

there defects evidently due to haste or lack of care, as explained by the author in a note at the end of the volume. Much of the success attained is of course due to the excellent quality of the specimens as regards mounting, etc.—J. A. A.

**A Forgotten Volume.**—In looking through stores in New York where old books are sold, I lately came across a time-stained copy of the first volume of Audubon's 'Ornithological Biography' bearing on its title-page the following imprint:—Philadelphia: | Judah Dobson, Agent, 108 Chestnut Street; | and | H. H. Porter, Literary Rooms, 121 Chestnut Street. | MDCCCXXXII. A casual glance was sufficient to disclose that it was not the Edinburgh edition with the Philadelphia title-page (Philadelphia, E. L. Carey and A. Hart, MDCCCXXXII). Later, comparison with the Edinburgh has shown that the two are wholly distinct so far as typographical features are concerned. In the text there are slight verbal differences which tend to prove that this Philadelphia issue was printed before the one from abroad. I find no mention of this edition of volume one in the bibliographies I have access to. The attention of the Linnæan Society of New York was called to the matter and the book exhibited at a meeting in February. It has also been inspected by Mr. George N. Lawrence. To all, however, it was unknown. There is doubtless a story back of this volume, the recital of which cannot fail to be of interest to the curious bibliophile.—LEVERETT M. LOOMIS, *Chester, S. C.*

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**Ward**, Henry L. The Flight of Birds. (Science, Jan. 23, 1891.)

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*American Naturalist*, Dec. 1890, Jan. 1891.

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## GENERAL NOTES.

**A Breeding Place of *Pelecanus fuscus*.**—About the middle of March, 1882, while fishing and sailing on the Indian River, Florida, between Rock Ledge and the Indian River Inlet, my boatman took me to see a Pelican breeding place. The island where the birds bred was about two acres in extent, as near as I can remember, and not far from the east shore of the river. It was opposite a point on the west bank of Indian River, some two miles or more below the mouth of the St. Sebastian River. As the tide was low we pushed our boat as far up towards the land as we could, and waded ashore in the mud; landing through a gap in the low mangroves that fringed the island.

A dense mass of birds had risen at our approach and spread out over the island like a cloud. This great flock was joined by the laggards as we walked about; and the rush and roar of the flapping wings was tremendous. There were hundreds of birds in the air—perhaps a thousand. In tramping about, it was difficult to take a dozen steps in any one direction without treading on empty nests, fresh eggs, or young birds. Every stage of development was seen, from the new egg to the downy, ridiculous, full-grown young ones. The guano was so deep on the ground that