

pleasure, with never ceasing raucous cries, and came in for their share of our attention.

But time flies swiftly and the patrol boats have a long way to go, so all too soon we reëmbarked and were on our way to the next refuge. Battledore was only a dark streak marking the horizon and the broad stretch of silvered sea gradually widened until the little bird refuge slipped from view.

HARRIS HAWKS IN OHIO.

BY THOMAS M. EARL.

On the afternoon of December 29, 1917, I received a parcel by parcels post, the sender being J. H. McKinley, cashier of the Harrisburg Bank of Harrisburg, Ohio. The thriving little country town is located some fourteen miles southwest from Columbus and on the border line of Franklin and Pickaway Counties. It was customary for me to receive parcels from my friend McKinley, as he has a fancy for mounted birds, such as hawks, owls and the like, some of which he displays at his home and some at the bank. The parcel in my hand, therefore, excited no curiosity until I opened it and found before me a fine specimen of Harris hawk (*Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*). All of the specimens which Mr. McKinley had previously sent me I knew to have been collected in the vicinity of Harrisburg, but here was one, sent to me without comment as others had been, which I knew was far away from its particular avi-Tipperary, and I could not bring myself to think that it had not been shipped in from the Texan border by some soldier friend perhaps of the cashier.

Several weeks elapsed before I saw Mr. McKinley personally, when I obtained from him the following statement, which clears up all doubt as to the locality of the capture:

“The hawk in question was shot by a farmer, living some four miles southwest of Harrisburg, on or about December 24, 1917. On the morning of that day a pair of these hawks were molesting this man’s poultry and had killed one or two

of them when they were frightened away. In the afternoon they returned, when the farmer, armed with a shotgun, killed this one, the mate then disappearing. After lying around for several days the hawk was brought to town and given to me. To the farmer it was a chicken hawk, and it was nothing more. I am familiar, as you know, with most of the hawks we have about here, and to me it looked different. So I thought it ought to be preserved. Accordingly I sent it to you. I can vouch for these facts and will furnish affidavits if necessary to satisfy any doubting naturalist."

In my taxidermist's note-book there is the following record of the mounting of this hawk: Note-book No. 3339, A. O. U. No. 335. Common name, Harris Hawk. Scientific name, *Parabuteo unicinctus harrisi*. Sex, male. Collector, J. H. McKinley. Locality, Harrisburg, Ohio. Date, December 24, 1917. Measurements: Length, 20.5 inches; stretch, 41 inches; wing, 12.75 inches; tail, 9.5 inches; tarsus, 3.5 inches. Date of mounting, December 31st, 1917. Remarks: Rare or accidental. Probably first recorded capture of this species in Ohio.

Description. General color, a rusty black; upper and under shoulder coverts and leg feathers, a reddish brown; tail blackish, but base white and broadly tipped with white; upper and under tail coverts white, concealing white base. Size of specimen about that of a red-shouldered hawk.

Range. The range of the Harris hawk is said to be Panama north to southern Texas, rarely southern Mississippi and southern California. It is a remarkable coincidence in name that a *Harris* hawk should have been first taken near *Harrisburg*, Ohio.

On February 5, 1918, the specimen was sent gratuitously to Professor Lynds Jones, who has placed it in the museum of Oberlin College.