

## CHANGES IN THE AVIFAUNA OF LORAIN COUNTY, OHIO.

It is not my purpose to elaborately discuss the various changes which have occurred in the bird life of the county during its life as a county, nor even within recent years, but rather to notice some special features. In common with other parts of the eastern portion of the Mississippi Valley, as well as the Atlantic slope, and to a less degree other parts of the country, Lorain county has suffered the complete extinction of one or two birds, diminution in the numbers of some and the increase of others. In a region, the natural character of which has been so greatly modified as the Western Reserve of Ohio, from dense forests to relatively open farming land, it is doubtful if there are any species of birds which have not undergone some change in numbers or habits. But we are concerned with only the more striking changes.

### EXTINCT SPECIES.

1. WILD TURKEY, *Meleagris gallopavo*.—Formerly a very common game bird in the forests of the county, but it has long since entirely disappeared. A specimen in the Oberlin College museum was collected about 1858.

2. PASSENGER PIGEON, *Ectopistes migratorius*.—The immense flights of former years have given place to a condition of practical extinction. There is no recorded capture or occurrence within fifteen years.

### DECREASING SPECIES.

Under this heading there should be grouped all of the Anseres, 23 species; Limicolæ, 18 species, and Gallinæ, 2 species, which are found in the county. The Woodcock and Bob-white are, however, on the increase, thanks to protective laws. Killdeer and Spotted Sandpiper are still common, but less so than six years ago.

SHORT-EARED OWL, *Asio accipitrinus*.—It was reported as a common resident eight years ago, by Messrs. L. M. McCormick and Geo. D. Wilder. I have seen but two individuals in the past six years, and those on the lake shore in March.

BARRED OWL, *Syrnium nebulosum*.—The steady decrease year by