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Department of Birds: Annual and Monthly Reports 1894 - 1895

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Copy.

August 31, 1895.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary, in charge of
National Museum.

Sir:-

Having completed the installation of the popular bird exhibit in the wall-cases of the "South Entrance", I take pleasure in submitting herewith a general description of the plan of exhibit, together with suggestions or recommendations for rendering it more complete and useful.

The leading idea which I have had in view is a carefully selected series of specimens which shall include every species of bird likely to be asked for by visitors, and a printed catalogue which will at once enable the inquirer to locate the specimen sought by means of a simple system of reference numbers attached to the sections of the cases and the shelves within. For example: The sections

(corresponding to the plate-glass doors) may be designated as A,B,C,etc., and the shelves in each section numbered 1,2,3,etc.. The catalogue should include an alphabetical index to the species, which, instead of referring to page numbers,might designate the case and shelf,thus:-

	Section.	Shelf.
Nightingale -----	A	4

The exhibit, as it now is, includes the following separate series,each corresponding to a distinct idea:

- (a) The non-familiar European birds.
- (b) The non-familiar North American birds.
- (c) The non-remarkable birds of other parts of the world.
- (d) The series illustrating and explaining the confusion of popular names.

(e) Examples of protective coloring, protective mimicry, etc.

(f) "Giants and Pygmies", or the largest and smallest members of certain groups.

(g) A series of eggs, showing a gradual transition in size from the egg of the extinct AEpiornis to that of the smallest Humming bird. (Includes a nest of the latter with the bird perched upon it).

(h) Albinoes and other abnormal color-varieties, and malformations.

(i) Flightless birds, together with those extraordinary powers of flight, for contrast.

The visitor inquiring for the Nightingale, the Shylark, the hoopoe, or the bullfinch, would find it in series "a"; the Mocking bird, the Whippoorwill, or the Bobolink, in series "b". Series "c" includes the lyre-bird, the toucan, the tailor-bird, weaver bird, crocodile-bird, condor, lammergeyer, eagle, albatross, etc. Series "i" includes the cassowary,

apteryx, great auk, and penguin among flightless birds and the swallow, swallow-tailed kite and frigate pelican as their antithesis.

Each individual specimen should of course have a special label, and there should also be a label for each series.

In addition to the collection of specimens, I would suggest that either one long reading table, or not less than two smaller ones (like those already in use) be placed in the centre of the space between the wall cases, and that a selected lot of books be provided for the use of persons desiring to study the collection. These books would be better placed in a small book-case, provided with a lock, the key entrusted to the attendant of the bird-hall or some other person easily accessible to the visitor, and its use governed by printed instructions

The books selected for this purpose should include the works of the better known authorities, as John Burroughs, Thoreau, Maurice Thompson, Oliver Thorne Miller, Miss Merriam, and others, together with a good popular ornithology of general scope (as the bird volumes of Wood's Natural History, Brehm's Thierleben, Standard Natural History, etc) and certain Museum publications of general interest (Bendire's "Life Histories", Shufeldt's "Scientific Taxidermy" and the writer's "Humming Birds").

If this plan can be carried out, which seems neither difficult or expensive, I think that the class of visitors most interested in the subject, especially school-teachers and their pupils, will find in the alcove set a part for their benefit every facility for the study of birds that could reasonably be asked, and certainly all that

can be provided under existing circumstances. Had we plenty of room, with suitable cases, funds for the purchase of specimens not in the collection, and other facilities which we do not have now, the educational exhibit of the department could of course be very much improved and extended.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) R. Ridgway,

Curator, Department
of Birds.

Ward,

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON Nov. 15, 1894.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a report
upon the work done in the Department of Birds during the
month of July, 1894.

Accessions

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during July, was 14 (catalogue numbers 133219-133232 in-
clusive), the only accession of importance being one:

From William Palmer, U. S. National Museum; 8 specimens
of the Hooded Warbler (Sylvania mitrata), showing de-
velopment of plumage.

Minor routine work.

Official letters written, 6

Official memoranda written, 1

Special work accomplished.

On July 9th, the Curator proceeded to Point Lookout, Maryland, for the purpose of gaining much needed rest, and also to make a careful study of the fauna and flora of the locality for purpose of comparison with those of a locality of similar latitude in the Mississippi valley (Southern Illinois and Indiana), the object in view being to trace more definitely the northern limits of the so-called Austro-riparian Province. Three weeks were spent in the pursuit of this knowledge, with satisfactory results, the vicinity of Point Lookout being determined to be purely "Carolinian" in its fauna and flora, without any admixture whatever of "Austro-riparian" forms.

Fifty-six specimens of birds were added to the Museum collection as one of the results of this trip, among the most important being materials for two groups to illustrate protective coloration, which, when put in proper shape,

will add two very interesting objects to the exhibition collections.

Mr. R. S. Matthews was assigned to work in this department on July 23, and he at once began to relabel the duplicate North American birds with correct name, and full data with each specimen. 322 specimens were thus relabeled during the last week of July.

The rearrangement of the Old World birds stored in the department, with a view to making available two or three quarter-unit cases, was begun and proceeded with at odd times, and each drawer was carefully labeled with the names of genera contained in it, thus making this part of the collection more readily accessible. The bound volumes of the sectional library were rearranged, with a view to their availability in the systematic work on birds shortly to be undertaken.

Several days were employed upon the Slater bibliography.

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Department of Birds.

used

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

Nov. 15, 1894,

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a
report upon the work done in the Department of Birds
during the month of August, 1894.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during August ~~was~~ 145 (catalogue numbers 133233-133377 inclusive),
the principal accessions being as follows:

From Rollo H. Beck, Berryessa, California; 19 specimens (2
species), from California. (Acc. 28375. Gift). ✓

From R. S. Williams, Columbia Falls, Montana; 7 specimens
(4 species), from Montana. (Acc. 28373. Gift). ✓

From Lewis P. Scherer, Morristown, New Jersey; 1 specimen of Helminthophila leucobronchialis from New Jersey. (Acc. 28374. Gift). ✓

From R. Ridgway, U.S. National Museum; 56 specimens (22 species), from Point Lookout, Maryland. (Acc. 28385. Collected for the Museum). ✓

From R. Ridgway, U.S. National Museum; 3 specimens (2 species), from Illinois. (Acc. 28389. Gift). ✓

From W. C. Kendall, U.S. Fish Commission, through J. E. Benedict; 11 specimens (8 species), from South Carolina. (Acc. 28400. Gift). ✓

From P. H. Sørensen, Egedesminde, Greenland; 20 specimens (15 species), from Greenland. (Acc. 28432. Gift?). ✓

Minor routine work.

Official letters written - - - - - 20

Official memoranda written - - - - - 23

Proof read, pages, - - - - - 42

" " galley, - - - - - 14

Special work accomplished.

Work was continued by Mr. Richmond upon the rearrangement of the Old World birds, and labeling of trays.

The relabeling of the duplicate North American birds, intended for distribution to educational institutions, was carried on by Mr. Matthews, and 562 of them were finished.

Very respectfully yours,

J. Ridgway

Curator, Department of Birds.

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UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

Nov. 15, 1894.

Mr. J. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a report
upon work done in the Department of Birds during the
month of September, 1894.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during September was 1359 (catalogue numbers 133378 -
134736 inclusive), the principal accessions being as
follows:

From R. Taylor, Four Mile Run, Virginia; 7 specimens of the
Black Tern, in the flesh, from Virginia. (Acc. 28495, Gift).

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U. S. A., Ft. Myer, Virginia; 330 specimens
(70 species), from Arizona, and adjacent parts of California.

(Acc. 28431. Collected for the Museum).

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, ^{U.S.A.} Fort Myer, Virginia; 27 specimens (20 species),
from Arizona, and California. (Acc. 28446. Collected for the
Museum).

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., Fort Myer, Virginia; 358 specimens
(116 species), from Arizona, California, and San Clemente Island.
(Acc. 28510. Collected for the Museum).

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., Fort Myer, Virginia; 237 specimens
from California, and San Clemente Island. (Acc. 28540 part.
Collected for the Museum).

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., Fort Myer, Virginia; 310 specimens
(106 species), from Fort Clark, and Fort Hancock, Texas. (Acc.
———. Gift).

From Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Rochester, New York;
25 specimens (21 species), from Borneo. (Acc. 28550. Purchased).

From J. Ford Sempers, Aiken, Maryland; 12 specimens (11
species), from Maryland. (Acc. 28549. Gift). ✓

Mr. A. Boucard, Oak Hill, Isle of Wight, England, wrote,
offering a valuable series of duplicates from his collection,
as a gift to the National Museum. The offer was accepted.

Minor routine work.

Official letters written,	17
Official memoranda written,	13
Paper for publication written, pages,	2
Proof read, pages,	19

Paper submitted for publication.

Colinus virginianus cubanensis not a Florida bird. (Cf. The Auk, October, 1894, p. —).

Special work accomplished.

The rearrangement of a large series of ornithological pamphlets was undertaken, and their availability for reference was thus greatly enhanced.

Mr. Matthews continued his work on the duplicate North American birds, and 520 of them were relabeled.

The work upon the old world study series, carried on at odd times by Mr. Richmond for the last two months, was suspended during September, owing to the large number of specimens received during the month (1359), which were all catalogued, and temporarily placed in glass-top cases in the bird gallery.

Since July 1, when not otherwise employed, work has been carried on, mainly, by Mr. Richmond, in an attempt at the rearrangement of the entire gallery, such as restocking the supply of stationery and other articles needed in the department, the storing of manuscript and other official papers not at present in use, and in otherwise creating space to be used for other purposes, such as additional cases, etc. This work is still going on, and cannot fail to greatly facilitate the work of the department.

Mr. Richmond was also almost exclusively employed for several days in securing data from the Museum catalogues, for the compilation of a list of original collections donated to the Museum, to be incorporated in the Annual Report for the fiscal year ending June 30. 1894.

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Department of Birds.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

Nov. 15. 1894.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a report
upon work done in the Department of Birds during the month
of October, 1894.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during October was 325 (catalogue numbers 134737 -
135061 inclusive), the principal accessions being the
following:—

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U. S. A., Fort Myer, Virginia; 125 speci-
mens (34 species), from Southern California, etc. (Acc.
28540 part. Collected for the Museum).

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; 162 specimens (40 species), chiefly from Brownsville, Texas, (Purchased; acc. 28566). Also one specimen Parus inornatus, from California. (acc. 28642. Gift). ✓

From Col. John H. Starin, Glen Island, New York; 12 specimens American Flamingo (Phoenicopterus ruber), from Bahamas. (acc. 28587. Exchange). ✓

From Bernard J. Bretherton, Seattle, Washington; 12 specimens (7 species), from Olympic Mountains, Washington. (acc. 28578. Gift). ✓

From Rollo H. Beck, Berryessa, California; 7 specimens (4 species), from southern California. (acc. 28616. Gift). ✓

Specimens distributed.

To A. W. Anthony, San Diego, California; 1 specimen of Harporhynchus cinereus. (Loan).

To V. Ischusi zu Schenidhoffer, Hallein, Salzburg, Austria; 11 specimens. (Exchange).

To American Museum of Natural History, New York; 1 specimen of Gallinago gigantea. (Exchange).

To R. Ridgway, Brookland, D.C.; 250 specimens of Tanagers and
Finches - (Loan).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written 29

Official memoranda written 28

Special work accomplished.

Work which may be mentioned under this heading was
performed during October as follows: -

In the west basement the larger Corvidae and the
remainder of the Columbidae were rearranged. These
specimens had been stored in unit tables in the Fish
Corridor. The drawers from which they were taken will be
utilized for storing the smaller duplicate wading birds,
which have been brought over from storage room ~~for~~ in the
Museum for systematic rearrangement in these drawers.
Much other work of like character has been done in the
west basement. It has been found impossible as yet to
commence regular operations on the contemplated work
on the birds of North and Middle America, owing to the

Necessity of first disposing of other matters. The preparation of the annual report has taken a very great amount of time, owing to the incorporation of a new feature, the list of private collections in the Museum, together with a brief summary of their extent and character. The "Bulletin" on birds of the Galapagos Islands, and another on birds of the Seychelles, Aldabra, and other islands, based primarily on Dr. Abbott's collections, also claim precedence over the more comprehensive work alluded to, and every opportunity has been availed of to bring them nearer completion. Much still remains to be done on both works, however, owing to their elaborate character, it being intended, as to the one on Galapagos birds at least, to give careful original descriptions and full synonymy of all the species peculiar to the archipelago, and all Galapagos references to the remainder. There being altogether 101 species to be treated (nearly twice as many as are mentioned in Mr. Salvin's Monograph of 1876*)

*Trans. Zool. Soc. London, ix, pt. ix, pp. 447-510, pls. 84-89.

the magnitude of the task will be apparent.

In the meantime, a fair commencement of the greater work has been made at my house, during hours which could not be employed on other Museum work, (i.e. evenings, after office hours, - one day only, October 31, having been so employed), the families, ~~the~~ Colymbidae, Urinatoridae and Alcidae, having been completed. These consisting exclusively of North American species, could be worked up without recourse to specimens, the Museum material having twice previously been gone over carefully, when preparing the copy for the Water Birds of North America (Baird, Brewer and Ridgway), and the Manual of North American Birds, it being necessary for the new work, to ^{simply} rearrange, revise, and otherwise adapt the matter which has already been printed in the above-mentioned publications. In addition to having disposed of the three families before mentioned, I have also nearly completed a revised list of the species to be treated. The list which I had first prepared, included only the Mexican and Central American species.

The West Indian species were afterwards added, but there was no room for interpolation of the North American; so it was concluded to prepare a new list, embracing the species of the three regions, arranged in systematic order.

Mr. R. S. Matthews, temporarily employed in this department, was transferred to the Department of Mammals, thus depriving us of much needed assistance.

A series of birds from the duplicate ^{collection} ~~series~~ was selected for the State Historical Society, of Iowa, and it is to be hoped they will be ready for transmissal some time in November.

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Department of Birds.

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UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

Dec. 3. 1894.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,
Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a report
upon the work performed in the Department of Birds
during the month of November, 1894.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum
register during November, was 42 (catalogue numbers
135062-135103 inclusive), the principal accessions being as
follows:

From Dr. Hugh M. Smith, U. S. Fish Commission, Washington, D. C.;
one specimen of Brunnich's Murre (Uria lomvia) from Wilson,
New York. (Acc. 28654. Gift).

From Adolphe B. Covert, Ann Arbor, Mich.; one Wheatear (Saxicola
tenanthe), and one King-Rail (Rallus elegans), both from
Michigan, the former being new to the avifauna of the state.
(Acc. 28659. Gift). ✓

From Dr. W. L. Ralph, Utica, New York, through Major C. E. Bendire;
twenty specimens (16 species) from Texas, Arizona, Florida,
Colorado, etc. (Acc. 28660. Gift). ✓

From Bernard J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon, through Major C. E. Bendire;
ten specimens (8 species), from Oregon and Alaska. (Acc. 28712.
Gift). ✓

From Edw. S. Schmid, Washington, D.C.; two specimens of
Conurus pertinax - cage birds. (Acc. 28721. Gift). ✓

From C. Littlejohn, Redwood City, Calif.; one specimen of
↓ Peale's Falcon (Falco peregrinus pealei) from Alaska.
(Acc. . Deposit).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written	22
Official memoranda written	23
Monthly reports written, pages	32
Annual report written, pages	40

Minor routine work - continued.

Specimens identified for correspondents 128

Special work accomplished.

Eighty-three volumes of unbound books and serials were catalogued and sent to the library for binding.

Two large boxes of duplicate wading and water birds were withdrawn from storage, unpacked, and systematically arranged in cases in the fish corridor.

The preparation of the monthly reports for January - October (inclusive), and the Annual report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1894, involved a large amount of time.

A series of birds was selected for the Illinois Wesleyan University, and this will shortly be ready for shipment. The series intended for the State Historical Society of Iowa, selected from the duplicate collection in October, will also be ready for shipment in a few days.

At odd times during the month, many specimens collected along the U.S. and Mexican boundary line by Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., were supplied with labels.

4
Work was continued on the bulletin devoted to the birds of the Galapagos Archipelago, and this work was brought much nearer completion.

The progress made upon the work on birds of North and Middle America has been given in a special report.

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Department Birds.

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DIVISION OF
JAN 3 1895
CORRESPONDENCE & REPORTS
UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON Jan. 3. 1895.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith
a report upon the work performed in the Department of
Birds during the month of December, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the museum register
during December was 45 (catalogue numbers 135104-135148
inclusive), the principal accessions being as follows:

From Edward Gerrard, Camden Town, London, England; one Porzana
albigularis from Colombia, and three Trogons from Borneo.

(Acc. 28762. Purchased).

From W. W. Price, Leland Stanford University, California; one Olive
Warbler (Dendroica olivacea) from Arizona. (Acc. 28765. Gift).

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; twelve specimens (7 species) ✓

from Tampico, Mexico. (acc. 28771. Purchased).

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; one Coppery-tailed Trogon (Trogon ambiguus) from Mexico. (acc. 28784. Gift). ✓

From Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Rochester, New York; two Hummingbirds (Uroastictes ruficrissus and Schistes albogularis) from Colombia. (acc. 28770. Gift). ✓

From Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Rochester, New York; seven specimens (6 species) of Hummingbirds, including a pair of Anthocephala floriceps, from Colombia. (acc. 28769. Purchased). ✓

From N. R. Wood, National Museum, Washington, D.C.; one specimen of Eolactus poratus - cage bird - (acc. 28814. Gift).

From Dr. Juan Gundlach, Havana, Cuba; one specimen each of Ara tricolor, Corvus minutus, Butorides brunnescens, and Florida caerulea (melanistic), from Cuba. (acc. 28813. Gift). ✓

From Nathan L. Davis, Albion, New York; one Harlan's Hawk (Buteo harlani), and one Plumbeous Chickadee (Parus carolinensis agilis) from Texas. (acc. 28815. Gift).

From Chas. W. Richmond, National Museum, Washington, D.C.; three specimens (3 species) from Mexico and Cuba. (acc. — Gift).

Distribution of Specimens.

- To Illinois Wesleyan University, Bloomington, Illinois; one hundred and eighty specimens from various localities. (Gift).
- To Iowa State Historical Society, Des Moines, Iowa; two hundred and seventy-two specimens from various localities. (Gift).
- To Bernard J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon; fifteen specimens (14 species) from eastern United States. (Exchange).
- To A. Boucard, Oak Hill, Spring Vale, Isle of Wight, England; two specimens from California. (Exchange).
- To Osbert Salvin, London, England; five specimens of Procellariidae (for examination).
- To A. W. Anthony, San Diego, California; eighteen specimens (12 species) from North America. (Exchange).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written	28
Official memoranda written	29
Monthly report written, pages	4
Paper submitted for publication, pages	9
Report of progress on work on Birds of North and Middle America in November, pages ...	9
Specimens identified for correspondents	65

Paper submitted for publication.

"On Heterotrogon, a new genus of Trogons, based on Hapaloderma vittatum, Shelley, with description of the female of that species". Chas. W. Richmond.
For the Proceedings U. S. National Museum - pages - 9.

Special Work accomplished.

Early in the month the birds selected for the Illinois Wesleyan University (180 specimens) and for the Iowa State Historical Society (272 specimens) were invoiced, packed, and made ready for shipment. Several small lots of specimens were sent in exchange, or for examination, to various correspondents.

About thirty jars of alcoholic specimens were examined, and supplied with temporary labels.

Four large boxes of duplicates were unpacked, and their contents arranged systematically in the cases in the fish corridor; this being a continuation of the work begun last month.

The labeling of type specimens with distinctive labels was continued. Many specimens collected on the International Boundary Survey, and provided with numbers only, were supplied with labels.

Four boxes, containing specimens and official papers, were packed and placed in storage.

Work was continued on the paper on Galapagos birds, as opportunity afforded, but much yet remains to be done.

Little time has been available during office hours for the new work on the birds of North and Middle America, but all the time possible to obtain for this purpose has been utilized. A special report upon the progress made in this work during December will be prepared and submitted separately.

A matter which may be worth mentioning in this report, although properly not a part of the work of the Department of Birds, is the distribution of two sets of photographs of remarkable forest trees taken by the Curator (during his own time and at his own expense) in the lower Wabash Valley in Illinois and Indiana. These are valuable as representing remnants

of the primitive forests of eastern North America, disappearing more rapidly than most people know, while few realize that their reproduction must require hundreds of years time, under most favorable circumstances. The views, 13 in one set, 12 in the other, are accompanied by a descriptive list, with references to pages in the "Proceedings" of the National Museum where the trees illustrated are described.

The larger set was presented to the Division of Forestry, U.S. Department of Agriculture, the other to the State Historical Society of Iowa.

Very respectfully, yours,

N. Ridgway

Curator, Department of Birds.

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*Admitted
Used*

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

Feb. 1, 1895.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum.

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a report
upon the work performed in the Department of Birds during the
month of January, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during January was 1273, as follows: 749 specimens from the
Boucard collection (catalogue numbers 145,101-145,849), 419 speci-
mens of the Department of Agriculture series (catalogue numbers 135,712-
136,130), and 105 specimens from current accessions (catalogue
numbers 135,149-135,253). The most important accessions are as
follows:

From Kirke B. Mathes, St. Augustine, Florida; six specimens (5 species),

from the United States. (acc. 28857. Purchased). ✓

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; twelve specimens (3 species)
from Mexico. (acc. 28880. Purchased).

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; one specimen of Sterna
gularis, from Mexico. (acc. 28864. Gift). ✓

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; ten specimens (7 species)
from Mexico. (acc. 28981. Purchased). ✓

From Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York; eight specimens (6 species)
from Mexico. (acc. 28982. Purchased). ✓

From W. B. Judson, Pasadena, California; one specimen of Spotted
Owl (Syrnium occidentale) from California. (acc. 28917. Gift). ✓

From L. M. Turner, Seattle, Washington; sixty-two specimens (15
species) from Washington. (acc. 28952. Exchange for publications).

From A. Boucard, Oak Hill, Spring Vale, Isle of Wight, England;
seven hundred and forty-nine specimens (406 species) from various
localities. (acc. 28963. Gift). ✓

Distribution of Specimens.

To Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa., seven specimens (7
species) of shore birds. (Loan).

To Mrs. P. L. Jory, Washington, D.C.; fifty-one specimens from

North America. (Exchange).

To Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin; one specimen of Passenger Pigeon. (Gift).

To Chas. K. Warren, Warsaw, Illinois; thirteen specimens (5 species) from Alaska and Labrador. (Exchange).

To Department of Comparative Anatomy, U. S. National Museum; nineteen specimens (19 species) of Finches and Tanagers. (Transfer).

Four worthless moth-eaten specimens were destroyed during the month.

Minor routine work.

Official letters written	43
Official memoranda written	25
Monthly reports written, pages	6
Report of Progress on work of Birds of North and Middle America in December, pp.	3
Specimens identified for correspondents (<u>not</u> including specimens presented to the Museum)	15.

Special work accomplished.

On account of the large number of additions to the collection during the month, certain lines of work were discontinued, temporarily, and the time occupied in cataloguing and distributing the specimens received. Not a little time was consumed

in unpacking specimens, and in repacking them for shipment.

In connection with the work on birds of North and Middle America it was found necessary to ask for the loan of material additional to that contained in the National Museum, and in response to a request for specimens, the American Museum of Natural History sent on 58 skins, the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia 8 skins, and Mr. William Brewster 182 skins. The Department of Agriculture loaned 419 specimens, which were catalogued in the Museum register, and, with the above mentioned specimens and our own series, were arranged by species, in a manner convenient for study.

At various spare moments Mr. Richmond continued the re-arrangement of the old world birds stored in the bird gallery, and unpacked and placed in ^{cases in} the fish corridor the duplicate birds contained in two large boxes removed from storage last month. He spent three half days in the Department of Mammals, at work on alcoholic specimens, in continuation of work begun last winter.

Much miscellaneous work was performed during the month, of a character difficult to classify or mention in a monthly report, and such work is therefore not recorded.

The advent of the first installment of the Boucard collection illustrates the great and pressing need of additional quarter unit cases in this department. Requisitions for cases were made several months ago, at which time it was thought they would be completed in time to accomodate this collection. Here we have 749 specimens, containing very many species which are new to the collection, with absolutely no place to put them, except to park them in glass-top drawers or insecure boxes, in which they would be practically inaccessible, and subject to the ravages of insects. I would earnestly recommend that cases be provided for this collection at the earliest possible moment, as called for in my requisitions of April and November, 1894, and I may here add that the above requisitions would, if filled at once, barely accomodate the first installment of this collection. In other words, upon the addition of another installment it will be necessary to have more cases for its accomodation.

The promised information concerning the species contained in this collection additional to those previously existing in the National Museum collection, cannot be furnished at present, owing to lack of facilities for comparing the specimens directly with our series, as most of the families represented in this installment belong to the Picariæ, which, in part, are stored in the west basement, and thus not readily accessible.

Very respectfully yours,

A. R. Ridgway
Curator, Dept. Birds.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

June 5, 1895.

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End.
und
Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit
herewith a report upon the work performed in the Depart-
ment of Birds during the month of February, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during February, was 150 (catalogue numbers 135254-135-
403). The most important accessions were as follows:

✓ From Chas. K. Worthen, Warsaw Ill.; eighteen specimens
(2 species), from Lower California. (acc. 29017; exchange).

✓ From Chas. W. Richmond, U. S. National Museum; one hundred
specimens (28 species), mainly from Smith's Island, Virginia.
(acc. 29018; gift).

From Frank B. Armstrong, Alta Mira, Mexico; eighteen specimens (10 species), from Mexico. (Acc. 29026; purchased).

From Wilhelm Schlüter, Halle, Germany; six specimens (6 species), from New Guinea and South America. (Acc. 29023; purchased).

Distribution of specimens. ✓

To A. Resler, 1402 N. Bond Street, Baltimore, Md.; five specimens (3 species) of Longspurs. (Loan).

To Mr Brewster, Cambridge, Mass.; two specimens of Oregon Chickadee. (Loan).

To Mr Brewster, Cambridge, Mass.; two specimens of Townsend's Junco. (Exchange).

To C. J. Maynard, Newtonville, Mass.; three specimens of Bahaman Red-winged Blackbird. (Loan).

To Dr. J. A. Allen, American Museum of Natural History, New York City; six specimens (3 species). (Loan).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written, pages, 53

Official memoranda written, pages, 24

Monthly report written, pages, 6

Specimens identified for correspondents, 101

Papers written for publication.

"On the status of Bischoff's Song Sparrow (Melospiza insignis Baird). by Chas. W. Richmond. 15 pp. ms. For the "Auk".

Special work accomplished.

The American Ornithologists' Union Committee on Nomenclature met in the Dept. of Birds from Feb. 12-16, and occupied the Curator's time during that period.

Owing to the large number of birds received in January, considerable time was occupied in distributing specimens, both in the bird gallery, and in the West basement.

The Curator left Washington on the 23rd of the month, for a trip to the Kissimmee prairies in Florida, in the interests of the Museum. ^{4/}

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Dept. Birds.

^{4/} A special report on this trip is contemplated.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

June 5, 1895.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit
herewith a report upon the work performed in the Department of Birds during the month of March, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register during March, was 223 (catalogue numbers 135404-135626).

The most important accessions were as follows:

From E. A. McIlhenny, Avery, La.; eight specimens of Bob white (Colinus) from Louisiana. (acc. 29063; gift). ✓

From Frank B. Armstrong, Alta Mira, Mexico; twelve specimens (9 species) from Mexico. (acc. 29103; purchased). ✓

From Frank B. Armstrong, Alta Mira, Mexico; twenty-three

Specimens (7 species) from Mexico. (acc. 29125; purchased).
 From J. M. Woodruff, Chicago, Ill.; two specimens of Smith's Long
 Spur (Calcarius pictus) from Cook Co., Illinois. (acc. 29168; gift). ✓
 From B. J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon, three specimens (3 species),
 from Oregon. (acc. 29296; exchange). ✓
 From International Boundary Commission; one hundred and
 seventy-two specimens from southern California, Lower California,
 and San Clemente Island, collected chiefly by Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A.
 (acc. 29197; collected for the Museum). ✓

Distribution of Specimens.

To Mr Brewster, Cambridge, Mass.; five specimens of Atlapetes
pileatus, from Mexico. (Loan).
 To Chas. K. Warren, Warsaw, Ill.; two specimens (2 species).
 (Exchange).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written, pages,	34
Official memoranda written, pages,	20
Specimens identified for correspondents	107
Proof corrected, galleys	10

Special work accomplished.

During the absence of the Curator, Mr. Richmond measured about three hundred birds, to supply data for the work on birds of North and Middle America.

The collection of 749 specimens received from Mr. A. Boucard in January, was removed to the west basement where it was stored temporarily in some of the old-fashioned cases which are not only not moth-proof, but are exceedingly inconvenient. The new cases, for which requisition was made months ago, have not yet arrived.

A catalogue of the objects in the children's case was made for the Secretary on March 12.

The large collection made by Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A. on the Mexican boundary, was in large part rearranged, in systematic order.

The Curator returned from Florida on the 26th inst., and will make a special report on that trip.

Very respectfully yours,
R. Ridgway
Curator, Dept. Birds.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

June 5. 1895,

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit
herewith a report upon the work performed in the Depart-
ment of Birds during the month of April, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register
during April, was 393 (catalogue numbers 135627-135700;
149801-150119). The most important accessions were:

From U.S. Fish Commission, Washington, D.C.; twenty-one
specimens (7 species) from Alaska, collected by Chas. H.

Townsend. (acc. 29178; Gift). ✓

From Albert Thomson, Spring Creek, S. D.; two specimens of
Snowflake, from South Dakota, (acc. 29215; gift). ✓

- From G. W. Dennison, Smith's Island, Washington; five specimens (5 species) from Washington. (acc. 29277; gift).
- From Geo. F. Breninger, Santa Cruz, California; thirty specimens of California Chickadee (Parus rufescens neglectus). (acc. 29297; purchased). ✓
- From R. Ridgway, U.S. National Museum; ninety-three specimens (25 species), from Florida. (acc. 29251; gift). ✓
- From A. J. Norris, Marshall, Virginia; twenty-five specimens (24 species), from Peruvian Andes. (acc. 29298; purchased). ✓
- From Henry G. Bryant, Philadelphia, Pa.; four specimens, (4 species), from Arctic America. (acc. 29320; gift). —
- From J. H. Camp, Lima, Ohio; three specimens, (3 species), from Africa. (acc. 28914; gift). ✓

Distribution of Specimens.

- To Witmer Stone, Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.; seven specimens of Palm Warblers. (Loan).
- To Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin; one hundred and ninety-six bird skins (187 species), from various localities. (Gift).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written, pages, -----	44
Official memoranda written, pages,	32

Special work accomplished.

Work was continued on the bulletin covering the birds of the Galapagos archipelago.

A series of one hundred and ninety-six specimens was selected for Milton College, Milton, Wisconsin.

The rearrangement of the Mexican Boundary collection was completed, and most of this extensive series was stored in the glass-top cases in the bird department.

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Dept. Birds.

UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

June 5, 1895.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit
herewith a report upon the work performed in the
Department of Birds during the month of May, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum
register during May, was 1299 (catalogue numbers 145850 -
146766; and 150120 - 150502). The most important accessions
were:

From Dr. W. L. Abbott; two hundred and eighty-eight speci-
mens, from Kashmir, Ladak, and Turkestan. (acc. 29359; gift).

From A. Boucard, Springdale, Isle of Wight, England; nine hun-
dred and seventeen specimens of Finches, Weaverbirds and Tanagers.

(acc. 29313; gift).

From A. H. Thayer, Scarborough, New York; one specimen of
Brewster's Warbler, (Helminthophila leucobronchialis), from
Beltrille, Md. (acc. 29339; exchange). ✓

From Mr. Palmer, U. S. National Museum; thirty-six speci-
mens from Florida. (acc. 29360; gift). ✓

From G. W. Demisson, Smith's Island, Washington; two specimens
(2 species) from Washington. (acc. 29399; gift). ✓

From La Plata Museum, Buenos Aires, Argentina; forty-one
specimens from southern South America. (acc. 29409; exchange).

From B. J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon; four specimens of
Townsend's Sparrow (Passerella iliaca unalaschkensis),
from Kodiak, Alaska. (acc. 29414; exchange).

Distribution of Specimens.

To A. H. Thayer, Scarborough, New York; two specimens of
Warblers. (Exchange).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written, pages	40
Official memoranda written, pages	28
Specimens identified for correspondents	586

Special work accomplished.

Work was continued on the Galapagos ~~of~~ avifauna and considerable progress made.

Two boxes of large birds were selected and packed for the American Museum of Natural History, New York City.

A very valuable collection of birds, was received from Dr. W. L. Abbott, and Mr. Richmond has been engaged at intervals in identifying this collection.

A large series of birds from tropical America, was received for identification, and much time was employed in determining the species contained in it.

Many birds were removed to the west basement. Late in the month all of the cases were fumigated with bisulphide of carbon, as a measure of protection against insects.

Very respectfully yours,

R. Ridgway

Curator, Dept. Birds.

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UNITED STATES NATIONAL MUSEUM

UNDER DIRECTION OF

THE SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION

WASHINGTON

July 1, 1895.

Mr. G. Brown Goode,
Assistant Secretary,
in charge National Museum,

Sir:

I have the honor to submit herewith a report upon the work performed in the Department of Birds during the month of June, 1895.

Accessions.

The number of specimens entered in the Museum register during June, was 219 (catalogue numbers 150503-150721),

The most important accessions were:

From H. P. Attwater, Rockport, Texas; six specimens of Aphe-locoma cyanotis, from Texas. (acc. 29455. Gift).

✓ From D. B. Burrows, Lacon, Illinois; two specimens (2 species) from Texas. (acc. 29457. Gift).

From Chas. W. Richmond, U.S. National Museum; twelve specimens (6 species) of Trogons, chiefly from Borneo. (Acc. 29456. Gift).

✓ From R. S. Matthews, U.S. National Museum; one hundred and fifty-nine specimens (96 species), from the United States, Mexico, and Central America. (Acc. 29517. Gift).

Distribution of specimens.

To American Museum of Natural History, New York City; one hundred and seventy-four specimens, from various parts of the world. (Exchange).

To La Plata Museum, Buenos Aires, Argentina; one hundred and fifty-nine specimens, from various localities. (Exchange).

Minor routine work.

Official letters written, pages - - - - -	34
Official memoranda written, pages	18
Monthly reports written, pages	12
Specimens identified for correspondents	6

Papers submitted for publication.

Description of a new species of Ground Warbler from Eastern Mexico. (Geothlypis flavovirens). Proceedings, 2 pp. MS. (June 11, 1895).

Ornithology of the Galapagos Archipelago. Bulletin, about 600 pages, MS. (June 29, 1895).

Note on Helminthophila leucobronchialis near Washington, D.C., by Chas. W. Richmond. 1 page. MS. for the 'Auk'.

Special work accomplished.

Work was continued on the Bulletin on the Ornithology of the Galapagos Archipelago, and this work was finally completed at the end of the month, the MS. covering about 600 pages. This bulletin embraces every species known from the Galapagos Archipelago, with original descriptions and synonymy for each species. Maps accompanying the work show the distribution of each species by genera.

Mr. Richmond has spent considerable time during the month in the preparation of lists of the collections made by Dr. W. L. Abbott in Kashmir, Ladak, Turkestan, and the Pamirs.

Very respectfully yours.

R. Ridgway
Curator, Dept. Birds.

Birds

Report for 1895

1. HOW HAS THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1895, COMPARED WITH THE PREVIOUS YEAR, AS FAR AS (1) THE NUMBER OF ACCESSIONS AND (2) THEIR SCIENTIFIC VALUE ARE CONCERNED?

1. The number of accessions is slightly in advance of the previous year, and the number of individual entries in the catalogues is over 1100 in excess of the year ending June 30, 1894.

2. The scientific value of this year's accessions is greater than those of last year, but it is impossible to express just how much this is the case.

2. NAME, IN THE ORDER OF THEIR IMPORTANCE, THE ACCESSIONS OF THE YEAR WHICH DESERVE SPECIAL NOTICE, AND STATE IN EACH CASE WHETHER GIVEN, LENT, RECEIVED IN EXCHANGE OR PURCHASED.

From Dr. W. L. Abbott: two hundred and eighty-eight specimens from, Kashmir, Ladak, and Turkestan. (acc. 29359. Gift).

From A. Boucard, Oak Hill, Spring Vale, Isle of Wight, England: sixteen hundred and sixty-six specimens, ~~of~~ mainly Parrots, Kingfishers, Woodpeckers, Trogons, Birds of Paradise, Cotingas, Cuckoos, Barbets, Finches, Tanagers, and Weaver birds. (acc. 28963, 29313. Gift).

From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., Fort Myer, Va.; three hundred and ten specimens (106 species), from Fort Clark, and Fort Hancock, Texas. (acc. 27213. Gift).

and F. X. Holzner,
From Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., Fort Myer, Va.; twelve hundred and ninety specimens, from Arizona, California, and Lower California. (acc. 28431, 28443, 28446, 28510, 28540, 29197. Collected for the Museum).

From Tratter F. Webb, Albion, New York: two hundred and four specimens from Texas, and Mexico. (acc. 28566, 28771, 28880, 28981, 28982. Purchase).

From Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Rochester, New York: thirty-two specimens, from Borneo and Colombia. (acc. 28550, 28769. Purchase).

From Frank B. Armstrong, ^{Brownsville} ~~Alta Mira~~, Texas: fifty-three specimens from Mexico. (acc. 29026, 29125, 29103. Purchase).

From R. Ridgway, U.S. National Museum: one hundred and fifty-two specimens, from Florida, Maryland, and Illinois. (acc. 28385, 28389, 29251. Gift).

From R. S. Matthews, U.S. National Museum: one hundred and fifty-nine specimens, from United States, Mexico, and Central America. (acc. 29517. Gift).

From L. M. Turner, Seattle, Washington: sixty-two specimens from Washington. (acc. 28952. Exchange for publications).

From Chas. W. Richmond, U.S. National Museum: one hundred and fifteen specimens, from Virginia, Mexico, Borneo, etc. (acc. 28849, 29018, 29456, gift).

From A. J. Norris, Marshall, Virginia: twenty-five specimens, from Peruvian Andes. (acc. 29298. Purchase).

From Dr. Juan Gundlach, Havana, Cuba: one specimen each of Ara tricolor, Corvus minutus, Butorides brunneus, and Florida coerules (melanistic), from Cuba. (acc. 28813. Gift).

From William Palmer, U.S. National Museum: ^{thirty-six}~~forty-four~~ specimens, from Florida and Virginia. (acc. ~~28358~~ 29360, ^{collected for the Museum.} gift).

From William Palmer, U.S. National Museum: ^{eight} specimens of Hooded Warbler, from Virginia. (acc. 28358. Gift).

From U.S. Fish Commission, Washington, D.C.: twenty-one specimens, from Alaska; collected by Chas. H. Townsend. (acc. 29178. Gift).

From La Plata Museum, Buenos Aires, Argentina: forty-one specimens, from Southern South America. (acc. 29409. Exchange).

From Geo. F. Breninger, Santa Cruz, California: thirty specimens, from California. (acc. 29297. Purchase).

From H. P. Atwater, Rockport, Texas: six specimens of Aphelocoma cyanotis, from Texas. (acc. 29455. Gift).

From A. H. Hayer, Scarborough, New York: one specimen of Brewster's Warbler (Helminthophila leucobronchialis), from Maryland. (acc. 29339. ~~Gift~~ Exchange).

From Lewis P. Scherrer, Morristown, New Jersey: one specimen of Brewster's Warbler (Helminthophila leucobronchialis), from New Jersey. (acc. 28374. Gift).

From Adolphe B. Corbet, Ann Arbor, Michigan: one Wheat-ear (Saxicola oenanthæ), from Michigan, and one King-Rail, (acc. 28657. Gift).

From Chas. K. Morthen, Warsaw, Illinois: eighteen specimens, from Lower California. (acc. 29017. Exchange).

From Col. John H. Starin, New York City: twelve specimens of American Flamingo (Phaenicopterus ruber), from Bahamas. (acc. 28587. Exchange).

From P. H. Sørensen, Egedesminde, Greenland: twenty specimens, from Greenland. (acc. 28432. Gift).

From Dr. W. L. Ralph, Utica, New York: twenty specimens, from Texas, Arizona, Florida, Colorado, etc. (acc. 28660. Gift).

From Rollo H. Beck, Berryessa, California: ^{twenty-six}~~nineteen~~ specimens, from California. (acc. 28375. Gift).

From W. Schlüter, Halle, Germany: six specimens, from New Guinea, and South America. (acc. 29023. Purchase).

From Edw. Gerrard, Camden Town, London, England: four specimens, from Borneo and Colombia. (acc. 28762. Purchase).

From B. J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon: twenty-two specimens, from Washington, Oregon, and Alaska. (acc. 28578, 28712. Gift).

3. WHAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN CARING FOR THE COLLECTIONS
UNDER YOUR CUSTODY, i.e., IN THEIR PRESERVATION AND
INSTALLATION?

1) The collections have been thoroughly inspected, at proper intervals, and fumigated with bisulphide of carbon to destroy any insects which might be present. No insects have been found, however, and, except in the exhibition cases, few of which are sufficiently tight to prevent the ingress of insects or to allow of effective fumigation, ~~there~~ and in the old Salvin cases in the west basement, there is little danger to be apprehended in this direction.

Some changes have been made in the mounted collection, as follows: a limited number of badly mounted specimens have been re-mounted; other specimens, too dilapidated for exhibition, have been replaced by better ones. The taxidermist has been engaged for several months past in renovating the entire mounted collection, subjecting each specimen to a process of cleaning which, it is hoped, will result in a material improvement in this part of the bird collection.

A volunteer assistant, Mr. E. E. Armstrong, spent over two months at work in the Department of Birds; in this time lining with sheet cotton the trays, ^(about 850 in number) contained in the fifty-four quarter unit cases in the bird gallery, ^{resulting in a great improvement to this part of the} ~~besides rendering miscellaneous assistance.~~ study collection. "

4. INDICATE BRIEFLY THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE EXHIBITION SERIES AND THE STUDY SERIES, IN YOUR DEPARTMENT.

11 The condition of the exhibition series is very good, and, as stated elsewhere, improvements and renovations are being made as time permits.

The condition of the study series is excellent, as far as that portion of the collection accommodated in the bird gallery is concerned. The large birds, stored in the west basement, are in course of rearrangement (and have been for several years), this having been proceeded with until the cases of the new model provided for the purpose, became exhausted. The work has since been continued only sporadically, to accommodate temporarily the increase in the collections. The result is a very ^{systematic} ~~unsatisfactory~~ and extremely inconvenient arrangement, and the collections as now stored in the west basement are, in the case of some groups of birds, practically inaccessible. Those specimens still stored in the old Salvin cases are constantly threatened by insects and dust, and the consultation of these specimens, when at all possible, can only be accomplished at the expense of a great amount of physical labor and loss of valuable time. //

5. WHAT SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS HAVE YOU COMMENCED, CONTINUED,
OR COMPLETED, UPON THE MATERIAL UNDER YOUR CARE,
DURING THE YEAR.

|| The elaborate treatise on the Galapagoan avifauna was completed at the end of the year, and the paper submitted for publication. This consists of some 650 pages of manuscript, accompanied by outline maps illustrating the range of ^{all} the species known to inhabit the archipelago, and two plates of outline figures illustrating generic and specific characters. The text includes observations on the origin of the Galapagoan avifauna and other matters. On the whole, this is the most carefully prepared, in some respects the most important, work that the author has written.

The avifauna of the island satellites of Madagascar, from the Comore group to the Mascarenes has been somewhat similarly worked up, though in less detail. The paper embodying the results of this work is based primarily on Dr. Abbott's collections from Aldabra, Assumption, Gloriosa, Seyshelles, etc., and is not quite finished.

The comprehensive work on the birds of North and Middle America has made some progress, but not a satisfactory one considering the magnitude and importance of the task, notwithstanding the writer has given all the time possible to it, even devoting at times as much as ten to nearly twelve hours labor per day upon it, and working frequently several hours at night at his house. The families thus far covered are the Grebes (Colymbidae), Loons (Urinatoridae), Auks (Alcidae), Gulls and

terns (Laridae), Skuas (Stercorariidae), Skimmers (Rhyncoptidae),
 Albatrosses (Diomedidae), and Petrels (Procellariidae) — in all about
 136 of the 2900 species to be covered.

Mr. Richmond, the assistant Curator, has been engaged at odd times in
 the determination of a large collection of birds from Kashmir, Ladak, Eastern
 Turkestan, and the Pamir, in central Asia, sent in by Dr. Abbott. This
 work, which is now nearly completed, has in large part been prosecuted
 after office hours. //

6. WHAT EXPLORATIONS (1) BY THE MUSEUM AND (2) UNDER OTHER AUSPICES, HAVE RESULTED IN ENRICHING THE COLLECTIONS UNDER YOUR CARE?

1. Mr. F. X. Holzner, in connection with the International Boundary Survey, working under the direction of Dr. Edgar A. Mearns, U.S.A., made collections along the United States and Mexican boundary.

Mr. R. Ridgway made collections at Point Lookout, Maryland, and on the Kissimmee River, Florida.

Mr. William Palmer made collections on the Kissimmee River, Florida.

2. Dr. W. L. Abbott has sent collections from Kashmir, Ladak, and Turkestan.

Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A. has sent collections from Fort Clark, and Fort Hancock, Texas.

Mr. F. B. Armstrong has sent collections from eastern Mexico.

Mr. L. M. Turner has sent collections from Washington.

Mr. Chas. W. Richmond has sent collections from Smith's Island, Virginia.

Mr. A. J. Norris has sent a small collection from the Peruvian Andes.

The United States Fish Commission has sent collections from Alaska, made by Mr. Chas. H. Townsend.

The La Plata Museum has sent collections from Argentina
and Patagonia.

Mr. P. H. Sørensen has sent^d a small collection from Greenland.

7. WHAT MATERIAL FROM YOUR DEPARTMENT HAS BEEN TRANSMITTED TO STUDENTS AND INVESTIGATORS OUTSIDE OF THE MUSEUM DURING THE YEAR, AND IN CONNECTION WITH WHAT SPECIAL INVESTIGATION WAS THE MATERIAL NEEDED? IT SHOULD BE STATED IN EACH CASE WHETHER OR NOT THE MATERIAL HAS BEEN RETURNED TO THE MUSEUM.

To Witmer Stone, Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, Philadelphia Pa.; seven specimens of Palm Warblers, to aid in the identification of specimens belonging to him. (Returned).

To William Brewster, Cambridge, Mass.; five specimens of Atlapetes pileatus, from Mexico, to facilitate the determination of other specimens belonging to him. (Not yet returned).

To Witmer Stone, Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, Philadelphia, Pa.; seven specimens of shore birds, for illustration in a forthcoming work by Mr. D. G. Elliot. (Returned).

To Robert Salvin, London, England; five specimens of Procellariidae, in connection with the preparation of the British Museum Catalogue of that family. (Not yet returned).

To A. W. Anthony, San Diego, California; one specimen of Harporhynchus cinereus, for comparison with a new species discovered by him. (Returned).

To R. Ridgway, Brookland, D.C.; two hundred and fifty specimens of Yuncos and Tanagers, in connection with his projected work on the birds of North and Central America. (Returned).

To William Brewster, Cambridge, Mass.; two specimens of Chickadees, (Parus atricapillus occidentalis) for comparison. (Not yet returned).

8. GIVE THE NAMES OF ANY PERSONS WHO HAVE PROSECUTED INVESTIGATIONS IN YOUR DEPARTMENT DURING THE YEAR, AND STATE THE SPECIAL AIM OF THEIR STUDIES.

Mr. W. Brewster, of Cambridge, Mass., brought to Washington a considerable number of specimens of North American and Mexican birds, whose correct determination was possible only by comparison with National Museum types and other specimens.

The Committee of Classification and Nomenclature of the American Ornithologists' Union held its sessions in the office of the Curator of the Department of Birds, and made daily use of the study series, thereby deciding numerous questions of importance in connection with the Union's Check-List of North American Birds.

Mr. Chas. B. Cory, Boston, Mass., consulted the collections with the object of identifying a species of Elainea from San Domingo.

Dr. A. K. Fisher, Dept. of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., examined specimens on various occasions, to determine a species of Aphelocoma from Texas, a species of Basilinna from Arizona, a Callipepla; to work out the geographical distribution of species of Empidonax, and of Sialia, etc., etc., mainly in connection with work in the Department of Agriculture.

Major Chas. E. Bendire, Honorary Curator of the Department of Oölogy, and Mr. Wm. Palmer, taxidermist of the Museum, have frequently consulted the collections for the identification of specimens, the former also to ascertain the geographical range of species included in the second volume of his "Life Histories of North American Birds".

Mr. Henry C. Oberholser, Dept. of Agriculture, has almost daily

consulted the study series in connection with special investigations which he is conducting, and to gain a more detailed knowledge of the North American species and sub-species of birds. His use of the collection has been made after 4 p.m., under special permit from the Assistant Secretary.

Mr. R. P. Currie has in a similar manner made frequent use of the study series.


Mr. E. E. Armstrong, of Washington, volunteered to do clerical and other work in the Department of Birds for the sake of studying the collection, and for over two months rendered efficient and faithful service, at the same time adding very materially to his knowledge of ornithology.

The Countess di Brazzi, recently returned from explorations in Mexico, identified by means of the collection certain birds which she there met with, and was furnished with specimens from which she made illustrations for her forthcoming book.

Mr. Edward J. Brown, Washington, D.C., has had occasion, at times, to consult the collections.

9. GIVE A LIST OF CORRESPONDENTS WHOSE CO-OPERATION HAS RESULTED IN ENRICHING THE COLLECTIONS UNDER YOUR CARE, AND STATE BRIEFLY THE MANNER AND EXTENT OF SUCH CO-OPERATION DURING THE YEAR.

Name and address of correspondent,	No. of Specimens	Conditions of accession.
Dr. W. L. Abbott, % U.S. Consul, Port Louis, Mauritius.	288	Gift.
Frank B. Armstrong, Brownsville, Texas,	53	Purchase.
H. P. Attwater, Rockport, Texas,	6	Gift.
Rollo H. Beck, Berryessa, California,	26	Gift.
A. Boucard, Oak Hill, Spring Vale, Island of Wight, England.	16 66	Gift.
Geo. F. Breninger, Santa Cruz, California,	30	Purchase.
B. J. Bretherton, Newport, Oregon,	22	Gift.
Adolphe B. Covert, Ann Arbor, Michigan,	2	Gift.
Edw. Gerrard, Camden Town, London, England.	14	Purchase.
Dr. Juan Gundlach, Havana, Cuba,	4	Gift.
La Plata Museum, Buenos Aires, Argentina,	41	Exchange.
R. S. Matthews, U.S. National Museum,	159	Gift.
Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A., Fort Myer, Va.	310	Gift.
Dr. E. A. Mearns, U.S.A. Fort Myer, Va; and F. X. Holzner.	1290	Collected for the Museum.
A. J. Norris, Marshall, Va.,	25	Purchase.
William Palmer, U.S. National Museum,	36	Collected for Museum.
William Palmer, U.S. National Museum,	8	Gift.
Dr. W. L. Ralph, Utica, New York,	20	Gift.
Chas. W. Richmond, U.S. National Museum,	115	Gift.
R. Ridgway, U.S. National Museum,	152	Gift.
Lewis P. Scherer, Morristown, New Jersey,	1	Gift.
W. Schlüter, Halle, Germany,	6	Purchase.
P. H. Sørensen, Egedesminde, Greenland,	20	Gift.
Col. John H. Starin, New York City,	12	Exchange.
A. H. Thayer, Scarborough, New York.	1	Exchange.
U.S. Fish Commission, Washington, D.C.	21	Gift.



Ward's Natural Science Establishment, Rochester, N.Y.	32	Purchase.
Walter F. Webb, Albion, New York,	204	Purchase.
Chas K. Worthen, Warsaw, Illinois.	18	Exchange.
L. M. Turner, Seattle, Washington,	62	Exchange for publications.

Ridg.

10. GIVE A LIST OF PAPERS PUBLISHED DURING THE YEAR BY YOURSELF AND YOUR OFFICIAL ASSOCIATES AND COLLABORATORS, SO FAR AS THE SAME ARE BASED UPON MUSEUM MATERIAL. EACH NOTICE FOR THE BIBLIOGRAPHY SHOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY A FULL AND COMPLETE CITATION (e.g., PROC. U.S. NAT. MUS., XV, NO. 398, AUG. 4, 1892, pp. 179-219, PLS. XIX-XXI, FIGS. 8-10), AND ALSO BY A BRIEF ABSTRACT OF THE PAPER. IF ANY PAPER IS BASED PARTLY BUT NOT ENTIRELY UPON MUSEUM MATERIAL, THAT FACT SHOULD BE INDICATED.

Museum OK
Descriptions of twenty-two new species of birds from the Galapagos Islands, By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus. XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, pp. 357-370. The following species are here described as new: Nesomimus bauri, N. bindloei, N. adamsi, Certhidea salvini, C. bifasciata, C. mentalis, C. albemarlei, C. lutesola, Geospiza barringtoni, G. propinqua, G. bauri, G. albemarlei, G. fratercula, G. debilirrostris, G. acutirostris, Camarhynchus rostratus, C. productus, C. salvini, C. affinis, Pyrocephalus carolensis, P. intercedens, P. abingdoni; the name Geospiza intermedia is tentatively proposed for a species from Charles Island, supposed to be separable from G. assimilis (Gould). Some critical remarks are offered on Geospiza assimilis (Gould), and Pyrocephalus dubius Gould.

Ridg.

Mus.

Descriptions of some new birds from Aldabra, Assumption, and
Gloriosa Islands, collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott. By Robert Ridgway, Proc.

U.S. Nat. Mus., ^{or} XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, pp. 371-373. The following species
are described as new: Zosterops aldabrensis, Z. madagascariensis gloriosae,
Cinnyris aldabrensis, C. abbotti, Centropus insularis, and Caprimulgus
aldabrensis.

Mus.

Notes on a Japanese species of Reed Warbler, By Leonhard Stejneger,
Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., ^{or} XVIII, no. 997, July 21, 1894, pp. 205-206. Attention is
called to the fact that a Reed Warbler recently named Locustella
hondoensis by the author had been previously described as Locustella
pleckei by Taczanowski, whose name has precedence over the former.
A synonymy of the species is added.

Mus.

Diagnosis of a new genus of Trogons (Heterotrogon), based on
Hapaloderma vittatum of Shelley; with a description of the female of that
species, by Charles W. Richmond. Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., ^{or} XVII, no. 1024, May 11,
1895, pp. 601-603. A new generic name (Heterotrogon) is proposed for
the species heretofore called Hapaloderma vittatum, and the female, previous-
ly unknown, is here described.

The American Barn Owl Breeding at Washington, D.C., in Winter, By
Chas. E. Bendire, The Auk, XII, no. 2, April, 1895, pp. 180-181. Mentions the occur-
rence of two young birds in the Smithsonian grounds in December and
February of 1894 and 1895, respectively.

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Geographical, Versus sexual, Variation in Oreortyx pictus, By Robert Ridgway, The Auk, XI, no. 3, July, 1894, pp. 193-197; pl. VI. The differences between Oreortyx pictus and O. pictus plumiferus are explained, and attention is directed to some erroneous statements concerning American game birds, made in the British Museum Catalogue ~~of Birds~~ ^{relating to those birds}.

Colinus virginianus cubanensis not a Florida bird, By Robert Ridgway. The Auk, XI, no. 4, Oct. 1894, p. 324. Explains the error through which this bird was recorded as a North American species.

Baird's Sand piper near Washington, D.C. By R.S. Matthews. The Auk, XI, no. 4, Oct. 1894, p. 325. Records the occurrence of a specimen of this species (now in the Museum collection) on the Potomac river, near Washington, Sept. 3, 1894.

An Asiatic Cuckoo on the Pribyloff Islands, Alaska. By William Palmer. The Auk, XI, no. 4, Oct. 1894, p. 325. Mentions the capture by himself, of a specimen of Cuculus canorus telephonus (Heine), on St. Paul Island, ^{Alaska}.

On the Status of Bischoff's Song Sparrow (Melospiza insignis Baird). By Charles W. Richmond. The Auk, XII, no. 2, April, 1895, pp. 144-150. An attempt to show that this species should be recognized as distinct from Melospiza cinerea. A description of the bird is given, together with series of measurements of both species. Descriptions of the eggs of both species are given, and also a full synonymy of both species.

A Contribution to the life history of Porzana cinereiceps Lawrence, with critical notes on some of its allies. By Charles W. Richmond. 'The Auk', XII, no. 1, Jan. 1895, pp. 19-32. An account of the habits of Porzana cinereiceps, with descriptions of the eggs, downy young, immature, and adult, followed by observations on the status of some allied species, and synonymy of P. albigularis and P. cinereiceps.

Notes on certain Flycatchers of the genus Empidonax, By William Brewster. 'The Auk', no. 2, April, 1895, pp. 157-163. Empidonax virescens (Vieillot) is shown to be the proper name for the bird long known as E. acadicus (Gmelin), and two other species are affected in that the name Empidonax traillii is restricted to the ^{one} ~~species~~ heretofore known as E. pusillus (Tyrannula pusilla of Swainson being considered indeterminable), and Empidonax ^{traillii} ~~pusillus~~ alnorum is proposed as a new name for the eastern form, hitherto known as E. pusillus traillii. [Based partly upon Museum material].

The Capture of Basilinna leucotis in Southern Arizona, By A. K. Fisher. 'The Auk', XI, no. 4, October, 1894, pp. 325-326. Records the capture, by himself, of a specimen of this species in the Chiricahua Mountains, Arizona, June 9, 1894. [Based partly upon Museum material].

Occurrence of aphelocoma cyanotis in Western Texas, By A. K. Fisher. 'The Auk', XI, no. 4, October, 1894, p. 327. Records three specimens in the Dept. of Agriculture collection, taken at Paisano, Texas, in July, 1890. This is the first of the occurrence of aphelocoma cyanotis in the United States. United States record for the species. [Based partly upon Museum material].

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Four additions to the Birds of the Virginias, By William Palmer, 'The Auk', XI, no. 4, October, 1894, pp. 333-334. Records four species, Acanthis linaria, Ammodramus caudacutus melsoni, Dendroica palmarum, and Helminthophila bachmani, new to the avifauna of the Virginias, and describes an immature specimen of the last named species, taken in King William County, Virginia. [Based largely upon Museum material].

Plumages of the Young Hooded Warbler, By William Palmer, 'The Auk', XI, no. 4, October, 1894, pp. 282, 291, with four text figures. Describes the changes of plumage in ^{both sexes of} the young of ~~both sexes of~~ the Hooded Warbler, and corrects some erroneous statements on these points in the literature of the species. [Based largely upon Museum material].

Birds of South-Central Montana. By Chas. W. Richmond and ^{Frank} H. Hall Knowlton, 'The Auk', XI, no. 4, October, 1894, pp. 298-308. An annotated list of 112 species observed during two seasons, mainly in Gallatin County, Montana. [Based ~~partly~~ ^{largely} upon Museum material].

Bird Notes from Virginia, By Edward J. Brown, 'The Auk', XI, no. 3, July, 1894, p. 259. Mentions several species met with at Smith's Island, among them Tringa fuscicollis, not before recorded from the state. [Based partly upon Museum material].

The Willow Thrush (Turdus fuscescens salicicolus) a migrant in northeastern Illinois, By Benj. J. Gault, 'The Auk', XII, no. 1, January, 1895, p. 85. Two specimens of this Thrush are recorded obtained in the spring of 1894 from Glen Ellyn, Illinois. [Based partly upon Museum material].

Ridg.

A New subspecies of Harporhynchus from Lower California. By A.W. Anthony, 'The Auk', XII, no. 1, January, 1895, pp. 52-53. Harporhynchus cinereus mearnsi is described, from San Quintin, Lower California, and some notes on its habits are added. [Based partly upon Museum material].

The Fulmars of Southern California. By A.W. Anthony, 'The Auk', XII, no. 2, April, 1895, pp. 100-109. An account of the habits of the Fulmars of the Southern California coast, to which is added a description of a new subspecies, Fulmarus glacialis columba, from the vicinity of San Diego, California. [Based partly upon Museum material].

Notes on the genus Heleodytes, with a description of a new subspecies. By A.W. Anthony, 'The Auk', XI, no. 3, July, 1894, pp. 210-214. Describes a new subspecies, Heleodytes brunneicapillus bryanti, and makes observations on a series of Cactus Wrens from the southwestern part of the United States and Lower California. The ^{St. Lucas} Cactus Wren (Heleodytes affinis), is shown to be a subspecies of the common form. [Based partly upon Museum material].

Oceanodroma townsendi off San Diego, California. By A.W. Anthony, 'The Auk', XI, no. 4, October, 1894, pp. 321-322. Records the regular (though rare) occurrence of Oceanodroma townsendi on the coast of California. [Based partly upon Museum material].

Ridg.

A new species of *Thryothorus* from the Pacific Coast. By A.W. Anthony.
The Auk, XII, no. 1, January, 1895, pp. 51-52. Describes a new Wren (*Thryothorus leucophrys*), closely related to *Thryothorus bewickii spilurus*, from San Clemente Island, California. [Based partly upon Museum material.]

The Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey with Introductory Chapters on Geographical Distribution and Migration Prepared under the direction of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club / By Witmer Stone / Conservator Ornithological Section Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia / Philadelphia / Delaware Valley Ornithological Club / 1894. - 8vo., pp. VII, 185, frontispiece and two maps. An annotated list of 349 species of birds ascertained to occur within the limits of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey, preceded by chapters devoted to 'Geographical Distribution of Birds' and 'Bird Migration'. A full bibliography is added. [Based in part upon Museum material.]

A Flying Trip to the Tropics / A Record of an Ornithological Visit to the United States of Colombia, South America and to the Island of Curacao / West Indies / in the year 1892 / By Wirt Robinson / Second Lieutenant, Fourth U. S. Artillery / Cambridge / Printed at the Riverside Press / 1895 / ^P 8vo. pp. I-X, 1-194, ^{with} 108 illustrations. An account, in the form of a Journal, of a trip to Colombia, and to the Island of Curacao, lasting 54 days. Much attention was directed to Natural History, especially to birds. An annotated list of 91 species of birds observed in Colombia, and an additional list of 38

Qidg.

Species of Hummingbirds from Bogota are given; also a list, with notes, of 23 species observed on the Island of Curacao. Full bibliographies of works relating to Colombia and to Curacao are appended, and lists of maps and Zoological papers and works. Many illustrations are given in the text, and the following birds are illustrated by colored plates: Ramphastos citreolæmus, Psittacula perspicillata, Euphonia hortyx leucotis, and Icterus xanthornus curasoensis. [Based partly upon Museum material.]

Ridg.

11. GIVE A LIST OF THE NEW GENERA AND SUBGENERA, SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES DESCRIBED IN THE PAPERS REFERRED TO IN YOUR BIBLIOGRAPHY (e.g., PLAGIOGRAMMUS HOPKINSII. T.H.BEAN. MONTEREY, CAL., PROC. U.S.NAT.MUS., XVI, NO. 967, FEB. 10, 1893, p. 699, FIG. 15). IF THE TYPE SPECIMEN IS NOT IN THE NATIONAL MUSEUM, THAT FACT SHOULD BE INDICATED BY THE USE OF AN ASTERISK.

New Genus.

Heterotrogon, C.W. Richmond. [Type: Heterotrogon vittatus (Shelley).] Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1024, May 11, 1895, p. 602.

New Species.

- * Nesomimus bauri, R. Ridgway, Tower Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 357.
- * Nesomimus bindloei, R. Ridgway, Bindloe Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 358.
- * Nesomimus adamsi, R. Ridgway, Chatham Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 358.
- * Certhidea salvini, R. Ridgway, Indefatigable Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 358.
- * Certhidea bifasciata, R. Ridgway, Barrington Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 359.
- * Certhidea mentalis, R. Ridgway, Tower Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 359.
- * Certhidea albemarlei, R. Ridgway, Albemarle Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 360.

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* Certhidea luteola, R. Ridgway, Chatham Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 360.

* Geospiza barringtoni, R. Ridgway, Barrington Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 361.

Geospiza intermedia, R. Ridgway, Charles Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 361.

* Geospiza propinqua, R. Ridgway, Fower Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 362.

* Geospiza bauri, R. Ridgway, James Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 362.

Geospiza albemarlei, R. Ridgway, Albemarle Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 362.

Geospiza fratercula, R. Ridgway, Abingdon Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 363.

Geospiza debilirostris, R. Ridgway, James Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 363.

* Geospiza acutirostris, R. Ridgway, Fower Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 363.

Camarhynchus rostratus, R. Ridgway, James Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 363.

* Camarhynchus productus, R. Ridgway, Albemarle Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 364.

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Camarhynchus salvini, R. Ridgway, Chatham Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 364.

* Camarhynchus affinis, R. Ridgway, Albemarle Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 365.

Pyrocephalus carolensis, R. Ridgway, Charles Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 365.

* Pyrocephalus intercedens, R. Ridgway, Indefatigable Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 366.

Pyrocephalus abingdoni, R. Ridgway, Abingdon Island, Galapagos, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1007, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 367.

Zosterops aldabrensis, R. Ridgway, Aldabra Island, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 371.

Zosterops madagascariensis gloriosae, R. Ridgway, Gloriosa Island, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 372.

Cinnyris aldabrensis, R. Ridgway, Aldabra Island, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 372.

Cinnyris abbotti, R. Ridgway, Assumption Island, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 372.

~~Cinnyris~~ Centropus insularis, R. Ridgway, Aldabra Island, Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 373.

Caprimulgus aldabrensis, R. Ridgway, Aldabra Island, ~~Proc.~~ Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus., XVII, no. 1008, Nov. 15, 1894, p. 373.

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- * Harporhynchus cinereus mearnsi, A.W. Anthony, San Quintin, Lower California, The Auk, XII, no. 1, January, 1895, p. 53.
- * Fulmarus glacialis columba, A.W. Anthony, Off San Diego, California. The Auk, XII, no. 2, April, 1895, pp. 105-106. (Author's edition of this paper issued March 16, 1895.)
- * Empidonax traillii alnorum, William Brewster, Upton, Maine, The Auk, XII, no. 2, April, 1895, p. 161.
- * Thryothorus leucophrys, A.W. Anthony, San Clemente Island, California. The Auk, XII, no. 1, January, 1895, p. 52.
- * Heleodytes brunneicapillus bryanti, A.W. Anthony, San Felipe, Lower California, The Auk, XI, no. 3, July, 1894, p. 212.

12. PLEASE PRESENT ANY PLANS WHICH YOU MAY HAVE IN VIEW FOR
THE DEVELOPMENT OF YOUR DEPARTMENT.

The most urgent needs of the Department of Birds are (1) a suitable office for the Curator, where it will be possible for him to do work requiring freedom from noise and frequent interruption, and (2) additional storage room for specimens. These two items are absolute necessities, for without them the work of the Department cannot, by any possibility, be kept up to date. Under existing circumstances the Curator and his assistant have been for more than a year obliged to work hours over time almost daily, and the former has been compelled to do most of the literary work required of him at home, at night, to the considerable detriment of his health and eyesight.

Compared with these two urgent needs of the Department all other wants, however serious they may be, are trivial, with one exception: the assistant curator, although rated as such and performing assiduously, intelligently, and effectively the duties of such position, receives a salary of only seventy-five dollars per month, which, considering his ability and faithfulness I consider inadequate, and would therefore recommend that his salary be, if possible, increased to \$100.00 per month.

I would take this occasion to say that I regard unskilled volunteer assistance in the Department of Birds decidedly a failure, since in every instance such an assistant has soon grown tired of the work after having been given some task, however light. Every volunteer assistant has been given all the facilities for study that the Department can afford, and none have been required to work continuously, or in fact, any longer than he chose; yet the ultimate result has been in every instance the same.

The contemplated improvements mentioned in my last annual report have the same importance now as then; little has been done to advance any of the lines of improvement there suggested, on account of lack of the necessary assistance and time.

13. (1) GIVE THE NUMBER OF SPECIMENS RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR.
(2) GIVE THE NUMBER OF THE LAST ENTRIES IN YOUR CATALOGUE
ON JUNE 30, 1894, AND JUNE 30, 1895.

(1) Number of specimens received, and entered in Museum register, was:

5487.

Jan. 4-96
Mr. Richmond says this
slid. be 5499 the cor-
respond with cat. nos.
J.

(2) On June 30, 1894: 133 218.

The following entries have been made during the year:

// In the regular catalogues: 133 219 — 135 700; 149 801 — 150 721.

In Department of Agriculture catalogue: 135 701 — 136 130.

In Boucard collection catalogue: 145 101 — 146 766. //

Presumably 5499 entries in all.
If each spec. was entered but once, it
would seem as though this no. had
apex with the one above, viz. 5487.

!