ceived from my brother at Riverside has met with so much appreciation at the Museum of History, Science and Art. The tortoise was a particular pet of mine, although a very stupid one. At Riverside during his residence of fourteen years he entertained a large number of visitors annually and was locally well known. I anticipated a very long life for the tortoise, at least a century, and his untimely death has been a great disappointment. The following data concerning the specimen will doubtless be of interest to you.

I found him in June, 1899, at Iguana Cove, Albemarle Island, Galapagos Islands. At the time of his capture he weighed 29 pounds, and was, I presume, not much over a year old. He was carried on the schooner, where he lived on the deck with several adult tortoises and fed on *Opuntia* cactus until we reached San Pedro Harbor. At Riverside he grew at a rapid pace during the first few years and doubled his weight annually—at the time of his death I should judge he was not over sixteen or seventeen years of age.

Mr. Ditmars, of the reptile department of the New York Zoological Park, states that several of his giant tortoises have died of inflammation of the kidneys, due to resting on damp soil, and this may doubtless explain the death of my specimen at Riverside.

You will find this tortoise referred to in a paper on "The Reptiles of the Galapagos Islands" by me published in the *Proceedings of the Washington Academy of Sciences*, February, 1903, Vol. 5, page 52.

There is no record of its size at time of capture, except as to weight, which was 29 pounds. At the time of its death it weighed 450 pounds and its carcass measured 41 inches long, 31 wide and 21 high. Mr. William Heller, who had personal care of the tortoise for many years, writes me that it thrived wonderfully on a diet of spineless cactus, milkweed, melons, oranges, etc.

FRANK S. DAGGETT
MUSEUM OF HISTORY, SCIENCE AND ART,
LOS ANGELES, CALIF.

TWO PARTIAL-ALBINO BIRDS

ON the first three days in October, in and near Webster Park, Orono, Me., there was observed a partial-albino robin (*Merula migratoria*). I examined it carefully with a field-glass. The white feathers are remiges, forming a white patch in each wing when the bird is standing. When the bird flies the fluttering white wing feathers give it a striking and beautiful appearance which must attract the attention even of the layman. In the left wing the white quills include all the longest primaries and extend far enough I think to number 12 or 13 all told. Among the lesser coverts of the left wing appear also two white spots, each apparently formed by the tip of a single feather. In the right wing the position of the white quills is different: the longest primaries (5 of them, I judge) appear perfectly normal; these are followed by about 7 white remiges. So far as I could see, the bird is in all other respects quite normal. The white terminal spots on the outer tail feathers are conspicuous, but not abnormally so. The white of the belly does not extend so far forward as I have seen it on some normal specimens. The white markings on the head, and the very narrow edgings of the breast feathers are as usual. The red of the breast is, I judge, both brighter and darker than the average. The bird is tame, frequents door-yards, and ought to be seen by other observers on its migration. To shoot such a bird and set up its skin in a museum is a wanton destruction of scientific material; if taken at all it should be taken alive and used for breeding.

On October 3, in Old Town, Me., I saw a partial-albino house sparrow (*Passer domesticus*), the white being in great masses on the wings, so that in flight this individual looks somewhat like a snowflake. In many years of bird observation I never saw another house sparrow with such an extensive albinism as this one.

WALLACE CRAIG
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

ANOPHELES PSEUDOPUNCTIPENNIS

IN the article entitled "The Rôle of *Anopheles punctipennis* Say in the Transmission of Malaria," which appeared in the issue of SCIENCE for December 17, 1915, an unfortunate error occurs. In discussing the work of Dupree and Knab's comments thereon it was stated that the latter was inclined to believe that the experiments had been conducted with