

EDITORIAL.

In assuming the duties which devolve upon your newly elected president, I find that not the least arduous of these and yet one in which I shall always be greatly interested and undertake with much pleasure, is that of editing that department of the Semi-Annual which is devoted to our organization.

The field is a new one to me and would be entered with no little hesitation, did I not feel assured that you, who have raised me to this position, will stand by me and make the interest of the magazine your own.

I enter upon my duties with no qualifications, unless an earnest and thoughtful interest in our organization and the honorable service as your secretary, can be called such.

It is proposed to fill a large portion of the space allotted to us with reports of members and committees, and fresh and new notes from the field. It therefore rests with you, fellow workers, of how great value this space, which is your own, shall be to you.

Will you not, by sending in such notes, show a real, live interest in making our department tell of the freshness of the fields and woods and cheer us with the brightness of the sunlight?

LYNDS JONES.

* * *

* * *

* * *

The Semi-Annual hereafter, will be made more particularly the organ of the Wilson Ornithological Chapter of the A. A. Each member of the Chapter should send notes and endeavor to make each issue brighter and more interesting.

Members of Committees should endeavor to make their reports very replete and exhaustive. Each subject given out by Chairmen of Committees, should be thoroughly worked and fully written up. No stone should be left unturned that will add to the value of the different reports. The only possible way in which this work can be rightly and fully prepared, is for each member who has a part of the work assigned him, to push it forward conscientiously and exhaustively.

Chairmen of Committees can do nothing without aid and this aid must come from the scattered members. In this manner a

large territory will be covered and the reports will be made of value. This will be more especially the case with the work in charge of the General Committee. The slips sent out by this department, should be prepared under the headings given and a report made to the Chairman the first of September, 1891. These reports should not be prepared in a desultory, disjointed manner, but by connected, hearty, continued effort to get the facts in each case.

The funds of the Chapter are in the hands of President Jones, who already has all he can attend to, considering his added duties in connection with the editorial department of the Semi-Annual. Of course, the Chapter is not yet large enough to make the handling of its funds a very burdensome affair, but it will undoubtedly grow. A treasurer should be elected to take charge of and keep the accounts of the Chapter.

The need of a meeting of the officers and members of the Chapter is apparent to all who desire to put it on a firm basis. The necessity of such a meeting has been mentioned by a number of the active workers of our Chapter and it is important to the future growth and standing of the organization, that this meeting be held as early as possible. If possible, the meeting should be held this present Summer, or as soon thereafter as can be conveniently arranged. Matters of importance to the Chapter cannot be arranged by correspondence.

Taking the homes of the active members as a basis for computation, Rochester, N. Y. seems to be the most centrally located for all. This decision is reached after a thorough investigation of the guide books of the different railroads and an actual computation of the distance to be traversed by each active member. Members of the Chapter in eastern states can readily reach that place via New York or Albany on the Central Railroad. The good of our growing Chapter should be taken into consideration by all and they should attend, if the meeting is arranged for and they can possibly do so.

Will all members, active and associate, who can attend such a meeting, please write to the Editor or Publisher and state their preferences as to time and place of meeting?

Owing to delay caused by the transfer of the Semi-Annua

from its former owner, Mr. W. H. Foote, this number may possibly not be up to the standard in the way of frontispiece and illustrations to the O. & O. Semi-Annual. We ask the indulgence of our readers and assure them that the October number will be greatly superior to this April number, and it is proposed to give as a frontispiece of the October number, a hand-painted cut of some typical egg, or set of eggs.

PUBLISHER'S NOTES.

Under this head all papers and magazines sent us, will receive an honest review.

The Ornithologist & Oologist, Hyde Park, Mass. Frank B. Webster, Publisher. Monthly. 16 pages. \$1 per year. This one is always the same : good.

The Ornithologist & Botanist, Binghamton, N. Y. Willard N. Clute, Editor. Joseph E. Blain, Publisher. Monthly. 8 pages and cover. 35 cents per year. This is one of the new ones ; bright, well edited and well printed.

The Collector's Monthly, Danielsonville, Conn. C. H. Prince, Editor and Publisher. Monthly. 4 pages and cover. 30 cents per year. A well printed sheet.

The Wisconsin Naturalist, Chas. F. Carr, Publisher, Madison, Wis. 16 pages and cover. 50 cents per year.

We are sorry to note that Mr. Paul B. Haskell, of Ashland, Ky., has ceased publishing the American Osprey. We thought it had come to stay, but —

The Empire State Exchange, Water Valley, N. Y., Edited and Published by U. S. Perrine. Monthly. 25 cents per year. Bro. Perrine should change printers and get one who can run a press. Aside from poor press work, good.

The Old Curiosity Shop, San Francisco, California. 4 pages. Monthly. 25 cents per year. Edited by A. McDonald, Box 1732, San Francisco, Cal.