

winter had a number of fully formed eggs taken from it. Other individuals relieved this condition by depositing their eggs in the water in the tub which confined them. Unnatural surroundings are almost sure to produce unnatural behavior.

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**HORNBY'S PETREL.**—Through the generosity of Dr. L. C. Sanford, of New Haven Conn., the Victoria Memorial Museum has lately come into the possession of a specimen of Hornby's Petrel, *Oceanodroma hornbyi*.

For many years it has only been known from the type specimen in the British Museum obtained by Admiral Hornby, previous to 1853, and has for long appeared on the Hypothetical List of the American Ornithologists Union on the basis of its vague locality, "N. W. America", as given in the Catalogue of *Birds of the British Museum*.

In the *Auk*, XXXIV, 1917, p. 466, H. C. Oberholser advocates its installation as a fully accredited American bird on the grounds that at the time of its capture Admiral Hornby had his headquarters on Vancouver Island and there is little doubt that it was obtained in adjacent waters. It is seen that the probability of its being a Canadian species is suggested by the same evidence. It should likely be placed on our hypothetical list until further substantiated by specimens.

There are few North American birds of which we know so little as we do of the Petrels and their allies. Many nest in the southern hemisphere on lonely rocky islets lost in the vast oceanic wastes. With such limited breeding areas the total number of some of them must be very small and subject to accidental vicissitudes. The introduction say of rats from a wrecked ship might and probably has before now wiped out entire species or left them on the verge of extinction. Pigs, goats and cats have had such effects on many such insular habitats. Few of these stations are ports of call, some are inaccessible except in the calmest weather, and their dangerous possibilities and lack of resources cause mariners to give them a wide berth; hence their biota has seldom been investigated.

Petrels are purely pelagic and spend their lives far at sea in vast irregular wanderings, making no regular migration except at such times as the duties of reproduction call them to these out-of-the-way shores. They flit across the pathway of shipping and are seen in passing by the deep-water sailor; but by the coaster or the long-shoreman they are seldom noted. The former has no time to stop, investigate or collect, and the latter no opportunity. Of many species it is only the accidental straggler that normally comes to the eye of science, and probably a greater proportion of species are known by individual specimens in this group than in any other class of birds.

So it remained with Hornby's Petrel until R. H. Beck, collecting for Dr. Sanford eighty miles off the Peruvian coast in 1913, happened to come upon a number and obtained a series of them, of which this specimen is one.

The generosity of this donation to our National collections indicates that Dr. Sanford regards ornithology as more than the amassing of specimens; he refused to take advantage of his opportunity to retain the material and make his collection unique in the possession of this rare species. Whilst this spirit is not rare enough amongst naturalists to excite remark it is none the less worthy of approbation, especially as there are instances where less breadth of view and generosity have been evident.

P. A. TAVERNER.

**NOTES ON THE BEHAVIOUR OF THE CHIPMUNK**—No. 2.—While in camp at Lake Missanag, Frontenac County, Ontario, during part of August and September 1920, I was able to add a few notes to my record of the behaviour of the Chipmunk (*Tamias striatus lysteri*). The Chipmunk with the very short tail, upon which I made the observations recorded last year (*Can. F.-Nat.*, Vol. XXXIII, p. 92), had disappeared from her haunts of last year, nor was she to be found anywhere in the vicinity. This was a decided disappointment, as I had hoped to find out something in regard to the duration of memory in this species. The burrow in which another individual had lived the previous fall was also deserted. However, seeing a Chipmunk about a large



Hemlock stump at the edge of the woods near my camp I placed kernels of corn and raisins on top of the stump, and was rewarded not only by *one* Chipmunk coming to carry off the food but *three*, and this gave me an opportunity to make a few observations on the social behaviour of this species. Two of these Chipmunks were very similar in size and coloration, the only difference being that the stripes on the side of the head of one were slightly more distinct than those of the other, but the third was easily distinguishable by its duller coloration, slightly larger size and the obscureness of the stripes on the side of the head. I shall call them Nos. 1, 2 and 3, in the order named above.

No. 1 and No. 2 were very friendly and on one occasion I saw them rub noses. No. 3 was not amiably disposed towards the others and if either of them were on the stump when it arrived it chased them away. Sometimes pursued and pursuer would go round and round the stump like a flash of light, exhibiting marvellous agility in racing about on its smooth sides. In their general manner Nos. 1 and 2 were much alike, and neither of them paid much attention to me, even when quite close at hand, once they had overcome their first shyness; but No. 3 was always "jumpy" and was not noticeably tamer at the end of the period of observation than at the beginning. No. 1 was the most confiding of the three, and on the third day allowed me to approach within a foot of it, while on the ninth day it took food from my hand.

Yellow-jackets (*Vespula diabolica*) were extremely abundant, and many came to feed on the raisins and boiled corn that I placed on the stump for the Chipmunks. One day No. 2 was stung on the front paw and shook it violently, then licked it.

I have seen it asserted that the Chipmunk is a poor climber, and that it rarely ascends trees. Though from past observations I knew this to be untrue, I determined to put the climbing ability of this species to a fairly severe test. Making a stake from a very smooth pole of Paper Birch five inches in diameter, I drove the stake into the top of the stump, then fastened kernels of corn at intervals up the stake and placed some corn on the top of the stake. No. 1 came along, climbed the stake,

taking the kernels on its side as it went up, and sitting up on the top filled its pouches with the corn it found there. Next time it came it hunted over the top of the stump, and finding no corn there, climbed the stake and took the supply I had placed there. Thus this little experiment not only showed the climbing ability of this species, and enabled me to take a photograph of it in the act of climbing, but also gave another example, in addition to that reported last year, of the rapidity with which the Chipmunk forms associations.

Do Chipmunks habitually climb to secure any of their items of food? In the case of Hazel-nuts (*Corylus rostrata*) they certainly do, as the Chipmunks I had under observation climbed these shrubs, cut off the nuts and carried them away. Moreover they do not appear to waste any time cutting off bad nuts, as all the nuts left on these bushes after the Chipmunks had visited them proved on examination to be bad. How they distinguish good from bad nuts, and how they deal with these nuts in removing the hulls which are beset so thickly with irritating bristles which stick tenaciously in the human skin, are among the few thousand things we do *not* know about our common wild mammals.

A. BROOKER KLUGH.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVIDENCE CONCERNING THE PRESENCE OF THE GRAY FOX (*Urocyon* sp.) IN ONTARIO.—Among the animal remains found during my exploration last summer of the Uren village site in South Norwich township, Oxford county, Ontario, are several lower jaws and part of a skull which Dr. Gerritt S. Miller, curator of the Division of Mammals, U. S. National Museum, has identified as those of the Gray Fox (*Urocyon*). While bones of this animal have been found by archaeologists in Ohio,<sup>1</sup> Pennsylvania,<sup>2</sup> and Connecticut,<sup>3</sup> this discovery in Oxford county is probably the only record of its presence in Ontario, beyond the vague statement by Audubon and Bachman that "in Canada we have heard of its occasional, but rare appearance."<sup>4</sup>

The Gray Fox seems to have been as common as the Red Fox, of which we also found several bones, but it probably never





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