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## JOHN STERLING KINGSLEY

## CINCINNATUS, NEW YORK. April 7, 1853.

AT SEA, OFF SAN FRANCISCO. August 20, 1929.

John Sterling Kingsley, another of the pioneers of American Zoologists, has left us. While he has gone, he has left behind, among those who knew him personally, memories of a scholar, and inspiring teacher, a pleasing though highly individualistic personality, a kind gentleman, and a democrat among men.

As his middle name might imply, he was a man of sterling qualities. Trained at Williams, Princeton, and Freiburg at a time when Comparative Anatomy commanded first attention, his investigations were made in this field of Zoology, and, strange to say, even in the face of many changes in Zoological fashions, he devoted his whole life to a study of Comparative Anatomy. Due in part to these long years of application to a limited field, he became America's leading Comparative Anatomist. In addition to his contributions as a Comparative Anatomist he was an editor of note, having edited the Standard Natural History, the American Naturalist from 1884 to 1896, and the Journal of Morphology from 1910 to 1920. For a period of thirty-four years he served as professor of Zoology at Indiana, Nebraska, Tufts, and Ininois universities. In recognition of these several accomp.ishments he was elected to membership in many learned societies, including the Philadelphia Academy of Sciences, the Anatomische Gesellschaft, and the Zoological Society of London.

Personally when I think of Whitman, Minot, and others of that group I think of John Sterling Kingsley.

John Sterling Kingsley was born April 7, 1853, at Cincinnatus, N. Y. He died about August 20, 1929, while at sea, shortly after leaving San Francisco for a voyage around the world.

FERNANDUS PAYNE, Indiana University.

## ROBERT RIDGWAY

MT. CARMEL, ILLINOIS. July 2, 1850. OLNEY, ILLINOIS. March 25, 1929.

Robert Ridgway was early attracted by wild life. Before school age he was drawing and coloring bird pictures. He had a common school education but received an honorary degree in science from Indiana University. When he was but seveenteen years old he was appointed Zoologist of the U. S. Geological Exploration of the 40th Parallel under Clarence King. He was curator of the division of birds, U. S. National Museum, from 1880, member of the permanent

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ornithological committees first International Congress, Vienna 1885, and honored by succeeding international scientific congresses, a founder of the American Ornithologists Union, its president 1898-99 and 1899-1900. He was an honorary member of a number of foreign and American Scientific Societies. A few years ago he moved from Washington to Olney where he has since made his home. At Mt. Carmel he had the help of Dr. Schneck and had known Dr. Frederick Stein, both of whom some of our elder naturalists recall at least by name. There he was visited by Wm. Brewster and they explored the cypress swamps of Knox County, Indiana. For a time he lived at Wheatland, Indiana, and gathered much information regarding the inhabitants of those swamps, both animals and plants.

His volumes on "Birds of Illinois" are in part a contribution on Indiana birds.

He was also interested in trees and plants. Years ago he bought a tract of woodland near Olney which he protected and planted with trees and shrubbery that would thrive in that latitude. He named this "Bird Haven." A committee of the American Ornithologists Union has been appointed to obtain money to secure and preserve this spot to which he gave his mind and heart in his later years.

I first met Robert Ridgway at his home in Washington many years ago and enjoyed the delightful experience.

Following the meeting of this Academy in 1925 at Terre Haute four of us accepted his invitation to visit him. Accordingly, Frank C. Evans, Crawfordsville, Indiana, President Indiana Audubon Society, O. M. Schantz, Chicago, Illinois, President Illinois Audubon Society, S. E. Perkins III., President Indiana Nature Study Club, and myself drove from Terre Haute to Olney and spent several delightful hours with Mr. Ridgway and his wife. The latter was an invalid and died some months later. Our reception will ever be a treasured memory. The welcome of the host of Larchmound was emphasized by the activities of his bird visitors. None of us had ever seen so many birds of so many different kinds about a home. A total of about 200 individuals of some 15 species were enjoying the meal the host had set before them just as we arrived. It was a splendid demonstration of what may be accomplished by proper bird encouragement.

The next morning we returned from our hotel early to find a somewhat different company of birds assembled for their breakfast.

Equally interesting, but from a different viewpoint, was our friend's study. There were copies of his books and manuscripts and pictures of birds. The latter included some of his boyhood efforts that were sent to Spencer F. Baird for identification purposes. He, like others of us who as youngsters had written Prof. Baird, received that friendly greeting and special consideration in return which we all cherish. Later with Prof. Baird and Dr. Thomas M. Brewer he wrote the "History of North American Birds" in five volumes. His final and greatest work, "Birds of North and Middle America," of which eight numbers have been published, he did not see completed.

A bibliography of Dr. Robert Ridgway's papers, containing 540 titles, was published by Harry Harris in The Condor, January-February, 1928. Indiana University published in 1905 a less satisfactory bibliography, "Indiana University, 1820-1904" which included 459 titles by Dr Ridgway on pages 321-338.

Mr. Ridgway was a member and fellow of this Academy. We honor his life, his work and his contributions to science. It is not too much to say with him passed our greatest American ornithologist.

AMOS W. BUTLER, Indianapolis, Indiana.