

NOTES AND NEWS.

HENRY BAKER TRISTRAM, Canon of Durham, a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at his home in Durham, England, March 8, 1906, at the age of 83 years and 10 months. He was born at Eglington, near Alnwick, May 11, 1822, and was graduated from Lincoln College, Oxford, in 1844, and became Canon of Durham in 1873. He was ordained a deacon in 1845, and a priest in 1846; owing to ill health, "he was ordered abroad, and passed two years (1847-1849) as naval and military chaplain in Bermuda."

In 1855-1857 he spent two winters in Algeria, and in 1858 made his first journey to Palestine, which country he many times revisited, his last visit being made in 1897. Although distinguished as an ornithologist, and especially as an authority on the birds of Palestine, he was also the author of several books of travel and general works on Palestine, including its fauna and flora, geography, geology, etc. But his ornithological interest was not restricted to a single region, as is evidenced by his large general collection of birds, which, when turned over to the Free Public Museums of Liverpool in 1896, numbered 20,000 specimens, referable to 6000 species, and contained 150 types. About the same time his large collection of eggs "was disposed of to the late Philip Crowley, of Waddon House, Croydon," and on Crowley's death, in 1901, became the property of the British Museum. He did not, however, cease collecting, and at the time of his death had amassed a second collection of nearly 6000 specimens, notably rich in oceanic and other rare birds, and which has recently been purchased by the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia.

Canon Tristram was one of the Founders and original Members of the British Ornithologists' Union, and throughout his subsequent life was a frequent contributor of valuable papers to 'The Ibis,' and to other natural history journals. His principal works, based on his explorations, are 'The Great Sahara: Wanderings South of the Atlas Mountains' (1860); 'The Land of Israel; a Journal of Travels in Palestine, undertaken with special reference to its physical character' (1865); 'The Land of Moab' (1873); 'The Fauna and Flora of Palestine' (1884).

VICTOR FATIO, a Corresponding Fellow of the American Ornithologist's Union, whose death has already been announced in this journal (*antea*, p. 356), was a leading authority on the vertebrate fauna of Switzerland, being the author of the 'Faune des Vertébrés de la Suisse,' the second volume of which, issued in two parts (1800 and 1904) in quarto, and embracing nearly two thousand pages of text and many text illustrations, is devoted to the birds of Switzerland. He was born in Geneva in 1838, and appears to have spent most of his life in Switzerland, where he received his preliminary education, and later studied at the Universities of Berlin

and Leipzig and at the Jardin des Plantes in Paris. His graduating thesis for his degree of Doctor of Philosophy at Leipzig was entitled 'De Avium corpore pneumatico,' and was published in Berlin in 1860. In 1866 he published an extended memoir on the structure and coloration of feathers ('Des diverses modifications dans les Forms et la Coloration des Plumes'). While in some respects it was a valuable contribution to the subject, his conclusions respecting changes of color within the mature feather were based almost wholly on groundless hypotheses.¹ He was for many years president of the Société Ornithologique Suisse, and published many notes and papers in its 'Bulletin,' in the 'Mémoires' of the Société de Physique et d' Histoire Naturelle de Genève, and elsewhere. He was also president of the Swiss Commission on the Phylloxera pest, and devoted much time to its study. He was elected a Foreign Member of the British Ornithologists' Union in 1872, a Corresponding Member of the American Ornithologists' Union in 1884, and of the London Zoological Society in 1894. He was also the recipient of many orders and decorations from various European countries, in recognition of his contributions to science.

MRS. EDWARD ROBINS, an Associate of the American Ornithologist's Union, and Secretary of the Pennsylvania Audubon Society, died at her home in Philadelphia, July 2, 1906. In 'Bird-Lore' (VIII, 1906, p. 142) we find the following tribute to her memory:

"To all who knew Mrs. Robins, her work in behalf of birds and animals is familiar. Ten years ago, entirely through her energy, the Pennsylvania Audubon Society was established at a time when only one other organization of the kind was in existence, and she continued actively in charge of its work until failing health compelled her to relinquish it. Mrs. Robins was also active in the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, and was President of the Spencer Baird Ornithological Club.—W. S."

THE July (1906) number of the 'Journal für Ornithologie' contains (pp. 329-358) Herman Schalow's memorial address on the late Dr. Jean Cabanis, which was read at the March session of the Deutschen Ornithologischen Gesellschaft. It is accompanied by a portrait of Cabanis, and a list of his published ornithological writings. The titles number 168, and cover the period 1845 to 1892. The brief annotations consist chiefly of the names of the new genera and species described, the former numbering 216 and the latter 422. One genus and 23 species have been named in Cabanis's honor by other ornithologists. The biography, with its bibliographical supplement, forms a valuable tribute from a devoted pupil to his master.

'THE CONDOR' states (VIII, July, 1906, p. 101) that the Audubon Society of California was organized at Los Angeles, May 31, 1906, with the

¹ Cf. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., VIII, 1896, pp. 36-38.

following officers: President, David Starr Jordan; Vice-Presidents, Prof. C. F. Holder and Dr. F. W. D' Evelyn; Secretary, W. Scott Way. This State organization will have supervision of the local Audubon societies, and will cooperate with the National Association of Audubon Societies in the work of bird protection.

A BEQUEST of \$100,000 has been left to the National Association of Audubon Societies by the will of the late Albert Willcox of New York City, who before his death, August 13, 1906, had been a liberal contributor to the funds of the National Association. The Association is thus provided with greatly needed funds for the more vigorous prosecution of its urgent work, and with the nucleus for a permanent endowment. There is need, however, for further increase of funds, and it is to be hoped that other bequests may follow. The present gift is especially opportune.

THE Seventh International Zoölogical Congress will meet in Boston, Mass., in August or September, 1907, under the presidency of Mr. Alexander Agassiz, according to the announcement made in the preliminary notice issued by the Executive Committee, which says further:

The arrangements for the Seventh Congress are in charge of a committee of the American Society of Zoölogists, consisting of Messrs. Alexander Agassiz, chairman; Samuel Henshaw, secretary; W. K. Brooks, H. C. Bumpus, E. G. Conklin, C. B. Davenport, C. H. Eigenmann, L. O. Howard, D. S. Jordan, J. S. Kingsley, F. R. Lillie, E. L. Mark, C. S. Minot, T. H. Morgan, H. F. Osborn, G. H. Parker, R. Rathbun, J. Reighard, W. E. Ritter, W. T. Sedgwick, C. W. Stiles, A. E. Verrill, C. O. Whitman, E. B. Wilson, and R. R. Wright.

The meetings will open in Boston, where the scientific sessions will be held, and from which excursions will be made to Harvard University and to other points of interest. At the close of the Boston meeting the Congress will proceed to Woods Hole, Massachusetts, visiting the Station of the United States Bureau of Fisheries, the Marine Biological Laboratory, and the collecting grounds of the adjacent seacoast. The journey to New York will be by sea through Long Island Sound. In New York the Congress will be entertained by Columbia University, the American Museum of Natural History, and the New York Zoölogical Society, and excursions will be made to Yale University, to Princeton University, and to the Carnegie Station for Experimental Evolution. From New York the members will proceed to Philadelphia and Washington. Tours will be planned to Niagara Falls, to the Great Lakes, Chicago, and the West. It is hoped that arrangements can be made for reduced transportation for members of the Congress on transatlantic lines and on the American routes.

The first formal circular announcing the preliminary program of the Congress will be issued in October, 1906.

The Executive Committee is as follows: G. H. Parker, Chairman; Sam-

uel Henshaw, Secretary; L. O. Howard, J. S. Kingsley, E. L. Mark, H. F. Osborn. All inquiries should be addressed to G. H. Parker, Seventh International Zoölogical Congress, Cambridge, Mass.

THE annual meeting of the Maine Ornithological Society will be held at the rooms of the Portland Society of Natural History, Portland, Maine, "on Friday and Saturday following Thanksgiving day."

THE TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONGRESS of the American Ornithologists' Union will be held at the U. S. National Museum, Washington, D. C., beginning on the evening of Monday, November 12, 1906. The evening session will be for the election of officers and members, and for the transaction of routine business, and action on proposed amendments to the By-Laws. Tuesday and the following days of the session will be for the presentation and discussion of scientific papers, and will be open to the public. Members intending to present communications are requested to forward the titles of their papers to the Secretary, Mr. John H. Sage, Portland, Conn., so as to reach him not later than November 10.