

## Bird Club Notes

THE Heermann portrait is from a photograph of a daguerreotype, and represents the naturalist fitted out as he was on some of his western expeditions. That it was not taken immediately upon his return is shown by the false beard which has been added to heighten the effect. The photograph was kindly loaned by Mr. Lee Siner, the present proprietor of Krider's Gun Store, and belonged to his father, John Siner, the associate and immediate successor of Krider, and like him, a close friend of Heermann.

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The Club held sixteen meetings during the year, with an average attendance of twenty-four; fifty-one members attended one or more meetings during the year.

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Mr. August Koch, of Williamsport, Pa., for many years a Corresponding Member of the Club, died suddenly on February 15, 1907, at Mohawk, Fla., where he was spending the winter.

He was born at Stuttgart, Germany, in 1837, and came to this country in 1850. He was interested in natural history from boyhood, and learned the rudiments of taxidermy from the curator of the Stuttgart Museum. He later developed great skill in this pursuit, which he practiced as a pastime during an active business career. The collection of mounted birds and mammals which he prepared is one of the finest in the state.

Mr. Koch was a thorough sportsman, both in his love of hunting and in his moderation in killing game. He was a thoroughly reliable ornithologist and our best authority on the birds of central Pennsylvania. As a friend he was kind and generous, and always ready to aid those with kindred interests who applied to him for information or assistance. Mr. Koch was an Associate of the A. O. U., and attended the first Philadelphia meeting in 1899.

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The A. O. U. held its twenty-fifth stated meeting at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, December 9-12,

1907. Every effort was made by the local committee to ensure a meeting worthy of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the foundation of the Union, and as a result there was a larger attendance than ever before—21 Fellows, 16 Members and 54 Associates—a total of 91.

The dinner was held at Boothby's Café on the evening of December 10, and the next evening there was a smoker at the Academy. On Thursday afternoon, December 12, the visiting members were taken to Bartram's Garden, and on the 13th a party was conducted to Audubon's house at Mill Grove.

Most of the local D. V. O. C. members attended the sessions, and Messrs. Burns, Miller, Sharples, Surface and Todd, of our correspondents, were present. Messrs. Kester, R. F. Miller, Scoville, Street, Rawle, Dr. Tucker and Dr. Weygandt, and Otto and Hermann Behr, of the correspondents, joined the Union at this meeting.

Dr. Spencer Trotter presented a paper "The Ornithological Background," C. J. Pennock one on "Some Additions to the Birds of Delaware," Witmer Stone two on "Some Ornithological Doings of the Years 1850-55," and "The Value of Color-Patterns as a Generic Character in Ornithology."

W. E. Clyde Todd presented a paper "Notes on Woodpeckers and their Plumage."

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At a meeting held at the Academy of Natural Sciences, April 4, 1907, the Pennsylvania Audubon Society was reorganized under the original charter granted the Society in 1886. The officers for the year 1907 are: President, Witmer Stone; Vice-President, Nathaniel E. Janney; Secretary, Miss E. W. Fisher; Treasurer, Wm. L. Baily. The Society's office is now at 524 Walnut St., Room 22.

On May 2d Mr. William Dutcher addressed the Society on "Recent Progress in Bird Protection."

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The Club lost two officers during the year, Vice-President Samuel C. Palmer having removed his residence to Cambridge, Mass., while our versatile Secretary, Herbert L. Coggins, has gone to Sacramento, California, for an indefinite stay.