

noticed on a distant shallow strip of bush-grown shingle an assemblage of white pelicans. They were crowded in a long line like a company of soldiers arrayed in spotless white tunics. It was early morning (6 a.m.), and as the bright sun shone through the clear northern air, the line of large white birds stood out in bold relief amidstream. They were bobbing their heads up and down, and shifting uneasily as though they were going through the old method of regimental "sizing"—tallest at the end, shortest in the middle of the line. With characteristic timidity they rose in flight when our boat was two or three hundred yards away. I counted them as they rose and found that there were 76 birds, and there must in all have been at least a hundred pelicans along the rapids which extend some four miles. They looked like huge swans or gulls, the head being gracefully thrown back, bringing the point of the long beak very little in front of the breast. The shortness of the tail was obscured by the stout yellow webbed feet which were backwardly directed in flight and gave the bird a greater apparent length, as the feet extended beyond the blunt tail which, it may be added, consists of 20 or 25 short feathers. Each tail-feather terminates in a white pointed plate or horny tip. The expanse of the wings was the most remarkable feature. It imparts a majestic appearance to the bird. Seen from below, the outer half of each wing is observed to be of a dull black colour; the inner part, next to the body of the bird, is cream white; so that the wings have the appearance, when expanded, of a huge letter 'U' of white, with the outer broad fringe of black. One famous U.S. naturalist speaks of the pelican as "clumsy on the wing;" but no one could so speak who saw these birds as I saw them in their native haunts.

They flew for some distance in a confused manner, without arranging themselves like ducks or geese in regular flying order. Some separated from the rest and moved round gracefully in circles with motionless outstretched wings, after the manner of