

A Domesticated White Pelican.



Mr. A. P. Redington of Santa Barbara has favored THE CONDOR with the interesting photographs presented herewith, and adds a few words concerning the tameness of this white pelican. Mr. Redington writes: "It was captured some years ago and has been in captivity ever since, though it has liberty to go and come at its will, which I suppose could hardly be termed "captivity" in its true sense. It is in possession of a fisherman's family whose residence is located near the beach, and the bird has the freedom of the yard, and street for that matter, as I have frequently seen it flying up from the beach homewards, sometimes keeping in advance of a team, and flying but a few feet above the ground. At

other times I have noticed it approach high in the air, and circle in lowering circles until it landed in the yard. It is quite tame, and has been taught many tricks by the family, such as catching a ball or other object when thrown at him and sometimes tossing it into the air again. When performing this feat, it seems to extend its pouch to its fullest capacity and this acts like a basket in catching the object. He is fed on fish from the fish stall, and eats almost anything of that description given him. These people have another pelican, one of the brown variety, but it is not as domestic as the white one. It is absent for long periods."

