

**Shufeldt on the Avian Patella.\***—An interesting paper, giving clear descriptions and good figures of the knee-pan in *Aptenodytes*, *Corvus*, *Mergus*, *Sula*, *Podiceps*, *Colymbus*, *Fulmarus*, *Phalacrocorax*, and *Hesperornis*. The author adheres to the second view, that the patella does not represent a 'detached olecranon,' and proves it by showing that the sesamoid may coexist, as it does in *Podiceps*, with a very large cnemial process of the tibia, the latter being the true antitype of the olecranon.

Nothing advances the progress of scientific ornithology more speedily or more effectually than the anatomical studies of such men as Macgillivray, Huxley, Garrod, Forbes, and Shufeldt.—E. C.

**Minor Ornithological Publications.**—The 'Ornithologist and Oölogist,' Volume VIII,† contains the following (Nos. 669-771):—

669. *Breeding Habits of the Carolina and American Eared Grebes.*—*Podilymbus podiceps* and *Dytes nigricollis californicus*. By B. F. Goss. *Ornithologist and Oölogist*, Vol. VIII, pp. 1, 2.

670. *Explanation.* By J. G. Cooper. With a note by the Editor. *Ibid.*, p. 2.—On the number of eggs laid by Owls.

671. *Horned Grebe* [*Dytes auritus*] in *Conn[ecticut]*. By Chas. A. Thompson. *Ibid.*, p. 3.

672. *Rare Specimens at Bangor, Me.* By E. S. Bowler. *Ibid.*, p. 3.—Hawk Owl, Rough-legged Hawks, Snowy Owls, etc.

673. *Fishing and Catching Ducks.* By Wm. P. Tarrant. *Ibid.*, p. 3.—Ducks (species not stated) caught on set-lines, in 125 and 200 feet of water in Lake Michigan.

674. *White Heron* (*Herodias alba egretta*). By Jno. H. Sage. *Ibid.*, p. 4.—Shot at Saybrook, Conn., Aug. 11, 1882. (Previously recorded by same writer in O. and O., VII, p. 189. See *antea*, No. 443.)

675. *Field Glass* [*Ornithology*]. By G. R. C. *Ibid.*, pp. 5, 6. (See above, No. 412, in Bull. N. O. C., VIII, 236.)

676. *Long-billed Marsh Wren.* By B. B. Haines. *Ibid.*, pp. 6, 7.—Nesting habits as observed in New Jersey.

677. *Crossbills* [*in Tennessee*]. By G. S. Smith. *Ibid.*, p. 7.—Relates to the instances previously recorded by same writer in Bull. N. O. C., VII, 56.

678. *Virginia Rail.* Editorial. *Ibid.*, p. 7.—Harry F. Haines collected 1,000 eggs of this species in one season on the salt meadows of Elizabeth, N. J.

679. *Notes from Hartford, [Conn.]*. By Harry T. Gates. *Ibid.*, p. 8.—Notes on various winter birds.

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\* Concerning some of the Forms assumed by the Patella in Birds. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. vii, 1884, pp. 324-331. figg. 1-7.

† The 'Ornithologist and Oölogist' will not be hereafter indexed, as heretofore, in the list of 'Minor Ornithological Publications,' owing in part to pressure on our space, but mainly from the fact that it has become a publication of so much importance that none of our readers should fail to have it in their libraries.