

COWBIRD.—Mr. Harry B. McConnell's mention of the appearance of a Cowbird at Cadiz, Ohio, February 23, 1906, in the Bulletin in Vol. XXII, No. 2, pp. 125, recalls a similar incident. On January 8, 1909, a farmer telephoned me that he had shot a black English Sparrow from a flock that was feeding about his hog pen; of course I was anxious to see it, and he sent it to me. It proved to be a male Cowbird in excellent condition. Inquiry elicited the fact that it was the only one in the flock. The date only, is unusual, as I have very frequently seen mixed flocks of English Sparrows and Cowbirds feeding together in the fall. The only places I have seen them thus feeding together, however, has been in the feeding lots where hogs are fed the cobs of sweet corn, that are hauled from the canning factories.

ALBINISTIC ROBIN.—This specimen was brought to me on October 3, 1910, by a man who had shot it from a flock of robins. It is evidently a "bird of the year." The bird is not a complete albino, but is colored as follows: Throat, white with dusky streaks; head and back, pale yellowish; primaries and tail feathers, white with a faint yellowish tinge; upper tail coverts, paler than the back; lower tail coverts, white; breast and sides, pale rufus (much paler than normal); bill and feet, flesh color.

Circleville, Ohio.

B. R. BALES, M.D.

A PRIVATE BIRD PRESERVE.

That one of the largest breeding colonies of herons to be found in this country is located on lands belonging to the McIlhenny family at Avery Island, Iberia Parish, Louisiana, may be news of much interest to most of our readers.

In a letter to the writer, dated November 3, 1910, and accompanied by many interesting photographs taken in the rookery, illustrating the nesting habits of the birds, Mr. Edwd. A. McIlhenny estimates that more than 15000 pairs of Gulf Coast birds nest annually on the "Island," embracing several species of herons, among them 2000 pairs of the Little White or Snowy Egret (*Egretta candidissima*) which, as many of us are aware, suffered most disastrously (verging on extermination) at the hands of plume-hunters.

In the opinion of Mr. McIlhenny the Avery Island Preserve is the most extensive one of its kind in the United States.

Such effective bird-protection work is most commendable and encouraging.

Let us hope earnestly that it may be patterned after and introduced successfully in other parts of our country as well.

We need many such places, and, if the national and state gov-