

Education Department at Albany, which is devoted to four of my osteological memoirs on birds. They cover the *Accipitres*, the *Anseres*, the *Gallina*, and a special one on the *Coccyges*. Some two hundred heretofore unpublished figures illustrate the text.

Very faithfully yours,

R. W. SHUFELDT.

NOTES AND NEWS.

CHARLES ALDRICH, a Fellow and one of the Founders of the American Ornithologists' Union, died at Boone, Iowa, March 8, 1908, at the age of 80 years. In accordance with a standing order of the Union respecting deceased Fellows, a memorial of his life and work will be presented at the next stated meeting of the Union, and published later in 'The Auk'.

EDWARD SEYMOUR WOODRUFF, an Associate Member of the A. O. U., died of typhoid fever at his home in New York city on January 15, 1909. He was the youngest son of Charles Hornblower and Catherine Sanford Woodruff, and was born in New York City on December 23, 1876. He was graduated from the Academical Department of Yale University with the class of '99, afterwards, for a year, pursued a special course in biology at Johns Hopkins University, and later entered the School of Forestry at Yale from which he obtained the degree of Master of Forestry with high honors in 1907. Shortly afterward he received an appointment as State Forester of New York, which post he filled with great ability up to the time of his death.

Much of Mr. Woodruff's early life was spent at his country home in Litchfield, Conn., and here while wandering in woods and fields he developed a taste for natural history in several of its branches, and cultivated that love of prying into Nature's secrets which is the greatest asset of every true naturalist. He was always deeply interested in ornithology, and leaves behind him a fine collection of birds as a monument of industry and devotion to this science; while the excellent notes and papers which he published gave promise of still more valuable ones to follow. Among them may be cited, as of exceptional value, the carefully prepared list published in 'The Auk' for April, 1908, with title 'A Preliminary List of the Birds of Shannon and Carter Counties, Missouri,' and 'The Ruffed Grouse — A Study of the Causes of its Scarcity in 1907,' published by the Forest, Fish and Game Commission of New York, in 1908. Both are models of their kind, the former dealing with the scientific side of systematic ornithology, the latter covering one of its economic aspects.

For the profession of forestry, Mr. Woodruff was admirably fitted by education and by temperament, and he had already made his mark in a career that promised much for the country at large. He was the right man in the right place, and forestry can ill afford to lose men of his sterling qualities and mental calibre.

Those of us who have been fortunate in knowing Mr. Woodruff as a friend cannot soon forget a personality that never failed to attract even strangers through a naturalness of manner that bespoke a warm heart and a sincerity of purpose beyond the ordinary. We feel that ornithology, too, has suffered a loss, for ornithologists will miss from their ranks a companion who was filled with enthusiasm and energy.— J. D., JR.

THE Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Audubon Society of the State of New York was held at the American Museum of Natural History, March 18, 1909. The President of the Society, Henry Fairfield Osborn, presided. The report of Miss Emma H. Lockwood, Secretary-Treasurer, showed that the Society had been active in protecting the birds of the State, and in supplying literature relating to bird protection and bird study for the use of teachers and others, so far as its available funds permitted. Mr. William Dutcher, the President of the National Association of Audubon Societies, and Chairman of the New York Society's Committee on Legislation, presented a report on current legislative matters with particular reference to a bill now before the New York Legislature, the passage of which would practically prohibit the sale of the plumage of all New York State birds for millinery purposes. Mr. Dutcher asked all the members of the Society to urge their representatives at Albany to support this bill.

Following Mr. Dutcher's report, Mr. Louis Agassiz Fuertes, the well-known bird-artist, made an address on birds and their music, which he illustrated with chalk sketches in color of the birds and imitations of their songs. There was also an exhibition in the Bird Hall of the Museum of a large series of paintings of birds by Mr. Fuertes.

THE Darwin Memorial Celebration held at the American Museum of Natural History, February 12, 1909, by the New York Academy of Sciences, was made the occasion of the presentation by the Academy to the Museum of a bronze bust of Darwin, with appropriate ceremonies. It was permanently installed at the entrance to the Synoptic Hall, which was renamed and dedicated as "The Darwin Hall of Invertebrate Zoölogy"; bronze tablets thus inscribed have been placed at the entrance to the hall. The presentation address was made by Charles Finney Cox, President of the Academy, and the address of acceptance by Henry Fairfield Osborn, President of the Museum. Other addresses were by Prof. John James Stevenson on 'Darwin and Geology'; by Dr. Nathaniel Lord Britton on 'Darwin and Botany'; by Dr. Hermon Carey Bumpus on 'Darwin and Zoölogy.'

The celebration was accompanied by an exhibition of *Darwiniana* (published works, portraits, and letters of Darwin), and specimens illustrating various aspects of the evolution of animals and plants, living and extinct, arranged in fifteen categories, with reference to as many special features of evolution. The exhibition remained on view from February 12 to March 12, and formed an attractive as well as instructive display.

As everybody knows, or has had the opportunity of knowing, the Roosevelt Expedition to Africa is not merely a hunting trip for the gratification of the big-game aspirations of an ex-President of the United States, but a thoroughly organized expedition in the interest of the United States National Museum and of science. The money for its equipment and maintenance, beyond the personal expenses of its chief, has been raised by subscription through the efforts of the Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, and the personnel has been chosen from the leading experts in field work. The personal interest of Theodore Roosevelt in natural history research is well known, and in Major Edgar A. Mearns, a Fellow and one of the Founders of the American Ornithologists' Union, and an ornithologist and mammalogist of demonstrated ability, he has a medical adviser and a scientific assistant that ensures energetic and intelligent work. Edmund Heller and J. Alden Loring are collectors of wide experience and exceptional ability. Under such conditions, barring accident or illness, the results of a year's work in British East Africa by such a staff should be of the greatest scientific importance and bring to this country a greatly needed collection of the leading forms of the vertebrate life of a region at present poorly represented in American Museums. We are sure the expedition will have the hearty good-speed of every reader of this journal.

THE Avicultural Society of California has begun the publication of a bimonthly official magazine, called 'Bird News,' "devoted to the interests of the bird fancier." Volume I, No. 1, for January-February, 1909, consists of eight octavo pages of well printed and well edited matter pertinent to the interests it represents. Editor, Frederick W. D'Evelyn; Business Manager, W. W. Cooley, 717 Market St., San Francisco, Cal.

THE Spring announcement of new books by Henry Holt and Company contains 'Birds of the World,' by F. H. Knowlton and Robert Ridgway, with illustrations in color. \$7 net.—The Houghton, Mifflin Company announce 'Birds of the Boston Public Garden, a Study in Migration,' by Horace Winslow Wright, with an introduction by Bradford Torrey.