

The Ornithological Writings of Chester Barlow.

BY JOSEPH GRINNELL.

DURING the even decade of Chester Barlow's activity along literary lines more than fifty articles appeared to his credit, besides recently numerous editorials and short notes. His first article that I have found came to print in August, 1902, in Lattin's *Oologist* where so many of us younger bird-students received our first inspiration to "write up" what we had learned. This first article of Barlow's was on the nesting of the ashy petrel on the Farallone Islands. He had visited these fascinating bird-islands and his discoveries there served also for several subsequent papers of remarkable interest to their younger readers, who longed to get to the oologist's paradise that was so vividly depicted.

In 1893, within a few months after the founding of the Cooper Ornithological Club, its Secretary's Reports began to appear regularly in Taylor's *Nidiologist*. These reports were compiled largely from papers presented at the meetings. Here Barlow's good judgment and literary talent came into play in culling out and compiling from the heterogeneous and often poorly-composed manuscripts those accounts we still find so full of interest. These "Secretary's Reports" continued for nearly four years, and are yet of high value for reference in regard to the life-histories of many western birds.

During this period many signed articles also appeared dealing with bird-life in Santa Clara county. Here we find valuable articles on the nesting of the white-tailed kite and golden eagle. Then came the summer-vacation trips to the Sierra Nevada, and the delightful articles relating to its bird-life, not only pleasing, but of permanent value to science—important additions to the known histories of such birds as the hermit warbler, Calaveras warbler, olive-sided flycatcher and Cassin Vireo.

With the inauguration of the Bulletin of the Cooper Ornithological Club in January, 1899, Barlow's really most important service to ornithology began, though his own signed articles became fewer. We probably never can sufficiently realize the great influence Barlow exerted in "bringing out" previously unknown observers—urging them to contribute from their own stock of knowledge, and thus instilling that enthusiasm which when once well started may in time lead into the genius of a Coues. Barlow is not considered by some to have been a scientific ornithologist. He never wrote an article which was not intended for the merest beginner to read and enjoy. But I believe his career to have had a much more far-reaching influence on *scientific ornithology* than if he had entered, and confined his entire energy to, systematic or philosophic fields.

1892. The Ashy Petrel (*Oceanodroma homochroa*) on the Farallones. —*Oologist* IX, August 1892, pp. 193-194.
 1892. Professional Egging; or the Collecting of Murre's Eggs in California. —*Oologist* IX, December 1892, pp. 255-257.
 1893. A Day with the Creek Birds. —*Am. Mag. of Natural Science* I, May 1893, pp. 77-78.
 1893. The White-tailed Kite and Prairie Falcon in California. —*Oologist* X, September 1893, pp. 258-260.
 1893. Nesting of the Mallard Duck [near San Jose]. —*Nidiologist* I, November 1893, p. 38, 2 hftt.
 1893. The Pileolated and Yellow Warblers [nesting in Santa Clara County]. —*Nidiologist* I, November 1893, pp. 44-45.
 1893. Nesting Habits of the Brandt's, Baird's and Farallone Cormorants. —*Am. Mag. of Nat. Science* II, November 1893, pp. 53-54.
 1893. Cooper Ornithological Club. [Secretary's Report, including notes on Lutescent Warbler, etc.] —*Nidiologist* I, December 1893, pp. 60-61.
 1894. Collecting on the Farallone Islands. —*Naturalist* I, January 1894, pp. 7-8.

1894. Cooper Ornithological Club. [Secretary's Reports, including much bird matter compiled from papers presented at meetings]. —Nidiologist I, Jan. 1894, p. 74; Feb., pp. 95-96; March, p. 111; April, pp. 122-123; May, p. 143; July, pp. 159-160; II, Oct. 1894, pp. 28-29; Nov., p. 43; Dec., pp. 56-57.
1894. The Golden Eagle. —Naturalist I, July 1894, pp. 75-77, hft.
1894. Nesting of the Ashy Petrel. —Nidiologist I, August, 1894, pp. 171-173, 3 hftt.
1894. Some notes on the Western Gull. —Nidiologist II, September 1894, p. 7.
1895. Cooper Ornithological Club. [Secretary's Reports, including much bird matter compiled from papers presented at meetings] —Nidiologist II. Jan. 1895, pp. 69-71; Feb., pp. 85-86; May, pp. 123-125; June, pp. 144-145; July, p. 160; III, Sept., 1895, pp. 6-7; Oct., pp. 20-21; Nov., p. 38.
1895. Early Nesting in California [of Magpie, Poor-will, etc.] —Nidiologist II, May 1895, p. 126.
1895. In the Haunts of the White-tailed Kite. —Oologist XII, June 1895, pp. 97-101.
1895. Stray Notes from the Farallones. —Nidiologist II, August 1895, pp. 166-167, hft.
1895. The Yellow-billed Magpie. *Pica nuttalli*. —Avifauna I, October 1895, pp. 20-21, hft.
1896. Cooper Ornithological Club. [Secretary's Reports, including bird matter compiled from papers presented at meetings] —Nidiologist III, April 1896, pp. 88-89; August, pp. 141-142.
1896. Cassin's Vireo in Santa Clara Co., California. —Wilson Bulletin No. 8, May 1896, pp. 7-8.
1896. Three days in the Sierras. —Osprey I, September 1896, pp. 5-7, hft.
1897. Cooper Ornithological Club. [Secretary's Report, including several bird notes] —Nidiologist IV, January 1897, pp. 41-43.
1897. Some Notes on the Nesting Habits of the White-tailed Kite. —Auk XIV, January 1897, pp. 14-21.
1897. Occurrence of *Zonotrichia albicollis* in California. —Auk XIV, April 1897, p. 221.
1897. A Curious Bird Note. —Nidiologist IV, May 1897, p. 104.
1897. The | Story of the Farallones | text by | C. Barlow | arranged and published by | H. R. Taylor | Editor of "The Nidiologist" | Price, 50 cents | Alameda, California . . . | 1897; 36 pp. (unpaged), 28 hftt. (of birds, scenery, etc.).
1897. Price after an Olive-sided Flycatcher's Nest. —Osprey II, September 1897, p. 13.
1897. The Golden Eagle. *Aquila Chrysaetos*. —Avifauna I, September 1897, pp. 34-36, hft.
1897. Nesting of the Olive-sided Flycatcher. —Osprey II, December 1897, pp. 47-48, hft.
1898. After the Golden Eagle. —Osprey II, March 1898, pp. 82-84, hft.
1898. The Summer Home of Vireo Solitarius Cassini and Other Notes. —Oologist XV, April 1898, pp. 29-32, hft.
1898. Appropriation of the Yellow-billed Magpie's Nest by the Desert Sparrow Hawk. —Wilson Bulletin No. 20, May 1898, pp. 40-41.
1899. Nesting of the Hermit Warbler. —Osprey III, March 1899, p. 109.
1899. Early Hummingbirds' Nesting. —Bull. Coop. Orn. Club I, March 1899, p. 24.
1899. Another Chapter on the Nesting of *Dendroica occidentalis*, and Other Sierra Notes. —Bull. Coop. Orn. Club I, July 1899, pp. 59-60, hft.
1899. The Nesting Haunts of the Black-throated Gray Warbler. —Bull. Coop. Orn. Club I September 1899, p. 96, hft.
1900. Brewer's Blackbird Nesting in Cavities. —Condor II, January 1900, p. 18.
1900. Sierran Crossbill in El Dorado Co., Cal. —Condor II, January 1900, pp. 18-19.
1900. Nest and Eggs of the California Creeper. —Condor II, May 1900, p. 59.
1900. Two more Eggs of California Condor. —Condor II, May 1900, p. 60.
1900. Nest and Eggs of the Hermit Warbler. (*Dendroica occidentalis*.) —Condor II, March 1900, p. 42, hft.
1900. [Review of Keeler's] Bird Notes Afield. —Condor II, March 1900, p. 47.
1900. An Outing Into the Pyramid Peak Region of California. —Condor II, September 1900, pp. 103-110, 3 hftt.
1900. [Review of Van Denburgh's] Notes on Some Birds of Santa Clara County, California. —Condor II, September 1900, p. 120.
1900. Some Additions to Van Denburgh's List of Land Birds of Santa Clara Co., Cal. —Condor II, Nov. 1900, pp. 131-133.
1901. Pacific Coast Changes in the Check List. —Condor III, July 1901, p. 106.
1901. Some Characteristics of the Mountain Chickadee. —Condor III, September 1901, pp. 111-114, hft.
1901. Vireo Traits. —Condor III, September 1901, p. 119, hft.

1901. *Falco columbarius* at Santa Clara, Cal. —Condor III, September 1901, p. 133.
1901. A List of the Land Birds of the Placerville-Lake Tahoe Stage Road. | Central Sierra Nevada Mountains, Cal. | By Chester Barlow | With Supplementary Notes by W. W. Price. —Condor III, November 1901, pp. 151-184, 11 hftt.
1902. Some Echoes from the Sierras. —Condor IV, July 1902, pp. 79-81, hft.
1902. Some Observations on the Rufous-crowned Sparrow. —Condor IV, September 1902, pp. 107-111, 2 hftt.

Nesting of the Townsend Solitaire.

BY A. W. ANTHONY.

NEARLY all of our western ornithologists are familiar with the Townsend solitaire in life. A few of the more favored have listened to its incomparable song, as, perched on the topmost twig of a dead fir, in the solemn silence of the high Sierras, or in deep and ragged canyons of the Rocky Mountains, this shy,



PHOTO BY A. W. ANTHONY

NEST AND EGGS OF THE TOWNSEND SOLITAIRE.

retiring bird pours forth its very soul in a wild ringing outburst of song, that seems to descend from crags and ledges in a veritable shower of crystalized melody. With