking from their actions that the nest was about completed I climbed up to it but could not see anything because the nest was so near under the hole. The hole was about one inch by one one quarter inches and was about six inches above the nest. Around the hole was a coat of pitch, probably put there by the birds for protection.

As I could not see the eggs I made an opening and peeped in. Four beautiful eggs ! As this seemed a small set I fastened up the opening I had made and hid behind a tree to watch the birds. What do you suppose they did? As soon as they found that no damage

On the 27th, I returned, and finding only color white, (pink-

81

The nest was originally rather large for the MELANISM IN EGGS OF THE HOODED size of the bird, but owing to the falling of some rotten wood, it was only about one and one half by two and one quarter inches in size.

This is my first record of the nesting of the Red-breasted Nuthatch. I believe it is a rare summer resident although I have heard of their nests being taken. I have sometimes seen them in large flocks in the fall and winter. They are usually in company with the Oregon Chickadee.

HERVEY M. HOSKINS.

Newberg, Or.

### "BIRDS AND POETS."

John Burroughs writes, in his book entitled "Birds and Poets". "Is not the bird the original type and teacher of the poet, and do we not demand of the human lark or thrush that he 'shake out his carols' in the same free and spontaneous manner as his winged prototype?"

I clip from THE INTERIOR, of Chicago the following pleasant item in regard to the ornithology and the poetic possibilities of Oregon.

"It seems that one of the' standing grievances of the poets in regard' to America, namely that it has no skylarks, is in a fair way to be remedied. Old World songsters, such as thrushes, skylarks, nightingales, finches, and starlings have been domesticated in Oregon, and are nowalso to be found in the neighboring states. Oregon has long been know for its red-cheeked girls, and with the fields and woods vocal with skylarks and nightingales, we may look for the American Shelly and Keats of the future to the region whose poetic possibilities Bryant was the first to hint at in his lines about the woods

Where rolls the Oregon and hears no sound . Save his own dashings."

MERIDEN S. HILL.

Tacoma, Wash., May 27th, '96.

# MERGANSER.

At one time the Hooded Merganser was common on the Cedar river, Iowa, In looking over my old notes I find that in 1868 I collected 40 eggs of this bird. I believe it is well known that the Wood Duck often drives the Merganser from her nest, and in one nest I found 30 eggs of Wood Duck and five eggs of Merganser. The hollow in the tree in which the nest was placed, was not very large and the eggs were several layers deep.

The eggs of the Hooded Merganser are clear white, the shell thick and hard, but the most singular set that I ever saw, were eggs of this species. The nest contained ten eggs; the first egg was perfectly black, the second a little lighter, until I think the fifth egg was nearly white. This is the only duck that I ever saw carry anything in its bill, I once saw a duck of this species fly away with a small fish.

GEO. D. PECK.

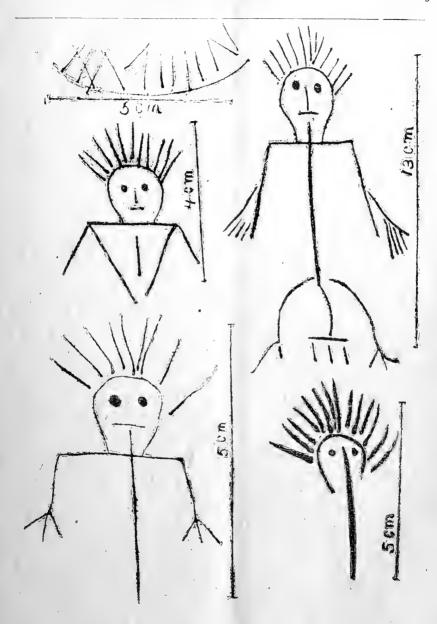
### PETROGLYPHS IN PATTON'S VALLEY.

In a previous issue of this journal there occured a review of the work of the U.S. Bureau of Ethnology \* in regard to the Petroglyphs in sandstone rocks in Patton's Valley, about two miles from the village of Gaston.

The cuts accompanying this note are from sketches of the aforesaid Petroglyphs. These are associated with numerous other "petroglyphs" of a decidedly more modern character. Even these pictures here reproduced are the object of considerable skepticism of the part of many who have seen them. However, there is some reason to think there are aboriginal in origin, and in order to invite criticism the writer has taken the liberty of submitting them for publication.

### FRANCIS E. LLOYD.

Forest Grove, Or. Pacific University. \* "Tenth Annual Report U. S. Bureau of Ethnology."



PETROGLYPHS IN PATTON'S VALLEY.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

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THE OREGON NATURALIST.

Portland, Oregon. 146 1/2 SIXTH ST.

UNE, 1896.

N. O. A. work for July will be Lewis' Woodpecker and Pileated Woodpecker.

Special features for July number.

"Mexican Hieroglyphs." Three pages illustrating some of the pictures observed by Prof. Lloyd, when in Chihuahua, Mexico.

Gaines. Of the many excellent contribu- had four blotches of reddish-brown from 1/2 to tions from the pen of Mr. Gaines, this will 1/2 inches across; these two eggs measured I. 10 undoubtedly be pronounced, one of his best. x .84 and 1.23 x .84. Incubation was com-

April, will be continued. These notes were

compiled during a residence of several vears in Alaska, by Bernard J. Bretherton. A true lover and student of birds and a close and accurate observer.

Continuation of "Some North Carolina Minerals" by E. H. Harn. Each article in this series of papers will be complete in itself. The authors extensive field work together with his familiarity with the subject and the science, make these articles of especial interest to collectors of minerals.

Received------\*\*BASKETRY OF THE COAST AND ISLANDS OF THE PACIFIC, ETC.

Exhibited April, 1896, at the Portland Library." 31 pp. Price 25cts. For sale by the J. K. Gill Company, or D. M. Averill & Co, Portland, Or.

This pamphlet opens with an interesting article "Ancient Art and Custom," by Col. James Jackson, U. S. A. followed by several valuable contributions to the Basketry of the Pacific Coast and a neatly arranged list of exhibits and exhibitors.

Photographs of the Basketry lately exhibited at the Portland Library can be had of Miss Myrick, 595 Johnson Street, Portland, Or. These pictures, five in number, one being Klickitats exclusively, are 6 x 8 in size. Price 70 cents each.

ALBINO EGGS .- While plowing in a stubble-field, April 20, 1895, I found a western meadowlark's nest with four eggs, two of which were perfectly white and measured 1.18 x83 and 1.15x.82 the other two were lighter than the average egg of this bird; one marked with with fine spots of purplish and "A Birth and a Tragedy." by Angus reddish-brown, the other marked the same but "Birds of Kadiak Island" begun in emnced in all four eggs. Bird seen on the nest,

Ellis F. Hadley, Dayton, Oregon.

### THE NORTHWESTERN ORNITHOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Organized Dec. 28th, 1894, Object-To advance the science of Ornithology in the Northwest, President; William L. Finley, 287 4th, St., Portland, Or., First vicepres. Ellis F. Hadley, Davton, Or. Second vice-pres.Guy Stryker, Milwaukie, Or. Sec. Arthur L. Pope, McMinnville, Or. Treas. Dorsie C. Bard, Portland, Or.

Any person interested in Ornithology, residing in the Northwest, may become an active member.

Any person interested in Ornithology may become an associate member.

The membership fee shall be fifty cents; this shall cover all dues to the first of January, after initiation.

The OREGON NATURALIST, shall be sent free to all members.

Applications for membership should be sent to the Secretary.

# ASSOCIATION.

The Third Annual Assembly of the Willamette Valley Chautauqua to be held at Gladstone Newberg, Ore. Park, Oregon City, July 7-17, 1896, promises to open under the most brilliant auspices. By combining with the other Coast assemblies the very best talent has been secured at reasonable figures. One thousand dollars has been expended on the platform alone, guaranteeing a speaker of national celebrity each day of the session. The list includes Dr. Carlos Martyn, of Chicago; Frank Lincoln, of New York City, Rev. Anna Shaw, of Philadephia, Susan B. Anthony, Mortimer Whitehead, of New Jersey; Mrs. Marion B. Baxter, Edwards Davis, of Oakland, Elbert R. Dille, of San Francisco; Selah Brown, of Los Angeles, Alice Hamill-Handcock, of Chicago, and Ella Higginson, the poet, of New Whatcom, Washington. The best talent possible for each department of the beaks were observed in the city of Portland.

Chautauqua schools has been secured. The State Pioneer Association and Portland Historical Society are planning for headquarters that will especially attract students of the early Oregon era with its relics and romances; the State Horticultural Society is arranging for headquarters, with many admirable features; the State Grange will have a Grange Day. Wednesday, July 8, on which occasion the assembly will be addressed by one of their greatest speakers, Mortimer Whitehead of New Jersey, the various colleges and universities are arranging for headquarters on a more elaborate scale than ever before. The State Agricultural College is arranging for a Farmers' Institute to be held each day from 9:00 to II:00 A. M. at their headquarters. Many other departments are under consideration and will be announced later.

April 6, '96, I found a nest of western meadowlark containing young three or four days old. From this it seems that they must have commenced nesting near the first of March. I also found a nest April 12 contain-WILLAMETTE VALLEY CHAUTAUQUA ing three eggs which began hatching the next day. These are my earliest records of the nesting of S m. neglecta.

HERVEY M. HOSKINS.

### THE OREGON SUMMER SCHOOL

will be held this summer for one month - July 21 - August 18 - on its grounds at Gearhart Park.

Teachers Review Course, Normal Course, Physical Training, Art, Elocution, Vocal Music, Biology, Chemistry, Astronomy and English Literature.

Leading teachers in the state.

Tuition for session, all courses, \$5.00. For further particulars address,

> C. H. Chapman, President, Eugene, Oregon.

May 17, flocks of 100 or more evening gros-

### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

### CHAT.

Are you fully prepared for the collecting season? What have you taken thus far? If you have any thing out of the general "run of things" or have learned anything that you think will be of value to brother ornithologists, write them up and send them on. Especially notes on migrations; first records, etc

The Oologists Association wants your observations this year, whether you are a member or not. Write President I. S. Trostler, Omaha, Nebraska., or the Eastern Editor, for full particulars.

Watch our marine articles this summer, Some on methods, some on descriptions, habits. etc, but all interesting.

The editor of this department will carefully review any publication, monograph etc. mailed him for that purpose, and reviews of such may be looked for in these columns monthly.

### COLLECTORS DIFFICULTIES AND HOW TO OVERCOME THEM.

#### BY MERGANSER.

#### (Continued from Page 76.)

You will find however that simply keeping quiet will not always bring the birds about you, A very-excellent device is to apply the partially opened lips to the back of the wrist and simulate the act of kissing. This makes a sound very similar to that produced by a young bird in pain, or in the hands of a captor, and will soon draw to you those birds which ing the trigger I was concious of a whirr of right for small birds," I hear some one remark, frantic efforts to disentangle himself, was a "But how about large one? "Of course I cap large Great Horned Owl. No time to load

crow but will say "What you can't shoot, trap." A small steel trap placed upon the top of a post in those localities where crows or hawks are abundant, will generally be rewarded with good results. The smallest steel trap which you can procure will give the best results as the heavier and more powerful ones frequently breaks the leg bones. With the smaller traps, which are strong enough for anything in the owl, hawk, or crow line, this is avoided.

Now you frequently are at a loss to know how to load your shells properly in order to do the best work. Don't put in too many shot. It diminishes the force of discharge and thus detracts from your chances of killing. Every unnecessary shot is one against you. For the largest land bird I would never think of using over one and one half ounces of shot, with three drachms of powder. For warblers and birds to the size of a robin I use about one half an ounce of "dust"-no twelve shot-and one drachm of powder. Following this gradation. you will get a very fair load, corresponding to the specimen you wish to take. Of course you will often be compelled to shoot small shot at big birds, but I do not believe you will ever be compelled to shoot big shot at small birds, if you carry a proper supply of cartridges with you. I remember an instance of this kind. when I secured a most perfect specimen of Bubo virginianus with a charge of "dust". I was sauntering along with my eyes on the tree tops and listening to the angry "cawings" of some crows in a neighboring field, when looking up I saw at a distance a good sized specimen of Circus hudsonius flying low over the fields. The crows soon saw him and made an angry rush at him, driving him within easy gun shot of where I stood. I discharged the right hand barrel-I always carry my heavy charge in the right hand barrel-and missed him entirely. At the moment of pressare within hearing distance. "That is all broad wings, and, beating the underbrush in not give directions as to how you shall shoot a again. I took a step or two nearer, bringing

cleared himself from the bushes, discharged character, which had been observed to occur about a half an ounce of dust squarely at his in like cases. But the first bird examined, for breast. It placed him upon his back, but by instance a lark, (Alaudidæ) might, and indeed no means daunted him, for "right royally' did would, show such a deduction to be clearly he defend himself with beak and talons till I and completely wrong: For although the lark was forced to end the matter with a second has an elaborate singing apparatus, and charge of "dust" from a slightly greater dis- distinctly characteristic larynx, still it presents tance.

what he will secure or when he will meet it, one of the most definite and precise axioms and to provide for such surprises I use a fairly which we have attempted to lay down with relarge charge of "eights" in the right hand gard to birds in general. But the failure not barrel and a light charge of dust in the left, only teaches us how great is the modification Of course if you are "stalking" any particular of geologically recent birds from their primitive game you should load for that alone and leave any unsuspected occurrence entirely out various steps of such a modification and enables of consideration.

ties" occurring after the specimen has been shot.

### PRINCIPLES OF CLASSIFICATION.

### C. C. PURDUM M.D.

reasons for classifying birds according to starting points or individual organized beings. "characters," and decided that we should not be content with the mere external examination, but that to make our system complete, we should consider also internal "characters" and varieties of structure.

Now a"character" in ornithological, and indeed in entire zoological meaning and application, is any point of structure which can be seen, described, and used, for the purpose of deplore the implied ignorance) degrees of enabling us to distinguish one animal from similarity and dissimilarity do exist, and which if another. Thus, differing conditions of sternum, palate; larynx, etc. are made use of in our permit us to separate groups with ease and efforts to group together those forms which correctness, and to build up a classification most nearly correspond. But here great which is alive to and states these various difficulty may also be experienced: for instance; gradations and works them out thoroughly and a bird with a known oscine larynx, but un- completely upon the principles of Evolution. known as to its feet and wings, it would be reasonable to suppose that these last when

me within ten paces of him and just as he "discovered" would correspond, or present the a tarsus far differently constituted than we So it appears that one can scarcely be sure would expect. Instances like these overthrow ancestry, but also gives us an insight to the us to estimate with a tolerable degree of accuracy Next month we will discuss some "difficul- the length of time which has been required for that purpose. These failures in our attempts to make a few hard and fast rules to which we can pin our faith, are not (as has been said) a gauge of our ignorance. This would in truth be so could we have all the steps of the process before our eyes, for then we should be able to limit no groups, for all by insensible gradations would pass into one another and at last merge In the last paper we considered briefly the all but insensibly into a single or at most a few It will thus be readily seen, even though the process is one which we can hardly demonstrate, by personal examination during one decade, that all of our present forms are inseparably linked, by actual lines of evolutionary processes, determined by external surrounding conditions or environment. Happuly however for ourselves, (although the philosopher may correctly fathomed and sensibly compiled,

(To be continued)

### SOME NORTH CAROLINA MINERALS.

In presenting these sketches, of some North Carolina minerals, necessarily crude and imperfect, taken for the most part from notes written in the field, it is not my intention to enter into minute scientific technicalities and general collector dates from about the begindetails as it is presumed that all are familiar with them in some form or other or at least belong to Mr. Stephenson of Statesville, N. C. theoretically, but rather to touch on such and Mr. Hidden of N. J. Most of their points as quantity, quality, modifications, material came from Alexander county. Several mode of occurrence, localities and such other varities from that county are altogethmatters as it is hoped will be of interest to the er distinct from any found 'elsewhere in the general collector.

reader of two ideas that seem to have taken a sought after by collectors are regular crystals, firm hold on the popular fancy, viz: that every- locally known as "gun barrels" from the size thing found here is abundant and of fine qual- of a lead pencil in thickne s up to forty or more ity.

select from at every turn but the destructive agencies of heat, cold, sun and water, working through untold ages, slowly disintegrating all, has ruined the fine crystal as well as the shapeless granite. So truly is this the case in very many instances that a really fine specimen for cabinet or for gem purposes is the exception rather than the rule.

by collectors is not confined to any one locality or county but distributed over the entire state, no single locality furnishing a large proportion.

I will say further that it is not my intention to write a history of the minerals or mineral localities of North Carolina, but to speak in as with a hammer they break with a sharp noise plain a manner as possible of only such species as will interest the average collector and shall observe no regular sequence in their order of little if any from the rest of the quartz sections presentation.

its being the most abundant and highly devel. South Mountains on the west. The rocks are oped the quartz group.

#### OUARTZ.

several years. As long ago as 1868 material so called "Lincoln county" belt. was collected in this section and in Burke Co. This section, which does not, however, lie in

and offered for sale. No mining was done and only surface rocks were collected. But the great wealth of material from a scientific and commercial standpoint has been known and studied but for a short time.

It may be said that the introduction to the ing of the eighties. This honor I believe should state. All come from the vicinity of Before proceeding I wish to disabuse the Hiddenite. The finest forms and those most pounds. The faces on many of the larger ones There is truly an abundance of material to are just as completely filled out, as perfect in color and finish as the smaller ones, though frequently the centers are clouded and milky.

> The color of a fine specimen is dark, a deep wine-color and singularly clear.

A peculiarity, not noticed in specimens from other places and giving much interest to the student is a system of etching (lacking a better word) deeply cutting the angles of the prisms. The list of species that are most sought after Other forms noticed here are flat crystals and crystals in almost endless variety of contortion, giving the impression at a glance that they are alterations from some oblique mineral. The quartzes of this section contain a great deal of some kind of gas for when s.ruck a sharp blow like the crack of a pistol.

The topography of the county differs but of the state. Mostly low rolling hills growing Thus prefaced I will take from the fact of bolder as you approach the foot-hills of the metamorphic, gneissoid and granitic with an abundance of the various schists. But as fine The quartzes of this state have been handled as are the quartzes of Alexander county their in a small way by a few northern dealers for value has been totally eclipsed by those of the

Lincoln county alone but in Catawba county as well, has produced some of the finest and rarest quartz on record. Its wealth in this line is little known as yet:

It will be years and after the expenditure of a great deal of money, before anything like a systematic collection of these quartzes can be gathered together. A collector working every day for a year could make but an indifferent collection of them. I believe that every known variety of crystalized quartz will ultimately be found here. The belt is not very extensive, only a few square miles.

To the east the rocks change and the quartz loses its crystalline form. To the south and west long stretches of territory intervene with no quartz worth the name.

The forms most commonly met with are the crystals, in all sizes and twisted into every conceivable shape, with cavities filled with foreign matter as clay, ochre, wad, mica, chlorite, kaolin, water etc. and at the same time presenting modifications of the greatest interest to the scientist. The so-called "basalplane" is found more plentiful here than any where else and highly developed.

. What seems like a very complex system of etching is common in places, the causes which seems to baffle the best of judgment to account for, Dana seems think one series at least to (the fine striæ running across the prism faces) is produced by an oscillatory movement, an indecision so to speak, on the part of the matter as to whether a single or a twin crystal should be produced. This may be true but it fails to account for many strange things seen in some crystals. The erosive power of heated mineral waters has been very active here and has had much to do in producing these odd forms.

One true "twin of opposite relation" at least was found here. Many specimens found here are very large and very beautiful. The colors are clear, smoked and purple in a profusion of tints. The great drain on the locality for the past year is diminishing the supply very perceptibly. They are dug out of old rotten veins

with no trace of a rock wall other than a yellow earthy matter showing where the old wall has utterly changed. Very few minerals are found in association. Always mica, sometimes tourmaline, rutile, crystals of magnetite and hematite, zircon, monazite, and xenotime. One small lot of crystals had small crystals of tourmaline netted all over the surface. Specimens of this kind are rarities.

Fine specimens have been found in other counties but sparingly, Henderson, Macon, Yancey, Mitchell, Cleveland, Burke, Gaston, Polk, and Transylvania are among them. Some few fine specimens enclosing chlorite to such an extent as to color the stone have been found in Guilford county. Tabular crystals in perfection are found in Mitchell county.

Chrysoprase of a fair quality is found near Mooresboro, in Cleveland county.

The color is blue-green and translucent. No work has been done. The mineral is found in mica schist enclosed in chalk like bowlders.

Clear wedge-shaped crystals enclosing silvery mica are found sparingly in places in Cleveland county; near Toluca. Amethyst and rutilated quartz will be treated under separate heads. Agate, opal, chalcedony, jasper, and bloodstone have been found but I cannot speak of them personally. E. H. HARN, Henry, N. C.

#### AN INDIAN MOUND.

On April 14, my friend Gilman Winthrop, and myself, left town for a snipe hunt. We went to a very large lake, about three miles from town, known as Lake. Jackson. After shooting a few snipe, we set out for this Indian Mound, of which I had often heard, but never seen. We soon reached the place and I was surprised to see such an immense piece of work. The mound is about sixty feet high and perfectly flat on top. The sides are almost perpendicular, and to reach the top, it is necessary to use the trees growing on the sides. On the flat top grow many varieties of trees, some reaching the height of about forty feet. On the north side there is a thick growth of underbrush and vines, so thick that to make your

curves around this mound and then spreads out into a beautiful sheet of water .

When we saw this mound it occured to us that may be a Black Vulture was nesting there, so when we reached the top we began to look for the most likely place for a nest,

On the north side just as we began our descent, a Black Vulture hopped upon a fallen China tree, and of course the natural deduction was that two eggs were somewhere near, and it was but a few seconds before we had the eggs, two in number in our possession.

eggs, partly incubated, lay on the bare ground, under a fallen China-tree, which had two large limbs projecting in different directions parallel with the ground; here the ground took a more gentle slope and was not as steep as elsewhere.

2.00 are in Gilman's cabinet, and in future Total, \$ 123, 383. 20. years will remind us of the mound with its beautiful surroundings.

In size the top of this mound would about be large enough to build an ordinary dwelling on.

R. W. WILLIAMS JR.

Tallahassee, Fla.

### HAWAIIAN STAMPS.

Honolulu, H. I. May 22-The Finance Committee, to whom was referred Joint Resolu tion No. 14, relating to the sale of postage stamps, postal cards and envelopes, recommended the following amended resolution be adopted.

"Be it resolved by the Senate and House of Representives that on and after November I, 1896, the sale of postage stamps, postal cards, and stamped envelopes issued previous to the present issue, shall cease at the postoffice, after which date all, if any, that may remain will be destroyed, and the President shall appoint a ping Sparrow" by C. O. Ormsbee of Montpelcommittee of three disinterested persons who ier, Vt. whese articles on bird life are so well shall serve with out pay, to act with the Mini- known to the readers of ornithological literature.

way through, it is necessary to crawl. On this ster of Finance and Postmaster-General, for side you get a fair view of Lake Jackson in the purpose of checking off all remaining stock three directions north, east and south. The lake on that date and see that the part of this resolution relating to the destroying of same is strictly carried out."

> The following figures were given of stamps in the possession of the Government.

> Surcharged postage stamps and envelopes on hand. Packages contain 250 sheets to a package and 50 stamps to a sheet.

Thirty-eight packages 2 cent postage stamps, \$0,500. Twenty-five packages 5 cent postage stamps, \$ 15, 625. Seven packages 10 cent postage stamps, \$ 8. 750. Two thousand one hundred and thirty-five sheets 13 cent postage It is unnecessary to speak of our delight. The stamps, \$12, 810. Two thousand and seventy four sheets 18 cent postage stamps, \$ 18,673.20. Five hundred and five sheets 50 cent postage stamps, \$ 12, 625. Eight hundred and seventy five sheets \$ I postage stamps, \$ 43, 750. Twelve thousand 5 cent envelopes, \$600. The eggs measuring 3.07 x 2.04 and 3.27 x Ten thousand 10 cent envelopes, \$ 1, 050.

> Report comes from Maine that the two species of grouse, capercailzie and black game, imported from Sweden and on March 29, 1896, set at liberty in the woods of New Sweden, Aroostook county, Maine, are alive and seemingly doing well. Four capercailzie and seven black game were liberated and they are carefully guarded that no harm befall them, for they are a pleasant reminder of the old home to the majority of the inhabitant of New Sweden.

> Mr. E. C. Swigert of Gordon, Neb. writes, "Please make a statement in your paper that on account of business interests in Iowa requiring personal attendance, I am out of the relic business, but as soon as I return will make an announcment through this paper."

> Next month watch for "Habits of the Chip-

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PRICE

EACH.	EACH.
5 Shell Crowns, used as head-dress by Samoan	Japanese Devil Faces, will grace a cabinet or
women	mantel, something that is curious and attracts
6 New Guinea Fetich Necklaces, with large shell	attention; money refunded if not satisfactory,
pendant, worn as charm to prevent death 2 00	three sizes
I Same, with 2 large boar tusks forming pendant. 2 25	Box Chinese Bone Jackstraws
I New Guinea Warrior Shield, wood, I ft. by 2	Japanese Bronze Pocket Stamp Box, handsome. 25
ft. 7 in., decorated in colors	Japanese Paper Knife, bronze, very fine 25
	Japanese Bow and Four Arrows 25
I Caroline Island Loin Cloth, finely woven in col-	A Handsome Japanese Vase 25
ors, extremely handsome, 2 yards long 3 00 I New Guinea "Lava-Lava," or Loin Dress,	2 Var. Chinese Nuts
fiber, complete	5 Different Chinese or Japanese Curios
I New Caledonia Loin Dress, made of inner bark	Chinese Back-Scratchers, bone, very curious 25 Chinese Straw Slippers, pair
of tree 2 50	Chinese Sandalwood Fans, carved
2 Samoan War Clubs, ironwood, 2 ft. long 5 00	" " Card Cases, carved I oo
I Salomon Island War Club, heavy wood	Box of 12 Selected Japanese Curios I oo
I New Guinea Witch's Rattle, or Drum, snake-	enares Hammered Brass Cup, from India, na-
skin head, used by witch doctor, hard to get 6 oo	tive engraving I 25
2 New Guinea Bamboo Pipes, 11/2 and 2 ft. long,	Ancient Italian Halberd Head, damascened with
figured with black design 2 00	gold, fine condition Io oo
2 New Guinea Lime Spoons, used by the lime-	gold, fine condition
eaters, large and small size\$2 oo to 2 50	Mammoth Sea Urchins
I Fiji Canoe Model, I ft. long 2 00 I2 Samoan Shell Necklaces	
	Fur Seal Teeth 25   Wild Cat " 25
I New Guinea Ironwood Idol, not very chaste 5 00	Fur Seal Teeth,
1 Australian Boomerang, heavy wood 4 00	Buffalo "
STONE RELICS.	Shell Fragments, Gettysburg, Chickamauga, etc. 50
Mound Pottery Vessel, nearly perfect 5 00	French Mitraleuse Cartridge, battle of Worth 50
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Half-Section Perforated Hatchet	Canister Shot, Gettysburg
Perforated Pendant, perfect	Syrian Dagger, with Syrian inscription 2 50 ornamental 2 00
Grooved Hammers, perfect	Memaloose Copper Bracelet, Hudson Bay Co       I oo         "French Button,"""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""""
Burnt Arrowheads from sacrificial mound Io	" French Button, " " 50
Triangular War Points 25   Ax, good 2 50	"Beads, 12 different " 75
Spear Heads	" Brads, o different " " 50
Flint Cutting Tool, small. 1 25   Curv'd Fish Spear 2 00	" Copper Pendant " 50
Arrow Truer or Smoother3 50   Broken Hammer. 50	"Beads, large string " " 2 00
Small Drill, perfect2 50 Plummet, perf'd 2 00	" Flathead Indian Skull 4 50
Skinners, perfect I 50   Sinkers, large I 50	Jesuit Shell Rosary from Mexico, very old 3 00
" slightly nicked 50 Large Skinners 2 00	Hand-Made Sioux Read Necklace 50
Pendant, chipped slightly. 50   Pestles 1 00 to 2 00	Beautiful Specimen Sioux Beadwork I 25
Hatchet, very small, fine.4 50 Small Mortar 5 00	Alaska Indian Wooden Bowl, carved
Adze, nicked slightly4 00   Oregon Pipe 4 00	Alaska Indian Skin Kyack, or Canoe, 18 in long,
Bronze Spear Head 5 00   Fine Scraper, flint 1 50	containing 3 figures attired in bladder dress 5 00
Drill, leaf-shaped 50 Pottery Fragm'ts. 15	Alaska Totem, wood, finely carved and colored 6 50
Very Large Spearhead 3 00   Lance Head 50	Same, not so fine
(Outlines and description of any of above for stamp.)	Pueblo Indian Pottery Vessel, from New Mexico. 25
MISCELLANEOUS.	Pueblo Pottery, animal shapes
12 Navajo Indian Necklaces, wampum and beads,	Navajo Clubs, rawhide, tail ornament
with abalone pendant	sionaries, 200 years old, per doz
12 Indian Necklaces, red, white and black beads. 25	Navajo Tambourines. 2 00
I Sioux War Club, horse-tail ornament, handle	Apache Steel-Pointed Feathered Arrows 25
covered with beads, very handsome 3 00	U. S. Flying-Eagle Cents 5
I Sioux Pipestone Pipe Bowl 4 00	Florida Sea Beans. 5
Indian Newspaper, printed in Cherokee 10	Money sent when articles are out of stock will be
Alaska Bone Salmon Spear, 8 in, long 2 25	returned.
I Alaska Indian Idol, arms broken off,	
Indian Jawbone from Oregon shell mound 50	
Zuni Indian Charm Necklace, leather, fine 1 75 Esquimaux Models of snowshoe, ice pick, bear	205 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> Washington Street,
spear, snow staff, etc	Portland, Oregon.
Buffalo Horns, polished. pair	
Perfect Arrowheads	All articles sent post paid on re-
Japanese Silk Panels, embroidered in silk and ar-	ceipt of price.
tistically painted, landscapes, etc., handsome 50	All letters of inquiry must contain stamp.
	ashington St., Portland, Or.

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1868, 30c. used, good,	3.00
1869, 6c. blue unused POOR	I.00
1869, 10c. unused, o. g beautitul,	3.50
1869, same, part gum, good,	2.50
1869, 15c. unused, o. g., fine,	5.00
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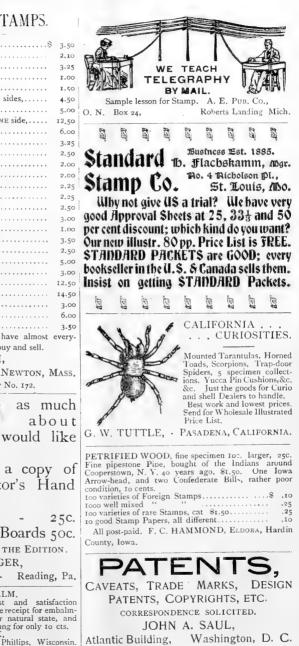
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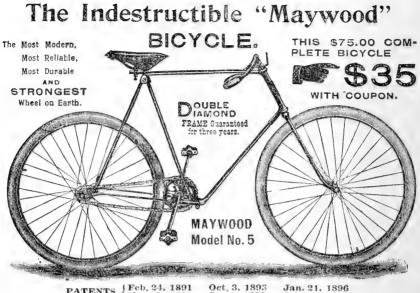
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### OREGON NATURALIST. THE

PORTLAND, OREGON, JULY, 1896. Vol. III.

### No. 7

### A BIRTH AND A TRAGEDY.

and forth across the microscope slide, lacework its organization appeared so flakes of dirt rose like black islands in simple that it seemed wonderful that it the stream, the light reflected from the could perform any of the functions of life. concave mirror gave the liquid an amber Yet it was doing more than that, it was tinge, and the animal which rocked providing for the continuation of its listlessly in the channel seemed basking species. in direct sunlight.

creatures low in the scale and scarcely at the compressed line and there were two distinguishable from plants, but strong animals where there had been but one, through numbers, found in all waters, each pursuing a separate existence and except those of the frigid zones, and play- capable of multiplying itself indefinitely. ing an important part in the economy of As the water on the slide evaporated nature.

with incredible diversity of shapes. The While watching the two Foraminifera, specimen I was watching, known as the parent and offspring, rocking in this monothalamous Lagena was shaped much microscopic tide a new actor, appeared uplike a wine bottle except near the larger on the scene. From the outer darkness a end there was a compressed ring dividing writhing transparent arm was thrust into the animal into two unequal parts. The the lighted circle. A yellowish current testaceous Foraminifera have no shells, seemed pouring into this, it grew larger but surround themselves with tests built and drew itself forward until the whole up of particles of sand and similar sub- amorphous animal had flowed into sight, stances from the bottom where they live, an Amœba. Again a slender portion of taking, on a small scale, the appearance of the body mass was advanced like an arm the Caddice worm in its portable hut. and again the creature flowed into the arm. Not so the Lagena, it had a true shell Reaching forward once more it touched formed of carbonate of lime drawn by its some obstruction, the "arm," pseudopodia, tissues from the water, and it was mar- was at once withdrawn, another was put velous to find that so lowly an animal out on a different side and the Amæba should have its shell marked with such an changed its course. array of delicate longitudinal bars and It was a bundle of paradoxes. A tiny

flutings.

As I watched the living speck of jelly The water flowed in fitful currents back in its half tranparent shell of intricate

The constriction near the end grew It was one of the Foraminifera, deeper and deeper until the mass divided

I would pour on a fresh drop and allow it They are found in endless variety and to flow down beneath the cover glass.

organs yet alive, without limbs, cilia or ly secured in Macon county that are both any organs of locomotion yet moving deep and clear but of the exact locality and against the current, without nerves yet the amount I can say nothing feeling its way, without mouth or stomach vet seeking food.

wormlike, now spherical and now, as if has been found for years. These localities uncertain which way to move, putting out pseudopodia on different sides, then flowing out in one of those protuberences, it moved across the field.

At length in its erratic wanderings it approached the two Foraminifera and touched the smaller one. By what sense it perceived the fact I cannot tell but the Amœba knew its food at once and assailed its hapless victim without delay. Casting one process around one end of the shell and a second around the other it flowed over its prev, the edges of the extended mass coalesced and the Foraminifera was engulfed, swallowed.

Under the action of the structureless but chemically active jelly the body of the victim grew fainter and fainter in its outlines and then disappeared entirely, absorbed by its captor. For a long time the gorged Amæba lay still, enjoying its feast, then it put forth a process, poured itself into that and gradually flowed away, leaving behind a beautifully wrought, transparent shell.

I had seen a living creature ushered into the world, enjoy its brief span of life and become the prey of a ravenous animal and now its dry bones marked the scene of the birth and the tragedy-but all this was under a powerful microscope.

ANGUS GAINES,

Vincennes, Ind.

### AMETHYST.

North Carolina of quality sufficiently deep less crystals of fine brown rutile and and clear for gem purposes has been limit- blood-red scales of hematite. It occurs

speck of transparent jelly, without vital ed. I was shown some specimens recent-

In a line running through nearly all the eastern part of Lincoln county and the Changing its form every instant, now southern part of Iredell county, amethyst have produced specimens that are magnificent but little of any value for the lapidist. They are found tolerably abundant in beds in a whitish gravel all. through the region mentioned. Groups of 40 to 60 pounds are occasionally taken out of a pale purple, pink and lilac tint. These like the clear crystals found twenty miles further west contain inclusions of water and other substances adding greatly to their attractiveness.

> Another locality in the same county near Henry P. O. has furnished some gems of a highly modified character in tints. Fine examples fine of the "scepter," three-quarters to one inch over the prism and making nearly a perfect square were found here. The deposits are thought to be exhausted.

> In several localities throughout this county elegant crystals have been mined containing water bubbles. The color in nearly all was deep but not evenly distributed. The largest about two inches across. Mitchell, Yancey, McDowell. Madison, Henderson, Alexander, Gaston and Catawba counties contain them in greater or less quantity and as work goes on some fine stones may be looked for. Some fine groups of small crystals in rosettes and radiating lumps of a clear lilac tint have lately been found in Catawba county. The locality is one mile north of Henry postoffice.

An interesting vein about two miles from the same place is on the farm of David McNeeley. The amethyst here is The supply of this beautiful stone from very deep, and clear and filled with count-

here in groups adhering to slabs of smoked massive quartz, intimately associated with fine mica crystals and crystals of brilliant hematite of excellent quality.

It is a matter of regret that the crystals are all small few if any will cut gems of over two carats in size.

Henry, N. C.

E. H. HARN,

### SEA URCHINS

Probably there are no animals of our marine waters less understood by the general public than the common star fishes, or five fingers as some call them, and the sea urchins of our coasts. It is of the latter especially this article is written. With the exception of those living on the sea coast, and those, who during the summer frequent the shores and are interested in natural history the public in the interior have little knowledge of them. To the loiterer along the beach it is not an unusual sight to see a number of these queer animals thrown upon the beach by the receding tidal waves. This is especially true of the common star fishes. Those studiously inclined, will take advantage of this by securing several for examinati n and study.

Scientists have placed the sea urchins in the sub-kingdom of Radiates. Star fishes are also included in this sub-kingdom and all whose bodies internally and externally are radiate in arrangement, that is whose parts are similiar around a vertical axis. The urchin when first found in its natural state is covered with a thick growth of spines, completely concealing the beautiful skeleton or frame work underneath. There is only one opening into this skeleton, the mouth being located in the middle underneath. The lony jaws or "Aristotle's lantern" as it is commonly called is composed of five separate parts, armed at the points with sharp knife-like appendages. These jaws can be brought together at the point so that the five little knives can cut up

the food in suitable pieces for mastication. These five jiws work on hinges of a cartilaginous nature and can be worked separately or in unison at the will of the owner. Prof. Wood, who is an excellent authority on natural history tells us that the skeleton or shell is composed of a large number of pieces or plates whose juncture can only be seen by examining the shell from the interior. By holding one of the cleaned shells so the light can penetrate the interior through the aperture the plates can plainly be seen.

Externally the shell presents an unbroken surface, with the exception of the protuberences where spines were located. The urchins retain their original shape during growth and as the chalky matter composing the shell is added regularly to the edges of these plates, the globular shape is not lost by the enlarging of the shell.

I have before me a specimen of Strongylocentrotus franciscanus from the Pacific coast, and whose beautiful symmetrical proportions are pleasing to all lovers, of Nature's beautiful works. This shell is rather warty in appearance nearly 13 inches in circumference at largest part of shell. The projections on the outer surface of the shell show where the spines were located. On this specimen I have counted 20 rows of large projections and 35 rows of smaller ones running from base to apex, all arranged with mathematical precision. Interspersed throughout these larger rows are many smaller ones. Between the rows of these projections thousands of small openings or pores can be noticed.

The spines are peculiar in structure and present some interesting details. Each spine is movable at the will of its owner, and moves on a ball and socket joint, the cavity at the end of the spine, fitting exactly the round projecttion on the shell. The spines are fastened to the ball by a thin tenacious membrane which allows them free movement. After death this membrane becomes dry and fragile and is easily broken and the spines drop off, hence the difficulty of amateurs in keeping urchins in\*

This difficulty has been largely overcome in creatures. late years by our energetic dealers and collectors, beauty of natural shape and colors.

have an exceptionally fine collection of the name sea urchin is more popular. Radiate family. It may not be generally known that in some localities the sea urchins are used as an article of food, especially in the South Sea islands. In the bay of Naples where many of the finest species are found, hundreds of people can be seen diving after They are especially valuable to urchins. the natives before they deposit their eggs, being as highly prized as the eggs of the herring and some other fishes. The urchins burrow in the sand until almost hidden only being located by a funnel shaped depression in the sand. This burrowing is accomplished by working the spines back and forth; being only to the waters of Puget Sound was being perfectly rigid. The natives locate the urchins by the depressions in the sand. are very plentiful in the waters of the Florida ocean docks were treated to a most interesting coral reefs; Wyville Thomson at one time and uncommon sight. It was no less than a securing several thousand at one dip of the seine.

both animal and vegetable matter, as fragments sunny climes far to the south of us. of both kinds have been found in the digestive cavity. It has also been stated that fragments occasions a few birds of great beauty of plumof shells have been found in them which would age and form appear here, build their nests, prove that they devoured the mollusks. One rear their young, utter their plaintive cries, and species commonly called the heart urchin is in the early fall disappear towards the south. said to live below the sand and secures its food Their story is that the birds do not come again from the animal substances that mingle with it, during the life of the Indian who saw them, on examination it was found that much of its and that when they do reappear it is only for digestive organs were filled with sand. I have one summer. And so it has been for countless several specimens of fossil sea urchin, from ages, and the legend tells us it will be so for Texas, they resemble the species commonly all time to come. called sea beaver.

urchins are armed with sharp spines which and so we must believe that those we saw are inflicting painful wounds. It has been claimed harbingers of good times and prosperity, for, terrible foes to the smaller mollusks. Without . "plenty game, plenty fish and everything doubt there is much yet to be learned regarding good."-Tacoma Ledger, June 24th. '96.

their natural state, that is with the spines on. the habits, and actions of these peculiar

The most prominent species on the Atlantic so that now they can be secured in all their coast seems to be Strongylocentrotus drobachiensis, what a formidable name for this poor The Field Columbian Museum of Chicago creature; is it any wonder that the common

H. B. DERR.

Chicago, Ill.

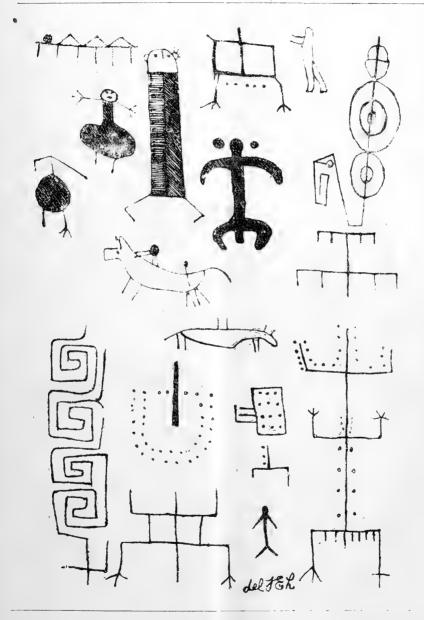
FLAMINGOES SEEN HERE.

THEIR APPEARANCE REVIVES AND CORROBOR-ATES AN OLD INDIAN LEGEND.

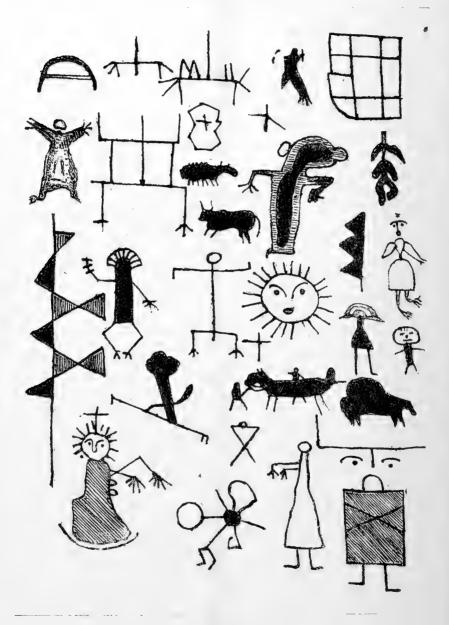
Sunday morning as that dreamy haze known dissipated by the sun's rays, a few early sight-Urchins seers from abroad, while strolling about the flight of flamingoes, those timid and delicate The food of the urchin seems to consist of birds from the bayous and morasses of the

Legends of the Siwash tell us that upon rare

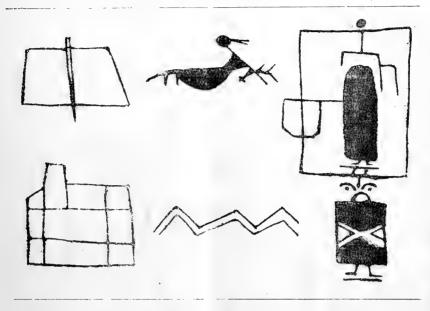
The description handed down from generation In the Indian ocean several species of the to generation tallies exactly with the flamingo, injure the feet of many of the native bathers, indentical with the birds of the legend, and the by some writers that the sea urchins are say the Indians, the visit of this bird means



MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS.



MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS.



MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS.

#### MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS.

It seems to be desirable to put on record the pictures, seen and sketched by the writer, in certain cave dwellings in Chihuahua, Mexico. The pictures were drawn in black, red, and white, on the adobe walls of the rooms in one of the largest of the cave dwellings near a mormon settlement. The caves occured in a conglomerate. On the floors were found corncobs of small size, fragments of pottery, and in one cave was unearthed a mummy of a man in sitting posture.

It seems fair to conclude that the artist or artists, authors of the pictures here Flicker eggs; one of them was very small and reproduced, were more or less familiar had no yolk .- Ray Raley, Pendleton, Or. with (1) Horses, (2) Roman Catholicism, (3) Soldiery, (4) Cattle, (5) Petticoated and corseted women, (6) Burros and the packing of the same.

more significance, but I dare not eggs to his collection; one of them is sets of venture into the higher speculations of the fork-tailed petrel.

anthropology. The drawings will speak for themselves. FRANCIS E. LLOYD. Pacific University.

Forest Grove, Or.

Mr. Guy Stryker writing from Eastern Oregon, says: It seems as if Malheur lake is the breeding place of all the water birds of Oregon; among others observed bitterns, avocets, snowy herons, etc. Killed my first antelope yesterddy, also sage cocks in plenty.

June 7 I took a set of twelve Northwestern

Joseph Mailliard, of San Geronimo, Cal., has returned from a few weeks trip in Alaska, To a practiced eye there may be still brniging back several additions in skins and

#### KADIAK ISLAND

#### A CONTRIBUTION TO THE AVIFAUNA were easily approached. OF ALASKA.

#### (Continued from Page 79.)

#### Tringa couesi ALEUTIAN SANDPIPER

during February 1893, but were not met Pacific golden plover. They remain probwith during other winters They were ably a few days only, but specimens of met with on a low sand bar, after a pro- this species may be met with throughout tracted storm which had thrown up the month frequenting the bare spots on millions of sand fleas, upon which they the uplands from which the snow has were feeding so industriously as to be easily melted. approached and to which feast they returned several times, even after their ranks had been thinned by raking charges of fine shot.

#### Tringa bairdii

#### BAIRD'S SANDPIPER.

immature One female November 15, 1803. No others seep.

#### Totanus melanoleucus

#### GREATER YELLOW-LEGS.

May to September and undoubtedly breeds there although no nests were found. Numerous specimens were taken, all being October 10, flocks continued to arrive and found either singly or in pairs and feeding depart leaving in a southeast direction. on the rocks of the ocean beach on sand During the fall migration they do not fleas and small marine worms found in the remain so long nor gather in such sea weed.

#### Heteractitis incanus WANDERING TATTLER

Common throughout the months and undoubtedly breeds but no going south and consequently would rest nests were found.

This species seemed to frequent the sand or gravel beaches in snow begins to leave and the country preference to rocky localities, and had to the northwest of Kadiak is still frozen regular feeding grounds to which they up, so that they have to wait until their resorted at certain stages of the tide, breeding grounds on the mainland thaw returning regularly each day at the same out. time. Their food consists largely of decapods together with small crabs, Island.

marine worms and minute mollusks. As a general thing they were not shy and

#### Numenius hudsonicus HUDSONIAN CURLEW.

Not very common but a few remain several weeks in the spring and fall but pass farther north to breed.

In the month of May they arrive going Large flocks of these birds were seen north generally in company with the

#### Charadrius dominicus fulvus PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER.

Like the last this species only stops on the island a short period during migration. The earliest flock to arrive in the spring was noted April 28, but the main body obtained did not arrive until the first week in May, by which time they were present in thousands, chiefly on the hills but a few on the beaches. By the sixteenth they This bird was found on the island from had all left passing to the northwest.

> In the fall migration, the first flock seen was on August 28 and from then until numbers as in the spring, which may be accounted for by two reasons: First, in coming north they must make a longer summer flight to reach the island than they do in longer; secondly, as a general thing they habitually arrive in the spring just as the winter's

> > As far as known none breed on Kadiak

### Ægialitis mongola

#### MONGOLIAN PLOVER.

Two specimens obtained August 9, 1892. No others seen and nothing learnt of their habits.

#### Arenaria melanacephala

#### BLACK TURNSTONE.

A breeding resident frequenting rocky beaches, particularly on the outlying islands. No nests were obtained but specimens were obtained all through the summer months.

#### Haematopus bachmani

#### BLACK OYSTER CATCHER

Resident on the island throughout the year and undoubtedly breeds. Although the writer was very anxious to obtain an egg of this species he was unable to do so. An egg was brought by a native who represented it to be an egg of this bird; upon investigation it was found to be in an advanced stage of incubation and contained a well developed yow tern.

#### Lagopus lagopus

#### WILLOW PTARMIGAN

The willow ptarmigan or snow grouse as they are commonly called, are found in all parts of the island, but it is in winter when they gather in large bands that they are most noticable, particularly on account of the avifauna being so limited at that season of the year.

The habits of these birds, particularly their flight reminds the writer greatly of the prairie hen; they have the same habit of all not rising in a band, but aiways there are a few stragglers that get up after the first or second volley has been fired. In the winter their food consists of the shoots of the willow and the new leaves of the kinnikanic, but in summer they feed largely on berries and insects, chiefly the spider. They nest in the interior of the island and the eggs are laid in May or as late as the first part of June. They lay from ten to fourteen in number.

### Lagopus rupestris

A few of these birds are found on the higher ranges of the island, but no new facts concerning them were learned.

#### Circus hudsonius

#### MARSH HAWK.

A summer resident breeding in suitable places in the island and feeding on *Arvicola* and *Spermophile*.

The nest being on the face of high bluffs are nearly always inaccessible.

#### Buteo swainsoni

#### SWAINSON'S HAWK

A very common summer resident and undoubtedly breeds although no nests were found.

#### Archibuteo lascpus sancti-johannis

AMERICAN ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK

Resident during the summer months, breeding in the interior.

#### Haliætus leucocephalus

#### BALD EAGLE

There are about a dozen pairs of these birds resident on the island but they are not nearly so common as on the mainland where they are in all probability more abundant than anywhere else on the American Continent.

#### Falco peregrinus anatum DUCK HAWK.

A common resident throughout the year, nesting on high bluffs near to the ocean.

#### Falco sparverius

#### SPARROW HAWK.

A tolerably common summer resident Pandion haliaetus carotinensis

#### AMERICAN OSPREY

One seen May 23, 1894. Surnia ulula

#### HAWK OWL.

The light phase of the hawk owl was met with throughout the year and undoubtedly is a breeding resident though no nests were found. In summer their food consists of field mice (*Arvicola*) and in winter small birds and ptarmigan. This owl's manner or hunting is to sit on the very top of a high tree and from there swoop down upon any moving object.

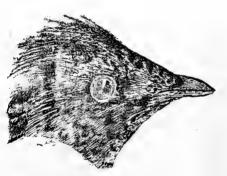
The writer is well aware that it has several times been stated that this owl does not kill the ptarmigan but only preys on wounded birds; yet I have actually seen one of these birds strike down a ptarmigan which to all appearances was in good health and most assuredly was in full flight at the time, and many were met with feeding on freshly killed birds.

BERNARD J. BRETHERION.

#### N. O. A. WORK.

Owing to the absence of most of the members, during the summer, the monthly meetings will be postponed during July and August.

At the regular meeting in May the following article by Ellis F. Hadley of Dayton, Or., was read:



#### THE OREGON RUFFED GROUSE.

The Oregon ruffed grouse also called red ruffed grouse, timber pheasant, partridge and Oregon pheasant, was one of our commonest game birds along the streams, and in the thick timber of Western Oregon.

It is a very fine game bird and of fine flavor; sportsman have killed so many about here, that they are becoming scarce, some say that the Mongolian pheasants are driving them

away, by breaking their eggs and killing their young, but I have never seen anything to indicate this, but have found nests containing eggs of both birds, and the ruffed grouse was in possession of the nest each time.

The Oregon ruffed grouse is darker and has more of a red color, than the ruffed grouse of the East. In comparing it with the sooty grouse, I find, that it is a much smaller bird, brighter in color, and is generally found nearer water, and drums instead of hoots. It also differs from the sooty grouse in that it feeds, mostly on the ground the year round instead of going up into the big fir-trees to spend the winter months as the socty grouse does.

They are generally found on low land, a river bottom or along some small creek, but in times of high water, they will go to higher ground. I have often seen them when the water is high, in some small tree or bush, when the water was several feet deep under them, and around them for half a mile. In a boat, at such times, one can row right under the bird, or within a few feet of it. A great many me killed along the river bottoms in this way by hunters.

About March first the males begin drumming. The sound is made oy the bird, while on some old log, by striking the sides of its body with rapid strokes of its wings; the no se sounds like distant thunder. Set t. 4, 1895 while out hunting I heard and saw an Oregon ruffed grouse drumming.

In the fall the young are very tame, I have often seen them on top of houses and in grape vines in the yard.

Their food consists of insects, berries, grapes, wild crab-apples, wild rose-berries and mushrooms. I have often seen them feed on each of the above, have also killed them in the winter, when their crop contained nothing but hazel catkins.

Nesting time is April, May, and June, the nests are made on the ground, in a hollow made by the bird, by a bush, under a brush heap, fallen tree top or under a small pole;

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have also found them in the grass in fence collected a set of six fresh eggs and four Denny corners. The nest is constructed of dead leaves pheasant's eggs in the nest. May 6, 1896, 1 and grass with a few feathers of the bird, collected a set of six fresh eggs. May 7, 1896, From six to thirteen eggs are laid, generally I collected a set of eleven eggs incubation ten or eleven. April 27, 1895 I collected a about one third. May 9, 1896, I collected a a set of ten fresh eggs, in color a creamy white, set of nine eggs incubation begun. All the sparsely, spotted with redish-brown. They above sets are marked like my first set in 1895. measured 1.62x1.19; 1.65x1.20; 1.63x1.18; 1.66x1.18; 1.65x1.19; 1.65x1.18; 1.68x1.21; 1.66x1.19; 1.67x1.20; and April 27, 1895 I collected a set of eleven eggs, and the Oregon ruffed grouse incubation begun, marked like above. May 3, settled districts, 1805 I collected a set of eleven eggs, incu- but when alarmed take to the trees, bation about one half, also marked like first set. pass the night on the ground, drum at any June 10, 1895 I collected a set of seven fresh time from October to July, and in Iowa I have eggs, which were unmarked, the ground color heard them drumming in mid-winter, when the of this set was also much lighter. Of all the winter was very mild. I never saw two grouse sets, which I have seen, this is the only one, in on one drumming log, and I do not think they which the eggs were unmarked.

the call of danger from the mother bird, will selecting the nesting site. I have found nests run and hide under the grass, leaves or any- in the woods in plain sight, the eggs not thing they can find close at hand. 1 have covered, and no grouse in sight. One nest when going through the woods surprised an found in Oregon in 1894, was in a dense Oregon ruffed grouse and her young, where- swamp; it contained six eggs; May 11 I flushed upon she would give the alarm, spread her tail- a sooty grouse from a nest containing eight feathers, ruffle the feathers of her body, eggs of the sooty grouse and seven eggs of the especially on her neck, and come at me as if ruffed grouse; it would be hard to say which to fight. If I went toward her, she would go flopping off as if a wing or leg was broken, and by this time the young are hidden and it is with seven eggs of the sooty grouse and three almost impossible to find them. During this eggs of the Denny pheasant. time, the old bird will stay close by giving the alarm call every little while, and the young vicinity of Salem, not as common as the sooty will keep perfectly motionless and silent, some times for 25 or 30 minutes, they will then begin chipping, slip out from their hiding places, and hunt for their mother.

A few years ago I caught several young that were in the down, and thought, I would try to raise them. They were very gentle, when caught, and I put them with a gentle hen, in a wire netting corral, but for want of insect food, which at that time I did not know how to provide, they all died.

May 2, 1896, I collected a set of ten eggs, incubation about one half. May 2, 1896, I

Mr. G. D. Peck of Salem, Or. writes:

•**'I** can see no difference in the 1.63x1.18. habits of the ruffed grouse of the East In sparsely they are very tame. Thev mate. They protect their young much better The young, when only a day or two old, at than the sooty grouse, but seem careless in had the best right to the nest, and almost in sight of this nest, on May 5, I found a nest

> The ruffed grouse is not very common in the grouse."

> > WM. L. FINLEY.

THE IMPORTED AND ACCLIMATED GERMAN SONG BIRDS IN OREGON.

#### BY C. F. PFLUGER.

#### THE SISKIN, Fringilla spinus. (Der Zeisig.)

Of these useful song-birds, 40 pairs were introduced into Oregon in 1889, by the Society.

The siskin is found throughout Europe, and

during the winter. It does not, however con- twigs, and lined with very fine roots. fine itself to one place, but flies about in search female generally lays five or six eggs, of a grayof food. This bird is  $4^{3/2}$  inches in length, of ish white, thickly spotted, especially at the which the tail measures 134 inches. The beak large end, with purple brown. There are two is 4 lines in length, and contracted towards the broods in a year. The males increase in point, which is very sharp. The tip is brown; beauty until their fourth moulting. the rest light gray, except in winter, when it becomes white. The shanks are 7 lines in both to its plumage and its song. It imitates height, and, with the claws, brown. The top of the head and throat are black; the neck, cheeks, and back, green; the latter speckled with black. The rump, as well as a stripe between the eyes, the under part of the neck, and the breast, are greenish yellow; the belly, vent and groin, whitish yellow; the two last being covered with black spots.

The pen feathers are black, bordering with vellowish green on the outer plume, and after the fourth, have a yellow spot near the root. The lesser wing coverts are green; the larger edged with yellow, which produces stripes of the same color. The tail is forked; yellow near the root, and the rest-with the whole of the two center feathers-black,

The plumage of the female is in general paler; the head and back are grayer, and are spotted with black; the throat and the sides are whitish; the breast and the neck white, marked with green and black; the feet gravish brown.

The male generally loses the black of the throat in the second year; and for the most part, the older he is, the greener, yellower, and therefore handsomer, he becomes.

the fir and pine and on leaf lice, it will are a dark gray; the rump beautifully white; effectually clear every tree, vine or shrub of the breast and the upper part of the belly a this pest, not a leaf will escape its notice. In autumn, on the hop thistle and burdock; and in winter, on the alder. The siskin prefers to build its nest in forests of pine or fir, and places its nest on the highest bough of one of proportion as they are near the body; the these trees, or sometimes on the branch of the hindmost being externally bordered with steel alder. It is fastened to the branch with spider blue, and the last having the outer plume red. webs, coral moss, and threads from the cocoons The larger wing coverts are a glittering black. of various insects, and is cleverly constructed tipped with reddish gray; the center, an ashen

is very common in Germany, where he remains of these materials, woven together with small The

> The siskin is an attractive bird, in regard the song of other birds. It sings throughout the year, except during the moulting season; and by its continual twittering, invites all birds to sing. Its song is not unpleasant; it bears some resemblance to that of the canary, but it is less powerful-it is soft, sweet, and various.

March, September and October are their wandering months, and in their wanderings they make their appearance in 'flocks. It breeds freely with the canary, and the young bastard males will make excellent singers.

#### THE BULLFINCH Pyrrhula vulgaris, (Der Gimpel oder Dompfaff.).

Of these handsome song-birds, 20 pairs were introduced into Oregon by the Society in 1889 and 1892.

This favorite bird is, like most of the family to which it belongs, somewhat thick in proportion to its length, which is 634 inches, of which the tail measures 21/4 inches. The beak is half an iuch long, black, short, and thick; the iris is cheastnut brown; the feet weak and black; the shanks 8 lines high. The top of the head, the circle round the beak, the chin, and upper part of the throat are a shining In summer the siskin feeds on the seeds of velvety black. The throat, back, and shoulders beautiful crimson, which grows darker as the advances in age. The bird remaining portion of the lower part of the body is white.

The pen feathers are blackish, and darker in

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gray, the lesser blackish gray edged with red, The tail is somewhat forked, and steel blue, shining with a black lustre.

The female may be distinguished from the male, by the fact she is smaller; that the red portions of her plumage are strongly tinged with gray; that the black is brownish gray; and the feet lighter in colour.

The bullfinch is a native of the old world. In Germany it is very common, and may be seen in pairs, in all woody districts. In winter it migrates in search of berries. It is an exceedingly affectionate bird; very averse, both when wild and confined, to being separated from his mate, and when with her continually caressing and calling to her. The bullfinch breeds twice a year; generally concealing its nest as much as possible in fir tree or hedges. The nest is badly built of twigs, and lined with moss. The female lays from 4 to 6 eggs, of a pale bluish green, with a circle of violet and brown spots as the large end. The young birds are hatched in a fortnight.

It feeds on the seeds of the pine, fir, ash, maple, beech, and all kinds of berries. It will also eat linseed, millet rape, nettle, and grass seed, and the worms and insects contained in the buds. Ornithologists contend that the whole of the buds which the bird destroys contain grubs, which are only eaten, the vegetable envelope being rejected, and there is no doubt that the buds of the cherry and other fruit trees which it destroys have a worm at the core, which would prevent the fulfillment of their promise to yeild fruit in due season.

The bullfinch is a very docile bird; and although the natural song of both sexes is harsh, reaembling the creaking of a door or wheel barrow, they may be trained, as in Germany, to whistle many airs and songs in a soft, pure, flute-like tone, which is highly prized by amateurs. The bird is generally capable of retaining in its memory three different tunes.

Small double terminated quartz crystals, guartzoid form, are found in Crook county, Or. Only small crystals have been found, but search is being made for larger specimens.

### THE OREGON NATURALIST.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

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JULY, 1896.

The present being an era of publications cheap in price, beginning with this number the subscription price to the Oregon Naturalist will be only 25 cts per year.

Only 25 cents for 12 numbers of the Oregon Naturalist, this extremely low price is made that all interested may become subscribers. If you have any friends interested in the natural sciences and who might become subscribers, sample copies will be sent them upon receipt of names and full address.

August number will contain "A New Industry" by Angus Gaines. "Hiddenite, Emerald and Beryl" by E. H. Harn. "Beach Collecting," illustrated, by F. P. Drowne. "The Flour Beetle," illustrated, by A A. Andrews. "Mexican Hieroglyphs," part II, illustrated, by Prof. Lloyd. "Imported Song Birds in Oregon," by C. F. Pfluger.

The Stamp Collectors Hand Book and Directory of the State of Michigan, compiled by W. H. Kessler Jr. Detroit, Mich, has been received.

Curio Dealers should send to Mr. G. W. Tuttle, Pasadena, Cal., for his Price List of California Curiosities.

Mr. Arthur L. Pope is giving large discounts on the remainder of his collection to close out, write him at McMinnville, Or.

Mr. E. H. Harn of Henry, N. C. is offering splendid examples of green mica, crystalized, a recent find, and the price reasonable.

#### NEW PUBLICATIONS.

MISSOURI BOTANICAL GARDEN. SEVENTH ANNUAL REPORT. ST. LOUIS, MO. Pub lished by the Board of Trustees, 1896 pp. 209 pl. 66 plus 6, cloth and gold. Contents-(I) Reports for the year 1895. (2) Scientific Papers: a Juglandaceae of the United States, By William Trelease. b A Study of the Agaves of the United States, By A. Isabel Mulford. c. The Ligulate Wolffias of the United States, By Charles Henry Thompson. (3) Anniversary Publications:-The Value of a Study of Botany, By Henry Wade Rogers. (4) Library Contributions: The Sturtevant Pre GEORGE D. PECK recommends coloring im-Jinnean Library.

be purchased, at approximately the cost of publication, from Dr. A. E. Foote of Philadephia, the Cambridge Botanical Supply Co. of Cambridge, Mass, W. Wesley & Son, of London, R. Friedlander & Sohn, of Berlin, or Dr. William Trelease, Director of the Garden. St. Louis, Mo.

MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXPERIMENT STATION, Bulletins 129, Fruits at South Haven, and 130, Fruits at the Agricultural College, Bulletin 131, Potatoes, Tests. Bulletin Vegetable 132. Some Injurious Insects.

The Bulletins of the Experiment Station are sent free to farmers and indivieduals interested in farming, in the State, as may request them. Applications should be made to the Secretary, Agricultural College, Michigan.

THE VARYING HARE OR WHITE RABBIT. Lepus Americanus Virginianus. By B. H. Warren, M. D. State Ornithologist, Harrisburg, Pa.

An excellent monograph on the life history, of the varying hare in Pennsylvania, two colored plates showing variations in winter and summer dress.

PENNSYLVANIA STATE, DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE - DIVISION OF ECONOMIC ZOOLOGY, Bulletin No. 6. By B. H. Warren, M. D. State Zoologist, Harrisburg, Pa. May, 1896 pp. 128, ill. xi.

Chapter I treats of the methods of collecting, skinning, preserving and mounting birds as practiced in the field and laboratory.

Chapter II deals with matters of law with which collectors and hunters in Pennsylvania should be familiar.

Chapter III embraces the game and fish laws of the State.

Plates ix, - xi, made from photographs taken from specimens in the Author's collection are exceptionally fine.

mediately after mounting, or before the colors Missouri Botanical Garden publications can have faded, the parts of birds that require it.

106

#### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

#### HABITS OF THE CHIPPING SPARROW.

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

#### CHAT.

The Marine Biological Laboratory at Wood's Holl opened its eleventh consecutive session on the first of the month. The large and ever increasing number of students each year is a sufficient testimonial of the merits of the school. Under the competent management of Dr. C. O. Whitman, the work progresses with the best of results. Mr. Waldron, the collector for the institution promises us a complete description of buildings, methods of work and iectures, next month.

After this issue the office of Eastern Department will be located in Providence, R. I.

Anything out of the usual, in regard to nests and eggs will be thankfully received by the Oologists Association and incorporated in their report on old and peculiar nests and nesting. Address President I. S. Trostler, Omaha, Neb, or Eastern Editor.

That human bodies are not to be thought of in certain places on the earth's circumference, upon the dates of August 8 and 9, seem a foregone conclusion. The total eclipse of the sun, visible in the porthern part of Norway and Finland, Nova Zembla, and the northern part of Japan and Sandwich Islands, will for the time being at least, bring the importance of the heavenly bodies forcibly before the minds of the natives. Many expeditions have started and most of them are at their several stations, to watch and make known every gradation of the phenomena. BY C. O. ORMSBEE, MONTPELIER, VT.

Vermont, in common with the other New England states, and with New York, boasts of five species of sparrow, so closely resembling one another that the practiced eye of the expert is necessary in order to distinguish them by their general appearance. They are the song sparrow, the tree sparrow, the field sparrow, the swamp sparrow, and the chipping sparrow, respectively. In their food habits they resemble one another as closely as in their external appearances. With the exception of the swamp sparrow, which prefers a marshy or swampy locality, and one that is far removed from any human habitation, they closely resemble one another in their general habits. With the exception of the song sparrow, which has a musical, and a remarkably pleasing voice, they have so close a resemblance to one another in their vocal sounds, that I can seldom distinguish them by their notes.

In the location and construction of their nests, in the color and marking of their eggs, and in their general habits of nidification, they differ widely.

Perhaps the most interesting of all is the chipping sparrow, which on account of its domestic habits while nesting, has been named fringilla socialis and spizelia socialis. They arrive in this locality early in April and sometimes as early as the middle of March. They come in flocks of about twenty and do not seem to be mated upon their arrival. They mate soon after, and then separate from the flock, which is soon dispersed; but it is not until the first of May that they begin to build. Their nests are flimsy affairs, composed of hay, and lined with long horse-hairs, from which circumstance they are often called "hair birds." The nests are always in trees, and generally in apple-trees, and from five to twenty feet from the ground. There is no attempt at concealment, and often the nest is by the side of, or above

a well-traveled path. They have been known to build within an arm's reach of an open window. The noise of passing vehicles appears to disturb them, and they seldom, if ever, build near a public highway.

The eggs are from three to five in number. and are blue with a wide ring of minute black spots encircling an open space at the larger end. Eighteen days are required for incuba. tion, and during this time neither bird is ever out of sight of the nest. Often the parent will allow itself to be lifted from the nest rather than leave it. I think that both birds assist in the incubation, but as the sexes and individuals so closely resemble each other, I cannot be positive. Both birds assist in feeding the young. At first worms form the chief article of diet; but later, several species of insects are added to the bill of fare. They do considerable damage by preying upon the honey-bee. About the first of September they abandon this kind of food, and subsist upon the small seeds of various kinds of weeds. Grain, they never touch at this season. In the spring when the ground is covered with snow, and they are pressed with hunger, they will pick up a few kernels of wheat, but they do not seem to relish them. They are fond of breadcrumbs, and will hop to the threshold, and often inside the door-way in search of them.

I do not know that they accompany any other birds in their migrations. In fact there is little foundation for the statement that they do so. But they arrive about the same time as the robin, and, for a while they seem to associate intimately together. Also about the middle of September they begin to seek the society of the king-bird, and both species migrate about the middle of October. They do not associate with robins or migrate with them in the fall.

A New Deer.—A new species of deer has been sent with a small collection of mammals from Ecuador to the British Museum by H. M'S. consul at Quito. It is proposed to give it the name of *Padua Mephistophelis.*—The Naturalist's Chronicle, Cambridge, Eng.

#### A MOCKINGBIRD.

#### ARCHIE A. BELL.

Not imitator, but original, In all the gorgeous carvinal

Of birds which come in Spring And make the woodlands ring With songs;

Tis yours, the note that sweet prolongs. We love to hear you in the trees

Your whistle floats upon a breeze Which passing shadbush shrub of white

With all their fragrance doth unite And pleasure gives our senses all.—

It comes to us, a magic call.

The earth enjoys your happy lay, And deep in woodlands far away

The other members of your throng, Unite the strain and swell it long,

They each would imitate your voice. And make their hearts as ours rejoice;

They each would know the magic trill And each would catch your carol shrill.

Imitators, all are we,

We imitate the good we see; The artist's brush, the poet's pen

Are guided by the lives of men

Who lived and died of noble worth, Who lived while here upon the earth Their lives of truth and honesty.—

Now plain their form in all we see.

TALLAHASSEE, FLA — [TO THE EDITOR] — In my article "An Indian Mound" in June number, the height of the mound should be, 'about thirty feet high' not 'sixty feet.' In the same number I note a record of two albino meadowlark's eggs: Two seasons ago I had brought to me four full sets of albino eggs; they were common in this locality, bnt since that time I have not taken any.

#### R. W. WILLIAMS JR.

Mr. Wm. Piedrit, of Warsaw, Ill., sends photograph of a large white pelican, lately shot on the Mississippi liver, near Warsaw. Height; 37<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> inches; spread of wings; 8 feet 9<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches.

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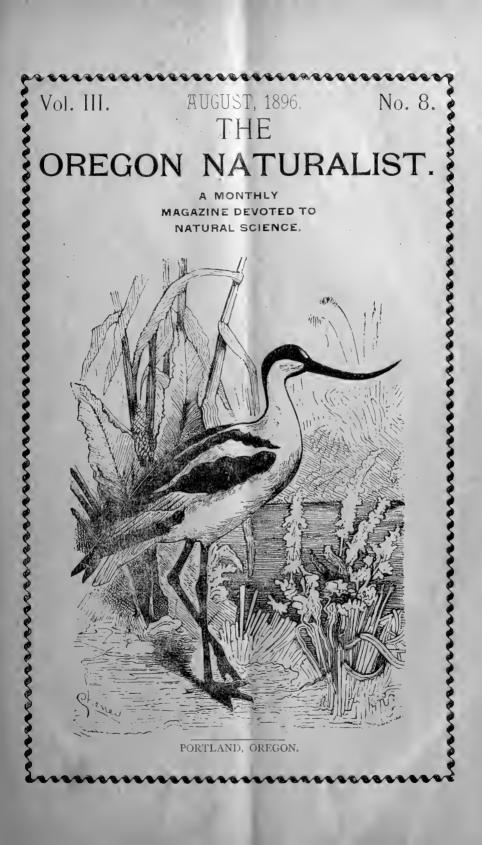
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VOL. III. PORTLAND, OREGON, AUGUST, 1896. No. 8

#### Imported and Acclimated Song Birds in Oregon.

By C. F. Pfluger, See'v of the Society for the in-troduction of useful song-birds into Oregon, at Portland. THE STARLING Sternus vulgaris.

(Der Star.)

were introduced into Oregon by the the female the beak is rather black-Society in 1889 and 1892. They ish brown than yellow; the light were turned loose in the city of colored spots, especially on the Portland near the city park, and head, neck and breast are larger. have since increased remarkably and the edges of the wing feathers well

the old world, and frequents woods ance. and thickets which are at no great distance from meadows and plough- caterpillars and their larvae, shails, ed fields. In October it departs grasshoppers, mole-crickets, and the southwards, and does not return un- insects which tease the pasturing til the beginning of March. It is cattle, but berries, grain of all kinds, 81/2 inches in length, of which the millet and hempseed. The starling tail measures 21/2 inches. The beak builds in hollow trees, under the is one inch long, awl-shaped angu- roofs of houses and in wooden lar, somewhat flattish and, a little boxes and earthen vessels, which blunt. It is a pale yellow tipped are often hung on trees or under the with brown, and in winter blackish eaves of houses for their accommoblue. The iris is nut-brown; the dation. The nest is carelessly built feet one inch in height, and dark of dry leaves, grass stalks, and flesh-color. blackish, having a purple tinge half same pair year after year, being way down the back and breast, with cleaned out when they take possesa bright green lustre on the rest of sion. The female lays twice a year the body, and on the wing-coverts. from 4 to 7 greenish gray eggs. The pen and tail feathers are black. Before the first moulting the young speckled with gray, and together are not so much black as a smoky with all the coverts edged with fawn color, without spots; and their light rust color. The feathers of beak is dark brown.

the head and nape of the neck are tipped with reddish white; those on the back with light rust color, and on the outer part of the body with white. Hence the general appear-Of these useful birds 35 pairs ance of the bird is speckled. In broader, which give the bird a The starling inhabits all parts of lighter and more mottled appear-

> The starling eats not only worms The whole body is feathers, and is occupied by the

and sagacity, deserves to be compared with the dog. It is always lively, understands and obeys every gesture and motion of those that come near him, and though tottering about with a sober step and stupid appearance, allows nothing to escape its notice. It learns to repeat words, whistles airs, and to imitate the voices of men and animals, and the song of birds. The starling sings throughout the year, with the exception of the moulting season, and their song is peculiar and harp-like.

#### THE ROBIN REDBREAST, Sylvia rubicula. (Das Rothkehlchen.)

Of these lovely and useful song birds but 5 pairs were introduced into Oregon by the Society in 1889 and 1892. There were many more of them when they first arrived, but unfortunately they died.

This handsome bird is a native of the old world, is 53-4 inches in ength, of which the tail measures  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The beak is 5 lines ong, and brown except at the root of the lower mandible and in the inside, where it is vellow.

The iris, as well as the feet, which are eleven lines high, are blackish brown. The forehead, cheeks, and lower part of the body, and the wing-coverts, are dingy olive-green; the rump, sides and vent, of a lighter hue. The sides

The starling, in respect of docility of the breast are a beautiful pale gray, the belly white, the pen and tail feathers dark brown edged with olive green and the first wing coverts are tipped with a triangular yellow spot. In the female, which is somewhat smaller, the orange on the forehead is not so broad, the color of the breast is paler, and the feet are a vellowish brown. The vellow spots on the wing coverts are also generatly wanting.

> The robin redbreast feeds on insects of various kinds, leaf-lice, earth worms, larvae and all sorts of berries. It builds its nest which is made of lichens loosely put together, and lined with grass stalks, hair and feathers on the ground, among moss, stones, roots, or "pon leaved tree stumps, in thick brush, or in currant and gooseberry bushes, in hedges and sometimes in holes under the roofs of houses.

The female lays twice a year, from 5 to 6 vellowish white eggs, spotted and striped with orange, and having a ring of light brown at the thick end. It is a bird of passage and goes south during the month of October, and returns about the middle of March. Occasionally, a number of these birds will remain here throughout the winter. But when the cold grows more severe, and snow covers the ground, or frost hardens its surface, it approaches the houses, taps at the closed casement casting sidelong glances in-doors, as if envious of the warm abode. It is attracted to the habitations of man by the shelter that it there obtains from the rigor of the weather, and in search of the insects that are collected in great numbers by the same cause.

Its song is sweet and well supported which though loudest in spring lasts almost throughout the year, and has a solemn and melancholy effect. During spring the robin redbreast haunts the grove and the garden, while in summer it retreats into the woods. They are very pugnacious in their habits and will fight others of its kind with relentless ferocity and ardor. Its call note is "Sisri!"

#### Some Notes on Migration taken at Salem, Oregon, by George D. Peck, 1896.

March 2.—Violet-green swallow first seen. On April 4, they were common.

March 22.—Rufous hummer male, first seen. On April 4th, females were observed and on the eleventh of the month a nest was found containing two eggs.

March 23 .- Saw lark sparrow.

April 2.—Dwarf hermit thrush, male taken, also lutescent warbler, male.

April 4-Maryland yellowthroat, male.

April 5.-Vesper sparrow, first seen.

April 8. — Band-tailed pigeon, first seen. On this date Audubon's warbler was observed in full plumage. This species has been common all winter and as late as May 5th was seen in thousands, but on May 6th only one bird was seen. No more were observed until May 15th when a small flock of females were seen.

April 9. Saw four hermit thrushes.

April 15. Nest of sooty grouse found containing four eggs.

April 16.—Black-throated gray warbler male seen and on the 29th heard singing. Arkansas goldfinch first seen.

April 20.-Cassin's vireo first seen.

A pril 29.—Lincoln's sparrow, one seen. A rare sparrow here. On this day Townsend's warbler was taken from a small flock that constantly stayed in the tops of the trees.

April 30.—Saw a small flock of Savannah sparrows.

May 2.—Cliff swallow and two Macgillivrays warbler males first seen. May 7.—Saw red-bellied nuthatch excavating a nest.

May 8.-Saw male yellow warbler.

May 11.—Russet-backed thrush first heard but not seen. Saw two little fly catchers. Pileolated warbler first become common.

May 12.—Saw two male lazuli finches in the company of a large flock of gold finches. Carolina dove first heard.

May 13.—Long-tailed chat heard and Bullock's oriole first seen.

May 15.—Not a ruby-crowned kinglet was seen to-day; they have been here in numbers numberless.

May 18.—Black-headed grosbeak and Parkman's wren first seen.

#### Crater Lake and the Mazamas.

The Mazamas are a society with headquarters at Portland, Oregon, whose purpose, similar in nature to that of the Alpine Club of England, the Appalachain Club of New England. and the Sierra Club of California, is the exploration of the mountains of the Pacific Northwest and the publishing of information concerning them. With this object in view they are accustomed to make annual expeditions to points of leading interest. which are attended by large numbers of people, and which have become celebrated throughout the country. Thus in 1894 they assembled, nearly two hundred strong, on the summit of Mt. Hood; last year their rendezvous was at Mount Adams; while the present year they will during the week beginning August 16th conduct an excursion to Crater Lake, which has every prospect of being the most largely attended and the most successful of any similar event ever known upon the Pacific Coast.

In his book, "The Mountains of Oregon," Mr. Wm. G. Steel, who assisted a party sent out by the U. S. Geological Survey in 1886, to survey and sound the lake, thus describes it: prospectors on June 12, 1853. \* \* \* his tribe because of his many visits to They decided to call it Mysterious, or the mysterious waters. Others then be-Deep Blue Lake. It was subsequently gan to seek its influence. Old warriors called Lake Majesty, and by being con- sent their sons for strength and courage stantly referred to as a crater lake, it to meet the conflicts awaiting them. gradually assumed that name, which is within itself so descriptive.

"From Allen Davey, Chief of the Klamath tribe, I gleaned the following in reference to the discovery of Crater Lake:

"A long time ago, long before the white man appeared in this region to vex and drive the proud native out, a band of Klamaths, while out hunting. came suddenly upon the lake and were startled by its remarkable walls and awed by its majestic proportions. With spirits subdued and trembling with fear, they silently approached and gazed upon its face; something within told them the Great Spirit dwelt there, and they dared not remain, but passed silently down the side of the mountain and camped far away. By some unaccountable influence, however, one brave was induced to return. He went up to the very brink of the precipice and started his camp fire. Here he laid down to rest; ere he slept till morn-slept till the sun as high in air, then arose and joined ight he came again; again he slept till rew him back again. ach night strange voices arose from the smoking chimney of a once mighty volwaters; mysterious noises filled the air. cano. The base of the island is covered At last after a great many moons, he with very heavy and hard rocks, with climbed down to the lake and there he sharp and unworn edges, over which bathed and spent the night. Often he scarcely a score of human feet have trod. climbed down in like manner, and fre- In the immediate foreground to the quently saw wonderful animals, similar north lies the lake, with its twenty odd in all respects to a Klamath Indian, ex- mile- of rugged cliffs standing abruptly cept that they seemed to exist entirely from the water's edge. To the left is in the water. He suddenly became Wizard Island; beyond stands Llao

"It was discovered by a party of twelve hardier and stronger than any Indian of First, they slept on the rocks above, then ventured to the water's edge, but last of all they plunged beneath the flood and the coveted strength was theirs. On one occasion, the brave who first visited the lake, killed a monster, or fish, and was at once set upon by untold numbers of excited Lloas (for such they were called,) who carried him to the top of the cliffs, cut his throat with a stone knife, then tore his body in small pieces, which were thrown down to the waters far beneath, where he was deyoured by the angry Llaos-and such shall be the fate of every Klamath brave, who from that day to this, dares to look upon the lake.

'The lake is almost egg-shaped, ranging northeast by southwest and is seven miles long by six in width. The water's surface is 6,251 feet above sea level and is completely surrounded by cliffs or walls from one thousand to over two thousand feet high, which are scantily covered with coniferous trees. To the southwest is Wizard Island; 845 feet 's tribe far down the mountain. At high, circular in shape, and slightly covered with timber. In the top is a rorn. Each visit bore a charm that depression or crater—the Witch's Caul-Each night dron-one hundred feet deep and 475 in bund him sleeping above the rocks; diameter. This was evidently the last thousand feet perpendicular; while still the summit of Mount Washington. beyond stands Mount Thielsen, the lightning rod of the Cascades. Just to been, ages upon ages ago, when, long the east of the lake is Mount Scott, before the hot breath of a volcano soiled partly covered with snow; while close to its hoary, head, standing as a proud the campon the east is a high clff known monarch, with its feet upon earth and as Cathedral Rock, running far down to its head in the heavens, it towered far, the right and at last disappearing below far above the mountain ranges, ave, the tree tops.

"Crater Lake is but a striking me mento of a dread past. Imagine a vast beyond the reach of Everest. mountain, six by seven miles through, streams of fire began to shoot forth, at an elevation of eight thousand feet, great seas of lava were hurled upon the with the top removed and the inside earth beneath. The elements seemed hollowed out, then filled with the clear- bent upon establishing hell upon earth est water in the world, to within two and fixing its throne upon this great thousand feet of the top, then place a mountain. At last its foundation gave round island in one end eight hundred way and it sank forever from sight. and forty-five feet high, then dig a cir- Down, down, down deep into the bowels cular hole tapering to the center, like a of the earth, leaving a great, black, funnel, one hundred feet deep and four smoking chasm, which succeeding ages hundred and seventy-five feet in diame- filled with pure, fresh water, giving to ter, and you have a perfect representa- our day and generation one of the most tion of Crater Lake.

"It is hard to comprehend what an man. immense affair it is. To those living in New York City, I would say, Crater is one of the grandest points of interest Lake is large enough to have Manhat- on earth. Here all the ingenuity of tan, Randall's, Ward's and Blackwell's nature seems to have been exerted to Islands dropped into it, side by side the fullest capacity, to build one grand, without touching the walls, or, Chicago awe-inspiring temple, within which to or Washington City might do the same. live and from which to gaze upon the Our own fair city of Portland with all surrounding world and say: her suburbs, from the City Park to would I dwell and live forever. Here Mount Tabor, and from Albina to Sell- would I make my home from choice; wood inclusive, could find ample room the universe is my kingdom, and this on the bottom of the lake. On the other my throne."" hand if it were possible to place the lake, at its present elevation, above either of these cities, it would be over a mile up to the surface of the water, and a mile and three-quarters to the top of Llao Rock. Of this distance, the ascent would be through water for two thousand feet. To those living in New Hamp- ment to Dr. C. C. Purdum, 274 North

Lake, solemn, grim and grand, over two water is twenty-three feet higher than

"What an immense affair it must have looked far down upon the snowy peaks of Hood and Shasta, and snuffed the air Then beautiful lakes within the vision of

"In conclusion I will sav, Crater Lake 'Here

> Eastern Department. CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

#### CHAT.

Address all mail for Eastern Departshire, it might be said, the surface of the Main Street. Providence, Rhode Island.

Better send you appli ation for membership to the Oologist's Association, to President Trostler at once, as the yearly reports will soon be made and you want to have a hand in their work.

An immature wood ibis was shot near Seekonk, R. I. lately. First record for Rhode Island? Bird was mounted at Critchley's establishment in this city.

Is the hair-worm a parasite of the cricket?-Suggested by an exchange.

#### **Principles of Classification.** C. C. PURDUM, M. D.

#### (Continued from page 89.)

We have said that a "character" in zoological language, means any point or mon, result in greater or less degrees feature which may be perceived and of likeness. To carry any scheme described, and utilized in comparing the of classification into practical effect, similarities and separating the differ- naturalists have found it necessary to ences between each animal. Thus the condition of the tarsus and larvnx, as objects whereby the like may come tospoken of in previous papers, are "char- gether and the unlike be separated. acters" which can be used in describing They have also deemed it expedient to individual birds, or in selecting a name give names to all these groups, of whatfor a group of birds.

Embryological characters are those afforded by the bird during the time it such group with the value of its grade. is developing in the egg, from the lowest stage of the germ to the fully developed among naturalists. Of course this coinchick. These embryological characters age is entirely arbitrary until it beare of the utmost significance, for it has comes sanctioned and fixed by common been conclusively demonstrated that consent. It can not be too thoroughly the germ of the higher organisms goes understood that-natura non through a series of developmental saltus-Nature makes no bounds, and changes which, at each successive step although she does not skip from one in its development, causes it to resemble group to a higher by a stride, neither the adult state of animals lower than does she make her way by imperceptible itself. In so many words then, the his- degrees of advancement. But however tory of the evolution of every individual arbitrary they may be, however obscure bird, illustrates the history of the may be their bounderies, groups we changes which birds have collectively must have, and groups of different undergone. Such stages of any embryo grades, to express different degrees of therefore, give us glimpses of those evo- likeness of the objects examined and so lutionary processes which have affected classify them. I can not be too bold in

germ develops, and becomes more complicated in structure by the formation of organs and parts, each of which are successively differentiated and specialized, it gradually rises higher in the scale of being.

It will be obvious that every ulterior modification presupposes inclusion' of all prior ones; for a white winged crossbill, to be itself, must be a "loxian. fringilline, oscine, passerine, carinate, modern, avian vertibrate animal. The more characters, of all grades, that any birds share in common, the more closely are they related, and conversely, obviously, the possession of more or fewer "characters" in cominvent and apply a system of grouping ever grade, such as class, order, family, --genus, species, etc.; and to st mp each in order that it may become current facit the group to which it belongs. As the assuring the reader that no such thing

exist in nature, any more than have genera or families an actual existence. Species are modifications, which are inseperably linked together; and their nominal recognition is a pure conventionalism.

No infallible rule can be laid down for determining what shall be held to be a species, what a sub-species, or what a variety. The actual classification of birds has undergone radical modification of late years, though the same machinery is employed for its expression. This of course was to be expected as the theory of evolution has so profoundly affected our principle of classification; and our knowledge of the structure of birds and their chronological relations has progressed.

(The end.)

#### New Publication.

MICHIGAN STATE AGRICULTURAL COL-LEGE EXPERIMENT STATION .- Bulletins 133. Tuberculosis, by E. A. A. Grange, and 134, Pasteurization of Milk, by Clinton D. Smith, June, 1896.

The Michigan Agricultural College maintains a college extension course of reading designed especially for farmers, gardeners, fruit growers and stock breeders. The course is open to all interested. In connection the Farm Home Reading Circle offers a course in systematic reading on subjects of practical interest to every farmer. Thev have already a large and rapidly increasing number of readers. Full information can be obtained by sending a postal card to Herbert W. Munford, B. S., Agricultural College, Mich.

In Florida the green heron does not nest in colonies as does the little blue and snowy herons, but prefers some isolated tree, away from its kin. Some-

as species, in the old sense of the word, times, though, they nest on the out skirts of a little blue heron rookery, as was the case with two nests found by me this season. One contained four eggs, the other, three. The usual number is three. R. W. WILLIAMS, JR., Tallahassee, Fla.

#### A \$35.00 Bicycle at Last.

Ever since the introduction of the Biycle, predictions have been freely made that it was only a question of time when a high-grade wheel could be purchased at a low price consistent with the actual cost of mauufacture. It is a well-known fact that the original manufacturers of bicycles have become enormously rich from the large profits in the business, and have been able to maintain high prices by constant advertising. Highsalaried racers paid to win on their wheels; expensive bicycle shows; souvenirs given away, and numerous other expedients are resorted to to keep the name of the wheel before the public, all of which the user pays for, and gets no better wheel than one under a less known name could be bought for at half the price.

In another column is shown a cut and full description of the "Maywood"-a first-class, high-grade wheel in every respect, at the low price of \$35.00. If one will read the specifications carefully he will be readily convinced that this particular wheel has many points of superiority over any other on the market, and the manufacturers are a responsible, well-known firm, and guarantee the wheel in every particular.

#### Bird Day.

Oregon observes Arbor Day in an appropriate manner, why not a Bird Dav?

Circular No. 17 by Prof. T. S. Palmer, Acting Chief of Division, recently issued by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, as such.

Prof. C. A. Babcock, superintendent of Its practical value is recognized both by schools in Oil City, Pa., and is endorsed individual States and by the National by the Hon. J. Sterling Morton, Secre- Government, which appropriate considtary of Agriculture who first suggested erable sums of money for investigations Arbor Day nearly twenty-five years ago, of value to agriculture. Much good For the past three years the day has work has been done by some of the exbeen successfully observed in the Oil periment stations and state boards of City schools. May 29, 1896 was set agriculture, particularly in Illinois, Inapart by Prof. C. H. Morrill, Superin- diana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Nebtendant of Schools at Fort Madison, and raska and Pennsylvania. In the United observed in the schools in his jurisdic- States Department of Agriculture, the tion, with the result that the children Division of Biological Survey (formerly received both enjoyment and instruc- the Division of Ornithology) devotes tion. Prof. Morris in speaking of the much attention to the collection of data day, says: "It is safe to say that we respecting the geographic distribution. shall celebrate the day next year."

The matter is being agitated in Connecticut and Nebraska. The object of the day is to diffuse knowledge concerning our native birds, that they may be protected and the beneficial species become better known.

Prof. Palmer, speaking of the value of the day savs:

"The study of birds may be taken up in several ways and for different purposes; it may be made to furnish simply a course in mental training or to assist the pupil in acquiring habits of accurate observation, it may be taken up alone or combined with composition, drawing, geography, or literature. But it has been offering inducements to break also an economic side which appeals to commandments. those who demand purely practical island in the Willamette river, and studies in schools. Economic ornithol- is now sorrowfully trying to locate ogy has been defined as the "study of a stone idol two feet tall, and a birds from the standpoint of dollars and carved Indian, prepared for burial cents." It treats of the direct relations in a canoe, all of stone about 18 of birds to man, showing which species inches long. He left them out in are beneficial and which injurious, the rain and cold until someone teaching the agriculturalist how to pro- took pity on them and took them tect his feathered friends and guard in.

Division of Biological Survey, advocates against the attacks of his foes. This is the setting apart of one day in the year a subject in which we are only just beto be called Bird Day and be observed ginning to acquire exact knowledge, but it is none the less deserving of a place in The idea apparently originated with our educational system on this account. migration, and food of birds, and to the publication and diffusion of information concerning species which are beneficial or injurious to agriculture. Some of the results of these investigations are of general interest, and could be used in courses of instruction in even the lower schools. Such facts would thus reach a larger number of persons than is now possible, and would be made more generally available to those interested in them "

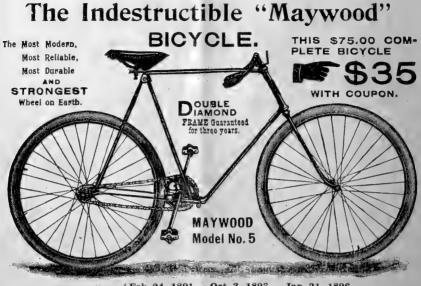
> Let some leading educator in Oregon make a move in this matter and in time. a general observance in Oregon of a day for this purpose would be assured.

> A collector of stone relics has He lives on an



We are now booking orders for Denny Pheasants (Phasianus torquatus) skins. Send in orders early. They will be filled in rotation. Good birds in full plumage are not plentiful during the time the law allows them to be shot.

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## Vol. III. SEPTEMBER, 1896. No. 9. THE OREGON NATURALIST. A MONTHLY

MAGAZINE DEVOTED TO NATURAL SCIENCE.



### Exchange Column.

This Exchange Column is free to all subscribers. All Cash offers for this column must be paid for at the rate of ½ cent per word. Each exchange notice must not exceed 30 words. The right is reserved to reject any notice when considered, to be for the best interests of subscribers.

Wanted:-Butterflies and Moths, Cocoons and Chrysalides from Oregon and California in large numbers. Offer Eastern Butterflies, Eggs in sets and supplies. Prof. Carl Braun, Naturalist, Bangor, Me.

WANTED: --L-can use almost any desirable Oregon or Western single eggs for which 1 will give even exchange in nice sets. Send me your full exchange list. I have many fine sets not usually offered by collectors. Walter F. Webb, Albion, N. V.

WANTED: -: A second hand microscope in good condition; books or shells, and beefles; back numbers of "The Nautilus" and ""The Observer," O. B: Montgomery, Lo.k Box 187, Allentowin, Pa.

I. WISH good clean copies of the AUK for which 'I offer some fice sets. Write for list; also want Vol I, Oregon Naturalist and back volumes of Oologist, from I to IX, -R, W, Williams Jr. Tallah see, Fla,

WHAT have you to exchange for file skins of Florida Diamond back Rattlesnake skins, either tunned or, fint, Box 447; Orlando, Fla

WHAT have you to offer for two live Alligators's feet long. A. M. Nicholson, Orlando, Florida,

A GOLD filled; open faced; Trenton movement watch, and books on travels, history, Indians, Archaeology, Geology; and fiction, to exchange for good ancient, and modern Indian relics, old arms, and wat relics. Send list with prices, all letters answered. L. V. McWhorter, Berlin, W. Va.

FOR each 20 dufferent U. S. Stamps 1 will send an arrow point. Geo. O. Greene, Box 41 Princeton, Illinois.

WANTED: Persons to accept, gratis, in view with their name and address printed on. Write plainly and enclose five postage stamps to deray, mailing, packfing, etc. "Happy Hours," South Columbia, N. Y.

\$2.00 Columbian Stamps, unused, exchange for U. S. and Revenue Stamps or cash for \$2.25 each.

#### A. LOEWIT.

218 E. 76th St., and Mark New York.

Wanted:—Agood chmera, will give advertising space in the Oregon Naturalist or good (exchange in: Oregon material, D. M. Averill & Co., 148 Sixth St. Portland, Oregon,

I have been using your exchange column for advertising duplicate specimens etc., and it has more than repaid me many times a year subscription. Any collector, a mateur or professional can well afford to pay 50 cfs. a year for the Oregon Naturalist, a sample copy will convince him of that fact. Harry E. Spalding.

WANTED:--Resurrection Moss will give, "Singles" Oregon Material or Advertising Space in the Oregon Naturalist, "D. M. Averill & Co., Portland, Or.

NEW cloth-bound Mekeel Album, \$35 due-bill on bicycle, scientific and philatelic papers, books, and many other articles to exchange for camera, typewriter or anything I can use, P. P. Fodrea, Grand Island, Neb.

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JOHN MARTIN, Palestine, Ore.

BASKETS. We have secured a few baskets of this scarce work.

picked up here and there. The remnants of the tribe. who have any, are exceedingly loath to part with them, for they are mostly heir-looms having descended to them from their fathers. To intending buyers size, description and prices will be sent upon application to

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# D. M. AVERILL & CO.,

148 Sixth Street, - Portland, Oregon.



VOL. III. PORTLAND, OREGON, SEPTEMBER, 1896. No. 9

A NEW INDUSTRY

BY ANGUS GAINES.

In England, many people regard frogs as great delicacies and in France, they are still

pelled by very slow degrees. Restaurants matches the hues of the aquatic herbage and hotels did not until recently keep in which they lurk that a sounding frogs on their bills of fare, and though splash in the water is often the first intimthey were usually retained on their order- ation which the intruder has of the list they were rarely called for, except by animal's presence. People whose acforeigners, or by young men of an ad- quaintance with bull-frogs extends only venturous turn who tasted them out of to such chance meetings in the swamps curiosity. Those who did taste frogs would not think them very promising subrecognized them at once as most delicious jects for domestication, yet the work of tidbits, and the despised batrachians be- raising them for the market is very simple. gan to grow in public favor.

been but little disturbed, for few people the land could not be used for any other thought seriously of catching these for purpose. The frog-farm best known to the market, and it was only occasionally me is a large pond, shallow throughout.

that boys out on some hunting and fishing trip would secure a few and offer them for sale, As soon as a steady market was found for them the price rose and the hunt for frogs became

so general that their numbers diminished rapidly. As the demand continued to increase the supply diminished until a new industry, frog raising, arose to supply the deficiency.

Our most common frogs, such as spring-frogs, wood-frogs and crecketfrog are all too small for table use, and the bull-frog, Rana cantesbiana, is the only really esculent batrachian. Holbrook says that these frogs sometimes attain a more highly esteemed, but length of twenty-one inches. Their color in America, there is a general is an indescribable blending of green, prejudice against them which is being dis- brown and yellow which so perfectly

Starting a frog-farm is not very expen-The frogs in their native ponds had sive, for the frogs do best in places where grow far out from the shore, with only wades about over his pond and with a narrow expanses of open water showing large dipper carefully skims the scattered between their rank clusters. The sloping masses of spawn from the surface of the bank is covered with a thick growth of water and places it in a bucket. willows, with here and there a towering spawn thus collected is poured into hatchelm or misshapen wateroak.

this miniature wilderness from the fine flows into or out of the pond. open pastures which surround it. There boxes, which are usually about two feet is no danger of the frogs trying to leave square and one foot deep, are covered with the pond for the surrounding country is nettings of tarred wire and have bottoms high and dry, and bull-frogs never of the same material to admit the water venture far from water. The fence was freely as they float into the stream or rest built to keep hogs, cattle and domestic on the oozy bottom. Here the frog's eggs ducks and geese from invading the pond. are kept, well protected from birds, fishes,

vet the pond is visited so often that they might wish to devour them. have grown somewhat accustomed to the In from seven to fifteen days, owing to sight of men, and are not frightened as the temperature, the eggs begin to hatch easily as wholly wild ones are. They and the bottoms of the boxes are soon leave the water in large numbers and covered with little tadpales quietly baskperch upon the bank, or on rocks, sticks ing in the sun or dodging about and tryand stones, some of them basking in the ing to hide. It is not very expensive to sunshine, others hidden in the deepest feed these little fellows, for their food is shade. They sit perfectly motionless, microscopic, or nearly so, consisting of watching the visitor with their great particles of organic matter found in the goggle eyes as if fascinated by the sight water or on the bottom The tadpoles do until some frog more timid than the rest very well in their boxes for the first few plunges into the water. This breaks the days of their lives, but as they grow spell and on all sides there are sudden larger they need a wider range, and are flashes of white bellies and long mottled liberated in a small pond that is surlegs as the whole colony of frogs splashes rounded by a fence, usually of fine meshed into the pond.

In the wider openings in such a pond the water is often clear and bright, but in could be so many tadpoles in the world as the narrow bays between the weeds and are to be found in one of these little ponds. willows the surface is usually covered Frogs lay their eggs in such great with a thick coat of confervæ and duck- numbers that if they were allowed to inweed. It is in this green scum of low crease unchecked they would soon overvegetation that the frogs deposit their run the world. There is little danger, spawn, stringy masses of a jelly-like however, of their ever becoming too numersubstance which floats upon the water. ous, for they have an infinite number of These masses are composed of innumer- dangers and difficulties to contend with able very small eggs held together and and if tadpoles were not hatched in vast protected by the slimy glue in which they numbers none of them would reach maturare imbedded.

for the yellow pond lilies and dense rushes In the spawning season the frog raiser The ing boxes made of rough boards and A substantial plank fence separates anchored in some small stream which These The frogs are not by any means tame, old frogs, and any other animals that

wire netting.

You would scarcely believe that there ity.

heads and fine, whip-like tails in one of there is but little good meat, being used to these enclosed ponds show how they might feed the survivors in the pond. increase if duly protected, but what do you think is the worst danger from which the ship the frogs alive. wire netting shields them? Nothing more canght in a small net on the end of a or less than the old frogs themselves. light pole, a contrivance very much like a Bull-frogs are extremely voracious and butterfly net with a long handle. The will eat any animal that they can over- consumer can then, without danger of come, small fishes, crawfishes, toads, loss, lay in a considerable supply of live worms, insects, anything and everything frogs to be kept and killed as needed. and of course they find the young of their They are kept in dark pits or large boxes. own species acceptable morsels.

The tadpoles grow to a large size, many of them attaining a length of four and one half inches. They usually develop into the adult form in two years, but it is said that there are many exceptional cases in which individuals live three years and even longer before undergoing their metamorphoses. The young frogs are allowed to remain in the small enclosed ponds until they are thought to be old enough to take care of themselves, then the fence is lowered and they are driven out to take their chances with their older relatives. In the larger pond they usually find an abundance of food and they are useful in subdueing the myriads of insects and other vermin which find a breeding place in the water, and in the rank vegetation. In spite of this abundance of natural food the owners find it advisable to feed them occasionally, scattering about considerable quantities of waste meat which has found struggling so fiercely that they did been chopped fine. The frogs eat greedily and soon attain a large size.

is not at all difficult on a well stocked their pond or stream, and there, in a torpid farm. Sometimes they are knocked over state, await the coming of spring. with a long switch, sometimes shot with a spring gun, and sometimes they are caught on a hook, baited with a strip of red flannel, a bait which they are said to take readily. In some countries the whole upon the growing frogs. Fishes, too, keep frog is eaten, but in America, it is usual both tadpoles and frogs on their bills of fare, to send nothing but the hind legs to and certain snakes subsist mainly on frogs.

The myriads of little fellows with big market, the rest of the animal, on which

Sometimes however it is found best to They are then without food but with plenty of water. They are often kept for weeks in this way, spending their time huddled up together and indulging in low croakings, or, if the weather is cold, lying buried in the wet straw and awaiting their doom in a torpid or semi-torpid state.

Although frog raising is a comparatively new industry and but little familiar to the general public it has already risen to the dignity of statistics, for 60, 000 lbs of frog meat, mostly that of domesticated animals. are sold annually in New York City where the average retail price is thirty cents per pound.

In their natural state frogs are solitary animals, except in the spring when they congregate in large numbers, making night hideous with their hoarse bellowings which, it is said, have been heard over five miles. At such times the males often fight furiously and have frequently been not notice the intruder.

At the approach of winter they bury Killing or capturing the frogs for market themselves in the mud at the bottom of

> The smaller wading birds, such as "teeter snipes" and sandpipers, often grow fat on the young tadpoles, and the larger wild fowls, ducks, geese and herons, feast

Frogs, however can at times get their revenge on most of these foes, for the full grown, wide mouthed batrachians will eat young birds whenever they can catch them, and one of them was seen to swallow a robin that had been shot, though the tail feathers, being too long for its stomach, protruded from its mouth. They will eat small snakes and one of them has been known to swallow a "grass snake" three feet long. Frogs also eat fishes, but there is one foe, besides man, on whom they cannot retaliate, this is the raccoon. Raccoons often prove very destructive to frogs and on them the unfortunate amphibians can have but little hope for revenge.

A white pelican, shot this season on the Columbia river near Umatilla, has been mounted and is now in the collection of a lady taxidermist of Umatilla.

Skins to be of any value should have a tag attached to them, giving sex; where collected, date of collection, who by, length, stretch of wings and wing measurements.

#### MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS.

#### II.

The hieroglyphs reproduced in (the last issue of this journal) were found on the adobe walls of the rooms in a cave-dwelling. The cave itself is a large one. The front part of it only having been used as a dwelling, and is one of a number scattered here and there on either side of a narrow valley a few miles from the mormon settlement of Pacheco, in north-western Chihuahua,

On the opposite side of the valley from this cave is one having a wide entrance and upon its rock face, in a sheltered position, may be found the nine drawings, done in white, which are here reproduced.

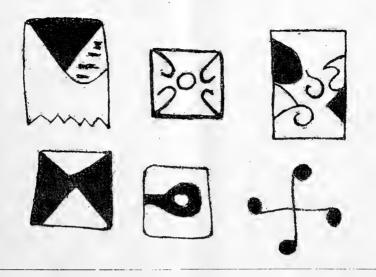
FRANCIS E. LLOYD,

Pacific University,

Forest Grove, Or.



MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS,



MEXICAN HIEROGLYPHS.

#### THE BASKET OF THE KLICKITAT.

#### MRS. VELINA P. MOLSON.

The archæologist is frequently caused to halt in the reconstruction of ancient society by the ignorance of the arts of savages around him. This is especially true of an art which had its culmination in savagery or barbarism, and which began to decline at the touch of civiliz-This may be said of the Klickitat ation. baskets. These rare and beautiful baskets are made by the different tribes belonging to the Shahaptian linguistic stock, "a name based on Scouler's report to the Royal Geographical Society in 1841, and confirmed by later scientific men, Gallatin, Hale, Schoolcraft and and Latham. The derivation is Salishan, but the meaning is unknown,"

Columbia and its tributaries, from the Cascade not the benefit of the bracing air of the plateau mountains on the west to the Bitter Root range on the east, and from 46° north to 44° south, or what is now Eastern Washington and

Northern Idaho.

The Klickitats have been styled the "Iroquois of the Northwest." They were marauders and robbers. The very word Klickitat means "robber."

One of their favorite haunts in time gone by was the Cascades of the Columbia, and another the dalles or long narrows of the Columbia. They were a constant menace to the trappers and voyageurs from the foundation of the Pacific Fur Company in 1811, and continued to worry and harass the pioneers until they were subdued by the Yakima war of 1856.

The Klickitats are fine-looking and intelligent Indians; they are tall and clean limbed, and as they followed the chase from all time and lived in a higher altitude, they were the superiors in every way of the miserable-looking tribes of the Willamette valley and coast Indians, as the latter tribes traveled about The habitat was along the waters of the squatting in canoes, subsisting on fish, and had

Reprinted from "Basketry of the Coast and Islands of the Pacific, etc." This pamphlet can be had of the J. K. Gill Co., Portland, Or. Price 25 ets.

of the Klickitats' country.

Their marauding journeys carried them from of the streams, or the game of the forests for the present international boundary line on the their winter use. north to Rogue river on the south. They were masters everywhere until they reached that became almost obsolete when they could the Rogue river tribes, who rightfully gained purchase from the Hudson's Bay Company their name through cunningness, or until they cloth, manufactured goods, tools and trinkets, reached the Indians of the plains, on the eastern watershed of the Rocky mountains, whither they went on annual expeditions to trade and gamble, carrying the wampum from arrows were soon out of date and the art of the coast, dried salmon and other articles, to trade for dried buffalo meat and robes.

They went down to the ocean on the west. carrying the wild hemp dried and twisted into neat bundles and much sought after by the coast Indians for fish nets, to exchange for the wampum or dentalia, a small shell collected in those days at Nootka. The wampum was the circulating medium, and Alexander Ross said in 1814 three fathoms bought ten beaver skins.

The Klickitats held the gateway between the East and West, for the river was the natural and only easy route for passage from the Western valleys to the Eastern World.

north and Mount Hood on the south of the time as the "Klickitat trail." They usually Columbia river, but territorial bounds did not journeyed south by that trail, but for peaceable confine them, for they were everywhere robbing, reasons they traveled north by the Klamath trading, horse-racing, and holding under trail, on the eastern side of the Cascades, to burdensome tribute many lands they did not their home of homes, the beautiful Klickitat own.

They had a complete and euphonious language of their own, as became a people who 'excellence' a savage art, and the several tribes influenced the world around them, and possess- of the Shahaptian stock controlled it, for the ed both statesmen and warriors whose enter- imbricated basket of the Klickitat surpasses all prise covered so broad a field.

pervert, the Indians were numerous. They and, what is most important; utility and durhad their great annual gatherings, for exchange ability. of products and to regulate affairs. They owned their special privileges, as fisheries, berry of all baskets is a bone awl, and the woman is fields and camas grounds, and hunted their generally the maker. own territory. All seasons had appropriate

duties. It was no light or brief task to gather, The Klickitats were bold and fearless riders. cure and store the fruits of the earth, the fish

> Besides they had many arts and manufactures and pay for them by hunting animals whose fur was in demand.

> When they procured firearms bows and making beautiful arrow heads became a lost one, and finally buckets superseded baskets.

> Holding the natural waterway and occupying the mountains, valleys and plains of the eastern country, they held the key to the Columbia region, the gateway between the East and West. They maintained intimate tribal relations with both sections and levied tribute on all west of the Cascades, from the waters of Puget Sound on the north to Rogue river on the south. Through all this region they rode rampant, and their lodges were full of spoils taken in their foravs

South of the Columbia along the ocean shore and foot-hills, there is still a well-worn trail, Their domain included Mount Adams on the that antedates history, known now and aforevalley.

Basketry is an art which may be called "par other baskets in beauty of workmanship, gen-Before the white man came to occupy and eral contour, harminous blendings of the colors,

The tool universally used in the manufacture

The woman of all untutored and uncivilized

drawn work of the Mexicans, the rich work ing the spruce through and tightly drawing it from the far East, the bead and basketry of the into place, thereby making a locked stitch and North American Indians.

To gather, prepare and manipulate the raw material meant time and arduous labor,

The foundation consists of the roots of young spruce and cedar trees; it is macerated and torn into threadlike shreds, and soaked for weeks and months in water to rid it of any superfluous vegetable matter and to render it strong and pliable. The ornamentation is almost all made of Zerophyllum tenex, which is commonly called "squaw's grass," It grows on the east side of the Cascade mountains and can only be gathered during the late summer, when the snow has melted and the grass has matured. This grass resembles the plant of garden cultivation, Yucca filamentosa,

The broad, swordlike leaves are split into the requisite width, and if they are to remain the natural color, an ivory white, they are soaked in water only; but if they are to be dyed they are soaked in mud and charcoal for black. for brown a dye made from the willow bark, and for yellow a longer time in the water.

cedar tree is dyed black instead of the grass; oftentimes intricate and elaborate. When the but it is not so durable owing to its short requisite number of stitches of one color has fibrous texture; or the willow bark itself is been made, the grass is cut off and laid aside used instead of dyeing the grass brown; but until it appears again, for the ornamentation the willow looks slightly shriveled, and neither never appears on the inner side, for it would be presents the smooth surface as when made of ruined by the berry juice or hidden by the consquaw's grass, although only apparent to the tents. practiced eye.

generation to generation.

weeks and months, the deft worker sented herself upon the ground and began her work, dexterously hidden and secured, well calculated either by a spring or stream, by taking a small to withstand rough usuage over mountains and bunch of these water-soaked spruce roots, which, when tightly compressed, was about the size of horses and in boats, loaded and unloaded, a lead pencil.

She began at the bottom of a basket by a coil, tightly lashing it with a soaked thong of interruptions, for the basket maker gathered spruce root, each time piercing the stitch in thefuel, gathered and prepared the food, which

nations is a deft worker; witness the delicate the preceding row with the bone awl and threadwater light, so that if it were possible to draw out the coil the basket would still preserve its shape. This coiling and whipping is continued with the spruce alone until the bottom is completed, for the decoration seldom if ever appears on the bottom; if it does, only in a sparsely made pattern.

> When the last coil of the bottom is made, then the decoration begins. A strip of the grass is laid on and lashed in place, then turned back and lashed again, each time being held in place by the all-important spruce thong. This lapping b ck and forth gives it the name "imbricated "

> Every time a stitch is made it takes the circuits of the spruce whipping to hold it in place, each time following the puncture made by the bone awl, which is exceedingly hard work. One round of a large basket or three of a small one is a hard day's work for an experienced basket maker.

The different colors and shades are introduced according to the weaver's fancy, and always Sometimes the bast or inner bark of the forming a complete and well-designed pattern,

This wearisome labor goes on round after The mode of dyeing was handed down from round until the top is reached, when some are finished smoothly and plainly, while others are After these preliminaries, that ran through given a scallop. The last round of all is curiously and closely interlaced, with the ends plains, on the backs of women, on the sides of times without number and lasting a lifetime.

The labor of making a basket had many

down to the rivers. She tanned and fashioned the skins into garments, besides caring for her children, for the aboriginal mother is well known to be an unselfish and tender one.

Some baskets are covered throughout from top to bottom with the decoration, while others have a pattern appearing only at intervals, allowing the spruce not to intentionally form the background. The figures are always triangular or angular, never round in the original shapes, as the circular figure meant civilization.

The scallops before mentioned were for utility, for if broken and worn a new edge could be made more easily than a solid edge. or when filled and covered the contents could be held in place by a lashing made from wild hemp, and passing back and forth through the scallops.

The shape is well planned: The bottom is almost always round, then it flares rapidly at first, and then very gently until the top is reached, when it usually converges toward the center, for if it flared all the way in proportion to the beginning the mouth would be so large that the contents would be lost; but even the strength of these firm baskets would be sorely tested.

One is rarely seen other than round; if so. they have an oblong base and top, and a rare one has a lid. This shape was in imitation of the trunks seen on shipboard in the early part of the century, and copied by the Cowlitz and Lewis river tribes, who also belong to the parent stock, Shahaptian; but this shape was not copied by the tribes over the range.

These large round baskets were carried on women's backs, and are today, by a broad strap passing around the forehead or across her chest. and when gathering berries they are thrown over her shoulder and into the basket; or for convenience sake a small one is secured to her belt in front, and emptied at intervals. Her hands are thus left free for work, for she is ambidextrous.

These baskets were also fastened on either side of a horse in pannier fashion, and the in Alexander county were worked by open

often meant excursions to the mountains or ment either mounted on the same cayuse, or riding another and driving the berry-burdened beast before her.

> The Indians say that the berries keep sweeter in these baskets than in a metal bucket, and as they are watertight there is no loss.

> The baskets are prized by the few makers that are left, and by their children.

> And thus is ended a work of art by these rude and untutored people, scorned and despised, but sought for by scientists and lovers of the curious and beautiful.

#### SOME NORTH CAROLINA MINERALS.

#### HIDDENITE.

As this mineral has gained a world-wide reputation, not only among gemists as a beautiful and expensive gem stones, but among collectors as a new species. I wish to speak of it more in detail than others of equal importance.

From traditions of the locality where it is found it is not a very recent discovery, as it has been plowed up by the farmers for many years.

Mr. Hidden of Newark, New Jersey, can lay claim to nothing but the honor of having had it identified. Prof. Smith of Louisville. Kentucky, analyzed it and gave it the name it now bears.

The mineral was first collected and placed on exhibition by Mr. Stephenson of Statesville, North Carolina, and it was there that Mr. Hidden first saw it. Neither of the above gentlemen knew what it was and from the color and form naturally took it to be diopside which mineral it somewhat resembles. Mr. Hidden visited the locality and through his efforts a company was formed to work it.

Considerable work was done and several thousand dollars worth of stones secured but from some cause the property became entangled in litigation and for aught I know to the contrary still remains so to-day.

The mines, which are situated at Hiddenite woman sought her camp or the nearest settle- trenches and the finest gems are said to have

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running from the surface down to about 35 feet. The formation surrounding is metamorphic, the immediate habitat of the gem being in all probability the gneissoid rocks common throughout the western part of the state.

Mineralogically this stone is a spodumene and only differs from the typical mineral in color which is some shade of purple.

When pure hiddenite is bright grass-green in color and when cut is indeed a splendid gem.

If rarity and beauty constitute value in a gem, this should rank with the best for it is rare in the locality where found.

It is reported from Macon county, this state and in a letter from W. M. Backburn of Pierre, South Dakota, he says a specimen was found in the glacial drift near that place. Other properties adjoining the mines at Hiddenite have furnished good gems, notably the Lyons property and on the plantation of Mr. J. O. Lockey.

Ouite a list of interesting minerals were found in association, viz: Rutile of the finest polish are pitted and feel rough to the touch. quality, xenotime, tourmaline, emerald. beryl, etc.

Hiddenite is a gem of the finest rank when cut, but its ready cleavage renders it somewhat difficult to manage. It will always command fancy prices. Whether further work at the mines or even in the vicinity will reveal a larger output remains of course to be seen.

Much of the ground has been trenched to for color and transparency. considerable depths and pretty thoroughly prospected and unless it can be found deeper down one is naturally led to believe that the cream of the deposit has been "skimmed off."

If water could be introduced as a power to lessen the expense of mining handsome profits could be realized, for as it is, in comparison to the yield, the labor is great; but this can be done with much difficulty and at considerable expense.

of good quality can occasionally be secured but found sparingly in the South Mountains in the "finds" few and at long intervals, when Burke and McDowell counties are certainly

been found in loose veins in the soil at depths found and offered for sale it is a matter of some difficulty to get possession as the prospectors have in many cases an exaggerated idea of its value and very frequently entrust their speci mens to some disreputable dealer at a distance and realize but a fraction of that offered by home buyers. Cases have come under my own observation where material has been sent out and a return of less than a fifth in real value.

#### EMERALD AND BERVL.

There seems to be a considerable amount of beryl and its varieties in the state and a fair percentage of the product is of real gem quality.

It is found in some form or other at widely separated points and in over a dozen counties. There are at least four distinct varieties found, viz: Emerald, sea-green, golden and blue,

The emerald was found at Hiddenite in Alexander county, in magnificent specimens while operations were in progess there for hiddenite in 1884. The crystals found at that point differ from those of other localities and seem to carry their own distinct characteristics.

The planes, instead of showing the usual

The crystals as a general thing are very symmetrical, are solid and of a fine blue-green color, except in the case of the larger crystals the "cores" of which are milky. The gem stuff from here is mostly from small and These like the hidmedium sized crystals. denite are from loose rotten veins in the clay. The small crystals from here are unsurpassed

The mica mines of Macon, Mitchell, Yancey aud Madison counties are producing some good material of late in both emerald and aquamarine.

The bright green variety called emerald commands the highest prices. But just why this is so is hard to tell, unless the popular fancy is controlled by a craze for that which is old and well established. While it commands the highest price it is certainly not the most beauti-Good specimens of hiddenite and a beryl of ful. The bright, clear, golden colored crystals very handsome. Many of them show different A VACATION TRIP TO THE WHITE terminations and when thus found are of considerable value as specimens alone.

The whole group when found in place occur in veins of feldspar, usually the variety orthoclase. They are gregarious in habit, essentially "pockety" and seems to be intimately connected with masses of a pure watery quartz, around which they cluster and sometimes penetrate. The associates are black tourmaline, much mica, (Muscovite) in masses, one or more species of garnet and large crystals of felsdpar.

These are constant but at different places other crystals are found as hiddenite, xenotime, monazite, apatite, etc., in Alexander county, and samarskite, allanite, gummite, and minerals of the uranium group in the Mountain counties to the west.

at Stony Point in 1883-1894 in his exploits elevation of some 1500 feet above the valley for hiddenite no regular mining for them has and 11/2 miles from the Hubbard home. We been instituted, though of late I believe the followed a logging road up the mountain side. mica people of the Western counties are giving them some attention.

Catawba, Lincoln, Gaston, Cleveland, Ruther- loss, as only a few thousand logs were ever ford, Henderson and some other of the border taken out by him. I am told that he with 10 counties where the stone is found. Many of or 12 men worked about six months upon the these localities are of much interest as a study road, and that the men received little or no from the fact of their being altogether discon- pay for their work. nected with the beryl belt. One locality in Lincoln county-Deadman's-has produced we reached the top of the fall. The stream is

days and of mines of fabulous wealth can be becomes an angry mountain torrent. It is the heard on every hand but the prospector that natural outlet of a pond upon the top of the lends a willing ear generally follows the will o-the-wisp and catches the mist for his pains.

In this same old mine I was told of the finding of a beryl crystal, perfectly clear, two sudden and nearly perpendicular leap for 200 inches in diameter and eight inches long, by or 300 feet. This fall of water is greater in mica miners. Surely a gem of priceless value, perpendicular height than any other that I have but it was a long time ago, and they broke it yet seen in these mountains, although it is, and divided the pieces.

E. H. HARN,

Henry, N. C.

MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DURING THE SUMMER OF 1892.

#### BY J. ELWYN BATES.

Having finished my term of school at Springvale. Me., my daughter and self left the town for Portland on the morning train of July 7th. We then took the first train to Gorham, N. H., where we arrived at 12.30 P. M. I ergaged board at the Willis Cottage; and, leaving Inez there, went over to Shelburne, some four miles distant, to see the Hubbard Bros., with whom I had formed an acquaintance on a former visit to the mountains. They were much pleased to see me. and the next morning one of the brothers went with me to the top of the If we except the work done by Mr. Hidden water-fall on Mt. Hayes. The fall was at an

This road was built by a man who intended to get logs from the mountain; it was built at There are a few isolated points through a great cost to him and proved nearly a dead

After a tiresome climb for an hour and a half crystals six inches in diameter but of poor color. scarcely more than a brook at this time, but in Stories of wonderful crystals found in former the spring of the year, and after heavy rains, it mountain, near which a logger's house is located.

> At the place we visited the stream, it takes a perhaps, less beautiful at this time than Glen Ellis Falls, owing to the smaller amount of water flowing.

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covered the nest of a black snow-bird [Junco, intervals by the roadside, and I was glad to hyemalis) in a hole in the muddy bank. There test its virtue many times while making the were four eggs, only slightly incubated. It trip to and from the summit. was the first set of the species I had ever taken and I was, therefore, much pleased to obtain studying the scenery, the trees, the flowering them. I also took a fine specimen of the beau- and flowerless plants, the birds, animals, insects,

tera hastata, Hub. was flying abundantly; but, England. Among rocks, gneiss seemed to be as I had no net with me, I took no specimens. most plentiful and varied in form and makeup, I had hoped to obtain some minerals of interest, One variety contained numerous imbedded but in this I was disappointed. Among plants specimens of of macle or chiastolite; which, I saw some fine specimens of moose wood or while very beautiful in large masses, did not striped maple (Acer Pennsylvanicum, L.) in furnish any distinct crystals of much interest. bloom. I returned to the house feelling well I obtained a few of the best, however, pleased with the trip, and in the afternoon, went to Gorham.

Mis. Evans, the proprietor of the Willis no crystals. Cottage, kindly gave us the use of her team whenever we wanted it, and we took several delightful and instructive rides about the mountains but I failed to obtain any, country; in one of which we visited the "Alpine Cascades," near Berlin. These are well worthy rock, but no interesting varieties were seen. It of a graphic description; but, as time was limited, I took no notes about them.

of Gorham) took us to ride with him up the past and present forces of nature, which have Glen House road, so that we obtained a good here acted upon a large scale; so that many of view of the "Summit House," on the top of their effects are clearly manifest to an ordinary Mt. Washington.

desired trip to the summit of this king of New Many of the rocks are very much distorted, England mountains. As I desired to make and in some instances, even folded; thus illusthe ascent on foot, I left the team at the Glen trating the effect of two or more counteracting House and set out at 10.30 A. M. for the forces; as, for example, the forces of gravity and summit. After passing the toll-bridge the first cohesion combining to resist the upward pressure thing of especial interest was a marble tablet, of super-heated steam or gasses contained in in a large granite rock by the road side, in internal fissures or other cavities, during the memory of John P. Rich, who died in Windsor, period of uplift; the force of cohesion proving Cal., Nov. 15th 1863. He was one of the stronger than the combined action of the other original contractors and superintendant of the two. In some cases two masses of rock finishing of the Mt. Washington road. The material are so placed in relation to one another road was completed in 1861, and opened Aug. that the force of gravity is a force acting against 8th of that year.

a very laborious task. The best of water for be illustrated by the following pen sketch,

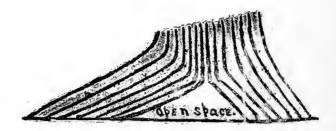
On the road near the top of the falls I dis- drinking purposes may be obtained at frequent

I spent considerable time by the way in tiful green tiger-beetle (Cicundella sex guttata.) the rocks, and the peculiar effects, of physical The very beautiful geometrid moth Rhumap- causes not observable elsewhere in New

> White or milky quartz is nowhere abundant on this side of the mountain and I could find

> Some good specimens of amethystine and smoky quartz have been found upon the

After gneiss, granite is the most abundant was very interesting to study the general contour of the mountains and the rocks upon it than One day Mr. Trafton (the Methodist minister came in my way, as illustrating the effect of observer; while, to the special student, they On the 12th I succeeded in making the long may be studied as object lessons of great value. the force of cohesion, thus producing flexure in It was a very hot day, and I found the ascent the material of one or both rock masses, as may



in short distances, and I could not, in the time tinued existence and increase upon this one would be in either case. The disintegrating species in many collections, and as collectors forces of water, frost, air and light, are all are beginning to make large captures of it beautifully illustrated. The rocks, especially when possible, it is an open question how near the summit, have the appearance of long it may be found here. It is pretty great age. I noticed much erratic material, certain, however, that it will become extinct and some large boulders more or less round- on this mountain in the near future, unless ed and worn. There seemed to be few protective legislation is secured in its behalf. accessory minerals in the rocks. Mica, I found the species well represented by hornblende, feldspar, and tourmaline were individuals from the 5th mile post to the only found in small sized pieces. No beryl summit, and was fortunate enough to take was seen.

Below the half-way house the mountain is heavily timbered, but above that point only a dwarfish growth of arborescent plants remain; which, in the next mile or two die out and are replaced by a few grasses and cryptogams; the latter represented mostly by lichens and mosses. These are found plentifully all over the top of the mountain. and among them are some interesting species. It is among these boreal plants and moss covered rocks that the very interesting Alpine butterfly (Chionobas semidea) finds its only habitat in New England. The caterpillar feeds upon lichens. The butterfly flies at ordinary elevations in Labrador, and the species which I observed upon the upper colony upon Mt. Washington was probably part of the mountain, except a single example left there in the latter part of the Glacial of Vanessa Milbertii, in fine condition, about Period; and, after a time becoming complete- a mile below the Summit House; which I ly isolated from its kind by the recession of desired to capture very much, but could not the ice to the northward, has gradually be- do so without a net. · come extinct upon other mountain summits. until, at the present time, it finds the

The strike and dip of the rocks vary greatly conditions of environment suitable for con-I had to give, determine what an average mountain summit only. As it is a desirable nine specimens without a net. The coloration and habits of the butterfly might be taken as a fine illustration of protective resemblance if it could be shown to have natural enemies that could be effected thereby, other than man. So nearly does its color harmonize with the color of the rocks and lichens upon which it alights, that it requires the sharp eye of the trained entomologist to detect it when not in flight. The butterfly has the habit of rising suddenly from its resting place, flying a few rods more or less, and alighting quickly, much like certain moths; which, indeed, it much resembles in its general characteristics. This is the only

(To be continued)

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#### September, 1896.

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Sometime ago Angus Gaines published in the Chicago Record, for which he is special correspondent, a history of the Bull-frog (*Rana cantesbiana*) with a detailed account of the manner in which this batrachian is reared for the market.

The profound ignorance of Natural History which sometimes prevails among otherwise well informed people was strikingly displayed by the manner in which this article was received by the press, various newspapers quoting it as "a gross fabrication" and declaring that the Bull-frog was "a purely mythical animal, having no existence except in the writer's imagination."

Mr. Gaines has another article on the same subject, in this issue of the Oregon Naturalist, and in spite of self sufficient critics, it is perfectly accurate in every particular.

Competent Herpetologists all indorse Mr. Gaines' work and his statements may be received without question.

October number among other special and attractive features will contain; "A True Story of a Scaly Playmate" by Angus Gaines. This article is well recommended by several teachers, who have read it in manuscript form to their schools and enthusiastically endorsed by the pupils of all ages.

#### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

CONDUCTED BY THE ASSOCIATE EDITOR.

#### BEACH COLLECTING.

This is one of the most enjoyable, simple, and at the same time invigorating kinds of collecting that I have ever tried, and in addition to all these fine points, it furnishes an abundance of specimens as the following papers will show.

Who is there with so little appreciation for the beautiful in nature that he cannot enjoy a collecting trip on the edge of the ocean, which is, as Hornaday well puts it, "one of the jolliest picnics in the world."

The tools required are exceedingly few and inexpensive, the only articles necessary being a pail or two, a fine meshed dipnet and in a few instances a-lantern. Perhaps also the collector, especially if he intend to gather shells, had better take along an old case knife and a shovel.

He must use his own judgement as to the use of each one of these implements but I will give a few general hints. For collecting starfish, urchins, sand fleas, and some shells no tool is required, while for shrimps, Physalia, and crabs, which are not apt to take kindly to the eager grasp of the collector's hand (I do not mean to say that they do not usually take to his hand for some of them "take" to an alarming exteut) a net is very desirable.

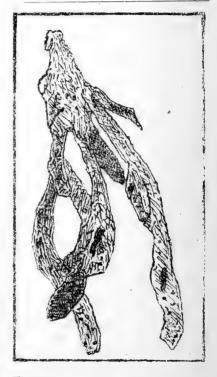
I will specify the cases in which I have found the lantern useful in describing the animals obtained by it. The shovel will be found necessary in unearthing some species of shells and also a few other animals which bury themselves in the sand.

There is one other requisite for this collecting which is perhaps the most important, namely, a sharp pair of eyes. In walking on the color of the living animal is more or less-brown beaches it is necessary to keep a very sharp and that of the skeleton, which is easily broken lookout for specimens in the water and often it when dry, a light brown sometimes almost is better to wade in the water itself.

Beach Collecting, then, may be briefly de- the accompanying cut.

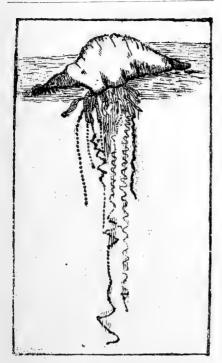
fined as follows: Walk along the beach and seize upon any animal, which you can see (and catch), as your lawful prey.

The following descriptions will be of animals which I have found to be common at Wood's Holl, Mass., and also, for the most part, on Rhode Island shores and will include several different orders.



CHALINA OCULATA.

This is the well known Dead-man's finger sponge. It is found both on the beaches, cast up by the waves, and adhering to spiles and rocks and grows to the height of two feet. The white. Its general appearance can be told from



Physalia pelagica.

#### PHYSALIA PELAGICA.

Although this species is so rare on the New England coast that a specimen is seldom taken I have decide d to include it in my list as it is very common at times, I believe, on the southern coasts. The most conspicuous part of this animal when seen in the water, is an air bladder six or eight inches in length with a beautifully coloured crest above, and on the under side a large number of appendages. They are sometimes driven on the New England coast by severe storms, twelve being taken one summer at Woods Holl.

#### HYDRACTINIA POLYCLINA.

tinia, one of the hydroids, in the "Standard "flour weevils" viz: Tribolium confusum and

Natural History" which I will quote in part:

"Many of the small spiral shells found in the shallow salt-water just below the waters edge are found to be inhabited by hermit crabs, which travel about very actively by protruding their legs from the aperture of the shell. On the backs of many of these shells is what appears to the eye, a white, delicate mossy growth, covering most all of the shell, excepting that part which drags on the bottom as the crab travels. Under the microscope, this mossy growth proves to be a colony of very beautiful hydroids named Hydractinia.

#### ASTERIAS VULGARIS.

This is a very common object on most beaches. The starfish in the water looks very much different from those specimens which are sent out by curiosity dealers and which are, for the most part, poorly prepared.

In the water they generally cling to the sides of rocks and some of the positions into which they can bend themselves in order to enter a small crevice are really like unto the well known feats of the contortionists.

There are many varieties of color, some of which are very beautiful. I remember one shade of purple which was always very pleasing to me.

On the under side of each ray are the ambulacral feet furnished at their ends with suckers by means of which the animal moves.

There is an old saying which applies to the starfish very well, namely, that "he does not move very fast but he gets there just the same."

F.P. DROWNE.

(To be continued.)

#### THE FLOUR BEETLES.

#### BY A. A. ANDREWS.

During the past few years two little There is an excellent description of Hydrac- tenebrinoid beetles, commonly known as grocers and dealers in patent foods. are also very similar.

known in Europe as enemies of meal, flour, grain and other stored products, and even as ferrugineum) resembles in general appearance pests in museums. Although they live in grain. their chief damage probably is to flour and patented articles of diet containing farinaceous matter. The eggs are deposited in the flour. and these and the young larvæ being minute and pale in color are not noticed; but after the flour has been barreled or sealed up in boxes for some time, the adult beetles make their appearance and in due coarse of time, the product is ruined. A part of the trouble caused to purchaser, dealer and manufacturer, is due to the fact that the insects are highly offensive, a few specimens being sufficient to impart a maxillosus) has habits similar to those of the disagreeable odor to the infested substance. In addition to these two species of Tribolium. there is another similar beetle that attacks grain. viz, the slender horned flour beetle (Echocerus maxillosus) which will be described further on.

The confused flour beetle (Tribolium confasum, Duv.) is a minute, reddish-brown beetle, elongate and depressed.

clavate. during Chittenden's experiments the years 1893-'94, proved that this species is an exceptionally high temperature, is capable of undergoing its entire round of transformation in thirty six days, but in spring and autumn weather it requires a much longer time. In well heated buildings, at this rate, there are at least four and possibly five, broods during the year.

The injuries reported of this species, as noted down in the records of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, far outnumber those of any the Oregon Naturalist.

T. ferrugineum have occasioned considerable other farnivorous insect. During the past year alarm among millers, flour and feed dealers, the species has been found in patented food at a These local grocery, in wheat from New Mexico, in two species resemble each other so closely that flour from Massachusetts in oatmeal, flour and it is only with the aid of a magnifying glass meal from Indiana, and in corn, peanuts and that a difference can be detected. Their habits seeds. It has also been found upon snuff, orris root, baking powder, rice chaff, graham For many years these insects have been flour, red pepper, and upon dried insects.

> The rust-red flour beetle (Tribolium the preceding species, but may be distinguished by the antenna having a distinct terminal three jointed club The larva and pupa also resemble strongly, those of confusum. It has been found in cotton seed, and at the Columbian Exposition it was present in injurious numbers in most of the cereal exhibits from the tropics; also in cakes, jams, nuts, and seeds of many kinds. The species is common throughout the United States, particularly through the South.

The slender horned flour bettle (Echocerus preceding species, and is frequently found in the Southern States, where it lives on grain in the field as well as upon the stored product. It has also been found under the bark of trees. This species is probably a native of tropical America, and although not positively known to have established itself north of Southern Ohio, is gradually extending northward. Species It can be separated from ferrugineum chiefly by resembles Tribolium, but is of a lighter color the structure of the antenna which is gradually and is somewhat smaller, measuring a trifle over The head also differs somewhat, an eighth of an inch in length. On the head between the eyes are two pointed tubercles, and the mandibles in the male are armed with a pair of slender, incurved horns.

> A solution of gum arabic, to which has been added a very slight quantity of corrosive sublimate, may be used for fastening small insects to mica or paper triangles.

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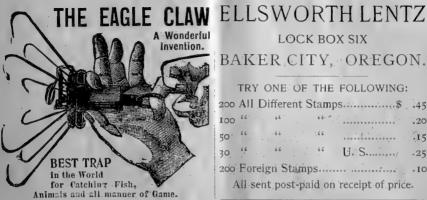
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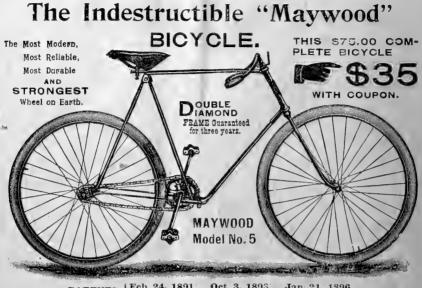
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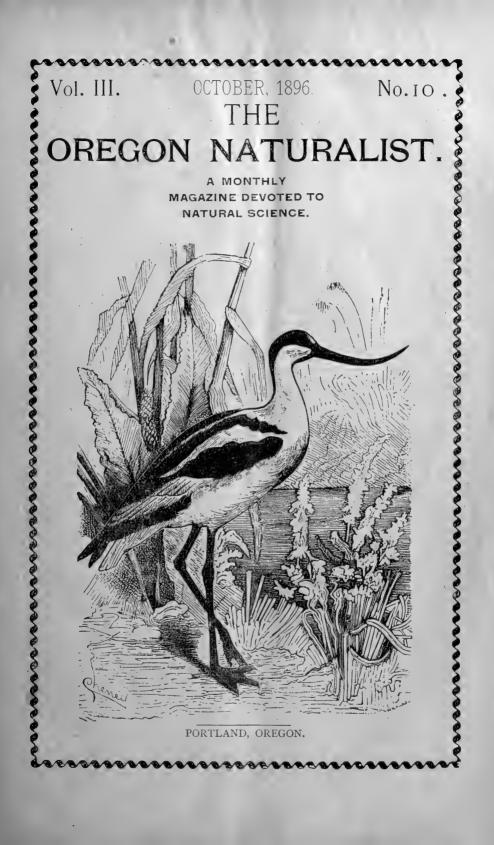
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WANTED Marine Shells in exchange for Bird skins also want to buy of collectors any or the Murex family, B. J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon.

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#### OREGON NATURALIST. THE

#### VOL. III. PORTLAND. OREGON. OCTOBER. 1896. No. 10

#### TED, A SCALY PLAYMATE.

#### ANGUS GAINES.

#### VINCENNES, INDIANA.

Ted was a snake, one of those short, thick, sharp nosed fellows which boys usually call "spreading adders," or "hog precautions necessary I shut him up in my nosed snakes." It was in the early spring basket and carried him home without that I found him basking in the sun on a pile of crisp brown leaves in the open woods.

last year's leaves so closely that I did cigar box with crumpled paper I fastened not notice him until I had almost stepped down the lid, cut holes in the sides and upon him, and then a sharp hiss brought put it down in- the barrel to serve as a him to my notice. There were so many bedroom and hiding place for my pet. good hiding places near at hand that I did Although snakes of this kind are usually not dare to wait to see what he would do found in high and dry places I knew that lest he should escape, so I snatched him he would need water to drink and to bathe up and put him, writhing, squirming and in, so I looked around for a suitable vessel trying to bite, into a paper bag, where he for him. Finding an old paint bucket I soon quieted down and became motionless and sullen.

He certainly appeared strong enough to tear the bag open and escape at once, but vertical surface, and so to escape from a snakes, whatever their power for com- barrel must be longer than the barrel is pressing and crushing may be, have but high. My new serpent was not this long little power for outward pressure. I have and the barrel needed no cover to hold sometimes caught snakes large enough to him in. Indeed he made little effort to offer considerable resistance but which ascend the side of the barrel, but merely could not escape from a light paper bag.

told me that my captive had changed from into his box and hid. sullen submission to active resistance.

There was a sudden tearing of paper and I had to grab quickly to keep the snake from escaping through a hole in the bag. This was something new and unexpected, but then "spreading adders" have sharp snouts for burrowing and can dig out where no common round or flat nosed snake could escape. Finding greater further trouble.

Securing a large, light barrel I covered its bottom with loose, dry sand and turn-His dingy hue matched the color of the ed my snake loose in it. Filling a large sawed it in two and the lower half of it made a very nice little tub.

A snake cannot climb up a smooth searched around the bottom, rooting A sharp rustle in the bottom of the bag furtively in the sand, and finally crawled

Next morning I found Ted, for that was

what I named him, crawling around, in- he was a very early riser and every mornspecting his new premises. When he saw ing as soon as I would get up I would find me he displayed all the characteristics him burrowing in the sand at the bottom which have given his race the popular of the barrel and turning up the earth in names of "spreading adders," or "blowing a way that reminded me of the rooting of snakes." Drawing in his breath with an a little pig. He enjoyed a bath and when audible wheeze he flattened out his head he became tired rooting he would crawl and neck until they were wider than three into his little tub and come out all dripping of my fingers and then raising his head with water. Creeping around on the four or five inches from the ground he ground again the fine dry sand would stick uttered a sharp threatening hiss. Draw- to his wet scales and cover him so thickly ing himself up in a close coil, a snake's that you could scarcely tell which was favorite posture for defense, he raised his head and which was tail. Then he would head still higher, hissing furiously and crawl back into his tub and wash the sand writhing about in such a threatening off only to get as sandy as ever as soon manner that he really looked like the as he came out of his bath. He would reterrible East Indian cobras which I had peat this performance so often that his seen in pictures, and it was easy for me little tub would soon be filled with sand. to understand why so many people believe When he tired of this amusement he would that "spreading adders" are posionous. stretch himself out in the sun to dry. It was wonderful how large the little snake When thoroughly dried he would twitch could make himself appear by drawing in his skin all over and the loose sand would his breath, but then a snake's one useful all shake off leaving him perfectly clean. lung extends nearly the whole length of He would then go into his box and remain his body and is merely a simple sack there through the middle or the day to capable of great distension.

his display of mock valor Ted abandoned believe about snakes he did not enjoy the his agressive tactics, dropped upon the full glare of the mid-day sun but sought a ground and tried to crawl away. Picking shade during the heat of the day. him up I held him awhile in my hand, writhing and struggling a little but the food of the "spreading adder" and had making no attempt to bite. His terrible to experiment with Ted to find out what threats had been nothing but threats, for he would eat. I thought from his rooting he was perfectly harmless.

his box at once and did not come out again grubs and cutworms, and all the insects until that afternoon. As long as I kept that I could capture, but it was no use, Ted he always greeted me with the same he never paid the slightest attention to demonstrations of hostility though he soon any of them. learned to submit to being handled and when once quieted would lie peacefully his barrel, expecting him to make a hearty curled up in my hand or coiled around my meal off of them, but for some unknown wrist until I would grow tired of him and reason they did not suit his taste and he nut him down.

never ventured out of his box at night but worms or insects or not, but after they

come out again and hunt or play late in the Finding that I was not scared away by afternoon. Contrary to what most people

I tried in vain to find some account of in the sand that he might be hunting for When I put him down he crawled into earthworms, so I offered him earthworms,

I then put three small cricket frogs in never offered to touch them. I do not Ted was not nocturnal in his habits and know whether the frogs ate any of the had been in the barrel for three weeks I of snakes eating until they would burst, began to fear that they were starving, and but still I was astonished at this wonderconcluding that they had been punished ful voracity. There may be some excuse long enough for nothing, I turned them for Ted's gluttony, for eating was not an out. grown toads into the barrel. Ted did not touch food again for ten days. offer to touch any of them while I was watching him, but the moment that I to see the curious snake. When they saw turned away I heard a pitiful squeak, the his threatening actions they always asked, snake had caught a toad.

ever but still you might suppose that he they said that he must be a "great bluffer." would be a rather difficult object to swallow for he was bigger round than his captor how can he travel about so fast without and snakes have no teeth suitable for legs?" were questions put to me by almost cutting up their food.

snake has a peculiarly constructed mouth. I never counted the ribs of but one snake The upper jaws are not firmly jointed to and it had one hundred and seventy five the lower but are united by highly elastic pairs. The ribs of a snake are not ligaments so that they may be stretched fastened together, or to the backbone, far apart and allow the reptile to swallow firmly and immovably as yours and mine objects larger around than himself. In are, but are secured by joints almost like like manner each side of the jaw is loosely our shoulder joints, so that the snake, joined to the other so that the snake can having no breast bone, can spread out his open one side of his mouth and keep the ribs and flatten himself. When he travels other shut.

example of the snake's mouth at work. legs, except that the snake's ribs, being Holding his victim firmly with one side of beneath the skin, are not provided with his mouth he would open the other side, feet. There are no scales on the under push the raised side of his upper jaw side of his body but he has a large number forward a little, catch a fresh hold, then of horny plates reaching from one side to he could raise the other side of his upper to the other. The back edges of the plates jaw, advance it and catch a fresh hold in are loose and sharp and as the serpent's the same way. As the toad was being skin is worked back and forth they catch drawn into his mouth the snake's head on the rough places on the surface over was stretched so completely out of shape which he is travelling and help him along. that you could scarcely have told what Many snakes can ascend trees, these the creature was, but as soon as the great plates catching on every little projection lump disappeared down his throat his head of the bark. reassumed its natural shape.

weeks and even this very hearty meal merchant. When I took him from my was notenough to satisfy him, and incred- pocket and put him down on the glass top ible as it may seem, he caught and ate the of a large show case in the store he other two toads the same day. I had read squirmed and twisted but could not crawl

At the same time I put three nearly every day affair with him and he did not

Of course my young friends were eager "Is he venomous?" "Will he bite?" and The poor toad made no resistance what- when I answered "no" to both questions

"How can he flatten himself out so, and all my young visitors. A snake, I would Having to swallow his food whole' the explain, has a great many pairs of ribs. he moves them back and forth, using them As Ted swallowed his toad I saw a fine very much as the centipede uses his many

One evening I put Ted in my pocket Ted had eaten nothing for over three and took him to town to show him to a about for there were no rough places on the glass for his plates to catch upon

days apart but on one occasion he went straw around it, but I did not care to do so, an unusually long time without eating for I do not believe that it is right to keep and then went entirely blind, his eyes any wild animal in captivity all its life; so turning to a blueish white. After remain- when summer was over I liberated him in ing in this condition for about a week his ample time for him to find suitable winter eves began to grow clear again and in quarters before cold weather set in. three more days he began to shed his outer skin. His blindness had been caused member me and come back in the spring, by the secretion of the material that was and I always feel obliged to say that he to form a new covering for his eyes, for will not. Snakes are capable of doing snakes cast off the outer coat from over many remarkable things, but still they the eves with the rest of the skin.

siderable trouble in getting rid of his old another. I may meet with Ted again cuticle, for it came off a little at a time and some day, but if I do he most certainly it was two days before he succeeded in will not recognize or remember me. discarding the last of it. About two months afterward he moulted again and platyrhinvs, and he belonged to one of the and with much less labor for that time his most curious of all the genera of snakes. skin came off all in one piece, loosening One of the most remarkable traits of this first at the lips and turning backward species of snakes is their extreme liability until it was dragged off inside out like a to go into hysterics, or to have the lockjaw. stocking. While removing his old coat when they are tormented. When a Ted frequently crawled back and forth spreading adder is ill treated he will make through his little tub, and when his hard terrible demonstrations of rage and then with nothing but his nose above the his back and lying motionless for an hour surface.

opening just beneath the snout which is ately pretending to be dead, simulating never closed. Through this opening the death to escape further molestation. I reptile thrusts out his long forked tongue never saw Ted take fits of this kind for I to feel of everything that comes within his always took care not to hurt him in any reach, for with the snake the tongue is the way. organ of touch. With Ted this little opening served another purpose for he did not snakes which is so utterly silly that I drink, as snakes in books do, by lapping would not think it worth mentioning if I up the water with his tongue, but would had not been asked about it so often. put his mouth down to the water and The snake is thought to have marvellous with his lips closed would drink through power of "charming" its that small aperture, puffing out and draw- fascinating men and other animals by ing in his cheeks as he sucked up the simply looking at them. Many people water.

I think that I could have kept Ted very well through the winter by putting his Ted usually took his means about ten barrel down in the cellar, or by piling

The boys often ask me if Ted will reare of very low-intelligence and probably The first time he moulted he had con- cannot distinguish one person from

Ted's scientific name was Heterodon work was over he curled up in the water will actually go into a fit, turning over on or more Many people imagine that when In every snake's mouth there is a little the snake is in this condition it is deliber-

> There is a common belief regarding prev. of also believe that there are men who have

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same way. These stories are the veriest present a wonderful picture to the eye. It is nonsense. The snake's sight is poor and like nothing else that I have ever seen, and its eves are dull, but as they are not must be viewed by each one for himself, in covered by any movable lids, but are order to be appreciated. An irregular series always open, they have a strange, un- of mountain summits is to be seen on every canny look to people who know nothing side, until lost to view by distance or haze about serpents. So far from "snake Here and there a cloud may so blend with charmers" fascinating snakes and holding the mountain as to appear inseparable or a them under a spell the snakes cannot tell silvery band of light may appear in the distheir keeper from any body else.

A VACATION TRIP TO THE WHITE MOUNTAINS OF NEW HAMPSHIRE DURING THE SUMMER OF 1892.

#### BY J. ELWYN BATES.

#### (Concluded from Page 128.)

I afterwards of this rare House at the base of the mountain, post at 2 P. M.; the 6-mile post at These two examples are the only living 2.40 P. M.; the 7-mile post at 3.20 representatives of the species that I have yet P. M.; and the Summit at 4.00 P. M. seen. Among other butterflies, I obtained a The prices for board are; for lodging, \$1.00. few examples of Argynnis montinus on the For supper, lodging, and breakfast, 4.00. lower part of the mountain, one fine pair in Per day, 500. I am told that the rent of copulo.

At the summit I saw several species of dragon flies (Neuroptera) and house flies from the Glen House, are more beautiful (Musca domestica), also two potato beetles than any other falls I have seen in the (Doryphora decem-lineata). A red squirrel mountains. The water falls about fifty feet was also seen upon a rock near the Summit perpendicular, and the rocky gorge, whether House. No birds were seen or heard on the viewed from the top or bottom, is one of upper half of the mountain The mercury peculiar interest and beauty. A series of reached 60° Fahrenheit for a short time that long wooden steps enables the visitor to day, which is about the highest record dur ng reach the bottom of the gorge without danger. the season. Snow was to be seen in Trout fishing, so generally enjoyed by most several valleys, where the sunlight had little persons where there are any trout to be access.

this afternoon as it is very hazy; still, the its secrets.

the power of controlling snakes in the part of the mountains that remain in view tance, which serves to define the location of some body of water. Thus are some of the solid and substantial realities of the lower world, here transformed into poetical imagery or phantom and transient forms. I went to the top of the observation tower, the highest point on Mt. Washington, but the view was scarcely improved.

> The train came up from the south side at 6.30 P. M. well laden with people. I judged that about fifty people took supper at the Summit House that night. One lady informed me that she had been there two months.

I left the Glen House at 10.30 A. M.; saw another example reached the Half-Way House at 12.45 P. M.; butterfly, near the Glen rested here fifteen minutes; reached the 5-mile the Summit House is \$10,000 per year.

Glen Ellis Falls, located about three miles caught at all, here becomes a profitable Very little can be seen from the summit business to those who are initiated fully into

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

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THE OREGON NATURALIST. 146 1/2 SIXTH ST. Portland, Oregon.

OCTOBER, 1896.

The Oregon Naturalist has been sold to John Martin of Palestine, Or., to whom all matter pertaining to the paper should be sent. Mr. Martin will complete all advertising contracts and fulfill all obligations of the paper. It is his intention to conduct the paper on the same lines as in the past, and it is hoped the same liberal support and patronage will be given the Oregon Naturalist under the new management.

September 7th the Smithsonian Institution celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of its foundation. Tablets were erected in with a stake driven through it, just below honor of its founder, James Smithson, and the breast bone, showing that he had been the regents ordered the issuance of a com- put to death by torture such as was inmemorative work to contain the achieve- flicted upon white men in the early history ments and history of this great institution. of this country.

On May 26, S. V. Wharram of Harpersfield, Ohio, found a nest of the Phoebe bird containing nine fresh eggs. Female flushed from the nest.

Mr. E. H. Harn, having just returned from a long and laborious tour of the Western counties of North Carolina, writes that his trip was eminentiv successful in securing some very fine quartzs and other minerals peculiar to the section visited.

The next issue of the Oregon Naturalist will contain as a continuation of "Some North Carolina Minerals," "Rutilated Quartz and Zircon" by Mr. Harn.

The first number of the Osprey, a monthly magazine devoted exclusively to ornithology, published at Galesburg, Ill. and edited by Walter A. Johnson and Dr. A. C. Murchison, is out. It bears the stamp of good work throughout. Ornithologists should not wait to see if it is to be a success, but make it a success from the start by sending in their subscriptions. A California Department, edited by Donald A. Cohen, assures Western collectors that their wants will not be neglected.

A collector of curios named James Hartlev, who for many years robbed Indian graves on this coast, has met retribution presumably at the hands of the Indians. He had beeen missing for some time. September 3, his body was found by a timber cruiser on a small island in Deadman's lake near Mt. St. Helens. The body was found in an old canoe, the feet and hands bound with hazel withes, and fastened to the bow and stern of a canoe

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#### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE NORTHWESTERN ORNITHOLO-GISTS ASSOCIATION.

The study of ornithology being a foremost science of the day, calculated to cultivate the better qualities of man and to strengthen the powers of systematic investigation and close observation, the undersigned agree to form an association, and for its government do hereby adopt the following constitution.

#### ARTICLE I-NAME.

This organization shall be known and designated as the Northwestern Ornithological Association.

#### ARTICLE II-OBJECTS.

The object of this association shall be, by the active co-operation of its members, to advance the science of ornithology in all its forms, to disseminate ornithological knowledge in the Northwest, to awaken an interest in ornithology in both old and young, and to impart mutual benefit to its members.

ARTICLE III-MEMBERS.

Sec. I. Members shall be of three classes; Honorary, Active, and Associate.

Sec. 2. Honorary members shall be elected for their eminence in ornithology.

Sec. 3. Any person, interested in ornithology residing in the Northwest, may become an active member. Active members only, shall have the power to vote.

Sec. 4. Any person, interested in ornithology, may become an associate member.

#### ARTICLE IV-OFFICERS.

presilent, first-vice president, second vice president, secretary, and treasurer. A com- of the treasurer mittee consisting of the president as chairman, the first vice-president, and second vice-president shall be called the council.

ARTICLE V-DUTIES OF OFFICERS.

Sec. I. President. It shall be the duty of the president (I) to preside at all meetings of the association; (2) to appoint all committees; (3) to have general management of the association

and direct all investigations; (4) to report to the association at the end of his term of office of the work accomplished during the year, and work to be attended to the following year, (5) and to perform any other duties that may be required of him by this constitution.

Sec. 2. First Vice-President. It shall be the duty of the first vice-president (I) to preside at meetings in case of the president's absence; (2) to become president in case of a vacancy in that office; (3) and to perform any other duties that may be required of him by this constitution.

Sec. 3. Second Vice-President. It shall be the duty of the second vice-president (I) to become president in case of a vacancy in the office of both president and first vice-president, (2) and perform any other duties that may be required of him by this constitution.

Sec. 4. Secretary. It shall be the duty of the secretary (I) to keep a record of all meetings of the association and of its members and officers, and make reports of the same in the official organ; (2) to notify persons of their election to membership, and members of their election to office; (3) to prepare the results of investigations for publication in the official organ; (4) to collect all fees and dues, receipting for same; (5) to purchase, with consent of the council, such supplies as are needed by the association, and turn over all money not so used to the treasurer, and keep a correct account of all money received and expended; (6) to report to the association at the end of his term of office(7) and to perform any other duties The officers of this association shall be a that may be required of him by this constitution.

> Sec. 5. Treasurer. It shall be the duty (I) to hold in trust all money received by him from the secretary, receipting for same; (2) to pay out money only by a written order signed by at least two members of the council; (3) to report to the association at the end of his term of office; (4) and to perform any other duties that may be required of him by this constitution,

Sec. 6. The Council. The members of the

council (1) shall vote upon the names of all under special consideration whenever they are candidates for membership and the chairman able to do so. shall notify the secretary of all persons elected to membership; (2) to present a plan of work be sent to the secretary, who shall forward the to the association at the annual meeting, said plan of work being subject to the approval of treasurer, to meet expenses of the association not otherwise provided for.

ARTICLE VI-ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

held annually at the annual meeting.

Sec. 2. The officers of this association shall be elected by a majority vote of the active shall be fifty cents, payable January first of each members voting, and shall be chosen from among the active members.

ARTICLE VII-OFFICIAL ORGAN.

Sec. I. The official organ of this association shall be the magazine know as the Oregon Naturalist.

Sec. 2. It shall contain all reports and proceedings of this association.

ARTICLE VIII-MEETINGS.

An annual meeting of this association shall be held at a convenient time and place, during the month of December of each year; place of said meeting to be decided by the members, at the preceeding annual meeting, and time to be designated by the president.

ARTICLE IX-EXPULSIONS.

Any member who shall be detected in any fraudulent acts whatsoever, shall, upon conviction thereof be expelled by a two thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting.

#### ARTICLE X-AMENDMENTS.

All proposed amendments to this constitution shall be presented at the regular annual meeting and may be adopted by a two thirds vote of all active members present.

BY-LAWS.

Sec. I. Each active member shall be required to send to the secretary, or to such person as the president may direct, any notes he may have upon the family of birds which is under special consideration

Sec. 2. Associate members are expected to furnish notes on the family of birds which is

Sec. 3. Applications for membership shall same to the council.

Sec. 4. The president shall have the power the association; (3) and to draw orders on the to appoint an editor, to assist the secretary, who shall have charge of the space assigned to the Official Organ.

Sec. 5. The membership fee of all members Sec. 7. The election of officers shall be shall be fifty cents; this shall cover all dues to the first of January after initiation.

> The annual dues of all members Sec. 6. year.

> Sec. 7. The Oregon Naturalist shall be sent free to all members, who are not in arrears.

> Sec. 8. The constitution and by-laws of of this association shall be kept by the secretary. Each member shall be entitled to copies free of charge.

> Sec. 9. All papers presented at the annual meeting shall become the property of the association, and shall be filed with the secretary.

Sec. 10. The by laws may be amended under the same conditions as the constitution.

Kansas City, Mo., Aug., 30, 1896. [To "The Oregon Naturalist."]

During this summer I have been studying the common fire-fly, Sampyris noctiluca. Works on entomology give but a very meager account of the anatomy of its light-bearing organs and give also a paucity of information of the nature of the light produced by them. I have studied its organs of light with the aid of the microscope and the peculiar light with the spectroscope. I am working on a spectroscopic chart of the light of the fire-fly.

The study of light is engaging the attention of physicists all over the world. I believe that the study of the light of the fire-fly is just as important as that of the electric light and may be a link to its solution, for the drift of thought is in the direction of producing light without heat.

DR. THEODORE W. SCHAEFER.

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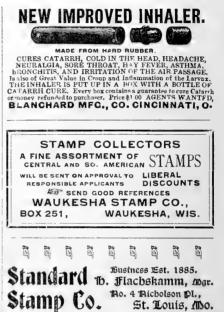
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### NOVEMBER, 1896.

# THE OREGON



No. TI.

### Vol. III.

## NATURALIST.

PALESTINE, OREGON. 1896.

### Exchange Column.

This Exchange Column is free to all subscribers. All Cash offers for this column must be paid for at the rate of ½ cent per word. Each exchange notice muse not exceed 30 words. The right is reserved to reject any notice when considered to be for the best interests of subscribers.

Wanted:--Butterflies and Moths, Cocoons and Chrysatides from Oregon and California in large numbers. Offer Eastern Butterflies, Eggs in sets and supplies. Prof. Carl Braun, Naturalist, Bangor, Me.

WANTED Marine Shells in exchange for Bird skins also want to buy of collectors any or the Murex family B. J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon.

WANT good Oregon Arrowheads; have 37 fine single Indiana bird's eggs in case. Some scarce Confederate documents, war relics, fine centipedes and Tarantula in alcohol, all to exchange for fine perfect. Oregon points. C.E. Tribbett, Thorntown, Indiana.

Albite, Amblygonite, Clay Stones, Dendrite, Felspar, Graphite, Lepidolite, Mica, Quartz and Tournitiline, 'to exchange for fine Natural History Specimens' G. H. Brigg, Livermore, Me.

WILL give so foreign stamps for every stamp paper sent me: W. Leissring 935 oth. St., Milwaukee, Wis.

TWO philatelic papers or foo different foreign stamps for a perfect arrow point; zoo different foreign for a 'perfect spear head. German silver coin, over 800 years, old; for perfect grooved ax. Will exchange good foreign for U, S. or Confederate, or pay cash for latter. Address, Dr. W. O. Emery, Crawlordsville, Ind.

FOR EXCHANGE: Wur, Relics, Indian Relics, Geodes, Crinoid Stems, World's Fair Tickets, etc., for Coins, Stamp, Relics, etc., Write, C. F. Alkire, Box 288, Mt. Sterling, Ohio.

FOR "EXCHANCE: Calcarcous tuita," neithed inoss, crinoid stems and fossils on limestone for the postage. Above and many specimeans to exchange, for Indian relies. "Cora Jewell, Shannondale, Indiana."

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A fine fine of Joplin, Missouri Calcites, Dolonities with Chalcopyrite Crystals, and other minerals, to exchange with advanced collectors from other localities. W. G. Kane, 1706 Harrison St., Kansis City, Mo.

TO JEXCHANGE:-Natural History, and Stamppapers, Coins, Siamps, Minerals, Shells, Curroy, Figgs, Inserts, Relies and Tobaco of Tags for Coinc, Minerals, Shells, Chrios, Eggs, and Relics from other Jocalities, R. L. Wheeler, 43 Varney, St., Lowell, Mass

LHAVE a small, but valuable collection of root's, from Brazil, Canada, S. Islands and U. S., that  $1 \le 1$ exchange for bird eggs in sets or Indian: Retics. C. E. Leonard, Cor, W. 2215 St./ Austin, Texas.

56 VAR, of fine U. S. and forlegn stamps for every large Washington cent piece, 2 cent piece or any 3 pence sent me, I will give 2 packages for every silver half dime. Burns J. Cherry, Santa Rosa, Calif.

WANTED: -A 22 cal. rim fire or a 32 central tre, single shotriffe. Condition of rifle not an item. Can offer Invertebrates and Coleoptera. F. P. Drowne, 20 Benefit St., Providence, R. I.

PETRIFIED MOSS: A fine specimet, cabin :: size, for 3 good U. S. copper cents or ½ cents prior to 1845, or 3 fine, arrowheads. Arthur B. Roberts, Weymouth. Ohio.

WANTED: Skins of A. O. U. Nos. 295, 405, 443, 445, 446, 453, 463, 465, 469, 47°3, 479, 484, 505, 5113, 512, 513, 702, 707, 712, and Wrens. Cach or exchange, Enclose stamp. W. E. Snyder, Beaver Dam, Wis.

WANTED: A copy of Cours Key in good condition. Will give good exchange in Invertebrates and Coleopiral F. P. Drowne, 20 Benefit St. Providence, R. I.

A 154 x 2 inch Specimen of Cone in Cone, for each perfect arrow point or good, old, cent. E. J. Garlock-1602 20 St., Des Moines, In.

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FOR ENCHANGE: — First class singles for good common sets with data, 13, 125, 202, 273 two etgst 310, 420, 428, 452, two eggst 401, 403, 507, two etgst 511, 540, 546, two eggst 540, 563, 573a, three etgst 597, 598, 612, 612, 516, 514, 623, 683, six eggst 703 three etgst 597, 508, two eggst 751, four eggst 753, 761. The above singles all first class. Joe H. Arn field, 558 South Ashe St., Greensboro, N. C

FOR EXCHANGE:—Have many morine invert -Frates, and coleoptera to exchange for same. Uncikins or recent, publications on invertebrates and the lovevergeneties. Back numbers of Natural History papers wanted. F. P. Drowne, 20 Penefit St., Providence, R

### REGON



## NATURALIST.

#### VOL. III. PALESTINE, OREGON, NOVEMBER, 1896. No. 11

#### THE IMPORTED AND ACCLIMATED the upper tail coverts are black, edged with GERMAN SONG BIRDS IN OREGON.

By C. F. Pfluger, Sec'y of the Society of the Introduction of song-birds into Oregon. at Portland.

#### THE GRAY LINNET (Fringilla cannabina, Der Haenfling).

Of these beautiful song-birds 35 pairs were introduced by the Society into Oregon in 1889 and 1892.

The Linnet is a well-known bird all over Europe. During the summer it frequents a stripe parallel with the pen feathers. The woods, groves, etc., and in autumn betakes itself to the open fields. It is a migratory bird, passing in winter from one place to another in search of food. In March, by which time it has usually paired, it may be noticed in its usual haunts. It is more than 5 inches in length, of which the tail measures 2 1/4 inches. The beak is 6 lines long, dirty blue in summer, and in winter whitish gray, tipped with brown. The iris is dark brown; the feet are black, and 8 lines in height. The plumage of the male Linnet varies exceedingly at different ages and seasons of the year, and has produced great confusion in works on ornithology.

A male of 3 years old answer in spring to the following description: The forehead is twice a year, the female laying each time five biood-red; the rest of the head reddish ashen to six bluish white eggs, thickly marked with gray, spotted on the poll with black, and on flesh colored and reddish brown specks and the cheeks, the sides of the neck, and round stripes. The nest, which is most frequently the eyes, with reddish white. The feathers of found in pine and fir trees, or in thick bushes the upper part of the back are rusty brown, and hedges, is well built of fine roots, grass bordered with a lighter shade of the same color; stalks, and moss, lined with wool and hair. the lower part is mottled with gray and white; The old birds feed their young from the crops,

reddish white, sparingly spotted with 'reddish gray. The feathers on the sides of the breast are blood red, edged with reddish white; the side of the belly light rust color; the rest of the lower part of the body :eddish white. The first row of coverts are black edged with reddish white; the rest are rusty brown, with margin of a lighter hue. The pen feathers are black, tipped with dirty white, the first row being edged with white almost up to the points.

The white margin of the narrow plume forms tail is forked and black, the four external feathers having on each a deep margin of white, which in the two center feathers is narrower, and tinged with red. After the autumnal moulting, the red on the forehead disappears. Males of one year have no red feathers on the head.

The female, which is somewhat smaller than the male, is without the reddish tints, and the other plumage, though the same as the male, is paler.

The Linnet feeds on all kinds of seeds, which it shells and softens in its crop, before digesting them. It is especially fond of rape, cabbage, hemp, poppy and linseed. It breeds several connected passages, and is esteemed in black with a white border. proportion to the frequency with which certain clear, sonorous notes, called the Linnet's crow, ed from the male, by having the upper part of recur. It sings throughout the year, with the the body of a browner green, and the lower exception of the moulting season.

The hybrid between the Linnet and Canary is well known. It is hardly to be distinguished from the Grey Canary, and has not only a very excellent voice, but is quick in learning to kinds of seeds; hemp and rape seed, linseed. whistle.

The Linnet gives place to few birds in point of song. His tone is mellow, and his notes sprightly, artfully varying into the plaintive strain, and returning again to the sprightly, with the greatest address and most masterly attaches its nest to a thick branch of a tree, execution.

rived from the fondness of this bird for the lined with fine root-fibres and hair. seeds of the flax plant. Except during the breeding season these birds are usually seen in eggs, pointed at the ends, and silvery grey, flocks, feeding generally upon small seeds, particularly those of the cruciform plants, with other seeds of the flax, and thistle.

THE GREEN LINNET OR GREENFINCH

(Fringilla chloris, Der Gruenling.)

by the Society into Oregon in 1889 and 1892.

The Green Linnet is to be found all over the continent of Europe. In Germany it is one of the commonest birds. It may be observed in summer in the thickets, gardens, and wherever there are willow trees; but in winter, migrates lars and small infects, of which the species in large flocks, and does not return until destroy immense numbers at this period, it is in March.

This bird, which is somewhat longer than the Chaffinch, is 6 inches in length, of which the tail measures 21/2 inches. The beak is 5 lines long, flesh-colored, darker above than SITKA INDIANS ON A TRIP TO PUGET SOUND. below, and light brown in winter. The iris is dark brown; the feet flesh-colored, tinged with blue, and 8 lines high. The general color is Robert Irmschee and W. S. Hammond are a yellowish green; on the under part of the body party of Sitka Indians in Seattle to see the a lighter green, which is lightest at the rump sights and incidently to see what they can do and belly, and on the latter tinged with white, towards disposing of this year's catch of furs

The song of the Linnet is loud and flute-like, yellow; the few outside tail feathers - yellow and exceedingly agreeable. It consists of from the middle to the root, but else-where

> The female is smaller, and easily distinguishpart more ashen gray than yellowish green. There are some yellow spots on the breast and and the belly, and the under tail coverts are rather white than yellow. It feeds on all juniper berries, spurge laurel berries, turnip, thistle and lettuce seeds. . It is especially fond of the seeds of the milk thistle, it feeds also on insects.

The Green Linnet or Greenfinch general'y though it is sometimes found in a thick hedge. It is probable that the term Linnet is de- It is well built of wool, coral-moss, etc., and

> The female lays twice a year four or five spotted with violet or brown. At first the young are greenish grey, although the male may from the first be distinguished by a somewhat yellow tinge.

Although their song has no great recom-Of these song birds, 15 pairs were introduced mendation, it is not unpleasant, so that some person even prefer it to the grey Linnet's. They sing throughout the year. Their call while on the wing is Yek, yek! and when perched, Schoving.

> The young are mostly fed on green caterpilthis respect partly of insectivorous habits.

#### SEA OTTER HUNTERS.

"Fred," "Jackson," "Lizzie," "Kadashan," The quill feathers are blackish, bordered with and skins, says the Seattle Times. The party

arrived on the steamship Alki, and will return north on the same boat. All are Sitka Indians and live on Baranoff island, and every one of them is a hunter save Lizzie-the crack men of their tribe. They came down, as Hammond says, to see what Seattle can afford in the way of a permanent market for their skins. Heretofore buyers of furs and skins have always gone to Alaska every year and bought up the skins and furs from the Indians, and have always had to pay stiff prices. The Indian is always looking out for the very best bargain he can make, and that is why the Alaska hunting party is in Seattle. This trait of the Indian never was more neatly demonstated than when a Times reporter engaged them in conversation upon the manner and style of hunting sea otter, black bear and marten. After proceeding to relate in part, in very fair English, how it was all done, one of the spokesmen promptly demanded \$2 before proceeding any further.

When told that Seattle reporters seldom possessed so much money, they were not one bit appeased, and got up and strode away, refusing further details.

The party have three otter skins, a number of black bear skins and marten skins. The Indians frequently get as much as \$500 for a sea otter in Alaska, and they expect to get better figures. Black bear frequently bring \$50 apiece in Alaska, and as high as \$9 is paid for marten. The hunters expected 'to do better by bringing their skins and furs here, and say that, if such proves the case, they will bring all their catches here next year.

Fred, who is a small man, with keen, black eyes, is said to be the best hunter in Alaska, and apparently telt very proud of the distinction. He has a record of five sea otter killed last year, for which he received \$1500. These were killed during a three days' hunt,

This year sea offer were very scarce, and the hunters say that next year and the year following no offer will be taken, and they will be given a chance to multiply.' This year, with 100 canoes out, but 15 sea offer were taken. The chase after the sea offer is along the coast of Alaska, in the vicinty of Latuya

bay, which is under the frowning brow of Mount Fairweather. The Indians say it is a very dangerous coast for canoemen, and this year they had three of their canoes thrown upon the beach by the tremendous surf and broken to pieces. Nearly every year several of the hunters lose their lives by being upset off shore during the storms, or are thrown upon the rocks along the coast.

Last year, while Fred was out at the time he made his banner killing, his uncle's canoe was upset and his friend drowned. The hunters use a small shotgun in killing the sea otter. The animals are most often seen well out from land, and when one is sighted, every hunter is immediately upon his feet in the bow of his canoe, and the next time the otter sticks his head above water a score of guns throw their leaden pellets in his direction. The sea otter is very wary, and is perhaps the most difficult of all fur-bearing animals to kill. White men never attempt its capture in Alaskan waters.

The Indians hunt the black bear back in the interior from Latuya bay, near the base of the mountains and in the gorges. They use trained Alaska dogs, usually four or six in a party. The hunters provide themselves with rifles, but say they could not succeed in capturing many without their dogs. They also use bear traps such as are to be bought in the hardware stores, in capturing them, and a long time ago they say they used to make a trap themselves which was not dissimilar from the deadfall of the backwoodsman. A big log, heavily weighted on one end and elevated and held up on triggers at the other, constituted the trap proper. To get the bear to place himself in position to be struck 'down' by the log, a fence of logs was constructed about the trap and bait, so placed that, when the bear attempted to pull it away, he sprung the trap.

Marten are hunted and caught along the coast of Alaska from Sitka westward, and for some distance back in the interior. The Sitka Indians do not go much farther west than Latuya bay, but do a great deal of hunting about the southern end of Baranoff island.

#### (Continued from Page 126.) RUTILATED OUARTZ.

If you will imagine a perfectly limpid piece of ice with fine hairlike, blood red strands of ed on slabs of dark-quartz and coated just silk running through it in all directions you will under the surface with bright red scales of get a very fair idea of this mineral in its finest hematite. This seems to be a true vein state. greater excellence altogether on individual taste. crystals of hematite. It is yet sparingly found

rutile penetrating and degree of limpidity of favorable circumstances at any time in the the quartz. Besides the stones with a net work future. The pit is situated about two miles of red rutile there are others containing a rutile west of Henry P. O. in Lincoln county. dark steel-gray to nearly black, and again it may be golden yellow or silvery, still holding In one kind the quartz is very slightly wine the world could be abundantly supplied, but tinted and when filled with the red rutile the few if any stones sufficiently clear for the puroccasionally cutting. Crystals are thus penetrated but when fine in form and quality are indeed "cabinet rarities".

The most unique of these I have yet seen is a medium sized single crystal of regular shape in which the rutile starts from a nucleus near the base of the prisms and radiates in a fan-like arrangement through all the upper part of the crystal. The crystal is very valuable. The mineral generally occurs massive in boulders from a few ounces up to as many pounds, scattered over the surface of the ground.

No regular deposit has yet been found, The finest quality yet found was formerly met with in some quantity a few miles from Casar P. O. in Cleveland county. Near Henry in Lincoln county the silvery and dark threaded kinds are sometimes found in crystals. At this point some of the crystals of quartz are shot through and through with a square hole showing where the rutile has rotted away.

A good quality was formerly found at Stony Point in Alexander county. It is rare at all the localities.

There is still another variety to be mentioned. This is an amethyst penetrated by rutile. Α few pounds of this was found in Lincoln county

SOME NORTH CAROLINA MINERALS. last year. Though it was very fine few if any of the crystals would cut gems of more than two carats

The crystals were all small, grouped, plant-There are several kinds that depend for accompanied with mica and brilliant perfect The main difference is in the quality of the and may be expected at this point and under

#### ZIRCON.

If one per cent of the zircon that could be its power of throwing tints of reflected light, mined in North Carolina were of gem quality whole specimen receives a decidedly red cast, pose have yet been noticed in the state. In evenly distributed and is much strengthened by the gold bearing gravels of the gold belt-Mechfound linburg, Rowan, Cabanus, McDowell and other counties, zircon is very plenty. Though finely crystallized and colored in subdued tints of pink, yellow blue, clear and etc. They are small, too small for gems, not larger than a good sized grain of wheat.

> In the monazite washings in Cleveland county a few of this kind were found that might be cut into small gems but during operations very little attention was paid them. The largest deposit of zircon in the state, possibly in the world lies along the Green river in Henderson county. In the hill bordering on the river and in the neighborhood of the Saluda Mountains they are found quite abundantly in a decomposed magnesian formation. And associated with several magnesian minerals. The crystals seldom vary from the type but interesting twin forms are sometimes found. They are regular tetrahedrons without modifications, in size from a mustard grain up to one inch along the longest axis.

The color is a light snuff to nearly white.

This deposit was worked for commerical purposes some years ago for a German company and several tons taken out, but nothing has been done there in recent years.

far more interest mineralogically occurs in Iredell county, not far from Statesville.

These crystals are much larger and are a light brown or chestnut color. But the interest lies in the form alone as none that I have seen are clear in any degree.

They are very interesting crystalographically. Both pyramids are perfect and regular but the prisms instead of presenting the usual number of planes show double the number. Crystals of 1 1/2 inches across the base are found here. This form occurs nowhere else in the state to my knowledge.

In both the latter deposits groups containing as many as 25 crystals have been found. The crystals from the Iredell county locality command fancy prices, but the others are cheap and of much interest to the beginner.

E. H. HARN,

Henry, N. C.

#### A COIN OLD AND RARE.

Lynn Sterns, of Baker City, has in his possession a rare curiosity in the shape of an old gold coin. It is a \$5 piece of native gold. On one side in a circle are the words: "Oregon Exchange Company;" on the face, "130 G-5 D;" on the reverse side, in circle, the letters, "K. M. T. A. W. R. C. S;" below the letters a cut of a beaver and the letters, "T. O.," with date "1849."

#### A HUGE PELICAN.

Iames Osborn yesterday brought to this city an American white pelican, measuring exactly eight feet from tip to tip, which he killed on Monday afternoon on Geo. B. Sturgill's farm on Lower Powder. It is the first bird of this species that has been seen in this section, when it was brought to the ground by a single No. 6 shot which winged the infrequent visitor, -The Morning Democrat, Sept. 23, Baker City, Oregon.

Another deposit, much less in extent but of TO THE MEMBERS OF THE N. O. A.

Owing to the fact that the majority of our members have been absent from home for various reasons during the summer months, it was thought best to discontinue our local meetings until the vacation season was over. But now, after our release we must continue our work with renewed energy. Now is the time to embody the results of our summer observations in systematically arranged notes and papers, to be presented in person or by mail at our monthly meetings.

This plan is expedient for as soon as we can demonstrate to the ornithological world that we are a wide awake, hard-working association of students of bird life, instead of mere mercenary egg collectors, then can we be assured of due recognition from the older, and more scientific societies of the East. We are not as obscure and insignificant as we sometimes feel. We are being hor efully watched by many of our chief ornithologists who are waiting to see of what stuff we are made. An extensive, untrodden field is open to us: Let us do what we can to explore it.

At our next two monthly meetings the following birds will be taken up.

Saturday, Oct. 24th.,

Western Winter Wren (Troglodytes hiemalis pacificus). Vigors' Wren (Thryothorus Parkmann's Wren bewickii spilurus). (Troglodytes ædon parkmannii).

Saturday., Nov. 21st,

Lewis' Woodpecker, Melanerpes torquatus). Redshafted Flicker (Colaptes cafer). Northwestern Flicker (Colaptes cafer saturatior) All notes for the October meeting should be sent in before October 20th.

Hoping to see you personally on the evening of October 24th at my residence in Portland, Or., or, if not sooner, at our annual meeting in Salem.

WM. L. FINLEY.

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#### A SPECIMEN EXPEDITION.

About the 20th of June 1892, in company with a younger brother, I left the city of Petersburg Ill., and started down the Sangamon River on a relic hunt. We loaded our tent, bedding, fishing-tackle, provisions, guns, etc., into our boat and pushed off. The day was guite warm and we allowed the boat to float along with the current. We stopped occasionally at the sand bars and dug in the sand for turtle's eggs, and succeeded in finding about one hundred and seventy-five. Most of them were round as marbles but some were quite elongated.

At night we landed and camped at the foot of a bluff famous for its so-called petrifying spring. A spring gushes from the bank near the top, and flowing, deposits a covering of lime over the moss and rushes.

The next morning after gathering a few specimens from the spring, we packed up and continued our journey. Some time before noon we arrived at the place where we intended to camp and as we expected to stay several days we set about arranging the place for comfort.

A more beautiful camping place would have been hard to find. Situated at the foot of a huge bluff, on a grassy plateau, with the river in front and not a house or cornfield in sight to remind one of civilization, it was indeed a spot that a lover of nature could enjoy. Near by in a deep and shady valley a spring gushes out and flows down to the river. We dug a little reservoir just below and stored our meat, butter, and milk where they kept perfectly fresh and cool.

After supper we baited our fish lines and slept soundly till morning. We were up before dawn and rejoiced greatly over several fine fish, which we found on our lines. These we cleaned and cooked for breakfast and it makes one's mouth water now to think how good they tasted.

After breakfast, armed with pick and spade, we went to the mounds on the hill above. There are a number of mounds in this neighbor-

hood, all of which have been partially explored. Right on the highest point of the bluff, where the band slopes abruptly off to the river. IOO feet below, is a large shell mound. Part of the mound has caved off and the contents lie scattered along the bank. We hunted over the bank and obtained many pieces of pottery many of them being curiously figured. We afterwards dug through the mound and found that-it extended down about four feet and was composed of shells, bones, fragments of pottery and ashes. In the bottom we found fragments of clay bricks bearing the marks of human hands. It is evidently the old kitchen or cooking place of the Indians. In the mound we found five or six flint arrow points and many long, sharp scales of flint. We found also the lower canine tooth of a bear with two holes drilled, in the side, down to the nerve cavity, so that it might be strung on a string, a horn knife handle and another peice of polished bone with a hole in it, many fragments of deer horns, beavers skulls, turtle shell, etc.

Neither the shelis or the bones had the appearance of great age although we know that the last of the Indians left this part of the country eighty years ago and no Indians have lived at the spot within the memory of the oldest inhabitant.

Some years ago I secured a fine stone pipe from this place and a copper chisel.

The next day I visited a number of farm houses in the neighborhood and collected three stone axes and about forty arrow points.

We spent about ten days, digging or wandering about as we felt inclined. There was a steep clay bank near in which hundreds of sand martins had built their nests. We did not fail to gather a number of "sets" for exchange. At last we packed up and floated down the river to a point where we could ship our boat home by rail.

We returned home thinking that those who never camped out did not know what enjoyment was.

#### E. H. HAMILTON.

#### GEYSERS IN THE YELLOWSTONE PARK DECLINING IN STRENGTH.

That the geysers of the Yellowstone Park are losing in activity is vouched for by W. W. Wylie, who has spent more years in the National Park than any other man. Mr. Wylie, in a dispatch from Helena, says: "As compared with 16 years ago, I should say there is not more than one-half the activity in the upper basin. I believe that there will be few, if any, geysers in 50 years from now."

The Yellowstone Park geysers are the greatest, in number and activity, in the world, those of Iceland and New Zealand being insignificant in comparison with the larger ones. The Yellowstone Geysers have been scientifically observed since about 1870.

The geyser of Iceland and New Zealand have been observed for the last 100 years, and it is known that in that time they have declined in power and activity.

#### PROFESSOR WINCHELL'S PASTE.

At the request of a subscriber we give receipt for above, as follows: Take 2 ounces of clear gum arabic,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ounces of fine starch and  $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce of white sugar. Pulverize the gum arabic, and dissolve it in as much water as the laundress would use for the quantity indicated. Dissolve the startch and sugar in the gum solution. Then cook the mixture in a water bath until clear. The cement should be as thick as tar. This cement will stick to glazed surfaces and is good to repair broken rocks, minerals, or fossils.

#### WHITE CROWS.

Mr. F. A. Stuhr the bird man of Portland, Or., has four live crows, taken from a nest in Lane county, Or. Three of them are almost entirely white, only showing slight black coloration on the primaries and at the base of the bill. Iris, brown. Feet and legs nearly white.

#### AN ALBINO FROG.

Mr. Hugo Mulertt, the editor of THE AQUARIUM of Brooklyn, N. Y., writes, under September 29, 1896, as follows:

"Yesterday a young student of the Packer Institute of this city told us of a curiously colored frog which she had caught a day or two before near her country home at Orient, Long Island. When the specimen was brought to us afterwards for identification, we recognized it at once as an albino leopard frog (Rana halecina).

The upper side of the body of the common leopard frog is green or brown in color, in both cases, with a brilliant bronze lustre; the two folds along its back are bronze colored, standing well out from their darker base; upon its back are dark, *round* spots arranged in two lines, while the upper parts of the hind legs are ornamented with dark bars.

The specimen in question is a fully developed male, about three years old. The color of all parts of its body, seen from above, is a brilliant cream; while the underside of the specimen is pure white; along its back and on the hind legs the markings, characteristic to the species, appear indistinctly also in cream color, just a trifle deeper in shade; they can be made out by close inspection. The eyes are of a beautiful deep pink. Owing to the absence of dark colors in the skin, the animal has a very delicate appearance; it looks as if it was carved of ivory.

We have seen albino deer, fox, squirrels, ferrets, cats, raven, eel, and years ago had an albino catfish (species Amiurus marmoratus) in our collection, not to mention the more frequent albino rabbits, rats, and mice, but for nearly half a century during which we collected and handled large numbers of every known species of batrachians, we have never before seen an albino frog, nor have we read or heard that any one else ever has noticed such a freak in frogdom. It may, therefore be safely said that this albino frog is the first one on record.

The specimen is now in one of the smaller aquariums of the Institute, where it is admired by the students at their leisure moments.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

#### EDITOR. JOHN MARTIN,

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NOVEMBER, 1806.

With this issue we undertake the publication of the OREGON NATURALIST. We hope we shall succeed in our endeavors to maintain the as being not less than 1000 years old, was excellent standard attained by the former publishers. We will articles and live notes each month, in short, He considers this an extraordinary discovery. make it one of the leading papers devoted to The specimens will be placed in the Carnegie Natural Science,

All advertisements and exchanges should reach this office by the 15th to insure insertion in the current number.

A. B. Averill of Portland has one of the "Northwest Tokens" in copper. These tokens were used by the Astor Company, in its trade relations with Indians. On one side is the word "Token" over a bust facing to the right; under bust, date, "1820," Reverse, "Northwest Company" over cut of a beaver.

Near Stockton, Cal. finds have lately' been made of several L shaped obsidian knives, (?) servated. Considerable shell wampum of various sizes one kind appearing to be sawed sections of some round tooth. The knives are small, the largest not more than four inches long.

#### INTERESTING DISCOVERIES BY PENN-SYLVANNIA MOUND EXCAVATORS.

Great interest is manifested over the discovery of implements in a mound at McKee rocks, which is being excavated for scientific purposes.

The work is being done under the direction of Thomas Harper, of Pittsburgh, who believes that the specimens found here are not less than 1000 years old, and proves that they were made by the most ancient people that inhabit ed this country. The list includes a bone implement which Mr. Harper believes was a flaker, the pieces of which are separated in five or six parts. Bone needles or awls also were found, and Mr. Harper says they can be partially restored.

A Tomahawk, which Mr. Harper regards found. The same kind of weapons are also publish instructive found on the British isles. It is made of gneiss. museum.

#### 148

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## DECEMBER, 1896.

# THE OREGON



No. 12.

Vol. III.

# NATURALIST.

PALESTINE, OREGON. 1896.

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### REGON



## NATURALIST.

#### VOL. III. PALESTINE, OREGON, DECEMBER, 1896. No. 12

#### SOME SLIPPERY ACQUAINT-ANCES.

#### BY ANGUS GAINES.

You all have seen lizards, those bright the slimy mud in search of food. and active little animals that come out of their hiding places under loose stones, or cannot endure forever and a wonderful old boards; and bask in the sun or catch change gradually comes over the tadpole. flies until they see you and then dart Hisbody grows longer, his gills disappear away as quick as a flash, but how many and he acquires a habit of coming to the of you have ever seen a salamander?

much like a lizard, but it is entirely differ- him to undergo his last change and he ent in its ways. Lizards lay their eggs comes out of the water, his skin splits in dry dirt and the little ones, when they open, he crawls out of it and is no longer are hatched, have the same shape as their a tadpole but a land animal with lungs parents, although they are of a different for breathing air and four legs for walking. color, but the mother salamander, after Four legs? Yes but they are very short living on land nearly the whole year, goes and weak ones and his poor little toes are down to the pond or river and lays her so thin and soft that you can almost see eggs in the water. When the eggs hatch through them. With such feeble limbs you would scarcely believe that the mother he is, of course a very poor traveller and would know her own children, for they could never run away from his enemies. are not the least bit like her. In fact they as the lizard does, so he crawls under are not salamanders at all, but tadpoles, some loose stone or fallen log and lies having no legs to walk with and no lungs hid,-lies hid almost all the rest of his to breathe the air, but instead of these life. they have gills for use under water and good tail fins for swimming.

for there are other tadpoles there, some of prefer dark wet places to dry sunshiny which are to become frogs while others ones, they enjoy life quite as much as are to develop into toads. A jolly good other animals do. time they have together, coming out into They are not very industrious even

the shallow places to get the warm sunshine, darting back into the deep dark holes to hide from some passing enemy, playing and chasing each other through the sparkling waves, or hunting through

It seems a pity but this kind of life surface of the water every now and then In size and shape the salamander is very after air. At length the time comes for

You might suppose that salamanders would have a dull and miserable time, yet The salamander tadpoles are not alone it is quite probable that, although they

hiding places, half buried in the damp salamanders living in fire. ground, and content themselves with such ing enough to come up to be eaten.

more, but they do shed their skins now ignorance. The salamander will not try and then and get new coats. It is said to bite and could not hurt you if it did. that they swallow their cast off skins No one who understands how curious, though I have never seen them do this.

There are many different kinds of harm one of them. salamanders. Some kinds are of a dull blue black color, others are a beautiful red pets, yet I have kept a good many of them or vellow with bright black spots, stripes to study their habits. I once shut up some or bars. Still another kind has clear marbled salamanders in a pen on the white bars across his black back and is ground, with old chunks of wood for them called the marbled salamander, while to hide under. They never showed any another kind is called the tiger salamand- sign of becoming tame but would lie hid er on account of the yellow stripes down all the time and refused to eat when I was its sides.

Some of them are soft weak and help- out and escaped. less looking and make no attempt to escape when found, but although all of dotted over with white spots, and was them are sluggish in their dispositions one of the kind called scaly or four toed there are a few that can move quite rapidly salamander. One day when it was crawlwhen scared, travelling with a gait that ing about over a piece of bark, the bark is a strong aud wonderful combination tipped up and the salamander fell on his of squirming, running and leaping. You back. Instead of turning over again the can never understand this singular way little animal lay perfectly still as if dead, of travelling until you find an active until I touched him and then he was all salamander and watch him run. You right again. This, I found, was his usual must be careful, however, not to play with way of meeting trouble, simply lying still. the little fellows too much for they are His limbs appeared to be very reeble. very soft and easily hurt.

old cellars, in dark caves and other gloomy ed for his labor by being set at liberty in places where superstitious people might a safe place. imagine ghosts would stay that the ignorant imagine that there is some-salamander it wrapped its tail around thing ghostly and supernatural about one of my fingers and held on for awhile them. Many years ago people actually head downwards. I afterwards saw it believed that salamanders could live in the repeat this trick frequently, hanging by its fire. Foolish as this appears to us it was tail from the stem of some plant. really believed until a philosopher wiser than the rest put one in the fire to try it. ground and sleep through the winter with-This was a cruel experiment, for of course out food. the poor little animal was burned up at

when hunting food, but lie still in their once, but it settled forever the story of

There are still people who believe that grubs, earthworms or insects as are oblig- these harmless little animals are poisonous and who kill them whenever they can find They do not change their shapes any them, but this is the result of the grossest beautiful and innocent they are could ever

> Salamanders do not make satisfactory watching them and at last they burrowed

Another that I tried to keep was brown, and yet he climbed up the side of a glass Salamanders are found so often in damp jar in an effort to escape and was reward-

One day when I was handling a slimy

Salamanders bury themselves in the

#### NOTES ON WINTER BIRDS OF YAM- panies of seven or eight in wet boggy localities. HILL CO., OREGON.

The following notes are not compiled from the observations of many years, and are not intended as a list of the winter Hirds of this Not uncommon. county, as they are more or less incomplete in general and especially so regarding ducks and other water birds, great numbers of which hidden in tops of fir trees, congregate on our lakes and sloughs, and hawks and owls, numerous species of which ed Grouse. Not uncommon but keeps out of abound here which the writer has been unable sight most of the time. to identify. But it is hoped, however, that these notes, incomplete as they are; will give Generally considered only a summer resident, the Eastern bird lover, who is snowed under but last winter several birds of this species three months of the year, an idea of what the Oregon ornithologist enjoys during the winter months.

BRANTA CANADENSIS. Canada Goose. Α common winter resident, wanders about Hawk. It is a very common sight to see this in flocks from place to place during the day, sometimes alighting on a wheat field until scared up by a hunter. As night approaches they alight on a wheat field or body of water, and at this time many are shot. As they fly low when about to alight, the hunters conceal themselves behind fences or trees until a flock is over them, when they fire into them. It is said that when a flock is feeding, a man can drive a horse ahead of him and get nearly among them before they suspect danger, but I have not had the opportunity to verify this statement. A few years ago geese did considerable damage to winter wheat, being such a nuisance in Southern Oregon that farmers stretched twine over their fields to keep the geese off, but we are not troubled now as the pot-hunter has been so successful in thinning them out.

BRANTA CANADENIS HUTCHINSI. Hutchin's Goose. The remarks on above species will refer equally as well to this species. It is sometimes called California Goose.

GALLINAGO DELICATA. Wilson's Snipe. Jack Snipe, rare. Occasionally seen in com-

AEGRALITIS VOCIFERA. Killdeer. Rather rare. Sometimes heard after nightfall flying over in early winter.

OREORTYX PICTUS, Mountain Partridge.

DENDRAGAPUS OBSCURUS FULIGINOSUS Sooty Grouse. Seldom seen, as they remain

BONASA UMBELLUS SABINI. Oregon Ruff-

ZENAIDURA MACROURA. Mourning Dove. were seen.

ACGIPITER VELOX. Sharp-shinned Hawk. Rai e.

FALCO SPARVERIUS. American Sparrow pretty little falcon perched on a fence post at the side of road, or hovering in the air a few moments, pounce down upon a mouse.

BUBO VIRGINIANUS SATURATUS. Dusky Horned Owl, Rather uncommon in the valley, but common in the mountains.

CERYLE ALCYON. Belted Kingfisher. Common along our creeks.

DRYOBATES VILLOSUS HARRISH. Harris's Woodpecker. Common.

COLAPTES CAFER SATURATIOR. Northwestern Flicker. Abundant.

OCTOCORIS ALPESTRIS STRIGOSA. Streaked Horned Lark. Always abundant along the highways, sitting on the fence posts favoring passersby with their peculiar jerky song. They are some-times called "Polly-wash-dishes."

CORVUS AMERICANUS HESPERI. California Crow. Abundant, frequently holding meetings which I call caucuses, because when a lot of crows get together and talk all at once it reminds me of a lot of politicians.

CYANOCITTA STELLERI. Steller's Jay. Common.

APHELOCOMA CALIFORNICA. California Jay.

Not uncommon.

AGELAIUS TRICOLOR. Tricolored Blackbird. A few have been seen in company with Flocks of twenty to thirty are not uncommon. Scolecophagus cyanocephalus.

STURELLA MAGNA NEGLECTA. Meadow Lark, Exceedingly abundant, They furnish us with superior songs nearly every day in the winter, a rain storm seemingly making no difference in this respect. They have two songs, a bold rollicking one which has often seen described, and a low song which much resembles the song of Agelaius. The latter song is not often heard.

SCOLECOPHALUS CYANOCEPHALUS. Brewer's Blackbird, Common. A flock stayed with me several weeks last winter while I was plowing and with the help of robins and other birds took care of a large number of angle worms which were plowed up.

SPINUS TRISTIS. American Goldfinch. Occasionally seen in flocks about our orchards.

ZONOTRICHIA LEUCOPHRYS GAMBELI. Gambel's Sparrow. For the most part this species winters farther south, but one was seen here February 4th 1895.

JUNCO HYEMALIS OREGONUS. Oregon Junco One of our most abundant birds, alway in flocks They seem to enjoy snow better than sunshine

MELOSPIZA FASCIATA GUTTATA. Rusty Song Sparrow. The majority winter farther south, but a few remain with us to enliven our dreary, rainy winter days with their cheerful appearance and soul-stirring song. There were a pair staying about our premises last winter and desiring a specimen, I took one of ern Robin. Abundant. One has been around them. For a time the lonely mate was about daily giving me concerts, even when snowing heavily, seemly to chide me with his beautiful song for depriving him of his companion. But in a short time a new mate appeared and now these two are constantly about, as happy as can be.

PIPILO MACULATES OREGONUS. Oregon Towhee. As is the case with above species, the Oregon Towhee is not as common in the winter as in the summer, but yet it is a common

note of inquiry, "why"?

ANTHUS PENSILVANICUS. American Pipit

THRYOTHOROUS BEWICKII SPILURUS. Western Vigor's Wren. Not uncommon. Always in pairs.

> ANOTHURA TROGLODYTES PACIFICUS. Western Winter Wren. Common about brushy localities, frequently entertaining you with their very pleasing song which is as small as the bir d itself.

> PARUS ATRICAPILLUS OCCIDENTALIS. A hardy fellow. Oregon Chicadee. Common. cheerful at all times but at his best during a snow storm.

> PARUS RUFESCENS. Rare. Sometimes seen in flocks in company with P, atricapillus occidentalis.

> PSALTRIPARUS MINIMUS, Bush-tit. Not uncommon in flocks.

> REGULUS SATRAPA OLIVACEUS. Western Golden-crowned Kinglet, Rare, Sometimes seen in flocks, generally in company with P. minimus.

> REGULUS CALENDULA. Ruby crowned Kinglet. The only bird I ever saw of this species was on January 26th 1895. While cutting wood, a strange olive-colored bird alighted on a branch a few feet from me, but was gone again like a flash; that moment was long enough, however, to make known the little stranger, for the stripe of ruby on its crown unmistakably pronounced its identify.

> MERULA MIGRATORIA PROPINQUA. Westhere nearly every day which has about half the wings white. The first song of the season of this species was heard on February 26th.

HESPEROCICHLA NAEVIA. Varied Thrush. Often called Alaska Robin, I have found this bird rather rare in this county, seeing but a few during the winter and these being shy and staying for the most part in the thick fir timber. During January and February of 1894, however, they were exceedingly abundant, so much so their appearance was noted by bird, twitching about the bushes uttering his the causaul observer and heralded by the press

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as a "new bird to Oregon."

SIALIA MEXICANA. Western Bluebird. Appears in January and becomes common by February.

PHASIANUS TORQUATUS. Mongolian Pheasant. Variously called Denny, Chinese, China, and Ring Pheasant. Fifteen years ago this bird was unknown in Oregon, but from three hens and fifteen cocks turned loose in 1880, and twenty eight more turned loose in 1881, they have increased at such a rapid rate that to-lay they are an abundant bird throughout the Willamette valley. They are our most common game bird during the winter,

ARTHUR LAMSON POPE.

THE IMPORTED AND ACCLIMATED GERMAN SONG BIRDS IN OREGON.

By C. F. Pfluger, Sec'y of the Society of the Introduction of song-birds into Oregon, at Portland.

THE GOLDFINCH OR THISTLEFINCH. (Fringilla carduelis, Der Stiglitz.)

Of these handsome birds 40 pairs were introduced into Oregon by the Society in 1889 and 1892. They have become very plentiful throughout the State, and can be seen quite often on the east side of the city.

The Goldfinch is a native of the old world, and attractve from the beauty of its plumage and song, is 534 inches in length, of which the The beak is 5 lines in tail measures 2 inches length very sharp, and slightly bent at the point, and compressed at the sides. In color it is whitish, with a tinge of brown at the tips. The feet are brown, slender, and 6 lines in height. The front of the head is bright scarlet, and a broad stripe of the same color encircles the root of the beak. The poll of the head is black, and a similar stripe passes over the back of the head down each side of the neck. Behind this stripe is a white spot on both sides, and the cheeks and upper part of the neck are also white. The back and nape of the neck are a beautiful brown; the rump whitish,

with a tinge of brown; and the larger feathers black. The sides of the breast and groin are light brown; the middle of the breast, the belly, and the vent, are whitish, tinged with brown. The thighs are grayish, the pen feathers velvety black, with tips, which becomes smaller in old birds, and are sometimes wanting in the first two feathers.

The middle pen feathers are edged on the outer plume—for about an inch—with bright yellow; which, in conjunction with the yellow tips of the hindmost large coverts, produces a most beautiful bright spot on the wings. The outer coverts are black, the tail is slightly forked, and black; the two, or, sometimes the three first pen feathers, having a white spot on the middle of the inner plume, and the rest being tipped with white. Occasionally, also, the third feather is quite black at the sides.

The female is somewhat smaller, and almost alike in plumage with that of the male.

The Goldfinch throughout summer frequents gardens, groves, and such mountainous districts as are not altogether uncultivated, or are planted with coniferous trees. It is not a bird of passage, but in autumn collects in flights of at most from 15 to 20, and makes excursions in search of thistle-down; forsaking districts where the snow is thick upon the ground, for others where the weather is more genial.

The food of the Goldfinch consists of various species of small seed; for example, plantain, chiccory, burdock, lettuce, cabbage, rape, canary, and thistle seeds.

The Goldfinch prefers to build its nest, which with that of the Chaffinch is among the most remarkable for the strength and beauty of its structure, in apple and pear trees. It is semispherical, and composed of moss, lichens, and fine root fibers, finely woven together, and lined with wool, hair and thistle-down.

The female lays once a year 5 to 6 pale-green eggs, spotted with light red, and often surrounded at the thick end with a circle of small +lackish stripes. The young, which before the first moulting are grey on the head, and are fed from the crop. The males may at a very early poriod be distinguished by a narrow

white ring round the beak. The Goldfinch in older birds dark blue with a very few is a lively handsome bird, continually in motion, and uttering its pleasant and sonorous song at all periods of the year, except when moulting. It consists, besides several intricate and twittering notes, of certain tones, which resemble those of a harp. Of all the sweet songsters that delight the ear with their music, and the eye with their lively motions, graceful forms, and delicately blended tints, there is none more universally admired than this beautiful finch, termed Carduelis, or Thistle Finch, on account of its fondness for the downy seeds of a class of plants, which would be much more troubleome to the agriculturist, were it not for the assistance rendered by this bright-winged goldfinch How curiously they hang on the prickly stems and leaves of the thistles-with what adroitness do they thrust their bills into the heart of the involucres --- and how little do they regard any one as they ply their pleasant pursuit, un. conscious of danger, and piping their mellow call-notes.

#### THE CHAFFINCH. (Fringitta coelebs Der Buchfink.)

introduced by the Society into Oregon in 1889.

The Chaffinch is found all over Europe, and is exceeding common in Germany. It is a true bird of passage, although some birds may occasionally winter here. Their time of departure lasts from the beginning of October till the middle of November, and they return throughout March. It is wellknown that the Chaffinch, on account of its beautiful and probably to elude hostile observations, at all extraordinary song, is the favorite of many events, it is very difficult to distinguish the persons. It is 61/3 inches in length of which Chaffinch's nest from the trunk of the tree to the tail measures 234 inches. The beak, which is conical, as is the case with all birds broods every year, laying each time four to five of this genus (Fringilla), is white in winter, light bluish grey eggs, covered with copperbut at the time of pairing, when the bird colored spots and stripes. begins to sing, it becomes dark blue, and remains so till the moulting season. The iris all birds which breed twice a year, consists is chestnut brown, the feet are 9 lines high, almost exclusively of males; the second as and blackish brown. The claws are very exclusively of females. sharp. The forehead is black, the top of the

feathers standing up like a crest. The upper part of the back is chestnut brown, tinged with olive green; the lower part of the back, and the rump, are greenish. The cheeks, throat, breast, and belly, are a reddish chestnut brown, tinged with white towards the vent. The shanks are gray, the pen feathers bordered on the outer plume with green, on the inner with white, and white also at the root. The smaller coverts are white; the larger black, tipped with white, from which arise two white stripes across the upper part of the wing. The tail feathers are black, the two in center being with ashen gray, and the two on the outside having each a large wedge-shaped white spot. All have a hardly perceptible border of green.

The female, which is easily distinguished from the male, is smaller; on the head, neck, and upper part of the back, greyish brown; on the lower part, dirty white; on the breast reddish grey. The beak is greyish brown in summer, and in winter whitish grey. The food of the Chaffinch consists of seeds, grain and all kinds of insects.

The Chaffinch's nest, which is built upon Of these lovely song- birds 40 pairs were the branch of a tree, is constructed with great ingennity. Its upper part is formed like a compressed sphere, as round as if it had been turned, and fastened to the bough by cobwebs and hair. It is composed of moss and small twigs, lined on the inside with feathers, thistle-down, and hair, and covered outwardly with the lichens of the trees on which it stands. The reason of this last mentioned precaution is which it is attached. The female hatches two

The first brood, as indeed is the case with

The chief attractive qualities of the Chaffinch head and nape of the neck, grayish blue, and is undoubtedly its fine song. It has besides, expresses its desires and wants. The cry of the tree in which she was, I had the pleasure of affection, which also seems to announce a of witnessing the interesting sight. Strange, I a change of weather, is 'Treef, treef;' the call thought that when frightened from the tree she which it utters while on its migration is a should return to the stub. I again started her repeated 'Yak, yak;' and the call 'Fink, fink,' from the stub and she went to the same tree as from which it derives its name, is heard so when first routed. I again threw a stick in frequently as to warrant the conjecture that it the tree when she for the second time returned is involuntary. Its clear, penetrating song, to the stub. Surely I thought there must be however, is still more remarkable than these something there to attract her. I stood still a notes, and is distinguished from that of all moment or so to see what she would next do. other birds, by its near approach to articulate Presently she entered the bunch of fur, and four speech. This is expressed in German by the young, their eyes not yet opened, fell to the word 'Schlag.'

four different songs, each of which is divided interpreted as their call for "mamma," and into several parts, and occupies perhaps ten apparently my interpretation was correct, for seconds in the utterance. The names by the mother soon emerged from the nest and syllable of the sentence which these birds are up the conversation with her children. I supposed to utter

The male Chaffinch is one of the most handsome of our common small birds, and in his general deportment is as lively as he is handsome, and as his gay appearance and song frequently, noticed as early as February, points him out as one of the first birds, to afford an indication of returning spring, he is for these various reasons a general favorite among the lovers of birds.

#### MOTHERLY DEVOLION.

On April 19th., 1890, when passing through a heavy woods near my home I noticed a hole in a decayed stub where a large limb had been broken from an oak tree, and thinking it might be the nesting site of some species of woodpecker I rapped on the tree with a stick where-upon a Flying Squirrel (Sciuropterus volans), emerged from the opening and made a flying leap to an adjacent tree. Thinking that she might be trespassing on the rights of others I broke open the snag and noticing nothing but a little wad of rabbit's fur was about to leave the spot when I though I would like to

however, different cries by means of which it see her "fly" again, so throwing a stick up in ground. These I took in my hand and they Each bird possesses one, two, three, or even soon began to utter a little squeak, which I which the various songs of the Chaffinch are began answering her babies calls. Slowly she known, are generally derived from the last descended the tree, in the meanwhile keeping wondered what she would do next and was not long in finding out. Fearlessly she ascended my leg, went out on my outstretched arm to my hand wherein her young lay. Here she hesitated a moment or two as if considering where to take the little ones and was not long in making a decision. Blinking her pretty eyes as if a brilliant thought had entered her busy mind she tenderly took one of the young in her mouth as does our familiar friend, pussy descended to the ground and scampered away about sixty feet to the foot of an old oak and disappeared into a hole at its base. She soon returned to the opening of the new retreat and receiving an answer to her call secured baby No. 2 in the same manner as No. 1. This she continued until the last one was placed in the new home. After leaving the last one she once more appeared at the door way, uttered her call, and receiving no response, seemed to say "Thank you sir," and went in to care for her family. Such fearlessness I have never seen exhibited before or since by a creature that apparently shuns man.

(From my Note Book.)

WILL EDWIN SNYDER. Beaver Dam, Wisconsin.

#### EASTERN DEPARTMENT.

#### CONDUCTED BY DR. C. C. PURDUM.

Begin to classify, overhaul and record your collections of the past six months, and after they are safely stored away in your cabinet, write up what you have been doing and let us know about them.

An event which has long been anticipated by the children took place in the editors household last week. The family cat is now proudly strutting about with the lofty mieu of a mother of five kittens and all the more proudly because one of the kittens has no paws upon its forward legs. Children delighted! Cat mistyfied! Kitten with the air of "a sacrifice to science" pursues the even tenor of its way which consists of remaining upon the cotton at the bottom of its box and disposing of large quantities of milk and cream.

#### BEACH COLLECTING.

#### (Continued from Page 131.

#### ARBATIA PUNCTULATA.

Occasionally this species is met with on the rocks, and in some places where the tide rushes through a shallow "canal", from the sea, into a salt water lake or marsh, if there are any rocks in this canal they are liable to have Arbatias on their under sides.

STRONGYLOCENTROTUS DROBACHIENSIS.

As one might infer from the name, this urchin is larger than the preceding. I have never found this species but mention it because on the coasts farther north it is common. Its color is green.

And now we come to the molluscs which I have never studied to any extent and, with the exception of a few common forms, never collected.

Beach collecting, however, affords fine opportunities to the conchologist provided he can "get on" to the localities where shells abound. I will note a few of the most common shore molluscs.

#### PECTEN IRRADIANS.

The common scallop which is very much in demand as an article of food and highly prized by epicures. The quickness with which these animals can push through the water by rapidly opening and shutting the two valves of their shells is remarkable. It was found in muddy marshes where "eel grass" was plentiful.

#### MODIOLA PLICATULA.

This mollusk was locally common. They inhabit marshes, especially those in which the water is slightly blackish, and live in the mud buried to the depth of one or two inches.

#### MACTRA SOLIDISSIMA.

Often when walking along the shores with bare feet I have found this mollusk by treading on it. This, by the way, is a plan, commonly adopted, to obtain these animals. They are valued as a food product and make the famous "quahog chowder" for which Rhode Island is famous.

#### MYA ARENARIA.

Probably the clam is the most important food mollusk in America. At any rate *immense* quantities are devoured each summer at the various shore resorts, each of which caters to from two to ten thousand people daily, and and the gathering of this supply gives employment to a large number of men.

#### TEREDO NAVALIS.

Some of the old water soaked timber which floats in from mid ocear. is filled with the tubes of this destructive creature.

It is difficult to procure perfect specimens as their tubes run through the wood in every direction and somehow the wood seems never to split in the way you wish it.

There are but few worms which I think can really be placed under the head of Beach Collecting. The collecting of marine worms differs entirely from real beach collecting although many species are found in the mud and sand near the shore. Perhaps at some future date I may give some idea of this, another kind of Marine Collecting.

#### SERPULA DIANTHUS.

This worm I mentioned at some length in one of my former papers and will not describe it again here. Its crooked tubes were often found, on the beaches, twisted around stones. PODARKE OBSURA.

"eel grass" with dipnet. They are very dark in color.

#### LIMULUS POLYPHEMUS.

This is the interesting animal which has caused so much discussion in the scientific world.

The question is whether the "horseshoe crab," as L. polyphemus is commonly called, is a crustacean or arachnidan, and many able arguments have been offered on both sides. I believe that there are still doubts as to its position in the scale of invertbrates though by most naturalists it is placed among the crustaceans.

It receives its common name of "horse foot" or "horse shoe crab" from the resemblance of the outline of the cephalothorax to the foot of a horse

It has a wide range extending from Maine to Florida.

The "king crab," another of its common names, is common on sandy and muddy shores as many bathers, who have stepped on the tip of the long "tail" could testify. It burrows just beneath the surface and the sharp point of the caudal spine can make a good sized hole in the naked foot of any person who may be so unfortunate as to come in contact, with it,

The many small animals and worms living in the mud form the main part of its food. L. polyphemus posesses great vitality not only in the adult form but also the eggs which are laid in the sand and, being uncovered twice each day by the tide, lay exposed to the action of the elements.

My father remembers the time when the large one were gathered, at spawning season. in great numbers as food for hogs, who were very fond of them, and certainly at this season they possess a fair amount of eatable matter. F. P. DROWNE.

#### NOTES FROM THE JUNCTION OF THE WILLAMETTE AND COLUMBIA RIVERS.

The advance guard of the Western Goldencrowned Kinglets was first observed on the A small worm which was taken among the morning of September 23rd. They had likely crossed the Columbia from Washington the preceeding night,-that is, if the statement of some writers that Kinglets migrate by night is reliable.

> To me it seems wonderful that such a small piece of vitality can successfully brave the long mile of water which separates the Oregon and Washington shores. Especially so, when we consider that usually this little insect hunter never flies more than one or two hundred yards when getting his breakfast-which occupation, by the way, lasts all day so that in reality Regulus eats but one meal.

> As far as my observations extend they confine themselves generally to the fir trees, scrutinizing every nook and cranny of the bark and needles, in search, no doubt, of some rare entomological specimen, performing the while acrobatic feats worthy of any tit-mouse, spite the fact that our scientists say that Regulus must not be placed with the Paridæ.

> Some birds are not early risers, but no such false accusation can be brought against our little Satrapa. Almost before the winter night has finished gathering up the folds of her cold starry-decked garments, the "Tsee, tsee, tsee" of a Kinglet may be heard announcing to his fellows and the world in general that breakfast is ready and that he is already partaking thereof.

> > D. C. B.

Quartz inclosing rutile is found among the washed pebbles and agates at Yaquina bay, Oregon. Some of it showing the rutile in very handsome hair like form.

A number of quail and ring-neck pheasants have been turned loose on the John Day river on Canyon creek in Grant county, Or. These birds are protected by law east of the Cascade mountains.

#### WOOD STAINS FOR TAXIDER-MISTS.

There are times when the taxidermist would like to imitate some of the more expensive woods. The receipts here given, with a little experience will be found to work well. Parts are by weight. After staining, polish and finish as in natural woods.

#### CALIFORNIA RED WOOD.

Tincture of alkanet root.

#### BLACK OR EBONY.

Brush with a solution extract of logwood (I to 20), then apply a solution of bichromate of potassium (I to 50). Thoroughly dry without heat, oil and polish.

#### DARK OAK.

	Parts.
Cassel brown	IO
Pearlash	I
Water	125
Boil together and stain	
110110 0111	

#### LIGHT OAK.

Parts

	2 001 000
Gum Catechu	300
Water	200

Boil together, strain hot, and add to it a solution of 25 parts of bichromate of potassium in 100 parts of water.

#### MAHOGANY.

		Parts.
	Alkanet	25
	Aloes	-50
	Dragon's blood	50
	Alcohol	650
]	Digest for a week and filter.	

Mordant the wood with nitric acid, and apply the stain from one to three times, according to the shade required. Oil and polish.

#### WALNUT.

	Parts.
Permanganate of potassium	10
Water	300
Dissolve.	

Brush quickly over the wood from one to eight times without waiting to let it dry; after 5 to 10 minutes the wood is washed with cold water, oiled and polished.

#### ROSE WOOD.

	Parts.
Tincture of Alkanet	700
Analin blue	3
SATIN WOOD.	
	Parts.
Fustic extract	300
Water	
Dissolve, strain and add a soluti	on of IO
parts of pearlash in 35 parts of water.	

#### A WHITE CHIPMUNK

Mr. W. B. Malleis of Cedar Mills, Or., has a white chipmunk, caught in Washington county, in a woodpile. The prevailing color of the specimen is pure white. The scalp, stripe above, and below the eye are a creamy white, quite distinct. On close examination the bands on the back can be seen faintly, in color a creamy white, slightly darker than the body. The tail is comparatively quite dark, and of the same shade as the scalp. The eyes are brown.

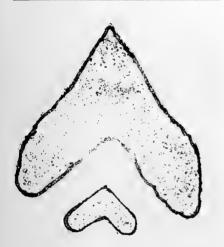
White gophers, squirrels of several species, mink, deer, crows and blackbirds have been taken in Oregon, but we believe this to be the first record for a white chipmunk.

Recently the Berlin police arrested the antiquary Kyrieleis and his wife, charged with having sold numerous falsified Luther autographs at prices running from 50 to 200 marks. These counterfeits were remarkably well executed. The couple, whose arrest had been prepared for months, were taken while on the point of departing for Frankfort from a third-rate hotel, where they had been lodging under an assumed name. The autographs are found in ancient Bibles and books of a religious character of the time of Luther, which the counterfeiters pretend, have been collected by the ancestors of the man Kyrieleis.

#### RARE POINTS.

Noting in last month's Naturalist a short article chronicling a find near Stockton, Cal., of several L shaped obsidian "knives" (queried), I send herewith outlines of two such which lately came into my possession, and which I prize very highly.

The largest is of clear, grayish flint, having an opalized appearance and is 2 inches across the lower barbs. Its shape is well represented by the letter V inverted ( $\Lambda$ ). One of the barbs extends slightly below the other and measure I in, x I ¼ in, respectively.



#### ACTUAL SIZE.

The other specimen is exceedingly small measuring only slightly over  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch across the barbs. They were found near Sellwood, Oregon, on the bank of the Willamette river. I do not class them as knives, as the foregoing part of this article would indicate, but as a rare shape of spear and arrow points. I have never seen any but these two, and write this for the benefit of your readers interested in archaeology.

Portland, Oregon,

#### NOTES.

Last week the university of Washington received from Alaska a fine specimen of jade, dark green in color, and showing signs of having been used by man first as a sort of quarry from which he slowly and laboriously cut stone knives and spear points. Later one end was ground down to an edge to permit the stone to be used as an ax. Along the sides of the stone are deeply cut grooves, at the bottom of which are shattered edges, showing where a knife or spear point had been cut out. It is said that natives cut these, grooves with a stick and sand. The wood holds the particles of sand and grinds away the jade, though the latter is one of the toughest stones known.' This specimen was found on the east side of Kotzebue sound, porth of Behring strait, in Northern Alaska, at about 66 degrees 30 minutes north latitude. -- It was presented to the university hy the Artic Trading Company, of which C. L. Webb, of Seattle, is president, and Miner W. Bruce, of Alaskan fame, is a prominent member.-Oregonian.

A string of elk teeth containing over 100 were sent to D. M. Averill, the past week. These teeth had been saved for a long period by an Indian of the Grande Ronde. It appears that it is only a question of a short period of time when the elk will be extinct.

A Mr. Reeves, who has been placer mining on the Chetco river, cleaned up nearly three ounces iridium; said to be pure and not in combination with platinum or rhodium.

Eugene, reports two, and Salem, two snowy owls

### Query Column.

Is Chlorate of Potash, a good remedy for cankered mouth, which is so prevalent among serpents?—R. C. Paine, 1416 R. I. Ave., N. W. Washington, D. C.

A cross opposite these lines, indicates that your subscription has expired. A prompt renewal is requested.

Official Organ North-Western Ornithological Association.

IOHN MARTIN, - EDITOR.

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DECEMBER, 1896.

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The following item going the rounds of the press, if true suggests the idea that Europeans have not wholly emerged from barbarism. "In one consignment recently a feather dealer in London received 6,000 birds of paradise, 360,000 birds of various kinds from the East Indies, and 400,000 humming birds. In three months another dealer imported 356,398 birds from the East Indies." Up to the time of going to press eight snowy owls have been offered for sale in Portland. For three days a severe rain storm prevailed, followed by snow, hail and sleet; unusual for Western Oregon at this time of the year. The owls came with the snow and vary much in plumage. One specimen was nearly white, with only a few spots and bands of brown.

Oregon has a game law that savors too strongly of class legislation. It appears to have been drawn for the sole benefit of sportsmen only, and as changes are even now talked of for the more exclusive benefit of the city sportsman, the N. O. A. should take a hand in the matter, that a clause may be inserted permitting the collecting of specimens for scientific purposes.

That unmitigated nuisance the English sparrow is rapidly increasing in Portland.

It is desirable to ascertain if possible to what extent the imported song birds have adapted themselves to their new surroundings; while it is known that some of them are doing well and increasing in numbers, notably the skylark and starling, very little information can be obtained regardthe others. Mr. Rey Stryker reports the mocking bird as having nested near Milwaukee. Observations on these birds should be kept for future reference.

In November a female sooty albatross was brought to the establishment of D. M. Averill & Co., to be mounted: It measured 31 in. in length; 85 in. stretch of wings and was captured on the ship Brynhilda, when two days sail from the mouth of the Columbia river.

November 17 a pair, male and female, of snowy owls were shot near Astoria and sent to D. M. Averill & Co., to be mounted.

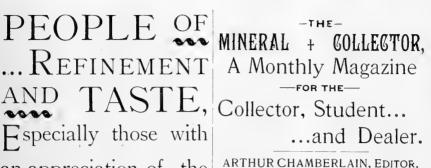
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