



MR. E. W. NELSON

Mr. E. W. Nelson, our authority on Mexican birds, may be said to have accomplished the greater part of his ornithological work at the two extremes of the continent—namely, in northern Alaska and in Mexico. Although as early as 1875 he published Notes on Birds observed in Portions of Utah, Nevada, and California, and later several articles on the birds of Illinois, his first extensive paper was the Birds of Bering Sea and the Arctic Ocean, contained in the Cruise of the Corwin (1881), which was followed in 1887 by the Report upon Natural History Collections Made in Alaska. Since then he has published largely on the ornithology of our southwestern frontier and of Mexico. Mr. Nelson was a member of the Death Valley Expedition, and, assisted by Mr. E. A. Goldman, has penetrated every corner of Mexico in the interests of the Biological Survey. The results of these explorations have been the gathering of unparalleled collections, the discovery of many novelties^a, and what is perhaps most important, an accurate knowledge of the physiography and life zones of the vast and remarkable region. Mr. Nelson has also made substantial contributions to the literature of mammalogy^b and Alaskan ethnology.^c

^a Mr. Nelson has described over 150 species and subspecies of birds and mammals, the greater part from Mexico.

^b The Squirrels of Mexico and Central America, 1899, is the most extensive.

^c The Eskimo about Bering Straits, 1899.