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**The Wilson Ornithological Chapter
of the Agassiz Association.**

THE
OBERLIN GRACKLE ROOST.

BY LYNDS JONES.

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INTRODUCTION.

This account of the Oberlin Grackle Roost is based upon three years' more or less continuous study from the first appearance of the birds in the trees to the final departure of the last one. Thus far the present year (1897) has added little to what has already been learned, partly due to a pressure of other duties during the early weeks of the gathering of the birds, partly because it is yet too early in the summer for any marked features in the habits to be looked for.

The facts given are taken from notes written on the spot day after day, and while I cannot hope that there are no errors of observation or interpretation, I shall be satisfied if this account of a single gathering stimulates others to a study of any similar gatherings within their reach. It would be interesting and valuable to know in how many villages and cities of each state such roosts occur, with the numbers inhabiting each roost. There must also be many in swamps and woods far removed from villages, in some parts of the country. Mention of such would show in what regions the grackles still cling to old habits.

It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the kindness of Mr. R. M. Strong, who prepared the map of the College Campus, and whose friendly advice and encouragement have been greatly appreciated. Thanks are also due the College Y. M. C. A., by whose kindness the map of Oberlin village has been secured. Any acknowledgment of thanks would be incomplete without mention of the kindly interest and valuable suggestions of Professor A. A. Wright, and the enthusiasm of the students of my ornithology classes, which have been a constant inspiration and incentive to better and more faithful work.

LYNDS JONES.

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