

Some Uruguay Records.—On the recent Captain Marshall Field Brazilian Expedition of Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, I secured in Uruguay the following birds:

Limnocittes rectirostris GOULD.—Two females. Dept. Rocha: 15 miles north of San Vicente de Castillos. November 9 and 12, 1926. Taken in reeds in small swamps. This is the first record of this species since its discovery by Darwin in 1832.

Limnornis curvirostris GOULD.—Juvenile male. Dept. San Jose: Arazati, on coast south of Ecilda. January 10, 1927. This appears to be the second record of this bird from Uruguay since it was taken there by Darwin. It would seem from this juvenile specimen that the birds had bred there.

The following are reported from Uruguay for the first time:

Knipolegus lophotes BOIE.—Male and female. Dept. Treinte y Tres: Quebrada de los Cuervos, 45 kilometers north of the town of Treinte y Tres. December 9 and 10, 1926.

Phylloscartes v. ventralis TEMMINCK.—Three males. Two from Dept. Treinte y Tres: Quebrada de los Cuervos, 45 kilometers north of the town Treinte y Tres. December 6, 1926. One from Dept. Soriano: Estancia Concordia, on Rio Uruguay, southwest of Dolores. January 26, 1927.

The following are all from Dept. Soriano: Estancia Concordia, on Rio Uruguay, southwest of Dolores.

Sublegatus m. modestus WIED.—One female, January 31, 1927.

Phytotoma r. rutilla VIEILLOT.—One male, January 21, 1927.

Micrococyx cinereus VIEILLOT.—One male, January 27, 1927.—COLIN CAMPBELL SANBORN, *Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, Illinois, U. S. A.*

An Early Account of the Destruction of Birds at Niagara Falls.—

To an edition of John Bartram's 'Observations on the Inhabitants, Soil, etc., in his Travels from Pennsylvania to Onondaga, etc.' (London, 1751) there is added a curious account of the cataract of Niagara by Peter Kalm, a Swedish "Gentleman who travelled there" and on p. 807 occurs the following:—"Several of the French gentlemen told me, that when birds come flying into this fog or smoak of the fall, they fall down and perish in the water; either because their wings are become wet, or that the noise of the fall astonishes them, and they know not were to go in the Dark; but others were of opinion, that seldom or never any bird perished there in that manner; because, as they all agreed, among the abundance of birds found dead below the fall, there are no other sorts than such as live and swim frequently in the water; as Swans, Geese, Ducks, Water-hens, Teal, and the like. And very often great flocks of them are seen going to destruction in this manner: they swim in the river above the fall, and so are carried down lower and lower by the water, and as water-fowl commonly take great delight in being carry'd with the stream, so here they indulge themselves in enjoying this pleasure so long, till the swiftness of the water

becomes so great, that 'tis no longer possible for them to rise, but they are driven down the precipice, and perish. They are observ'd when they draw nigh the fall, to endeavor with all their might, to take wing and leave the water, but they cannot. In the months of September and October, such abundant quantities of dead water-fowl are found every morning below the Fall, on the shore, that the garrison of the fort for a long time lived chiefly upon them. Besides the fowl, they find also several sorts of dead fish, also deer, bears, and other animals which have tried to cross the water above the fall; the larger animals are generally found broken to pieces. * *

"I was told at Oswego, that in October, or thereabouts, such plenty of feathers are to be found here below the Fall, that a man in a days time can gather enough of them for several beds, which feathers they said came off the birds kill'd at the Fall. I ask'd the French, if this was true? They told me that they had never seen any such thing; but that if the feathers were pick'd off the dead birds, there might be such a quantity."—JOHN C. PHILLIPS, *Wenham, Mass.*