

Abstract of the Proceedings of the D. V. O. C.,
1912

January 4, 1912. Twenty-second Annual Meeting. Twenty-seven members present. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year:

President. Samuel N. Rhoads.

Vice-President. Stewardson Brown.

Secretary. J. Fletcher Street.

Treasurer. Samuel C. Palmer.

The following standing committees were appointed to serve during 1912:

On Publication. Cope, Moore and Morris.

On Migration. Carter, Roberts and Stone.

On Field Work. Baily, Pennock and Street.

Mr. Stone made a report on "Bird Migration of 1911." Mr. Morris read a biography of the Catbird.

The meeting adjourned to the annual collation.

January 18, 1912. Twenty-four members and two visitors present. Mr. William L. Baily addressed the Club upon "A Trip to the Magdalen Islands", illustrated with lantern slides. The bird life of Bird and Little Bird Rock was described, with reference to the life and habits of the Gannets, Murres, Kittiwakes, Puffins, Petrels and Razor-billed Auks inhabiting these islands. Mr. Moore supplemented Mr. Baily's remarks with a description of the flight of the Gannet.

February 1, 1912. Twenty-six members present. Mr. Stone made a communication entitled "Another Word on the Formicariidae." Mr. Stone illustrated how these groups, although belonging strictly to South America, bear superficial resemblance to our song birds.

February 15, 1912. Twenty-three members present. Mr. Mr. Samuel Rhoads was appointed a delegate to the Academy Centennial Celebration to be held March 19th to 21st inclusive. Mr. Rhoads spoke on "A Trip to Ecuador with Special Reference to the Tierra Templada." The talk was illustrated with lantern slides depicting the character of country traversed and illustrative of many interesting associations. In the neighborhood of Mt. Pichincha sixteen species of humming birds were observed.

March 7, 1912. Three visitors and twenty members present. Mr. Moore gave an interesting account of the "Birds of the Magdalen Islands." The talk was illustrated by lantern slides. Photographs depicting the nesting habits of several species of birds were shown. A report on the field trip to Haddonfield was made. This revealed that nine enthusiasts braved the wintry blasts and were amply rewarded with a good list of birds and most enjoyable refreshments provided by their host, Mr. Moore.

March 21, 1912. On account of the Academy Centennial celebration, extending from March 19th to 21st, the D. V. O. C. meeting was omitted.

April 4, 1912. Twenty members present. Mr. Emlen discoursed upon the "Distribution of Some Breeding Birds in the Delaware Valley." Mr. Emlen's compilation of data on the breeding of our common birds within the limit of the map published in Stone's "Birds of Pennsylvania and New Jersey" comprises some exceedingly valuable records. Mr. Stone in commenting upon the Centennial Celebration of the Academy, gave a brief and interesting account of the growth and development of the Academy with particular reference to its ornithological collections.

April 18, 1912. Fourteen members present. Mr. Potter spoke upon the subject, "Some Local Bird Notes." Mr. Potter related some interesting and unusual experiences with birds, and gave extensive notes upon the mortality among nesting birds.

A list of species nesting within the limits of Camden city was reported.

May 2, 1912. One visitor and twenty-one members present. Dr. Trotter addressed the Club upon "The Classification of Birds." The speaker emphasized the divergence of opinion among writers as to the exact classification of birds, pointing out, however, their agreement as to the reptilian origin of birds.

May 16, 1912. Twenty-three members present. Messrs. Charles Platt 3d, Dr. William Pepper and Frank B. Foster were proposed for associate membership. Mr. Pennock and Mr. Fowler addressed the Club upon "Some Birds of the Coast of Delaware and Virginia." Mr. Pennock spoke of the general northern movement of shore birds as observed at Rehoboth, Del. The observance of Blue-gray Gnatcatchers was mentioned. Mr. Fowler spoke of observances made among the shore birds of the Chincoteague Islands, Virginia.

October 3, 1912. Thirty members present. Mr. Rhoads spoke upon the subject, "Exhibition of Audubon's Favorite Fowling Piece, with Some Facts and Fancies as to its Identity." Mr. Rhoads exhibited the gun in question, which was in excellent condition. Upon its barrel was engraved "John James Audubon, Citizen of the United States, F. L. S. L." The gun bore the maker's name, Conway of Manchester, a prominent manufacturer of firearms during Audubon's time. Mr. Rhoads read a great deal from correspondence with Edward Harris, Jr., Brewster and others relative to its identity. Mr. Rhoads also exhibited the gun used by Edward Harris upon the Fort Union Expedition in 1843. Mr. Stone made mention of the Club's collection of birds, stating that of the one hundred and fifty-five species known to breed in Pennsylvania, there are now on exhibition one hundred and thirty with nests and eggs.

October 17, 1912. Nineteen members present. The name of Mr. Shippen Lewis was proposed for associate membership. Mr. Stone spoke upon the subject, "A Year of the Auk", reviewing the growth of the *Auk* and commenting upon the

excellent work of its former editor. A discussion on the status of the Grackle was indulged in by members.

November 7, 1912. One visitor and fifteen members present. Messrs. Charles Platt 3rd, Frank B. Foster, Shippen Lewis and Dr. William Pepper were elected associate members. Mr. Poole spoke on "The Summer Birds of McKenzie Pond, Adirondacks." A detailed account of the species observed was given. The occurrence of the Evening Grosbeak was noted.

November 21, 1912. Twenty-three members present. Mr. Palmer addressed the members upon "The Embryology of a Bird." The talk was illustrated by slides showing the development of the embryo through its various stages of growth. Mr. Stone described in general the proceedings of the annual meeting of the American Ornithologist Union.

December 3, 1912. Twenty members present. Upon the subject, "General Discussion of the Roosting Habits of the Purple Grackle", Mr. Stone gave a detailed description of the Grackle Roost at Kirkbride's, West Philadelphia. Mr. Potter followed with an account of a newly discovered roost at North Woodbury, which was abandoned and re-established at South Westville. Mr. Emlen mentioned his observations among the Grackles of the Awbury roost. Dr. Trotter mentioned the absence of Grackles this year from the Media roost.

December 19, 1912. One visitor and eighteen members present. Mr. Pearson spoke upon the subject "Birds and Chestnut Blight." The speaker's remarks related to species observed during the past summer in Huntington Co., Pa. The Wild Turkey was observed. Mr. Stone read a paper by Wells W. Cooke, entitled "Bird Migration in Pennsylvania One Hundred Years Ago."