

**The Michigan Ornithological Club.**—The annual meeting of the Michigan Ornithological Club was held at the home of the Librarian, Mr. L. J. Cole, in Grand Rapids, on the afternoon and evening of December 11. Important business was transacted in the afternoon, and the evening was devoted to the presentation and discussion of papers.

The reports of the officers of last year showed the Club to be in a prosperous and growing condition. The treasurer reported a balance in the treasury. Prof. A. J. Cook, Dr. J. B. Steere, Dr. Morris Gibbs, and Mr. A. B. Covert were elected Honorary Members. Mr. L. D. Watkins, Manchester, was elected to Active, and Mr. Henry Roth, Ludington, Mrs. S. W. Clarkson, Ann Arbor, Mr. Geo. Walker, Belvidere, Ill., and Mr. E. W. Durfee, Lordsburg, New Mexico, to Associate membership.

Realizing the need of bringing the scattered members of the Club more closely in touch with one another, it was decided to commence the publication of a quarterly bulletin containing accounts of the meetings and other things of interest to members. The editorial staff is made up as follows: Editor-in-chief, *L.* *L.* Whitney Watkins, Manchester; associates, W. A. Davidson, Detroit, T. G. Hankinson, Michigan Agricultural College, Morrison A. Wood, Ann Arbor, business managers, W. E. Mulliken and *L.* J. Cole, Grand Rapids.

The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, A. B. Durfee, Grand Rapids, re-elected; Vice-president, W. A. Davidson, Detroit; Secretary, L. J. Cole, Grand Rapids; Treasurer, Mrs. F. A. Kelsey, Grosse Ile; Librarian, B. R. Laraway, Grand Rapids; Program Committee, B. W. Swales, Detroit; L. C. Read, Grand Rapids; C. M. Ayres, Sault Ste. Marie; Collection Committee, Prof. C. A. Whittemore, Grand Rapids; Percy Selous, Greenville, and H. F. Jones, Grand Rapids. It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Lansing.

*Evening session.*—The first article, 'Concerning the English Sparrow,' by Percy Selous, was read by Mr. Mulliken in the absence of the author. Mr. Selous upheld the foreigner, but the general verdict of the members was against the bird. Mr. T. L. Hankinson presented a paper entitled 'The Progress of Ornithology in Michigan.' Mr. Hankinson began with the list of Sager in 1839 and carried the subject up to the list of A. J. Cook and the organization of the Michigan Ornithological Club. Mr. L. Whitney Watkins of Manchester next read an article on 'Bird Migration,' drawing some interesting conclusions from the reports collected by the Migration Committee during the past year. Mr. Mulliken read a very interesting paper entitled 'The Limicolæ of Ottawa County, Michigan.' Mr. Mulliken gave copious notes on the habits of twelve species, based on personal observation.

The concluding article of the program, 'History of Baird's Sandpiper in Michigan,' was read by Mr. Cole. He gave an account of the taking of this bird in Michigan, and enumerated ten specimens known to have been taken in the State.



All were well pleased with the progress made and the work done by the Club in the past year and look forward to even better success in the future.  
— LEON J. COLE, *Secretary*.

**Errata.**—As I was not able to read the proof of my article on the ‘Birds of the Coal Regions of Pennsylvania’ (Auk, Oct., 1896), on account of absence from the city, two errors have unfortunately occurred. *Turdus fuscescens*, not *Turdus aonalaschkæ pallasi*, was noted by me at Pottsville and Rock Glen.

I noted Cowbirds at Pottsville on July 14, not July 11.—R. T. YOUNG, *Philadelphia, Pa.*

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## RECENT LITERATURE.

**Sharpe’s Catalogue of the Limicolæ.**<sup>1</sup> — As Dr. Sharpe says, the collection of Limicolæ in the British Museum “is truly a wonderful one. Of the 255 species recorded, the British Museum contains 250, and the types are 68 in number.” “The specimens arranged and catalogued in it are 13,440, exclusive of many hundreds of duplicates.” It is hence easily seen that the labor of preparing the present volume was very great, with, however, commensurate facilities for arriving at satisfactory results.

The Limicolæ are divided into the following six families,—*Ædicnemidæ*, with 4 genera and 11 species; *Cursoriidæ*, with 8 genera and 37 species; *Parridæ*, with 7 genera and 11 species; *Charadriidæ*, with 76 genera (44 of them monotypic) and 192 species; *Chionidæ*, with 2 genera and 3 species; and *Thinocorythidæ*, with 2 genera and 5 species. The family *Charadriidæ* includes 10 subfamilies, most of which have been often if not generally accorded the rank of families; as, for example, *Arenariinæ*, *Hæmatopodinæ*, *Charadriinæ*, *Himantopodinæ*, *Scolopacinæ*, *Phalaropodinæ*, etc.; while the genus *Aphriza*, sometimes recognized as a family, is not only reduced to generic rank, but is placed between *Ochthodromus* and *Charadrius*. While Sharpe thus degrades the rank of many groups usually recognized as families, he goes to the opposite ex-

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<sup>1</sup> Catalogue | of the | Limicolæ | in the | Collection | of the | British Museum. | By | R. Bowdler Sharpe. | London: | Printed by order of the Trustees. | Sold by | Longmans & Co., 39 Paternoster Row; | B. Quaritch, 15 Piccadilly; Dulau & Co., 37 Soho Square W.; | Kegan Paul & Co., Paternoster House, Charing Cross Road; and at the | British Museum (Natural History), Cromwell Road, S. W. | 1896.—8vo, pp. xii + 794, pl. vii. = Catalogue of the Birds in the British Museum, Vol. XXIV.



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