

there given, you will find that I founded the new genus on the bird, which up till and after that time was known as *Totanus damacensis* Horsf., viz., *Tringa subminuta* Midd., this is proved by the measurements given.

The bird on which the genus was founded is figured and described in the same part of my work as *Pisobia damacensis*.

I would be much obliged if the Committee would look into this matter again with the above facts duly considered.

Yours Sincerely,

GREGORY M. MATHEWS.

NOTES AND NEWS.

As a fellow editor we sympathize fully with the editor of 'Bird-Lore' in the appeal for commendation as well as criticism, which he has presented in a recent editorial. "Issue after issue," he says, "the Editor through his own pen or that of his contributors, addresses an unseen, and, as a rule, unresponsive audience. An apparent or actual error is promptly called to his attention but he can assume that he has won the approval of his readers only by their failure to criticize," and then in lieu of commendation from his readers, he proceeds to tell us himself, what a thoroughly good magazine 'Bird-Lore' is, and all that he says we would enthusiastically endorse.

'Bird-Lore' this year reaches its 25th' mile-stone and all the volumes stand facing us on our library shelves. In the first is pasted a letter dated October 29, 1898 in which the would-be editor writes us regarding "a proposed magazine to be primarily the organ of the Audubon Societies." He says: "Our bookshelves are strewn with the wrecks of popular bird journals and before launching my craft I want both to make careful soundings and to man a good crew. If after a fair trial I find the thing will not go I shall not ask for aid to keep alive a moribund magazine, but shall withdraw from the field. And by the way how does 'Birds Afield' strike you for a title or do you prefer 'Bird-Lore'?"

From the start there was no question about "the thing going" and each year we have marveled at the sea-worthiness of the craft, to continue his simile, and the skill of the man at the wheel, though we realize now that we have not given voice to our thoughts as we should have done, to cheer on the lone mariner. This we now do with all our heart and having done the proper thing by our worthy contemporary, we would call *our* readers' attention to 'The Auk,' which this year completes its fortieth volume, and in setting forth its claims to attention we feel that we are encroaching in no way upon the glories of 'Bird-Lore' since the two journals occupy quite different fields and are not comparable even though they be incomparable.

The Secretary of the A. O. U., upon visiting the editorial office recently, exclaimed, "Why there is 'The Auk' all in one row! I never saw that before!" And there it is, the 40 volumes occupying just six feet of space (exclusive of the Nuttall Bulletin and the two index volumes which make 9 inches more).

Forty-six inches, comprising 26 volumes (12,600 pages), to the credit of the late Dr. J. A. Allen, and twenty-six inches, 12 volumes (7,363 pages), to that of the present editor. From these figures it can readily be seen that 'The Auk' has been enjoying a steady and healthy growth of late, culminating with the current volume, which contains 700 pages and forms, we believe, the largest volume of an ornithological journal ever published.

It includes 210 contributions from 132 individuals, 53 being leading articles and 157 general notes and editorial items, and in addition there are reviews of 66 books and papers, 82 ornithological journals and notices of 130 papers published in other journals. The range of subject has been great. There are papers dealing with the life histories of various species and the nesting habits of others; discussions of migration and geographic distribution; annotated lists of the birds of various states and countries; philosophical discussions of such problems as the development of song, and of mating habits and influence of environment; methods of field observation and of bird banding with the results of the latter; papers on food habits, osteology, feather structure and coloration; on nomenclature, classification, and descriptions of new species; notes on bibliography; biographies of noted ornithologists and historical contributions.

While a majority of the papers naturally deal with the birds of North America, in which alone the greatest number of our members are interested, yet the field is by no means limited to these and bird life in almost all parts of the world is touched upon, while the quarterly reviews gives one an up to date summary of the ornithological literature of the world.

It is not to be expected that 'The Auk' will continue to measure up to the dimensions of Volume XL since several articles published in it were paid for by their authors with the request that they should not interfere with the publication of any papers regularly scheduled for this year. Furthermore, a volume of 500 pages is found to be as much as it is possible for an editor to handle efficiently who is compelled to do the work in spare moments from a busy life devoted to other interests.

Let us hope that the A. O. U. may be able to secure the entire time of some future editor when our journal may attain a scope and perfection that cannot be realized today.

It may be that our estimate of our present volume will be questioned since, as we well know, 'The Ibis' has exceeded our pagination, but, it must be remembered that the latter journal carries an average of about 100 words less per page than does 'The Auk.' Writing in 1884, the late Dr. Coues stated that objection had been made to the name of our journal because it aped 'The Ibis.' He dismissed the charge on the grounds that

'Auk' was a great improvement on 'Ibis' because it was one syllable and three letters whereas 'Ibis' was two syllables and four letters, but in all other respects he was glad to have 'The Auk' ape or imitate 'The Ibis' and mentioned various qualities of the latter which he hoped 'The Auk' might eventually attain. We cannot help thinking that many of these hopes have been realized although some of 'The Ibis's' good qualities, such as a wealth of colored plates, we have yet to acquire. At the same time we are somewhat elated to find that sacred bird actually following in the waddling foot-steps of 'The Auk' in the matter of a quarterly review of literature!

And so, after forty years, we heartily endorse the first half of Dr. Coues' wish of 1884, and modestly hope that we have fulfilled the second!

"May its ['The Ibis'] shadow, already 'sacred,' be cast while the pyramids stand: and may 'The Auk' in due time be also known of men as an antient and honourable fowle."—W. S.

JOHN HENRY GURNEY, an Honorary Fellow of the Union since 1921, died at his home, Keswick Hall, near Norwich, England, Nov. 15, 1922. He was the son of John Henry Gurney, Sr., and was born at Easton Hall, near Norwich, July 31, 1848. Both father and son had similar tastes, were deeply interested in ornithology, and at the first meeting of the Union were elected to membership, J. H. Gurney, Sr., as an Honorary Member, and his son as a Corresponding Member. Neither, however, remained very long in the Honorary list; the father died in 1890, seven years after election, and the son a year after he had been made an Honorary Fellow. John Henry Gurney, Jr., received his education at Harrow and devoted most of his time and energies to local activities in Norfolk. He took an active interest in the Norwich Museum and added to the magnificent collection of raptorial birds presented by his father to that institution and of which collection he published a catalogue in 1894.

While his interests and attention were chiefly centered on his home county he found time occasionally for travel and in 1870 spent five months in Algeria. His first book published in 1876, entitled 'The Rambles of a Naturalist in Egypt and other Countries,' included notes on Algeria and Russia, and in 1901 he brought out a catalogue of the birds of the French Riviera, a locality which he frequently visited. His publications as shown by a list issued in 1918 numbered more than 130 titles most of which naturally related to the birds of Norfolk.

Gurney's interests lay largely in historical channels and two of his historical books are of special importance. One, 'The Gannet—a Bird with a History,' 1913, was devoted to a species in which he had been interested ever since 1879 when he first visited Bass Rock, and the other was entitled 'Early Annals of Ornithology,' 1921, in which was assembled a rich collection of facts regarding the progress of ornithology from the 4th to the 18th centuries inclusive.

Gurney was highly esteemed by those who knew him as an agreeable and entertaining companion, a courteous and reliable correspondent, and a generous and public spirited citizen. Seldom has there been such continuity in interest in birds on the part of father and son, and seldom has anyone, devoting himself, as did John Henry Gurney, Jr., primarily to the local avifauna, made contributions of more permanent value to the literature of ornithology.—T. S. P.

WILLIAM HENRY HUDSON, a Corresponding Fellow of the Union since 1895, died in London, Aug. 18, 1922. He was born of English parents in Argentina, about forty miles south of Buenos Aires, on St. Dominic's Day, Aug. 4, 1842,¹ and had just passed his 80th birthday at the time of his death. His early years were spent on his father's estancia and during this period he gained many of the experiences which in later years formed the basis of his books. At the age of sixteen he suffered from an illness from which he never fully recovered and which compelled him to lead an outdoor life. About 1874 he went to England and took up his residence in London which thenceforth became his home.

His published works include some 57 titles and his popularity as a writer during his later life gives no indication of the constant struggle with poverty and discouragement that marked the first ten or fifteen years of his career as an author. Shortly before his death he asserted that publishers threw money at him with both hands and he gave up his Civil List Pension of £150 which had been awarded him in 1901. His first contribution that appeared in print was an article in 'Cassell's Family Magazine' for March, 1875, under the title 'Wanted, a Lullaby' which contained a poem of 40 lines and was signed "Maud Merryweather."

To ornithologists Hudson is best known from the 'Argentine Ornithology, a Descriptive Catalogue of the Birds of the Argentine Republic,' in two volumes, 1888-89, to which he contributed the life histories and Dr. P. L. Sclater the technical matter; the later edition of the same work without the technical matter, entitled 'Birds of La Plata,' 1920, by Hudson alone; and by his 'Naturalist in La Plata,' 1892. Accounts of his early home appeared in 'The Purple Land that England Lost,' 1885; 'Idle Days in Patagonia,' 1893; 'El Ombu,' 1902, and 'Far Away and Long Ago,' 1918. Among his sketches of English birds and impressions of English rural life should be mentioned 'Birds in a Village,' 1893; 'British Birds,' 1895; 'Birds in London,' 1898; 'Nature in Downland,' 1900; 'Birds and Man,' 1901; 'Hampshire Days,' 1903; 'The Land's End,' 1908; 'Afoot in Eng-

¹ For some reason the exact place and date of his birth long remained a mystery. In 'Far Away and Long Ago—a History of My Early Life,' p. 4, he himself says that he was born at "Los Veinte-cinco Ombues," or the Estancia of the 25 Ombu Trees, and on p. 317 that he was born on St. Dominic's Day. Several erroneous dates have been assigned as the time of his birth and even G. F. Wilson in a 'Bibliography of the Writings of W. H. Hudson,' p. 9, 1922, gives the year of his birth as 1841.

land,' 1909; 'A Shepherd's Life,' 1910; 'Adventures Among Birds,' 1913; 'Birds in Town and Village,' 1919; 'The Book of a Naturalist,' 1919, and a 'Traveller in Little Things,' 1921.

Mr. Hudson took an active interest in the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, served as a member of its council, prepared several of its leaflets, and made the Society the residuary legatee under his will.

While not a technical ornithologist he took high rank as a nature writer and occupied a prominent place in the field of literature. He was "a master of the finest type of English prose," his style was a model of clarity and beauty and, according to a writer in the 'London Morning Post,' "he was never guilty of a sloppy thought or a slovenly sentence." Unfortunately he left directions that all his manuscripts, notebooks and letters not marked for publication should be destroyed.—T. S. P.

JOHN LEWIS JAMES BONHOTE, a Corresponding Fellow of the Union since 1911, died at Bournemouth, England, Oct. 10, 1922. He was born in London in 1875, the only son of the late Col. John Bonhote, and was educated at Elstree, Harrow and Trinity College, Cambridge. He early developed an interest in zoology and especially in aviculture. In 1897, he received an appointment as Private Secretary to the Governor of the Bahamas and during his residence there and on a later visit in 1901-02, he made observations on the avifauna of the islands which formed the basis of two papers in 'The Auk' for 1901 and 1903 and several in 'The Ibis' and the 'Avicultural Magazine.' He also saw service in Egypt in the zoological gardens at Giza from 1913 to 1919 where, as opportunity offered, he collected in the Delta and did much to aid in reestablishing the Egret colonies.

Bonhote was an active worker in the various ornithological organizations of which he was a member. He joined the British Ornithologists' Union and the Avicultural Society in 1894, and was elected a member of the Council of the latter Society in 1895, Secretary in 1899, and subsequently became Treasurer. In the B. O. U. he became a member of the Committee of the Union in 1903 and served as Secretary from 1907 to 1913. In the British Ornithologists' Club he served as Secretary of the Migration Committee from 1904 to 1910 and as Secretary and Treasurer of the Club from 1920 until his death. He was also one of the joint secretaries of the Fourth International Ornithological Congress, a Fellow of the Linnean and Zoological Societies, and for many years served on the council of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds.

He was particularly interested in aviculture and migration and his papers dealt largely with birds in captivity, color changes and heredity. He published important observations on hybridizing ducks and on the eclipse plumages of waterfowl. One of his best known works is his 'Birds of Britain,' 1907, with 100 illustrations in color. He was full of energy, a hard worker, a good speaker, an original thinker and a good organizer.

According to Dr. C. B. Ticehurst "he was a great acquisition on any committee, and the success of the Fourth Ornithological Congress, in 1905, was largely due to his organizing capacity as joint Secretary, and he was one of the best Secretaries the [British Ornithologists'] Union ever had."—T. S. P.

EDUARD BACHOFEN VON ECHT was born on March 12, 1830, at Haus Gais near Oelde, Westphalia, Germany. He was a schoolmate and friend of the well known ornithologist, Bernard Altum, afterwards Professor at Eberswalde, and from his early boyhood developed a strong taste for natural history. After completing his college studies he moved to Nussdorf near Vienna, Austria, and went into the brewing business. In the early 70's he joined the Ornithologischer Verein at Vienna, became its President in 1882, and took active interest in all its affairs up to its dissolution. He was one of the organizers of the first International Ornithological Congress held at Vienna in April, 1884.

A liberal patron of Sciences and Arts, he made valuable gifts to various public institutions at Vienna, and it may be especially mentioned that he purchased and presented the fine Oological collection of the late Hermann Furnes to the Natural History Museum of Vienna. He died at Nussdorf on May 22, 1922, at the ripe age of ninety-two years.—C. E. HELLMAYR.

ENOS ABIJAH MILLS, elected an Associate of the Union in 1916, died at his home on Long's Peak, Colo., Sept. 21, 1922. He was born near Kansas City, Mo., April 22, 1870, and was self-educated. At the age of 16 he took up his residence in a cabin at the foot of Long's Peak and made this his home for many years. He explored the Rocky Mountain region on foot, especially in Colorado, acted as a guide on Long's Peak, and was said to have ascended the mountain more than 250 times.

He has written a number of books and articles on wild life and conservation, including 'The Story of Estes Park,' 1905; 'Wild Life in the Rockies,' 1909; 'The Spell of the Rockies,' 1911; 'Rocky Mountain Wonderland,' 1915; 'Your National Parks,' 1917; 'The Adventures of a Nature Guide,' 1919; and others, several of which contain references to the characteristic birds of the region. Mills was always interested in conservation of wild life and scenery and in the development of National Parks. His activity, locally, in this latter field gained for him the title of "Father of the Rocky Mountain National Park." While not an ornithologist in the strict sense of the term, he was a keen observer and was familiar with the more conspicuous species of the Rocky Mountain region. Through his publications and lectures and his work as a nature guide, and especially through his ability to interest young people, he was able to reach a large audience and did much to popularize the study of birds and other living things in the field.—T. S. P.

THOMAS LEO MCCONNELL, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union since 1915, died in Pittsburgh, Pa., October 13, 1922. He was born

in Kittanning, Pa., December 10, 1882 and, several years later, moved to McKeesport, Pa., residing there until 1919, at which time he moved to Emsworth, Pa., where he resided at the time of his death. He attended the University of Pennsylvania and, after graduating in 1906, entered the United States Engineering Service. In 1921 he became associated with the West Penn Power Company of Pittsburgh, and held a responsible position with the engineering department of that organization.

He was a charter member of the Audubon Society of Western Pennsylvania, a keen observer, an accurate reporter, and full of his love of the birds and their ways. His notebook, kept as religiously as he kept his Sunday morning devotion, was an accurate account of the birds as they came and departed, season after season, for fully fifteen years, and his many contributions to various publications, materially helped to influence public opinion in favor of bird study and bird protection.

Besides his widow, Mrs. Cecelia McConnell, he leaves a daughter and four sons.—T. WALTER WEISEMAN.

JAMES STIRTON WALLACE, an Associate of the Union since 1907, died at Smith's Falls, Ontario, July 24, 1922, as the result of an accident. He was spending his vacation at his summer home at Rideau Lake and had evidently climbed a poplar tree to cut off some dead limbs, when he slipped or took hold of a dead branch and fell to the ground. When found by two neighbors he was lying under the tree unconscious. Examination showed that he had sustained a fracture of the fifth vertebra and he was removed to the hospital at Smith's Falls where he died three days later.

Mr. Wallace was born in Southampton, Bruce Co., Ontario, in 1868, and while still a boy went to Toronto where he attended the city schools. He began his business career with the firm of Taylor, Scott & Co., dealers in brooms and brushes, and subsequently entered the service of the St. Croix Soap Manufacturing Co., where he remained thirty years and at the time of his death occupied the position of sales manager. While he did not publish much he was a keen observer and left many notes on Canadian birds. He was a sportsman and was also greatly interested in horticulture. "Wallace's garden," as his special plot at the Lambton Club was called, was the admiration of visitors. He was fond of flowers, trees, birds and the outdoor world generally, was a delightful companion in the field, and what he knew he knew well. He was unmarried and is survived by two brothers and three sisters.—T. S. P.

T. GILBERT PEARSON, President of the National Association of Audubon Societies and President of the International Committee for Protection of Birds, who represented the Union at the International Congress for the Protection of Nature at Paris, May 31 to June 3, returned from Europe on July 23 after a successful trip to France, England, Switzerland, Hungary and Italy. At the International Congress he secured the adoption of two resolutions, one calling on all nations that had not already done so to protect

small birds, and the other to restrict the sale of feathers and prohibit the export and importation of bird plumage.

In Hungary he had conferences with leading scientific men in Budapest and received assurances that a bird protective organization would be formed in a short time and that representatives would be appointed on the International Committee. In Italy he secured the cooperation of the University of Bologna, the National Zoological Society, the Society for the Protection of Animals at Rome and the National Conservation Society and arranged for the appointment of representatives on the Committee. During his visit in England, the English section of the committee held two meetings and is now well organized to take up the comprehensive program of work which it has outlined. With the active interest aroused in several countries on the Continent as well as in England the outlook for international bird protection is now brighter than ever.

THE WILLIAMS GALAPAGOS EXPEDITION, in charge of William Beebe and including in its personnel John Tee Van and ten others, returned May 16 from a voyage to the Galapagos Islands on the steam yacht "Noma." The expedition was absent ten weeks and brought back a rich collection of zoological material including 27 live birds, 160 bird skins and many nests, eggs, photographs, drawings and notes. Landings were made on Albemarle, Chatham, Duncan, Indefatigable, James and Tower Islands. A preliminary résumé of the trip by Beebe, illustrated with photographs by Tee Van, appeared in the May number of the N. Y. 'Zoological Society Bulletin' and a full account is promised in a volume to be published this autumn by G. P. Putnam's Sons.

EASTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION. On April 24, 1923, a meeting was held at the American Museum in New York, of persons interested in bird banding, fostered by the Linnæan Society of New York. Besides the hundred or more persons from New York and vicinity, there were present, as guests, Mr. Frederick C. Lincoln of the U. S. Biological Survey, Mr. S. Prentiss Baldwin, President of the Inland Bird Banding Association, and four representatives of the New England Bird Banding Association, Dr. C. W. Townsend, President; Mr. Laurence B. Fletcher, Secretary; Mr. A. C. Bent and Mr. Chas. L. Whittle.

Mr. Lincoln and Mr. Baldwin gave talks on bird banding illustrated by lantern slides. At the close of the meeting a Committee was appointed to represent those present, and to ascertain the sentiment of bird banders of the vicinity of New York, in organizing a Bird Banding Association.

As this Committee did not wish to assume authority beyond the locality of New York, Mr. Baldwin and Mr. Lincoln were invited to assist in obtaining the cooperation of persons interested from other states. As it was obviously impossible to assemble a meeting at one time and place, from so wide an area, this has been done by correspondence.

The Association to be called the Eastern Bird Banding Association will include New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia, and may include a part of Canada and West Virginia, and other states to the South, if desired.

Officers: President, Dr. Arthur A. Allen, of Cornell University; Vice-President, Frank L. Burns, Berwyn, Pa.; Secretary, Mrs. J. E. B. Webster, New York; Treasurer, Maunsell S. Crosby, Rhinecliff, N. Y. Members of Council: Beecher S. Bowdish, Rudyerd Boulton, H. H. Cleaves, John A. Gillespie, R. E. Horsey, R. H. Howland, R. J. Middleton, John T. Nichols, Dr. Lewis Rumford, Dr. Witmer Stone.

Just as we go to press we are in receipt of an attractive volume on 'Birds of the New York City Region,' by Ludlow Griscom, forming No. 9 of the Handbook Series of the American Museum of Natural History. The book will be reviewed in the January 'Auk.'