

THE AUK:

A QUARTERLY JOURNAL OF

ORNITHOLOGY.

VOL. XXXIX.

JULY, 1922.

No. 3

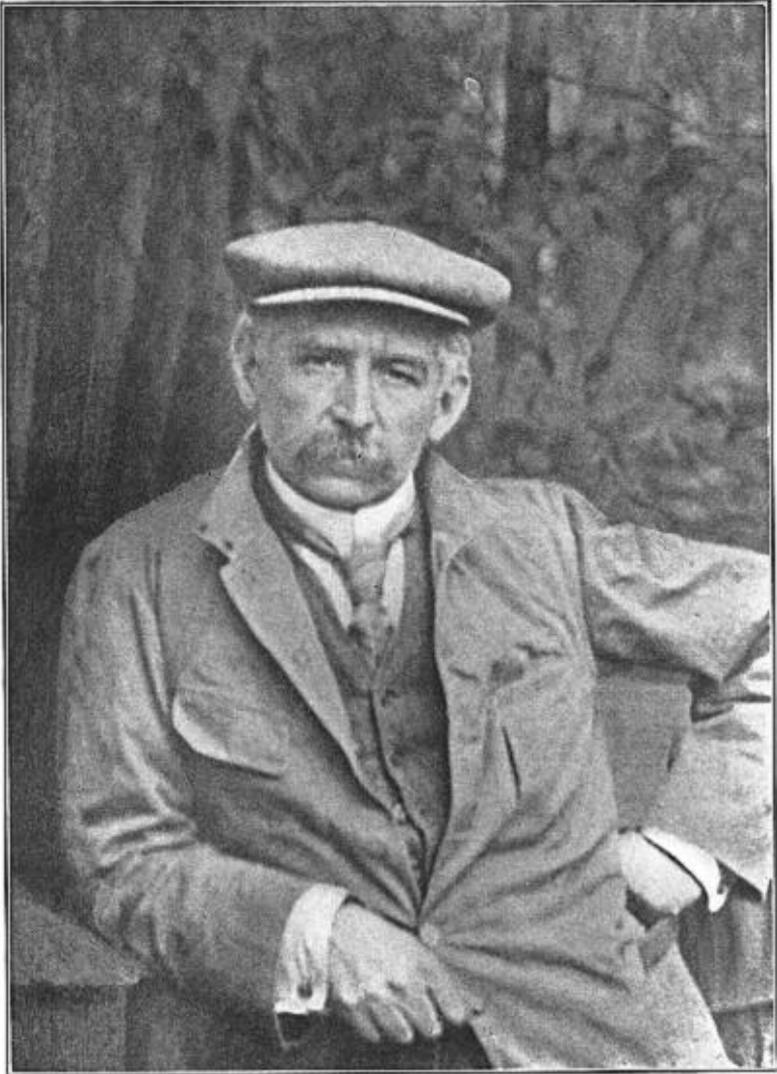
IN MEMORIAM: WILLIAM PALMER.

BORN AUGUST 1, 1856—DIED APRIL 8, 1921.

BY CHARLES W. RICHMOND.

Plate X

WILLIAM PALMER, a Fellow of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1898, and a veteran field naturalist of Washington, died in Bellevue Hospital, New York City, on April 8, 1921, in his sixty-fifth year. Born at Penge, a civil district in the south of London, on August 1, 1856, the son of Joseph and Letitia (Griffen) Palmer, he spent the first twelve years of his life in that vicinity. His father, who was born at Barrow, Suffolk, England, in 1836, followed the art of taxidermy from early manhood, was a skilled modeler, and excelled in the making of plaster casts, and the coloring of reproductions, and similar work. He was engaged for several years at the Crystal Palace, in Sydenham, not far from Penge, assisting Prof. B. Waterhouse Hawkins with his celebrated restorations of extinct animals. William Palmer, as a small boy, used to visit his father's working quarters, where he came into contact with men whose wisdom impressed him strongly, and whose learning he longed to emulate. It was doubtless at this early period, and under these influences, that his thoughts were



truly yours
Wm Palmer

directed into scientific channels and especially toward natural history; in any event, his interest in nature dated back to very youthful days. Little additional information concerning his early life is available to the writer, except that he went to school in season and undertook odd jobs of work in his leisure moments, after the habit of boys. Prof. Hawkins, who had received a commission to produce similar restorations for Central Park, in New York City, came to this country in 1868, accompanied by Joseph Palmer and his family, consisting of his wife, son William, and a daughter, Mary. The elder Palmer continued to assist Prof. Hawkins with his restoration work until the project was abandoned, after which he obtained a position as taxidermist at the Park, serving also as general assistant at the museum, and for a time was in charge of the zoological garden. In 1873, he came to Washington, and secured a position as taxidermist and modeler at the National Museum, a position held by him (with slight alterations in title) until the time of his death, in 1913, although in later years his work consisted almost exclusively of reproductions of ethnological groups and figures. He was especially adept in the modeling of animal and Indian lay-figure groups, and made many of those sent to the various expositions, beginning with the Centennial at Philadelphia, in 1876.

With his early youth spent in an environment of taxidermy and modeling, of museum preparatory work, and matters connected with the installation of museum exhibits, it was not unexpected that in time William Palmer would drift into this character of work, although, as it happened, this result was not reached through his own ambition and efforts. He aimed at higher fields of endeavor, and after attending school in New York City, began a course in medicine, or of study incident to it, but lacking funds to continue it and receiving no encouragement or assistance from his father, he was forced to abandon his plans. When the family removed to Washington, young Palmer secured employment with a mercantile firm on Seventh Street, where he found the work to his liking. The elder Palmer, however, was determined to have the son follow in his footsteps, and soon found a vacancy for him at the National Museum. Accordingly, in the year 1874,

young Palmer was obliged to give up his congenial position, and reluctantly entered the service of the Museum as an assistant in modeling and taxidermy. He served thus for several years, under the tutelage of his father, working at various branches of the preparator's art, such as the molding and casting of reptiles, fishes, antiquities, the preparation of papier-maché models of Moqui and Zuni towns, and similar work. In a short time he was prepared for larger and more important undertakings, and in the spring of 1883 was sent to New Haven with the object of making large paper models of the giant squid and octopus, for display at the Great International Fisheries Exhibition in London. These were later shipped to Washington and installed in the National Museum, where they still remain. In October of the same year he was sent to Barnegat City, N. J., where he made a mold of a rare bottle-nosed whale, and preserved its skeleton in perfect condition.

In the autumn of 1885 Palmer married Miss Arminia Knowles, of Washington, who proved a faithful and devoted wife. Although sharing in no way her husband's interests in natural history, Mrs. Palmer always yielded to his plans when proposed expeditions threatened to upset their home life for extended periods.

In the summer of 1887, Messrs. Lucas and Palmer were detailed by the Museum to accompany the U. S. Fisheries schooner "Grampus" on a notable visit to Funk Island, with the particular object of securing remains of the Great Auk. Their success in this quest is well known. In addition to stopping at Funk Island, the vessel touched at several points on the coasts of Newfoundland, Labrador, and New Brunswick, where many specimens of various kinds were collected. Of the birds obtained on this cruise, Dr. Lucas reported on the remains of the Great Auk, and Mr. Palmer gave an account of the living species.

In April, 1890, Palmer was "instructed to proceed to the Pribylov Islands, Alaska, to hunt walrus for the Museum," and by the middle of May was at Unalaska, on his way to the Islands. He had the good fortune to meet with these rare animals, and to observe them at close range, but under conditions that did not admit of retrieving them if shot. A fine bull was, however, subse-

quently killed by officers of the Revenue Cutter, and Palmer was enabled to carefully study the fresh animal and to prepare its skin, which was later mounted under his direction at the Museum, where it still occupies a prominent place in the exhibition series of mammals. That he was not idle on this trip is attested by a collection of over a thousand specimens, representing many branches of natural history, secured during the three months he was in Alaskan waters. On the Fourth of July, he shot an Asiatic cuckoo on St. Paul Island, the first, and to date the only record for the genus and species in North America.

In an historical sketch of the progress of taxidermy at the National Museum, and of the opportunities afforded by the Museum in its earlier years for the development of artists in this class of work, the late Dr. G. Brown Goode wrote, with especial reference to exhibits prepared for the World's Columbian Exposition, "Mr. William Palmer, now chief taxidermist of the Museum, also received his first training during these years, and began a career which has resulted in the production of such remarkable work as the group of Caribou, prepared especially for Chicago, which, in the judgment of the writer, have not been surpassed anywhere, marking as they do the highest attainment in the imitation of nature, with that combination of life with perfect repose, which is the supreme test of merit in taxidermy." With reference to exhibits prepared for the same exposition, he observed, "A new feature in these groups was the introduction of natural leaves, grasses, plants, and sea weeds, prepared by a process invented and satisfactorily carried out by Mr. William Palmer. Vines with leaves and tendrils which had never been detached from the natural stalk, and other similar accessories, were used, producing effects which could not be obtained by artificial leaves fastened on artificial stems."

Palmer was sent to Chicago, to assist in installing some of the exhibits at the World's Fair, and later served in the same capacity at the expositions held in Nashville, Portland, and elsewhere. These several visits gave him an opportunity to add to his collections, and particularly to increase his botanical material.

Late in 1899, an archeological expedition was projected by Dr.

Edgar J. Banks, of Cambridge, Mass., with the object of making excavations at the supposed site of Ur, in ancient Chaldaea, situated at or near the present town of Mugheir, on the Euphrates River. The National Museum was invited to detail one of its employees to accompany the expedition for the purpose of making natural history and ethnological collections. Palmer was chosen as the Museum representative, and made preparations for a lengthy trip, even going to the extent of disposing of his household goods, and storing his collections and personal belongings. The director of the expedition went to Constantinople to secure the necessary permits and to arrange other details. Many vexatious delays were encountered, extending well into the year 1901, but the long expected firman was never granted and the project was reluctantly given up. While the Ur negotiations were still pending, Messrs. Palmer and J. H. Riley were detailed by the Museum to visit Cuba, where they spent several months, from February to August, 1900, chiefly in Pinar del Rio province, making general collections of animals and plants. Two years later, Palmer, in company with a local botanist, visited the eastern end of the same island, where further collections were made.

In the spring of 1903, Messrs. Lucas, Palmer and Scollick, of the Museum, were detailed to visit one of the stations of the Cabot Steam Whaling Company, on the coast of Newfoundland, for the purpose of obtaining a mold and skeleton of a sulphur-bottom whale. In this they were eminently successful, returning with the mold and skeleton of a seventy-eight foot specimen. From the mold a cast was made and colored, and both cast and skeleton are now suspended in one of the halls of the Museum, forming probably the largest individual biological exhibits in the institution.

Early in 1904, Palmer accompanied Dr. George P. Merrill, of the geological department of the Museum, to the State of Sinaloa, Mexico, with the object of making a mold of the great Bacubarito meteorite, a cast of which was later placed on exhibition in Washington. A year later, he was assisting in the installation of various Museum exhibits at the Lewis and Clark Exposition, at Portland, Oregon, and while in the West visited Mount Shasta, California,

Victoria, B. C., and other localities, for the purpose of adding to his zoological and botanical collections.

In the spring of 1908, Dr. F. W. True visited the Calvert Cliffs in Maryland, and obtained "a nearly complete skeleton of a fossil porpoise, discovered by Mr. William Palmer," which later became the type of *Delphinodon dividum* True. It was probably about this time that Palmer began to take an interest, which later became all absorbing, in the fossils, particularly the remains of cetaceans, of this famous locality. In the latter part of the year 1908, he was detailed to make collections here, and in later years undertook various other official collecting trips to the same region, obtaining much important material, particularly among cetaceans, from teeth, jaws, and other fragments, to nearly complete skeletons.

In January, 1909, Palmer started with Mr. Owen Bryant on an expedition to Java, and was absent from Washington for more than a year and a half, making large collections in the western end of that Island, at various localities in the residencies of Bantam, Batavia, and Preanger. Palmer was alone during part of the time, spending several weeks at high altitudes on the volcanoes of Gedé, Salak, and Pangerango, where he found many interesting birds, among them a robin that inhabited the craters and higher levels, which in its actions reminded him strongly of the common species of the United States. The Javan species, although discovered nearly a century before the time of Palmer's visit, was still rare in collections. On one occasion, while on the summit of Mount Salak, he carried his breakfast into the crater, boiled some eggs in one of the many hot springs, and sat down to enjoy his meal, surrounded by hundreds of steam jets, streams of hot water, and other evidences of volcanic activity. At another time he was encamped for a month or more along the coast, within sight of the island of Krakatoa whose volcano created great havoc in 1883. Possibly as a result of prolonged hard work in the hot lowlands, both travellers suffered greatly in health, and at one period Palmer passed several weeks in the hospital at Batavia, desperately ill with a bad type of malarial fever, the ravages of which were noticeable even after his return to Washington, in the summer of 1910.

The Javan expedition, undertaken at Mr. Bryant's expense, resulted in a collection of over 2,100 birds, with a large variety of miscellaneous specimens, and was divided between the National Museum and the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, Mass.

By the time Palmer returned from Java, the natural history portions of the U. S. National Museum exhibits had been removed to the new building, and much of his time thereafter was devoted to various phases of the installation and arrangement of the zoological material, such as the formation of an exhibit of the local fauna, in which he freely drew upon his own collection for rarities, besides collecting much new and fresh material; the preparation of labels for the specimens of this exhibit; the production of certain new groups and the renovation of others, as in the Carolina Paroquet, where two groups were combined with new accessories, producing in effect, a new group. He rebuilt the flamingo group, repaired and remounted several hundred casts of American fishes, and from time to time was called upon for much special work in other directions. It may be mentioned in passing, that in the earlier years of his career, Palmer's services were many times requisitioned for the purpose of operating the lantern slide machine, in the handling of which he was an expert, in connection with illustrated scientific lectures at the Museum, the Cosmos Club, and elsewhere. He attended many technical meetings in this capacity, and was thereby enabled to absorb much information of value over a wide range of scientific topics.

When the last Passenger Pigeon died at the Cincinnati zoological gardens, on September 1, 1914, and was sent to the National Museum for preservation, Palmer had the distinction of making a specimen of this bird, an operation that was performed on the 4th, at the home of Dr. Shufeldt, who took advantage of the opportunity to study the fresh anatomy, and to make photographs of the bird at various stages of the work. Some account of this ceremony was given by Dr. Shufeldt in 'The Auk' for 1915.

Early in 1917, Palmer was detailed to visit certain cave deposits in the mountains of Pinar del Rio province, Cuba, for the purpose of securing Pleistocene mammalian remains. He obtained about

400 specimens of this class, and incidently collected a varied lot of other material.

In connection with the identification, purchase, and shipment of a rare whale skeleton, Palmer was sent to Jacksonville, Florida, on three occasions during the fiscal year 1919-1920. Early in April 1921, he accompanied the Museum mammalogist, Mr. G. S. Miller, Jr., to New York, to examine certain cetacean material at the American Museum of Natural History, in connection with an investigation in which they were jointly engaged. While attending a meeting of the Explorers' Club one evening, Palmer became ill, exhibiting symptoms probably apoplectic in origin, although the gravity of his plight was not recognized at the time. He was assisted to his hotel, but it was not until the following morning that his condition was found to be serious, when he was removed without delay to Bellevue Hospital. He died there, on the 8th of April. Funeral services were held in Washington, four days later, with interment at Rock Creek Church Cemetery.

Palmer's activity as a collector was by no means confined to official trips, for he was a diligent collector on his own account. In the spring of 1874 he began a collection of birds, and while this was at first confined to local specimens, he soon added to it material obtained on excursions made to various sections of Virginia. In time his collection became one of the notable private accumulations of Washington, and contained many local rarities and records some of which have not been duplicated. In addition to birds he was long interested in the local fauna and flora generally, especially of ferns, and contributed a long series of specimens to the collections of the National Museum during his forty-seven years connection with it. It is of record that he made the earliest discovery of several species of local plants, and among birds his finds were numerous. He obtained the first local record of Brewster's Warbler, and secured the only local specimen of Kirtland's Warbler and of the Ruff. Other record finds were Grinnell's Water Thrush, the Semipalmated Plover, and the Hawaiian Petrel, which, at that time, was also new to the American fauna. It seems only a few years ago that Palmer found a young night heron perched in a tree in the Smithsonian grounds, and deciding

that its plumage was somewhat unusual, he maneuvered until he captured the bird alive, and brought it to the Division of Birds for closer examination. It proved to be a Yellow-crowned Night Heron, the first for the local area, and still unique in this respect.

To secure specimens for his collection he made a trip to Cobb's Island, on the coast of Virginia, in the summer of 1881, and in later years made several trips to the neighboring Smith's Island, usually in company with other local ornithologists. He visited the Dismal Swamp on several occasions, and among the cane and cypress of this area he found the Florida Yellowthroat in some abundance, forming quite an extension of its former known range. A trip to the Kissimmee River region, in Florida, undertaken in February and March, 1895, in company with Messrs. Ridgway and Brown, was one of his more pretentious personal collecting ventures, and furnished him with both experience and specimens that were new. He published an account of some of the birds observed on this trip, in the 'Osprey,' in 1901, and also wrote a paper on the Florida Burrowing Owl, which appeared in 'The Auk' in 1896, in which he made some original and interesting observations on the habits of these birds.

Palmer did not hoard rarities in his personal collection, but generously distributed them elsewhere, for his chief interest lay in a study of the molt of birds, and he was for a long time a close student of plumage changes, his collection being well filled with juvenile plumages and with specimens in various stages of molt. At all times his collecting was done with a motive. He did not collect simply to amass material, but while his keen eye sought out rarities and records, his attention was focused primarily on examples that would furnish explanations in the phenomena of bird molt or such other subjects as engaged his attention at the time.

As far back as 1896, he wrote "If collectors would save their worn and molting specimens instead of throwing them away as 'worthless,' changes of plumage would be far better known." Although he studied this subject for many years, he wrote little, except in the case of a few species, where he thought he had accumulated sufficient data to warrant placing it on record. His

general tendency was to hold up a manuscript, or delay its preparation, until he had exhausted the subject, with the result that he left many pieces of work unfinished, through failure to find an explanation for each discovery connected with them. On the other hand, some of his published papers contain statements that seem largely tinged with theory, but as he was a keen and patient observer it is quite possible some of these statements were based upon actual observation.

He had an analytical mind, and usually arrived at his results by an original course of reasoning that was entirely unbiased by the opinions of others. As an illustration of his procedure, the following may be cited from his study of the Maryland Yellowthroat group. He found, for example, that in birds from one section of Virginia the yellow of the throat extended down on the breast, terminating in a point, whereas, in those from another locality, the yellow was worn off evenly across the breast. In explanation of this, he wrote that birds of the first locality perched "on the long inclining leaves of wire-grass abundant in the marsh, bushes and twigs being uncommon. Alternate contact of the sides of the body with the grass wears the yellow tips of the feathers, leaving the center of the body almost untouched," while in the second instance the birds perched on "generally horizontal twigs" which produced a wearing of the feathers evenly across the breast. He was thus not satisfied simply to announce the character of differences observed, but sought to interpret the causes of them. Indeed, probably his most serious fault, if fault it be, was this effort to produce an explanation for each fact or discovery announced. It is certain that some of his papers were prepared only after long deliberation and with much care, and a reviewer of his contribution to the 'Avifauna of the Pribilof Islands' referred to it as a "model of painstaking work," which, indeed, it is. In this paper he added twenty-three species to those previously known to inhabit the Islands; discriminated the Ruddy Turnstone of eastern North America as distinct from the European bird, a change now generally adopted; separated an Alaskan form of the Barn Swallow, which Dr. Joseph Grinnell later named in his honor; went into much detail concerning the structure of

downy feathers and in the succession of plumages in cormorants, and introduced a new term, "mesoptile" for a type of feather between the down and the adult feather. He advanced ingenious theories as to the origin, distribution, and migration of Pribilof and other Arctic birds, and supplied much original matter on the habits and status of the various species treated, producing a most creditable work. His investigations on shrikes, embodied in a paper "Our Small Eastern Shrikes," in which the now well known Migrant Shrike was first recognized, was another subject to which Palmer devoted much time before reaching the stage of publication. His facilities for research work, limited as they were by the nature of his official duties, did not readily permit his taking up subjects beyond those that came within his own field experiences.

In addition to his contributions to ornithology. Palmer wrote a number of papers on botanical subjects, more particularly on ferns, a group in which he had been an interested student for many years. His fern collection was begun in the winter of 1873-'74, with the definite object of obtaining a good series of normal examples as well as variations, but the discovery of a new species was apparently of little interest to him. Birds and ferns were the only groups in which he had accumulated material for his private collections, except fossils, in recent years, and by the terms of his will, made in the year 1900, these two collections are bequeathed to the U. S. National Museum, with the proviso that 500 skins of birds are to go to the University of Virginia.

Although Palmer found time to contribute about sixty papers and lesser items to the scientific journals, it was as a field naturalist that he reached his greatest development, for his experience in the local region extended over nearly fifty years, and with an excellent memory for past events, he was able to recall natural history conditions as they existed here long ago. He did not give up field work with advancing years, but continued his trips with undiminished interest. He was a congenial and wholesome companion on trips afield, and frequently accompanied the younger naturalists on their excursions to neighboring parts of Virginia and Maryland. His adventures on these collecting trips were many and varied, especially while searching for fossils at low tide along the

base of crumbling cliffs, and it is not surprising that some one incident or experience should stand out with greater prominence than others. Palmer met with such an experience in 1917, when on one of his excursions to Plum Point, near Chesapeake Beach. On his way to the cliffs, he stopped as usual at the home of the Dixon family, friends with whom he put up when his work required an extended stay, and on leaving for the fossil site was followed by "Doll," the pet dog of the house, who frequently accompanied him on these trips. During the course of his work he accidentally dislodged a large mass of earth, which fell on him with crushing force pinning him on his back to the ground. Although severely injured, he succeeded in freeing his arms, and gave his attention to considering means for relief. Travel is infrequent at this point, and the imprisoned man decided that in his four-footed friend lay his only hope of an early rescue. Managing to find pencil and paper in his pockets, he scribbled a brief message explaining his predicament, and calling the dog fastened the message securely to her neck with his neck-tie, and attempted to drive her home. But "Doll" was inclined to regard this as a new play, not understanding what was expected of her. Finally, after clods of earth had been thrown at her, the animal left. Fortunately, she went directly home, but had some difficulty in gaining admittance, in spite of her barking, as Mr. Palmer was supposed to be near at hand. However, she finally succeeded, and Mrs. Dixon quickly discovered the unusual decoration. A closer inspection disclosed the message, other members of the household were notified, and a relief party was shortly on the way to the cliffs, a half mile or more distant, where the injured man was found and soon extricated from his unusual plight. He was unable to stand, and was carried back to the house, and later removed to his home. It was several weeks before he was able to return to his duties at the Museum, and for a long time thereafter he walked with a limp; in fact, is said never to have fully recovered from the effects of this experience.

Mr. Palmer was a member of several societies. Years ago he belonged to the Society of American Taxidermists, which, at its third annual exhibition, held in New York City, in May, 1883,

awarded him a special medal for a cast of a leather-backed turtle's head and a certificate of merit for mounted birds. In 1888 he was elected a member of the American Ornithologists' Union and became a Fellow ten years later. He was a member of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, of the American Fern Society, its president ("by a nearly unanimous vote") in 1917-1918; an original member of the Washington Biologists' Field Club, and its president in 1913-1914. He was a member of the Biological Society of Washington, and a member of its council in recent years. At its meetings he read various papers, and exhibited specimens, principally of the local fauna and flora, but in later years notes on fossils largely crowded out other subjects. Two younger associations, the American Society of Mammalogists, and the American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, also claimed him as a member.

Thirty years ago an organization called the Potomac Valley Ornithological Club was launched in Washington, and numbered among its members most of the active local field ornithologists and bird lovers of that time. It held 62 bi-weekly meetings (except in the summer months), from February 1892 to April 1896. William Palmer was elected its president at the outset, and was annually reelected to the same office, almost without opposition, until the Club ceased to exist. He was a faithful attendant at meetings, and read a number of papers, among them one on the presence of wing-claws in birds; another on the "Malar stripe of the young Flicker," the substance of which was later published in 'The Osprey,' in 1901. At the meeting of December 10, 1894, he read a paper on "The Immature Bird's Skull," illustrated with specimens and drawings, in which he demonstrated a method of determining the age of birds by reference to the top of the skull, which, in young birds, shows a certain area of translucent unossified structure, a fact little known at that time, although now quite commonly used by collectors as a test in determining the age of individual specimens. The Potomac Valley Club did not issue any published record of its proceedings, and the data given above has been gathered from the minute-book of the Club, which is still extant.

Palmer was a man of powerful physique, particularly in his younger days, and was wont to indulge in long and difficult pedestrian feats with little show of fatigue. He was a loyal, good hearted and steadfast friend, though undemonstrative, and inclined to be stoical by nature. He accepted good or bad news as it came to him, without display of emotion, but there were times when he waxed enthusiastic and became animated over the discovery of a rare specimen in the field, or when discussing some problem on which he had fortified himself by careful investigation. He was a man of firm convictions and tenacious of his opinions, always ready to argue the point on any subject upon which he held decided views, and was even dominating and aggressive when on familiar ground.

Mr. Palmer's published contributions are somewhat scattered, and several of his earliest notes were printed in the 'Pastime,' a small and all but forgotten monthly periodical with natural history leanings, of which he was for a time one of the editors and proprietors. As some of the titles are now difficult of access, it has been thought best to give a full list of his publications.

LIST OF THE SCIENTIFIC PUBLICATIONS OF WILLIAM PALMER.

Avifauna Columbiana.

'Pastime,' III, No. 1, July, 1884, pp. 5, 6.

Avifauna Columbiana.

'Pastime,' III, No. 2, August, 1884, pp. 13, 14.

[A porpoise, *Tursiops tursio*, in the Potomac.] (Anonymous.)

'Pastime,' III, No. 2, August, 1884, p. 16.

[A cormorant on the Potomac, off White House Point.] (Anonymous.)

'Pastime,' III, No. 2, August, 1884, p. 16.

[Albino young robins.] (Anonymous.)

'Pastime,' III, No. 2, August, 1884, p. 16.

A Botanical Trip up the Anacostia. "By one of the Party."

'Pastime,' III, No. 4, October, 1884, pp. 25, 26.

The Ferns of Washington and Vicinity. (Anonymous.)

'Pastime,' III, No. 4, October, 1884, pp. 29, 30.

Arrival of Spring Birds.

'Pastime,' III, No. 4, October, 1884, p. 30.

[A shearwater on the Potomac.] (Anonymous.)

'Pastime,' III, No. 8, February, 1885, p. 8.

[The Prairie horned lark in Alexandria Co., Va.] (Anonymous.)

'Pastime,' III, No. 8, February, 1885, p. 11.

- Abundance of *Parus atricapilius* near Washington.
'Auk,' II, No. 3, July, 1885, p. 304.
- Occurrence of *Helminthophila leucobronchialis* in Virginia.
'Auk,' II, No. 3, July, 1885, p. 304.
- Additions to the Avifauna of Washington and Vicinity. By Hugh M. Smith and William Palmer.
'Auk,' V, No. 2, April, 1888, pp. 147, 148.
- Occurrence of Traill's Flycatcher near Washington, D. C.
'Auk,' VI, No. 1, January, 1889, p. 71.
- First occurrence of the Philadelphia Vireo near Washington, D. C.
'Auk,' VI, No. 1, January, 1889, p. 74.
- Notes on the Birds observed during the cruise of the United States Fish Commission schooner Grampus in the summer of 1887.
'Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus.,' XIII, No. 819, October 14, 1890, pp. 249-265.
- Fate of the Fur Seal in America.
'Forest and Stream,' XXXVII, No. 15, October 29, 1891, pp. 287-288.
- Do Wading Birds Swim?
'Nidologist,' I, No. 12, August, 1894, p. 175.
- Plumages of the Young Hooded Warbler.
'Auk,' XI, No. 4, October, 1894, pp. 282-291, figs. 1-4.
- The Ruff and Western Sandpiper near Washington, D. C.
'Auk,' XI, No. 4, October, 1894, p. 325.
- An Asiatic Cuckoo on the Pribylof Islands, Alaska.
'Auk,' XI, No. 4, October, 1894, p. 325.
- Four Additions to the Birds of the Virginias.
'Auk,' XI, No. 4, October, 1894, pp. 333, 334.
- [Notes on the Pacific Walrus and its skin.]
Report of U. S. Nat. Mus. for 1893, 1895, pp. 50-52.
- Photographs of Young Skimmers, by R. W. Shufeldt, With Notes on the Breeding Habits of these Birds by Mr. Wm. Palmer.
'Nidologist,' III, No. 3, November, 1895, pp. 26-28, 2 figs.
- The Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Virginia and Maryland.
'Auk,' XIII, No. 1, January, 1896, p. 83.
- Second occurrence of the Lark Sparrow in Virginia.
'Auk,' XIII, No. 1, January, 1896, p. 84.
- On the Florida Ground Owl (*Speotyto floridana*).
'Auk,' XIII, No. 2, April, 1896, pp. 99-108, pl. II, 2 text figs.
- Thoughts on the New Check-List.
'Nidologist,' III, No. 8, April, 1896, p. 91; No. 9, May, 1896, pp. 102, 103.
- Stone on the Molting of Birds. (Review.)
'Auk,' XIII, No. 3, July, 1896, pp. 240-243.
- The Check-List again.—A Rejoinder.
'Nidologist,' III, No. 12, August, 1896, pp. 138, 139.

- Chimney Swift Feeding its Young.
'Nidologist,' IV, No. 2, October, 1896, p. 17.
- A Note on *Buteo borealis lucasanus* Ridgway.
'Auk,' XIII, No. 4, October, 1896, p. 342.
- Breeding of the Yellow-throated Warbler (*Dendroica dominica*) in Virginia,
near Washington.
'Auk,' XIII, No. 4, October, 1896, p. 343.
- The Wood Ibis in Virginia and Maryland.
'Auk,' XIV, No. 2, April, 1897, p. 208, 209.
- An Addition to North American Petrels.
'Auk,' XIV, No. 3, July, 1897, pp. 297-299.
- Bachman's Sparrow in Virginia.
'Auk,' XIV, No. 3, July, 1897, p. 322.
- The Sitkan Kinglet.
'Auk,' XIV, No. 4, October, 1897, pp. 399-401.
- The Tree Swallow Breeding in Virginia.
'Auk,' XIV, No. 4, October, 1897, p. 408.
- Our Small Eastern Shrikes.
'Auk,' XV, No. 3, July, 1898, pp. 244-258.
- The Ferns of Hemlock Bluff.
'Plant World,' II, No. 9, June, 1899, pp. 143-147.
- A new locality for *Asplenium pinnatifidum*.
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