

civic institutions, among them the Norfolk Museum of Arts and Sciences, the Community Fund, and the United War Fund. From 1932 he was an active member of the Board of Visitors of the Virginia Military Institute. He was a vestryman of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Norfolk. On January 4, 1912, he married Susan Watkins, who lived only a year after the marriage.

Goldsborough Serpell was a prominent sportsman, duck hunter and golfer. His interest in ornithology was rather incidental to his love of the field. So far as I know, he wrote nothing on birds. Dignified and distinguished looking but always genial and genuinely democratic, he had many friends, and served well in his city and state.—J. J. MURRAY.

MRS. LOUIS ROBERTS TAYLOR, for nine years an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 13, 1883, and died there March 14, 1944. She was a graduate of Milwaukee Downer Seminary; illness prevented further formal education. Having descended from a German family noted for its love of nature and the cultural arts, she inherited a distinctly artistic bent. She was an accomplished pianist, a skillful binder of books, and a worker in silver.

A determination to rear her son as close to nature as possible resulted in the purchase of an abandoned farm about eighteen miles north of Milwaukee. 'The Hummocks,' by judicious planting and studied provisions, became the resort of many species of song birds. She then became interested in birds of prey and the place became unique as a hospital for wounded raptors and other birds. This pursuit showed that she possessed a breadth of vision beyond that of the average student of birds.

The bronze plaque erected to the last Wisconsin Passenger Pigeon by the Wisconsin Society for Ornithology was donated by Mr. and Mrs. Taylor. It is particularly fitting that it was cast by the Loeffelholz Foundry, founded by her grandfather, Adam Loeffelholz, in 1848.—A. W. SCHORGER.

#### BIOGRAPHY IN THE AUK

A complete set of *The Auk* contains memorials and obituary notices of more than 700 former Fellows, Members, and Associates of the American Ornithologists' Union and also notices of a number of prominent ornithologists who were not members of the Union. If this material were all brought together in a 'Who Was Who in the A. O. U.,' it would fill nearly 1,000 pages, illustrated by 62 portraits, and would make the equivalent of two average-sized volumes of *The Auk*. About two-thirds of these notices were contributed by four members: 15, including 6 memorials, by A. K. Fisher, 76 by Witmer Stone, 133 by J. A. Allen, and about 260 by the writer.

Every effort is made to publish these notices as promptly as possible and occasionally they appear in the next number after the death of the subject, but announcements of death are often delayed and when received lack important data regarding place and exact date of death, birthplace, and activities. As a result, several years may intervene before the necessary facts are assembled. In one case, Charles Bill, the notice did not appear in *The Auk* for 44 years; in another, Gideon Mabbett, 51 years; and in a third, Samuel Wells Willard, 57 years after death.

Of the deceased members whose notices have not yet been published, less than half a dozen were Foreign Fellows, 7 were Fellows, 2 were Members, and the others, about 260, were Associates.—T. S. PALMER.