

these papers, and they will appear in future issues of the O. & O. SEMI-ANNUAL. The object of these papers is to awaken an interest in Ornithology and Oology in Texas, and as they will contain a list of all the birds which pass through Texas as well as those that remain there, giving a brief description of each, their habits, etc., they will be of considerable interest to our readers, especially those residing in Texas. After the completion of the papers, Mr. Rachford proposes to publish them in pamphlet form. We will furnish our readers with copies as low, if not lower than they can be procured elsewhere. Ed.]

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### BRAINS OF BIRDS.

Mr. Park has kept a complete record of the weight of the brains of the birds mounted by him, and of the principal parts of the brain and the eyes. The following table shows approximately the relative weight of the brains of birds to the entire weight of the birds of the families found in the vicinity of Troy :

NAME OF FAMILY.	WEIGHT OF BRAIN.		WEIGHT OF BIRD.
Grebes,	1	to	230
Gulls,	1	to	155
Terns,	1	to	72
Petrels,	1	to	78
Ducks,	1	to	165
Bitterns and Herons,	1	to	138
Coots,	1	to	167
Phalaropes,	1	to	61
Snipes and Sandpipers,	1	to	75
Plover,	1	to	67
Grouse and Partridges, (including Prairie Hens)	1	to	240
Hawks,	1	to	86
Owls,	1	to	56
Cuckoos,	1	to	59
Kingfishers,	1	to	77
Woodpeckers,	1	to	34
Hummingbirds,	1	to	30

Flycatchers,	1	to	43
Larks,	1	to	43
Jays, (Canada)	1	to	30
Crows,	1	to	63
Blackbirds and Orioles,	1	to	35
Finches and Sparrows,	1	to	29
European Sparrows,	1	to	31
Swallows,	1	to	37
Waxwings,	1	to	39
Shrikes,	1	to	32
Vireos,	1	to	26
Wood Warblers,	1	to	27
Thrashers,	1	to	35
Wrens,	1	to	23
Brown Creepers,	1	to	26
Nuthatches,	1	to	25
Kinglets,	1	to	27
Thrushes,	1	to	39
Domestic Fowls,	1	to	527

## BRAINS AND BODIES.

In referring to the figures given in the above table, Mr. Park said: "The flycatchers, hawks and owls have very large eyes, and in some cases one eye weighs as much as the whole brain. Owls are remarkable for having the cerebrum larger in proportion to the whole brain than most other birds, and the flycatcher is noted for having the optic lobes of the brain more largely developed than other species. Ducks and gulls have a medium-sized brain. The grouse and partridge have the smallest brain in proportion of any of the birds in this vicinity. The domestic fowl has an insignificant brain in comparison to the weight of its body, the brain weighing only about one-five-hundredth part of the body, while a sparrow's brain weighs about one-thirtieth of the total weight of the bird."

[The above is a part of an article which appeared in the *Troy Times* on Austin F. Park's collection of mounted birds, and was sent in by Mr. H. C. Campbell of Lansingburgh, N. Y. Mr. Campbell states in connection to the above that Mr. Park has three specimens in his collection captured in his locality which are very rare; namely, Com. European Crake, Swallow-tailed Kite and Kumlien's Gull. The latter is the only recorded specimen taken in this state (N. Y.)

Ed.]