

Also, when this sequence of genera, species, etc., has been rearranged, let a host of various subspecies be subjected to the most rigid examination, so that the presence or absence of a certain shade of color, a spot or a streak here or there is not made sufficient basis to found a subspecies on.

*Milton, Wis.*

LUDWIG KUMLIEN.

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## NOTES AND NEWS.

ROBERT HOE LAWRENCE, an Associate Member of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at Danville, Ill., on the 27th of April, 1897. For a number of years he was a frequent contributor to 'The Auk.' In 1892 he published an account of the birds of the Gray's Harbor region (Vol. IX, 1892, pp. 39-47, 352-357), where he had spent almost a year in one of the dense forests of Washington.

Mr. Lawrence was a son of DeWitt C. Lawrence, of New York, and a grandson of Richard M. Hoe. He was born in New York, October 16, 1861. From his early boyhood he showed a great love of nature and out-door life. Much of his life he had spent in travel, and for the last seven years he had lived on the Pacific Coast, in Washington, Oregon, and Southern California.

Always a lover of nature, he became in his later years especially interested in ornithology. He was drawn to the study of birds by his love of music and his sense of beauty. His trained ear found in the notes of birds suggestions of the themes of Beethoven, Schubert, and Chopin, his favorite composers. He had besides a strong feeling for art and letters; but what endeared him to his friends and makes his memory precious was his faithfulness to his ideals of true and pure manhood.

PROFESSOR EDWARD DRINKER COPE died at his home in Philadelphia, April 12, 1897, at the age of nearly 57 years, he having been born July 28, 1840. In his death science has lost one of the greatest naturalists America has yet produced. As a vertebrate zoölogist and palæontologist, the world has seen few that can be ranked as his equal. Although not especially recognized as an ornithologist, as he published little on recent birds, he is known to have possessed, and on occasions displayed, a profound general knowledge of the class, and to have had a good field knowledge of the birds of eastern North America. In other departments of vertebrate zoölogy he has long been recognized as one of the highest authorities, especially in reptiles, both recent and extinct, while his contributions to mammalian palæontology have been almost unrivalled. He is also the author of several epoch-making schemes of classification, including especially one of fishes, and is properly recognized as one of the chief founders of the Neo-Lamarckian school of evolutionists, of which he was one of the most able exponents. He was gifted with a powerful

intellect, remarkable keenness of observation, and, in the main, admirable judgment. As one writer has tersely and wisely said of him, "One hesitates which to admire the most, the tenacity of his memory, the brilliancy of his wit, or the ease with which he used his enormous erudition. To any community, and at any time, the loss of such a man is a calamity." It is therefore more than fitting that a few lines should be here devoted to his memory. As editor for many years of the 'American Naturalist,' he is doubtless well known to the readers of 'The Auk,' who will find elsewhere the record of his achievements and honors.

THE CANTABRIGIA CLUB of Cambridge, Mass., a flourishing organization of women, has just done an excellent work for its city. After arousing interest in bird-life and its protection, by a bird mass meeting, to deepen the interest and spread a knowledge of birds, it secured the services of Olive Thorne Miller to give a course of bird talks, in the large hall of the English High School, holding 600, and issued free invitations to all the teachers of the Cambridge schools. The course of ten talks was given mostly on consecutive days at 4.30 p. m., beginning on May 25, and was attended by several hundred interested and enthusiastic teachers, who at the close offered a set of resolutions warmly expressing their thanks to the Club, and their appreciation of the talks.

THE AUDUBON SOCIETY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK, the organization of which in February, 1897, was noticed in the April 'Auk,' is inaugurating an active campaign in the interest of bird-protection throughout the State. Circulars recently issued by the Society include an 'Appeal to Boys,' 'The Wearing of Herons' Plumes or Aigrettes,' 'The Economic Value of Birds,' a reprint of Circular No. 17 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture on 'Bird Day in the Schools,' 'A Story for Little Women,' and a poster giving extracts from the laws protecting wild birds.

As a means of bringing its work to the attention of the teachers of public schools, the society secured from Mr. Charles R. Skinner, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, a letter addressed to the principals and teachers of public schools, which shows such appreciation of the importance of the subject of bird-study and bird-protection, that it is given here in full:

"I beg leave to call your attention to the excellent work of the Audubon Society, and to earnestly request that you exercise your influence to awaken in the minds of your pupils a greater love and care for 'our little brothers of the air.' The necessity for protecting our native birds is apparent to all who have given any thought to the subject, and I know of no better way than to arouse a healthy and humane sentiment among the children."

Copies of this letter, together with sets of the Society's circulars, have been distributed to over 1000 public schools, and it is hoped that an interest may be awakened which will result in the establishment of a Bird-Day in the schools."

That the good work is spreading broadly is evidenced by the following list of Audubon Societies from which we have received circulars or other announcements of their formation, all but the first two organized within the present year.

Massachusetts Audubon Society. Secretary, Miss Harriet E. Richards, Boston Society of Natural History, Berkeley St., Boston, Mass.

Pennsylvania Audubon Society. Secretary, Mrs. Edward Robins, 114 South 21st St., Philadelphia, Pa.

Audubon Society of the State of New York. Secretary, Miss Emma H. Lockwood, 243 West 75th St., New York City.

New Hampshire Audubon Society. Secretary, Mrs. Franck W. Batchelder, Myrtle Hill, Manchester, N. H.

Illinois Audubon Society. Secretary, Miss Emily Rumsey, 313 Huron St., Chicago, Ill.

Maine Audubon Society. Secretary, Miss Edith J. Boardman, Brunswick, Me.

Audubon Society of the District of Columbia. Secretary, Mrs. John Dewhurst Patten, 3033 P St., Washington, D. C.

Wisconsin Audubon Society. Secretary Miss Madge Anderson, 134 Twentieth St., Milwaukee, Wis.

New Jersey Audubon Society. Secretary, Miss Mary A. Mellick, Plainfield, N. J.

Audubon Societies are also organizing in Colorado, Rhode Island, and other States.

THE NEW YORK ZOÖLOGICAL SOCIETY was incorporated, by special act of the Legislature, April 26, 1895, "to establish and maintain a Zoölogical Garden in the City of New York, to encourage the study of Zoölogy, and to furnish instruction and recreation for the people"; and the Commissioners of the Sinking Fund were authorized by the same act to set apart lands for the uses of the Society. On March 24, 1897, the said Commissioners made an allotment of a tract of 261 acres in South Bronx Park to the Society, for the purposes of a Zoölogical Garden. The Society is to provide the original equipment of buildings and animals, and has begun to raise by subscription a fund of \$250,000 for this purpose. The encouragement already received indicates that the means needed will be promptly raised. A vast amount of time and labor has been expended on the plans of the grounds and buildings, and they will be submitted to experts — landscape gardeners, field naturalists and zoölogical garden experts — before final presentation to the Park Commissioners for adoption. It is expected that actual work on the grounds will soon begin, and in due time we may hope to see in Bronx Park one of the largest and best equipped zoölogical gardens in the world. The Society is fortunate in having secured Mr. William T. Hornaday as Director of the Gardens. The present office of the Society is 69 Wall St., New York City.