

Bird Club Notes

Our half-tone of Bartram is from Welch's engraving of the portrait by Charles Wilson Peale, while that of the house is from an original pencil sketch by George Spencer Morris.

* * *

The Club held sixteen meetings during the year, with an average attendance of twenty-four, forty members being present at one or more meetings.

* * *

Mrs. Edward Robins, Secretary of the Pennsylvania Audubon Society and President of the Spencer F. Baird Ornithological Club, died at Chelsea, N. J., on July 2, 1906.

Mrs. Robins' earnest work for the protection of birds and animals as well as her efforts to promote the study of ornithology in Philadelphia and its vicinity are well known to the members of the Club, and her place will be difficult to fill.

As Miss Julia Stockton Hopkins her early life was spent on her father's estate at Torresdale on the Delaware river above Philadelphia. Here she developed her great love for birds and nature, and with the aid of Audubon's work became familiar with all the commoner birds of the neighborhood. After her marriage to Edward Robins, the well-known author, she continued her ornithological studies and published a number of excellent articles on the habits of our wild birds, mainly in the "West Chester Village Record" and the "Observer." With the revival of the Audubon Society movement in 1896 she organized the Pennsylvania Society and was indefatigable in advancing its work. She was also a member of the Bird Protection Committee of the A. O. U. for several years, and after joining the Union maintained an active correspondence with many ornithologists in different parts of the country. As the friend of everyone interested in birds her loss will be widely felt.

La Rue K. Holmes, a promising young ornithologist of Summit, N. J., and for some years past a Corresponding Member of the Club, died at the home of his parents on May 10, 1906. He was born December 2, 1883, and was always deeply interested in the study of nature. He was a painstaking and reliable observer, and was soon looked upon as an authority on the ornithology of his vicinity. He generously furnished any data that he could contribute toward such work as the Club from time to time carried on relative to migration and geographic distribution, and prepared for the 1904 CASSINIA an admirable paper on the Short-billed Marsh Wren.

Mr. Holmes had recently been appointed an Assistant Curator in the American Museum of Natural History, and his career was full of promise.

* * *

Through an oversight the notice of the death of Prof. Thomas G. Gentry, which occurred at his home in Philadelphia, March 12, 1905, was omitted from the last CASSINIA. Prof. Gentry was born in Philadelphia, February 28, 1843, and had a long and important career as teacher in the public schools of the city, being at the time of his death a supervising principal. He was always a student of nature and a collector of specimens and curiosities. For some years his interest centered upon ornithology, and he published three works upon this subject, the "Life Histories of the Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania," 2 vols., 1876 and 1877; "The House Sparrow at Home and Abroad," 1878, and "Nests and Eggs of Birds of the United States," 1880-82.

* * *

The Club was represented at the twenty-fourth Congress of the A. O. U. in Washington, D. C., by Messrs. Baily, Pennock, Rhoads, Keim and Stone, while Messrs. Miller and Todd, of the correspondents, were present.

Mr. Baily exhibited a number of excellent slides of birds from life, and Mr. Rhoads presented an interesting paper on "Delaware Valley Wild Fowl—Past and Present."