

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.

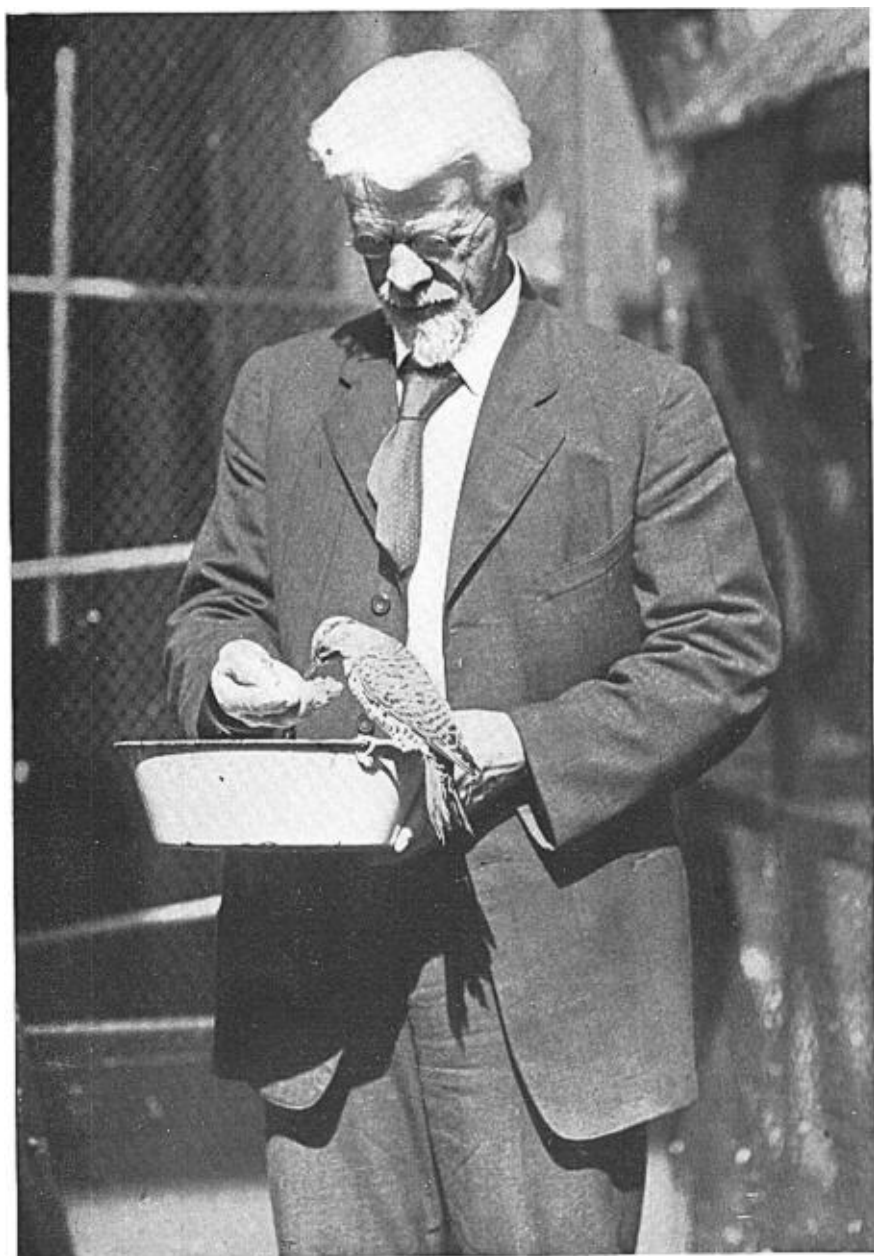
BY R. M. STRONG.

### *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



CHARLES OTIS WHITMAN.

unusual abundance was visited. The weather was beautiful, and Professor Whitman was in fine spirits.

A small duck boat conveyed the party to nests of Coots, Rails, Gallinules, Black Terns, etc., with eggs and young birds just hatched. These aroused keen enthusiasm.

A unique experience was an encounter with some young Pied-billed Grebes and their parents. The writer had found the nest five days before, with two downy young just hatched which were lying on the material covering the other eggs not yet hatched, as is the custom of grebes. On this later visit, we saw the parent grebes swimming with several of their offspring in open water not many rods from the now deserted nest. Professor Whitman urged a very quiet and deliberate approach. Our little boat in which we were obliged to sit with some care to avoid tipping, was gradually paddled up to within a very few rods of the grebes. As we drew near, the little grebes gathered about one of the parents and took places inside its wings. In another moment, the bird dived taking the young with her. We were able later to capture one of the little grebes for a few minutes' inspection.

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## NOTES ON THE SUMMER BIRDS OF THE ST. JOHN VALLEY, NEW BRUNSWICK.<sup>1</sup>

BY CHARLES W. TOWNSEND, M. D.

THE following observations were made between July 11 and August 4, 1911, in the lower part of the valley of the St. John River, New Brunswick, between St. John and Fredericton. Two days were spent at St. John, a day on the Kennebecasis River, eight days at Glenwood, three days at Upper Greenwich, a day at Fredericton, and nine days at Gerow's Landing, Wickham.

As one ascends the St. John River, one is struck with the sudden change in the physical character of the valley from the hilly,

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<sup>1</sup> Read before the Nuttall Ornithological Club, October 2, 1911.