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BIRDS OF THE BLIZZARD OF FEBRUARY, 1899.

In consequence of the extremely cold weather which prevailed February 9 to 11, and the remarkable snowfall of February 12 and 13, it was generally expected that a marked effect would be noticeable in the character of the bird life in Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey. With the object of securing data on this point, circulars were issued by the Club to all its members and correspondents.

The returns show that Horned Larks and Redpolls were the only

northern species whose presence was due directly to the blizzard. Horned Larks were plentiful all through the Delaware Valley, coming even into Philadelphia, where open lots offered them opportunities for alighting. In the village of Rancocas, N. J., they came daily to feed on grain thrown out to them by the miller, together with Blue Birds, Meadow Larks, English Sparrows, and Juncos (Thos. J. Beans). In the vicinity of Olney, Philadelphia, quite a number of Prairie Horned Larks (*Otocoris alpestris praticola*) were associated with the common form and specimens were obtained by Albert Whitaker and G. S. Morris.

The Redpoll records are limited to a flock of about twenty, observed at Marietta, Pa., by W. H. Buller, February 14 and 15, and three at West Chester, by Thos. H. Montgomery, Jr., February 14.

Meadow Larks and Crows were reported by several observers to be very tame, and fearlessly approached houses and yards in search of food and shelter. Juncos and Song-sparrows, while somewhat affected by cold and hunger, did not suffer nearly so much as the English Sparrows, large numbers of which perished. Quite a number of Quail were also frozen, and several Crows and a Carolina Wren were found dead. Dr. J. F. Prendergast reported two Clapper Rails found dead at Stone Harbor, N. J., a few days after the storm.

On North Mountain, Sullivan Co., Mr. Otto Behr reported that the Tree Sparrows, usually very common, seemed to disappear on the approach of the severe weather, and doubtless sought a lower altitude.

Mr. August Koch reported a single Herring Gull caught on the ice on the Susquehanna River at Williamsport.

At Waynesburg, Greene Co., Pa., Mr. J. Warren Jacobs states that a number of Old Squaw Ducks were seen, while Cardinals, Carolina Wrens, Red-bellied Woodpeckers, etc., were apparently little affected by the cold.