

ust 19, 1899, a young bird. Bill grayish olive on basal half, tip black; feet orange, the joints of toes and tarsi often tinged with dusky, claws dull blackish.

37. *Arenaria melanocephala*. Black Turnstone. Common winter resident; absolutely confined to the sea-coast. Earliest fall records, adults, July 24; young, September 2. Bill black; feet dull reddish in adult, brighter on soles and back of tarsi; in young duller and browner throughout; claws black.

38. *Haematopus bachmani*. Black Oystercatcher. Common resident in suitable localities on the coast. Iris yellow; eyelids vermilion; bill vermilion, tip paler; feet pale whitish flesh color; claws dusky. Downy young, iris brown; bill dark gray, dull orange at gape; feet pale gray.

*Okanagan Landing, British Columbia, August 18, 1919.*

## EDWARD GARNER, A PIONEER NATURALIST

By HAROLD C. BRYANT

**A**LTHOUGH well known only locally, Edward Garner of Quincy, California, was one of the pioneer naturalists of California and must be numbered among the early ornithologists of the state. He was born in England, near London, in 1846, and came to the United States in 1869, settling at Newark, New Jersey. He started for California in 1875, taking in the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia but came only as far west as Nevada, where he remained for two years, and in which state he cast his first vote as an American citizen. In 1877 he moved to Quincy, Plumas County, California, where he finally settled.

Mr. Garner showed an early interest in natural history, especially entomology, and in 1867, while still in England, he secured an old English work on taxidermy, by Captain Thomas Brown, entitled "The Taxidermist's Manual or The Art of Collecting, Preparing and Preserving Objects of Natural History" (20th ed., A. Fullerton & Co., London, pp. xii+150, 6 pls., 2 figs. in text). With this at hand, about 1878, he began mounting specimens of birds and mammals, devoting only spare time when not engaged in his trade as a painter.

In 1885 his first collection of mounted specimens of birds was sold to the manager of the Plumas House in Quincy, the local hotel, for \$200. Some of these specimens are still to be seen in a glass case in the hotel. With this money Mr. Garner went to San Francisco to take some lessons in taxidermy. Here he met the senior Lorquin, a well-known taxidermist. However, Mr. Garner proved himself already so proficient in taxidermy that, instead of taking a set of lessons, he learned Lorquin's methods simply by watching him while at work. Mr. Garner asserts that what was learned at this time was later discarded for his original methods of procedure.

On his return to Quincy, Mr. Garner began in earnest to build up his private collection. Most of his specimens were acquired during the nineties and consequently now have historical value. In 1915 Plumas County purchased almost the whole of the Garner collection of birds and displayed it at the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. Since the Exposition, it has been on display at the Quincy High School. A few specimens have been donated to Leland Stanford Junior University.

A large entomological collection, containing much foreign material obtained in exchange, and a large collection of mounted deer heads, most of which have long been on display in the Buckhorn Brewery, in Quincy, also testify to the skill and patient endeavor of this naturalist.

Inspection of the collection at the Quincy High School made on May 31, 1919, showed a number of rare birds, the existence of which should be made known by publishing the records. Each bird is well mounted and the exact data are written on the under side of the mount. In a few instances data here given were completed by an examination of the carefully kept notebooks of Mr. Garner. Of particular note are the following specimens:

**Lophodytes cucullatus.** Hooded Merganser. Female. Prattville, California, January 4, 1898. Two male specimens taken in Plumas County are also in the collection.

**Scotiaptex nebulosa nebulosa.** Great Gray Owl. Female. Quincy, California, May 12, 1894. Mr. Garner states that in addition to this specimen two others were taken at about the same time. One was mounted and displayed for many years in the Plumas House, the local hotel, and the other, mounted along with a Pigmy Owl, was sold to a local resident. All three specimens were taken in the same general locality near Quincy.

**Cryptoglaux acadica.** Saw-whet Owl. Male. Quincy, California, December 2, 1889.

**Otus flammeolus.** Flammulated Screech Owl. Quincy, California, 1907.

**Sayornis sayus.** Say Phoebe. Male. Quincy, California, March 25, 1897. Female. Quincy, California, March 24, 1897.

**Bombycilla garrula.** Bohemian Waxwing. Male. Quincy, California, January 25, 1890. Mr. Garner states that eight specimens were taken on the same date in an apple orchard. McGregor (CONDOR, II, 1900, p. 34) records a specimen in the collection at Stanford University taken by Garner in 1892.

Among the study skins are to be found:

**Coturnicops noveboracensis.** Yellow Rail. Female. Quincy, California, April 24, 1889. Male. Quincy, California, April 16, 1889.

**Astur atricapillus striatulus.** Western Goshawk. Male. Meadow Valley, Plumas County, California, May 5, 1899.

Two interesting albinos are in the collection, one a Mountain Quail taken in Indian Valley by Kenneth Murray, October 4, 1907, and the other a pure white Sparrow Hawk taken on the J. W. Thompson (Illinois) Ranch, near Quincy.

*Berkeley, California, October 7, 1919.*