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DEPARTMENT OF

WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL

CHAPTER OF A. A.

MEMBERS OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL
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You have called me to fill the highest position to which it is in your power to call any one. I sincerely thank you for the honor you have thus bestowed upon me. You could easily have found a man of larger experience and better adaptation to the work in hand, but you could not have found one who loved it more and was more in sympathy with it and at once with yourselves.

When I look over the field and see how much is to be done, I feel the task far too great for me alone. Alone I must fail. I accept the position only on condition that you, the members of the organization, do not leave me to direct it alone. It is not mine, it is yours, for you have called me to it. What we shall learn is not for me, it is for you. I am here that you may work with less friction and accomplish more; that the results of your



united work may come to you in form to study; that you may gain the benefit of a wider field of investigation than one alone could compass.

You will shape the course of our voyage: I shall simply direct the ship towards the port.

Many of you have expressed the desire to continue the committees which have in charge special lines of work. That seems the best course at present. In addition we shall have a course of general study for those who contribute to no one of the several committees. Many have expressed the desire to study the FRINGILLIDAE the coming season. If it is the general wish we shall be glad to study that group. Indeed, I am inclined to think that this group would gain greater interest than any other on account of its size and wide extent. This does not mean that the special committees shall study this group. They have the privilege of investigating any group, genera, or species they can to the best advantage, following out the special line in view; accomplishing but a single thing if that seems best to the committee.

Let us all unitedly lend our aid in our own way to the furtherance of our organization and the advancement of our favorite science. Each having a part in the work, each adding his part, be that small or great in his eyes—for without each brick the building cannot be erected—to the work in hand.

Cordially and faithfully yours,

LYNDS JONES.

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY OF THE WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL CHAPTER FOR THE YEAR
ENDING DEC. 5, 1890.

The growth of our Chapter has been steady, though not rapid. Early in the year it was decided by a vote of all the members to establish a constitution which should embrace two classes of members, instead of one as heretofore. These classes to be known as Active and Associate members, respectively.