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## THE D.V.O.C. BIRD SKIN COLLECTION

Housed in cabinets around the Club meeting room in the Academy of Natural Sciences is the small, but relatively complete, bird collection for the Delaware Valley area. Inspection of the specimen tags shows that the collection outdates the Club itself, with a range from about 1877 to the 1920's. Most specimens were taken in the period from 1890 to 1910.

A recent count and survey of the collection by Robert A. Askins showed a relatively small number of contributors, but some 282 species and 10,389 specimens. The names of William L. Baily, I. Norris DeHaven, Henry W. Fowler, William E. Hughes, Wharton Huber, George S. Morris, Charles J. Pennock, Samuel N. Rhoades, and Witmer Stone, all past presidents of the Club, are found on hundreds of the specimens. Many were also taken by Dr. W. L. Abbott, H. Garrett, Josiah Hoopes, F. Guy Meyers, Richard F. Miller, and Robert P. Sharples.

Good series are present of passerines, shorebirds, and wading birds, and there are a number of rarities and accidentals. Of particular note are specimens of Eskimo Curlew and Passenger Pigeon.

The collection is available for use by D.V.O.C. members.