

General News Notes.

A NOTABLE EGG COLLECTION.

It may prove of interest to western oologists to learn that during the past few months two Californian collections have changed hands. The extensive collection of H. R. Taylor has been broken up and the greater part of it acquired by Miss Jean Bell of Ridley Park, Penn. Recently the entire private collection of C. Barlow has passed into Miss Bell's possession, the owner feeling that the completion of the collection had been rendered difficult by an entire absence of time to secure and add new species. The features of the Barlow collection were its raptors, select sets with nests, and a fine representation of Farallone species.

It is interesting to note the extent of the very choice oological collection now possessed by Miss Bell, as it is perhaps the largest and most valuable private collection in the United States. Into this superb collection have been absorbed the private cabinets of Messrs. Josiah Hoopes, Isaac Reiff, H. K. Jamison, J. W. Preston, Watson Bishop and C. Barlow besides over 1000 selected sets from the collection of Thos. H. Jackson and several hundred choice sets from H. R. Taylor's collection.

The collection is finely represented in raptors, containing among other good things series of Everglade Kite, Sharp-shinned and Broad-winged Hawks with nests, Canada Jays, Ravens, rare Sparrows etc. Interesting individual sets are Solitary Sandpiper 1-5 (unique) and California Vulture. 848 species and sub-species on the A. O. U. check-list are represented in the collection, which is contained in a special museum building built purposely to receive it and to which has recently been added an extension to accommodate newly acquired specimens.

An interesting event occurred at noon on Sunday, October 15, when Mr. Chester Barlow, editor of the Cooper Ornithological Club's BULLETIN, and Miss Jeannette E. Nicholls were united in marriage at the home of the bride's parents in San Jose, California. Miss Minnie Winter acted as maid of honor and Miss Marie Williams as bridesmaid, the groom being attended by H. R. Taylor. The ceremony was performed by Rev. C. J. Thompson, in the presence of relatives and a few intimate friends of the family. The bride is one of the most charming young ladies for which the "Garden City" of the state is noted. The groom holds a responsible position in the

Santa Clara Valley Bank, and has a host of friends in and out of scientific lines who will wish the couple many happy years. After December they will make their home in Santa Clara.

Among the choice gifts was a handsome dinner set of Haviland china from the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club, of which Mr. Barlow has been the popular secretary for over six years. The presentation, a complete surprise, was accompanied by autographic congratulations from the members, bound into a unique souvenir, beautifully designed by Otto Emerson and artistically inscribed as follows:

"With compliments and all felicitous wishes to our good friend, our honorable secretary and editor, Chester Barlow, on his happy accession of a Bird of Paradise! From the Northern Division of the Cooper Ornithological Club of California, October 15, 1899." To which the editorial associate, having here for once personally asserted his prerogative, can add or detract nothing. H. R. T.

The expedition sent out to the Yukon River district by the Biological Survey in charge of Messrs. Wilfred H. Osgood and A. G. Maddren, and accompanied by Dr. L. B. Bishop, has returned and Mr. Osgood has been spending a few days at his former home in San Jose. With the exception of being capsized near Circle City and losing all their collecting equipage save their specimens, the party had few mishaps and accomplished much work of permanent value. The northern range of many species was very materially extended. Mr. Osgood left for Washington Oct. 29.

Word has been received from Joseph Grinnell who has spent the past eighteen months on the Kowak river in the Kotzebue Sound region, Alaska, above the Arctic circle. They were ten and a half months without communication with the outside world. On July 9 their little craft, the "Penelope," broke through the ice of Kotzebue Sound on its way to Cape Nome where they arrived three weeks later. Here the party will remain until late in September, stopping at Dutch Harbor, in the Aleutian islands on their way home.

A great mass of material of rare interest has been collected and numerous notes and facts recorded, which cannot but delight the ornithological world. Mr. Grinnell's reputation for accuracy of observation and indomitable energy is well known and the results of his explorations in this heretofore unknown region will not only redound to his credit, but to that of the Cooper Ornithological Club, of which he is an active member, as well.