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## Report of the Committee on State Fauna

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much further to the west than hitherto observed, and a comingling of the Guelph and Niagara faunas in the Le Claire, similar to that in the so-called Guelph of Wisconsin. The specimens are well preserved, casts of the normal type not conforming to the variety of *M. Compressus*.

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## REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON STATE FAUNA.

BY C. C. NUTTING, CHAIRMAN.

In November last the chairman of this committee sent out a number of postal cards to the zoologists of the Academy, requesting them to forward their notes regarding the appearance of animals new to the state or to certain localities, and any items of interest concerning the geographical distribution of the animals of Iowa. The response was anything but encouraging, as only three members made any answer whatever, and none of these had more than a single note to offer. This will account, in part at least, for the meagreness of this report.

### MAMMALS.

No mammals have been reported new to the state.

The timber wolf, *Canis lupus*, seems to be increasing in numbers in the northern part of Iowa.

The red fox, *Vulpes velox*, seems to be getting more common in the southeastern part of the state. The first certain record for Johnson county was a specimen killed by Earl T. Bane, on November 26, 1894, and presented to the State University museum.

The little striped skunk, *Mephitis putorius*, Linn, has been known for several years to be common in Johnson county. The first specimens authoritatively identified, however, were brought to the university by Mr. J. M. Adams, October, 1894.

Franklin's spermophile, *Spermophilus franklini*, Sab., formerly common in Johnson county, is now becoming quite rare. Collectors from the university were unable to secure specimens during the last spring.

Prairie hare, *Lepus campestris*, Bach., is still increasing in the northern part of the state, and invading the southern part.

The first record for Johnson county is based on a specimen killed in January, 1893, by Mr. Wolf. The skull only was kept as a basis for the record.

## BIRDS.

Black throated loon, *Urinator arcticus*, Linn. Burlington, Iowa. Paul Bartsch.

Old squaw, *Clangula hyemalis*, (Linn.) Burlington, Iowa. November 29, 1892. Paul Bartsch.

White winged scoter, *Oidemia deglandi*, Bonap., Burlington, Iowa. November 15, 1890. Paul Bartsch.

Piping plover, *Ægialitis meloda*, (Ord) Burlington, Iowa. August 21, 1892. Paul Bartsch. This specimen was killed nearer the Illinois than the Iowa side of the river, and is, therefore, not strictly an Iowa record.

Clarke's crow, *Picicorvus columbianus*, (Wils.) Boone, Iowa. September, 1894. Carl Fritz Henning. This is the most surprising record reported this year. Mr. Henning kindly sent the specimen for identification, and donated it to the university museum.

Bewick's wren, *Thryothorus bewickii*, (Aud.) Burlington, Iowa, April 10, 1893. Paul Bartsch.

The above species of birds have not before been authentically recorded from this state, and all but one were in the collection of Mr. Paul Bartsch, of Burlington, and have been deposited in the Museum of Natural History of the State University of Iowa.

No notes have been sent in regarding the reptiles and batrachia, except a complaint over the scarcity of frogs for laboratory use. This scarcity is due probably, to the unusually dry weather during the past summer.

Mr. H. F. Wickham has kindly furnished the following list of coleoptera new to Iowa.