

some more apparently authentic information which is worthy of recording, furnished me by a person whose name will be withheld for the present. San Luis Obispo was the main outfitting station for the pigeon hunting during the great flight of 1911-12.

One market hunter, shooting for the San Francisco market, killed 280 pigeons under one oak in one day. This same hunter was shooting every day during the flight, so it can be imagined what a number he must have killed. One dealer in ammunition sold 3500 shotgun shells for one day's hunt, and he says that on that day the individuals on this excursion brought in 1560 birds. These figures, together with the note previously published in *THE CONDOR* (xiv, 1912, p. 108), will give some idea of the extent of the slaughter. I firmly believe that these figures are not exaggerated, and that they are not far from the truth.

Hunters are now reporting a few pigeons at San Luis Obispo and at Santa Barbara. The first noted each year are termed scouts by the old hunters, who believe that the main army sends scouts on ahead to report on food conditions. The hunters are looking for another big flight this winter.

I will be in this country regularly during the coming season, and will keep a close watch on this beautiful but apparently doomed bird.—W. LEE CHAMBERS.

No-Sale of American-killed Wild Game.—Readers of *THE CONDOR*, and especially members of the Cooper Club, should take every opportunity to correct impressions which are being distributed broadcast apropos the effect of a "No-sale" law.

It has even been said that this measure is "class legislation." Laws which permit the sale of game are, it is true, class legislation of the worst type. They permit a few hundred market gunners, and the wealthy hotel and cafe patrons who are financially able to purchase game to reap the benefits of that which is protected at the instance of all people of the state. They are also allowing the rapid extermination of our best native species. Every animal which has been allowed to be exploited for profit has been practically exterminated. Even the whales of the sea are no exception! Remember the sea otter, the buffalo, the passenger pigeon!

To allow of the unlimited sale of game in California, as Assemblymen Harry Polsley of Red Bluff and Milton Schmidt of San Francisco desire, would be to cause its utter extermination within ten years.

Letters on file in the California Museum of Vertebrate Zoology indicate that ducks and geese have decreased from fifty to ninety-five per cent in the San Joaquin Valley in the last ten years.

We must have No-sale, and we must have it immediately.—W. P. TAYLOR.

An Unfortunate Dove.—On Monday, June 17, 1912, near Goose Lake in Modoc County, I found the body of a Mourning Dove which had met death as the result of a very peculiar misfortune. The bird was found on a horizontal beam four inches wide in an



Fig. 8. AN UNFORTUNATE DOVE

old deserted barn. It was facing the wall, i. e., lying crosswise of the beam, with the tail hanging over and closely hugging the side of the timber, as though its death throes were concerned with maintaining its precarious position. The cause of death was not far to seek. The upper mandible had been jammed backward and downward through or behind the ramus of the lower one, whence it could not be retracted. Not only so, but skinning showed that the windpipe had been caught and skewered, and pushed forward along with the distended skin of the mentum. The bird was in a very emaciated condition, inasmuch that the skin was very largely adherent to the flesh, and the end of the breastbone touched the anus. The viscera were a green mass, which for fear of poisoning we did not dissect for sex indication; but the bird seemed recently dead, inasmuch as there was no offensive smell, and the feathers were firmly in place. Moreover, no insect pests had begun to attack it.

Mr. Allan Brooks, who has examined the specimen, is of opinion that its plight was due to a recent head-on collision with a telegraph wire, and cites the example of a Western Chipping Sparrow whose bill was in exactly similar condition save that the wind