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of the
Cooper Ornithological Club
OF CALIFORNIA.

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EDITORIAL NOTES.

The agitation of the question of bird protection in the last BULLETIN has been productive of numerous words of good cheer from all sides, which unanimity of opinion is gratifying in the extreme. We have the assurance from one of the gentlemen referred to as having indulged in unlimited collecting that no more such work will be done by him and that he believes he collected beyond the limit of scientific requirements, and his frank statement will claim the admiration of all who respect an example of sterling manhood. The sentiment has been unanimous that promiscuous collecting during the breeding season is wholly a question of principle and can have no defense in-so-far as connecting it with the extermination of the birds is concerned. The letters received have been largely from practical ornithologists, and if they may be taken as indicating the feeling of ornithologists generally, the BULLETIN has sounded the key-note of bird protection.

The dread of the ultra-sentimentalists seems to inspire all active workers, and there appears a desire to eliminate them from the ranks of the true protectionists. As there was no dissenting voice raised, the BULLETIN has omitted publishing the numerous letters received as their sentiment was but a repetition

of the stand taken. A communication from Mr. Richard C. McGregor will be found elsewhere dealing with the matter of collecting, under the caption "Circumstances Alter Cases," and several views are presented which may be considered to advantage, although they may not be intended to apply to the position we have taken.

A pamphlet has been issued by the Pennsylvania Audubon Society through the efforts of Mr. Witmer Stone, Chairman of the A. O. U. Bird Protection Committee, addressed to young bird students, in which they are taught that a personal collection of common local birds is unnecessary to scientific advancement and an effort is made to counteract "the effect of the advice of egg dealers and traders, who seem bent upon developing our budding students into 'egg hogs' instead of ornithologists." The pamphlet is one of the most practical ones in point of reason and good advice which has been issued and Mr. Stone has shorn it of any unnecessary sentiment.

Through an inadvertency in our last issue on page 52, the "Notes from Alameda, Cal.," were not credited. They were contributed by Mr. Donald A. Cohen of Alameda, Cal.

In the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington (Vol. XIII, pp. 41-42, May 29, 1899) Mr. Wilfred H. Osgood of the Cooper Club submits a paper on "*Chamæa fasciata* and its Subspecies." Mr. Osgood finds that the Wren-Tit (*Chamæa fasciata*) and the Pallid Wren-Tit (*C. f. henschawi*) are synonymous and it becomes necessary to provide a new name for the northern coast form "heretofore assumed to be typical *fasciata*." Accordingly, the Pallid Wren-Tit (*Chamæa fasciata*) is assigned to the "southern coast and interior of California, including coast valleys and foothills from San Francisco Bay south to northern Lower California; interior valleys and slopes north to head of the Sacramento Valley; upper Sonoran zone." For the northern coast form is proposed the name of *Chamæa fasciata phæa*, or Coast Wren-Tit, with the following habitat: "Coast of Oregon and California from Astoria to Nicasio. Transition zone."

MR. W. B. JUDSON of Los Angeles, now located at Dawson City, N. W. T., writes:—"I have done practically no collecting since I left Los Angeles in February 1898. I saw about twenty nests of the Bald Eagle with the birds about them at Wrangel and at the mouth of the Stickeen. I found several nests of the Three-toed Woodpecker at the lakes after leaving Glenora on the last of May, but all had young nearly ready to fly. I have seen a couple of Hawk Owls and a few small birds in the fall, but there are no birds here at present, (March) excepting ravens, chickadees and jays. Also a few ptarmigan and grouse. I have put up one skin since I came in." Mr. Judson speaks doubtfully of mining interests about Dawson City.