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IN MEMORIAM: HENRY AUGUSTUS PURDIE.

Born December 16, 1840 — Died March 29, 1911.

BY WILLIAM BREWSTER.

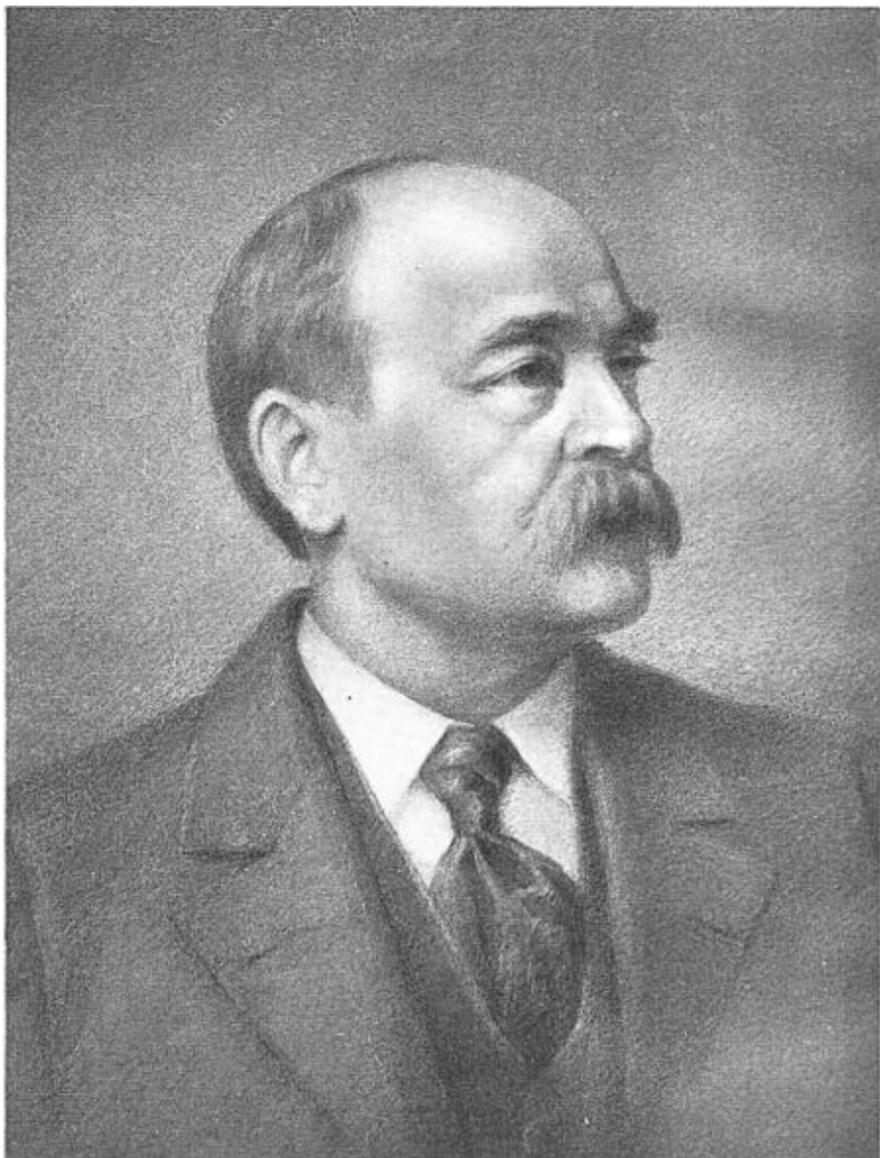
*Plate I.*<sup>1</sup>

HENRY AUGUSTUS PURDIE was born on the sixteenth of December, 1840, in Beüjah, Asia Minor, a suburban town about five miles to the eastward of Smyrna. He died in Boston, Massachusetts, on the twenty-ninth of March, 1911. His father, John Purdie, was Scotch, although born (in 1803) in London, and reared there, his father being employed in the Bank of England. After his marriage John Purdie served as British Consul at Adalia on the southeast coast of Asia Minor, where he died in 1856. Henry's mother, Eleanor (Pratt) Purdie, was descended from old New England stock and born in Charlestown, Massachusetts, in 1808. Her father, John Pratt, was a merchant captain and a partner of Judah Truro of Boston.

In 1842 Henry Purdie, with his mother and his elder brother Alfred, came in a sailing vessel from Smyrna to Boston where, and at Billerica (Massachusetts), he spent the next two or three years. He was then, as certain of his friends and relatives still remember, a beautiful and interesting child, active, graceful, gentle, easily winning the affection of those about him and attracting much attention during his walks abroad, when he was usually dressed in plaid kilts and black velvet jacket, and accompanied by his Greek

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<sup>1</sup> From a crayon sketch by Miss Evelyn Purdie, based on recent photographs.



*Very sincerely yours,  
H. A. Purdie.*

nurse, a strikingly handsome woman. In 1845 he returned with his mother and brother to the Levant, where the family were reunited at Adalia. Here the conditions of life were such that the Purdie children had to spend most of their time in the house and in a large yard and garden connected with it which served them well as a playground; but on Sundays, after listening to a Church of England service and to a Unitarian discourse, they were accustomed to walk out into the country beyond the city walls accompanied by a servant and two or three janizaries to keep off the rabble of hooting native children who followed them and to carry their lunch, which was commonly eaten beside an iris-lined brook, or in an olive grove, or beneath some spreading plane tree. Such an excursion might end in an exciting climb down precipitous limestone cliffs, over which brooks cascaded into the sea, on reaching which the children would be met by a boat sent there to bring them home. Sometimes they were rowed into romantic-looking caves abounding with wild birds, or to pebbly beaches fringed with oleanders, where they bathed. When confined to the house they often amused themselves by cutting pictures from the 'Illustrated London News' and throwing them from an overhanging window into the street, where a crowd of Turkish or Greek boys would soon assemble to scramble over one another for them. Towards evening they usually resorted to the kiosk on top of the house whence one might look out over red-tiled roofs and gardens of orange, lemon, fig, vine and mulberry to the blue sea, beyond which rose lofty ranges of mountains bounding the Bay of Pamphilia.

In the summer of 1846 the family traveled with a caravan to Buldur, a remote Turkish village among the Taurus mountains about a hundred miles from the seacoast. During this journey each of the children occupied a box supplied with bedding and a canopy and slung on the side of a large mule. They, with their mother and a Greek maid, passed the entire summer at Buldur away from all European civilization. They were well treated by the village children, who were more polite and friendly than those at Adalia. In the afternoon they would walk to a large salt lake near at hand, or to some garden or vineyard where they gathered fruit while the attendant servant told them wonderful stories.

It is to Alfred Purdie, chiefly, that I am indebted for knowledge of these early experiences of the brothers in Asia Minor. Henry

recalled them only dimly in after years, although he often spoke of them in general terms, and occasionally the fragrance of an iris or the sound of a rushing brook would prompt him to exclaim, "This reminds me of Adalia." His mother taught him his letters there. After leaving Adalia he and his brother were for some months at a school kept by an American lady in Bonabat near Smyrna, and later Henry was sent to a higher grade English school in the same village.

In 1852 Henry Purdie came again to Boston with his mother. The next year the family, with the exception of the father, who remained at Adalia, were living in West Newton, where Henry attended the Model School. In 1854 he was one of the first pupils at the English and Classical School, conducted by the late Nathaniel T. Allen. After leaving the latter school he went to one kept by a Mr. Tower in the basement of Park Street Church. During the period just referred to, he and his brother Alfred spent much of their leisure time in boating or swimming in Charles River — a lonely stream in those days, in tracing brooks to their sources, in climbing hills, and in wandering through remote woodlands. They made the usual boys' collections of minerals, shells and other "curios," among which was a huge hornet's nest, secured by rising at three o'clock one summer morning and walking over Weston Bridge to the foot of Doublet Hill where the prize was found in some scrub growth and its rightful owners smoked out with fumes of sulphur.

As a boy, Henry was not unlike other lads of his own age, except that he was more gentle than most, never indulging in wanton or thoughtless cruelty to any living creature. He was fond of pets, but had little opportunity to indulge his love for them. When about fourteen years of age, he began a series of chemical experiments in connection with which he had advice from his cousin, the late Professor J. P. Cook. Apparently his taste for them was soon replaced by the deeper and more lasting interest which so dominated his after life, viz., that in ornithology, for by 1858, as his brother Alfred is fortunately able to remember definitely, he had already begun to devote himself to it and to collect the nests and eggs of Massachusetts birds.

Henry's first venture for a living, after some preliminary work

in a machine shop, which he did not like, was in Boston, about 1859, as a clerk with Lemme, Price & Company, manufacturing jewelers. After the dissolution of this firm, he was for about a month similarly employed by Shreve, Crump & Low. The Civil War being then well under way, he, with two of his friends, in February, 1862, enlisted in the navy, serving for over a year as yeoman, having charge of guns and ammunition on the U. S. barque 'James L. Davis' of the Gulf blockading squadron. The life, as it appears in his journals, was not very eventful or exciting except when, as occasionally happened, a blockade runner was pursued and captured. Whenever the men went ashore to forage for supplies and he accompanied them, he seems to have given his attention chiefly to observing birds, sometimes collecting a few eggs. He had two or three warm friends aboard the vessel, but most of his associates were uncongenial, and the constant discipline and routine of naval life were very irksome to him, while he was rarely free from seasickness. In the spring of 1863, he obtained his discharge and returned to Boston, where he soon found employment at the State House in the office of the Massachusetts State Board of Charities, under Mr. Frank B. Sanborn. Here he performed clerical work and visited, inspected and reported on, various State institutions, such as almshouses, asylums, etc. He continued to hold this position for about thirty-five years. After retiring from it in 1898, he greatly enjoyed his well-earned freedom and the opportunities it brought for indulging in the study of ornithology, botany and nature, to which he devoted himself during the remainder of his life. Living with his sister in a quiet side street on Beacon Hill, he had not far to go to reach his favorite reading haunts, the Boston Athenæum and Public Libraries, in one or another of which he might be found at almost any hour of the day or evening, especially in winter, poring over some book or pamphlet relating to birds or plants. Being a diligent and methodical student of all such literature past and present, he kept himself intimately informed respecting it and apparently derived from it quite as much pleasure and satisfaction as he did from the acquisition of first-hand knowledge obtained in woods and fields. The latter were not neglected, of course. On the contrary, he visited them frequently in all seasons, and sometimes almost

daily in spring, summer and autumn, going to them quite as often alone as with companions, for, like all sincere lovers of nature, he had no aversion to solitary walks. During this period, his hearing, once acute and discriminating, became duller and duller until only the loudest bird songs, coming from very near at hand, attracted his notice. His eyesight, never of the best, was steadily failing too. Largely because of these unfortunate and ever-increasing disabilities, he turned his attention more and more from birds to plants, until the latter came to absorb the greater part of it, at least whenever he went afield, filling him with fresh enthusiasm and interest, and bringing him into intimate relations with new friends. Yet the old ornithological interests and friendships were never laid aside or neglected wherever it was possible to maintain them. With the plant life about Boston he became, in the course of only a few years, surprisingly familiar. Many a rare or locally-restricted species was ferreted out by him, often where its presence had hitherto been unknown, if not quite unsuspected. There were certain individual living plants or restricted groups of them to which he especially devoted himself, visiting them annually at just the time when they were in the perfection of their bloom and evidently regarding such attention as no less a duty than a pleasure. These field studies were conducted very quietly, but so sedulously, intelligently and effectively that in the end they resulted in the acquisition of a store of information concerning the scope and value of which Mr. Walter Deane has been kind enough to express for me the following authoritative and pleasingly favorable opinion:

“Mr. Purdie was passionately fond of the study of plant life, taking special interest in certain groups of flowering species and vascular cryptogams. He was, strictly speaking, a field botanist, the systematic study of specific relations, acquired in the herbarium by work on the material there, not being much to his taste. Hence many groups, including the Najadaceæ, Gramineæ, Cyperaceæ, and the like, that require much closet study, did not particularly interest him, but for such difficult genera as *Desmodium*, *Lеспедеза*, *Aster*, *Solidago*, and many others his interest was unbounded. From earliest spring to late autumn and often in the winter he loved to wander over field, wood and meadow, studying from close observation the abundant material ever at

hand. In this he was indefatigable, and few, if any, knew better the localities where choice plants grew. As a local botanist he held a high rank. He had a keen power of discrimination in the field, and was so thoroughly acquainted by long experience with the finer characters that distinguish closely related species that he often surprised his friends by naming difficult plants when seen from quite a distance. He was especially strong in his knowledge of the trees and shrubs of eastern Massachusetts. As Mr. Purdie did not travel much his field observations were largely confined to Massachusetts, but wherever he went he soon acquired a most excellent knowledge of the flora of that region. As an example of this love for the flora about him and desire to know the plants, may be mentioned his visits to his brother's home in Florida. His interest in the flora there is shown by the frequent communications he sent to the Gray Herbarium, accompanied by specimens, regarding perplexing species. In the summer of 1902 he called the attention of Mr. George E. Davenport, the late eminent pteridologist, to a strange form of *Aspidium spinulosum* (O. F. Müller) Sw., our Shield or Wood Fern, which he had found in Concord, Massachusetts. This form proved of good varietal distinction, and Mr. Davenport wished to associate Purdie's name with it. Our friend protested with characteristic modesty, and the plant was published as var. *Concordianum*, but it will always be associated with the discoverer by his friends. It was the same modesty that prevented him from publishing from time to time his botanical discoveries."

Joining the New England Botanical Club, as a Resident Member, on June 4, 1897, Mr. Purdie afterwards attended its meetings (held in Boston monthly from October to June of each year) more or less regularly, but seldom spoke at them. He was also a member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society and took much interest in its popular exhibitions of fruits and flowers in Horticultural Hall, Boston, occasionally contributing to them collections of flowering goldenrods or other native plants, which attracted no little attention and were sometimes mentioned in the newspapers.

My personal acquaintance with Henry Purdie began about 1865, when I met him, for the first time, in a basement room of the State House, where the state collection of mounted birds (now at Am-

herst) was kept, and where E. A. Samuels had his cabinets of birds' eggs. Thither Ruthven Deane and I went rather frequently in early youth, taking eggs to exchange with Mr. Samuels, for whose memory there will always remain a warm place in both our hearts, for he was very kind and helpful to us,—as to all lads having tastes similar to his own and craving the ornithological lore and guidance which he was ever ready to impart. I was there one hot day in early summer when Henry Purdie came into the room, and we were introduced. He was then about twenty-five years old and, as I clearly remember, slight and graceful of figure, almost if not quite as bald as in later years, and very neatly dressed. We saw one another occasionally in the same place during the next few years, but it was not until 1869 that I began to know him at all well. Not long after that, our acquaintance ripened into a friendship which, without mar or interruption of any kind, continued up to the very end of his life. About the same time he established similarly close and lasting relations with Ruthven Deane, and somewhat less intimate yet very friendly ones with Henry W. Henshaw, Harry B. Bailey and W. E. D. Scott. These affiliations drew him with ever-increasing frequency to Cambridge, particularly between the years 1870 and 1882, a period of great ornithological activity and enthusiasm in and about the University city, especially memorable for the founding of the Nuttall Ornithological Club in 1873, and for the publication of its 'Bulletin' which began in 1876. Mr. Purdie took deep interest and had large share in the organization and early development of this Club. He was its President from March 20, 1875, to February 12, 1876; its Vice-President from 1873 to March 20, 1875; its Secretary from February 12, 1876, to December 1, 1885; its Corresponding Secretary from December 3, 1877, to December 9, 1878; a member of its Council from January 23, 1893, to December 7, 1896. There were few of its earlier meetings at which he failed to contribute something in the way of original field notes or of trenchant yet kindly criticism of those furnished by other members. Sometimes he would bring specimens of rare birds or eggs to show, or would read passages from ornithological books or pamphlets which few, if any, of us had ever seen or heard of, and which he had unearthed in one or another of the Boston libraries. He had then, as well as

later, the keenest possible interest in the literature of ornithology and kept in close touch with it. Thus, throughout a period extending over at least a dozen or fifteen years, he was one of the leading spirits of the Nuttall Club, taking a prominent part in all its affairs and rendering it most loyal and efficient service. But with advancing years he came to its meetings somewhat less often than before although not infrequently. His very last appearance was at one held on the evening of March 6, 1911, less than a week before his final illness began, and but little more than three weeks before he died.

The editors of that pioneer journal, the 'Bulletin of the Nuttall Ornithological Club,' were often indebted to Mr. Purdie for valuable assistance or critical advice. During the eight years of its existence, he contributed to its pages no less than twenty-five articles and notes of varying length. Among the earlier of these were two,—a short review signed by his initials merely, and a seven-page article under his full name,—in which he criticised rather sharply, but in the main quite justly, certain statements and rulings made about a year before, in a 'Catalogue of the Birds of New England,' by Dr. T. M. Brewer. These papers excited general interest at the time of their appearance. They show better, perhaps, than anything else that Mr. Purdie ever wrote, the scope and accuracy of his ornithological knowledge when he was in his prime, and the ability he possessed for temperate and logical argument.

Having been included, as a matter of course, among those who were invited to take part in the organization of the American Ornithologists' Union and being present at its first Congress held in New York City on September 26, 1883, Henry Purdie became one of its Original Members or Founders, now known as Fellows. He retained this membership up to the time of his death, but his attendance at meetings of the Union was mainly restricted to those held in Boston and Cambridge. Although during the earlier years of its existence, he served on certain of its Committees, his name is not included in any of its lists of officers. His only communication to the pages of its journal, 'The Auk,' was a brief note relating to the occurrence of the Prothonotary Warbler in Massachusetts, published in 1886. He was a member of the Boston Society of

Natural History from January 3, 1866, to October, 1875, but its publications do not apparently contain anything from his pen, although they mention an ornithological record made by him at one of its meetings.

The articles and notes which appeared under or over Henry Purdie's name, of which a list will be given at the end of this memoir, by no means represent in full the contributions which he made to the literature of ornithology. For some of his most important service of this kind was rendered indirectly, and in a sense anonymously, through assistance and advice given to other writers. Thus he helped Mr. Samuels very materially in the preparation of the 'Ornithology and Oölogy of New England,'<sup>1</sup> published in 1867, and his critical knowledge and ability were drawn upon still more largely by Dr. Coues in connection with the production of 'New England Bird Life,' which appeared in 1881. As was eminently characteristic of him, he seemed not only indifferent concerning the credit which he received for such work, but actually averse to having anything said about it. Even his closest friends were often unable to inform themselves definitely through him as to the precise nature and amount of it that he performed.

During the earlier years of his life, Mr. Purdie was an active, persistent and very successful collector, especially of nests and eggs of New England birds. The birds themselves were seldom molested by him, for he was averse to taking animal life of any kind, an indifferent shot, and gifted with little or no skill in the art of taxidermy. Nevertheless, he accumulated several hundred bird skins, most of which were obtained by gift or purchase. At the time of which I am now writing, his sense of hearing was remarkably keen and critical, but he was very near-sighted and habitually wore eye-glasses. His high enthusiasm, shrewd powers of observation and deep and reverent love of nature combined to make him a delightful and much-sought companion for out-of-door excursions of every kind. Despite his intimate association with woods and

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<sup>1</sup> In the Preface to this work Mr. Purdie's name receives little more than casual mention, but in a footnote to page 320 of the main text Mr. Samuels expresses indebtedness to him for the use of "full and copious notes and memoranda on the arrival of species, which are of value, having been conducted for several years."

fields, he seemed, oddly enough, not to be quite at home in them, partly, no doubt, because he commonly went to them dressed in ordinary city clothes, still more largely, perhaps, because he had an awkward, blundering way of getting over fences, walls and ditches, and through dense brush. Yet while another, better equipped for such undertakings and apparently more skilful in performing them, was ranging about quietly and systematically, it very often happened that Henry Purdie was the first to detect the elusive bird, the cunningly concealed nest, or the rare plant, of which they were both in quest, apparently stumbling on it quite by chance, but in reality guided to it, without doubt, by that intuitive sense which is possessed by all good hunters and which he evidently had in generous measure, making frequent use of it, however unconsciously, whenever seeking hidden things. The collection of nests and eggs<sup>1</sup> which he formed, although not large, contained an excellent representation of those of the commoner birds of eastern Massachusetts besides a considerable number of specimens intrinsically rare or of exceptional local interest, from this and various other parts of North America, but chiefly from New England. Among the latter were several sets of the beautiful eggs of the Olive-sided Flycatcher, which he took in the neighborhood of Boston at various times before 1875. Prior to the year 1870, he had confined his field work mostly to localities lying within easy reach of West Newton, where he lived, but during the next following decade he gave it wider scope, collecting with me at Lake Umbagog (June 13-28, 1873, September 14-19, 1874, and May 10-June 24, 1876); with J. N. Clark at Saybrook, Connecticut (in June, 1875); with Ruthven Deane and Robert R. McLeod at Houlton, Maine (in June, 1878). In June, 1881, he made a tour through New Brunswick, where he met Montague Chamberlain for the first time (they afterwards became intimate friends) and spent eleven days at Campbellton on Bay Chaleur. Still later, after he had become interested in botany, he went to the White Mountains repeatedly in summer, was with me in camp at Lake Umbagog on one or two occasions in autumn, and twice visited his brother Alfred in Florida, remaining there for the greater part of two

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<sup>1</sup> He gave a few of these to ornithological friends and most of the others to the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, Cambridge, several years before he died.

winters. Towards the close of his life, he found much to attract and interest him in Concord, Massachusetts, where, at a log cabin on a wooded hillside by the river, or at an old farm-house surrounded by fields, orchards and woodland, he was my frequent and ever welcome guest. Here the unconventional, out-of-door life suited his simple tastes, and he could indulge as freely as he chose in the botanical rambles which he so loved. If, as seemed evident, he derived pleasure from those visits, he gave much more of it than he received, endearing himself to every one about the place by his unfailing kindness and thoughtfulness of word and deed.

It has been said that "every man's faults are the shadows of his virtues." This was certainly true in Henry Purdie's case, for, if not literally faults, the extreme gentleness, sensitiveness and modesty, which were among his most pronounced attributes, unquestionably operated to his worldly disadvantage, stifling whatever ambition he may have possessed and preventing him from taking a place among scientific men and affairs which he might otherwise have achieved, and to which he was fairly entitled by reason of his shrewd intelligence, excellent critical ability and wide knowledge and experience as an ornithologist and botanist. He had high standards of personal honor and virtue, but was very lenient with respect to the failings of others. His estimate of his own ability and attainments was so genuinely modest that, whenever any one spoke of them in terms of appreciation, he always seemed surprised and often incredulous. He was canny and very knowing in a Scotch sort of way and had keen intuitive judgment of human character — besides many other things — which was rarely, if ever, mistaken. His temperament often made decision, — about even small affairs, — almost a martyrdom, and thereby lost him opportunities which should have been promptly grasped; but nearly always his doubt hung on the fear that some one else might be inconvenienced or disappointed.

Most of the shortcomings just alluded to were obviously the direct and not unnatural outcome of an exceptionally large and tender heart, of an abnormally sensitive conscience, of a delicately refined nature, and, above all, of a deep and abiding concern for the welfare and happiness of others. Even if such virtues must

cast "shadows" more or less detrimental to the material prosperity of those who possess them, our world would be a better place to live in were it more generally overshadowed by them.

As a matter of course, they won for Mr. Purdie many appreciative and loving friends. At a surprise party given for him in Cambridge on his seventieth and last birthday, these came from far and near in such numbers as almost to overflow the house. No one of them ever appealed to him in vain for assistance or sympathy which it was in his power to give, while the unsolicited kindly attentions which he showed them were unailing and very numerous. He was, indeed, the most unconsciously unselfish man I have ever known, wholly oblivious to self interest, yet ever mindful of the interests of others and seeming to regard whatever he did for them quite as a matter of course and of little or no importance, however great the service rendered. At railway stations he was habitually on hand to greet incoming or outgoing ornithological friends with grateful words of welcome or farewell and helpful acts of kindness. Whenever the American Ornithologists' Union met in Cambridge, he devoted himself to looking after the comfort and welfare of its visiting members, especially the humbler ones among them. His thoughtfulness of others, always unostentatious, was sometimes shown in rarely tactful and delicate ways. The late Howard Saunders had interesting experience of this when visiting Boston in 1884. At the close of a day spent in going about the city with Mr. Purdie, he parted with him at the State House, declining for reasons which I have forgotten to be escorted by him to Bowdoin Square, whither he walked to take a horse-car out to Cambridge. On nearing his destination and happening to glance back, he saw, at some distance to the rear, stealing along the shadowy side of the street, a dim figure which he recognized as that of Mr. Purdie, who was following him thus surreptitiously to make sure that he did not lose his way among the old 'cowpaths' of Boston, or get on the wrong car. When, years afterwards, Mr. Saunders related this incident to me in London, he wound up the story by saying very feelingly: "Of all the friends I made in America, I value most Henry Purdie."

It must not be inferred from anything which I have said or left unsaid, that Henry Purdie was devoid of worthy pride or of true

manliness. Beneath his quiet, unassuming manner lay concealed a really proud spirit and no little self-reliance and hardihood. These were manifested by his wise fastidiousness in the choice of intimate associates; by his unwillingness to accept favors which could not be repaid; by the decided opinions which he held and was quite able vigorously to defend; by his intolerance of injustice,—which, when so minded, he could rebuke with prompt and effective speech or action; by the calmness and resourcefulness with which he faced grave dangers and serious troubles — although addicted to worry and tribulation concerning lesser risks and annoyances. If he failed to achieve all the worldly success and advancement which might easily have been his had he been only a little differently constituted, it may be said of him with absolute truth that he lived a pure, honorable and very useful life, serving faithfully and acceptably, first his country; next his state; then the natural science that he loved; finally a host of friends no one of whom can ever forget the charm of his affectionate, guileless nature or cease to be thankful for the privilege of having come in close touch with it.

Although perhaps not complete the following list includes all the titles of published ornithological notes and papers written by Henry Purdie of which I have present knowledge.

1. [A letter relating to the Golden-winged Warbler.] In this letter early instances of the occurrence of the species at West Newton, Massachusetts, are reported and its habits and song rather fully described; published by E. A. Samuels, *Orn. & Oöl. of N. E.*, 1867, pp. 214, 215.
2. [Announcement of the Capture of Tennessee Warblers in Newton, Mass.] *Proc. Bos. Soc. N. H.*, Vol. XIII, 1869, p. 93.
3. Tennessee Warbler. *Am. Nat.*, Vol. III, Aug. 1869, p. 331.
4. Golden-winged Warbler. *Am. Nat.*, Vol. III, Nov. 1869, p. 497.
5. *Colluris Ludovicianus*. *Am. Nat.*, Vol. VII, Feb. 1873, p. 115.
6. Notes on some of the Rarer-Birds of New England. *Am. Nat.*, Vol. VII, Nov. 1873, pp. 692, 693.
7. Birds of New England. [A review, signed by initials "H. A. P.," of Dr. T. M. Brewer's 'Catalogue of the Birds of New England' published in 1875.] *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. I, Sept. 1876, pp. 72, 73.
8. The Nest and Eggs of Traill's Flycatcher, as observed in Maine. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. I, Sept. 1876, p. 75.
9. Distribution of New England Birds.—A Reply to Dr. T. M. Brewer. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. II, Jan. 1877, pp. 11-17.
10. Notice of a Few Birds of Rare or Accidental Occurrence in New England. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. II, Jan. 1877, pp. 20-22.

11. The Lark-Finch (*Chondestes grammaca*) again in Massachusetts. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. III, Jan. 1878, p. 44.
12. The Black-throated Bunting (*Euspiza americana*) nesting in Massachusetts. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. III, Jan. 1878, p. 45.
13. [Letter to Linnean Society relating to nests and eggs of Traill's and Acadian Flycatchers.] *For. & Str.*, Vol. X, No. 12, Apr. 25, 1878, p. 216.
14. Traill's Flycatcher. *For. & Str.*, Vol. X, No. 14, May 9, 1878, p. 255.
15. Sennett's Notes on the Ornithology of the Lower Rio Grande, Texas. [Review signed "H. A. P."] *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. III, July, 1878, pp. 144, 145.
16. Capture of the Yellow-throated Warbler in Massachusetts, and Notes on other Rare Massachusetts Birds. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. III, July, 1878, p. 146.
17. The Nest and Eggs of the Yellow-Bellied Flycatcher (*Empidonax flaviventris*). *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. III, Oct. 1878, pp. 166-168.
18. The Golden-cheeked Warbler and Black-chinned Hummingbird in Texas. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. IV, Jan. 1879, p. 60.
19. The Great Carolina Wren (*Thryothorus ludovicianus*) in Connecticut. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. IV, Jan. 1879, p. 61.
20. Nesting of the Great Northern and Loggerhead Shrikes in Maine. *For. & Str.*, Vol. XII, No. 9, Apr. 3, 1879, p. 166.
21. The Loggerhead Shrike in Maine. *For. & Str.*, Vol. XII, No. 14, May 8, 1879, p. 265.
22. Record of Additional Specimens of the White-throated Warbler (*Helminthophaga leucobronchialis*). *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. IV, July, 1879, pp. 184, 185.
23. Another Kirtland's Warbler (*Dendroica kirtlandi*). *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. IV, July, 1879, pp. 185, 186.
24. The Loggerhead Shrike breeding in Maine. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. IV, July, 1879, pp. 186, 187.
25. MacFarlane's Gerfalcon (*Falco gyrfalco sacer*) in Maine. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. IV, July, 1879, pp. 188, 189.
26. *Corvus ossifragus* on Long and Staten Islands, N. Y. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. V, Oct. 1880, p. 240.
27. The Purple Gallinule in New England. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. V, Oct. 1880, p. 242.
28. The Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*) in Massachusetts. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VI, April, 1881, p. 123.
29. *Melanerpes erythrocephalus* about Boston. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VII, Jan. 1882, p. 57.
30. *Ammodramus caudacutus*.—A somewhat inland Record on the Atlantic Coast. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VII, April 1882, p. 122.
31. *Pelidna subarquata* on the Maine Coast. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VII, April, 1882, p. 124.

32. *Rhynchops nigra*.— An early Record for the Massachusetts Coast. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VII, April, 1882, p. 125.

33. *Garzetta candidissima* at Nantucket, Massachusetts. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VII, Oct. 1882, p. 251.

34. Rare Warblers in Massachusetts. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VII, Oct. 1882, p. 252.

35. A Flock of White Herons (*Herodias egretta*) in Eastern Massachusetts. *Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club*, Vol. VIII, Oct. 1883, pp. 242, 243.

36. An Earlier Occurrence of the Prothonotary Warbler in Massachusetts. *Auk*, Vol. III, Oct. 1886, p. 488.

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## SOME REMINISCENCES OF THE LATE PROFESSOR C. O. WHITMAN.

BY R. M. STRONG.

### *Plate II.*

A PROMINENT characteristic of Professor Whitman was his success in the study of live animals. On many occasions the writer was impressed by Professor Whitman's ability to capture and handle timid doves without the frantic struggles that would occur with less skilful treatment. He was equally fortunate with other animals.

Young birds, taken from the nest, were reared with great success, and they became very tame. The accompanying picture illustrates a characteristic scene in the yard back of his house. It shows Professor Whitman standing in a pigeon cage, and was taken by the writer, October 10, 1908. The Flicker perched on the pan and feeding from Professor Whitman's hand was one of several which were being reared because of their interesting color pattern.

Professor Whitman enjoyed natural history work in the field, though in his later years he seldom felt free to leave his pigeons even for a half day in the country. One of these exceptional breaks occurred, however, on June 15, 1910, only a few months before his death. In company with a colleague and the writer, a marsh outside of Chicago where marsh birds were nesting in