

tions, a list of the birds of Nova Scotia,* from notes made in 1852-5 by Lieutenants Blakiston and Bland.

By 1857 Willis had gathered an extensive collection of our shells, which he forwarded to Dr. A. A. Gould for examination and identification. In a similar way Dr. E. Foreman lent him a helping hand. Thus at various times we find boxes laden with precious shells being despatched to and from these naturalists for determination, examination or exchange. He also corresponded and exchanged with many other scientists, who seemed to be only too anxious for any information they might obtain regarding the natural history of our Province. Among these may be mentioned Dr. Wm. Stimpson, Dr. P. P. Carpenter, Sir J. W. Dawson, Sir Wm. Denison (Governor of Madras), Professor John Capellini (of the University of Bologna, Italy), Hon. Rawson Rawson (of the West Indies), Dr. C. J. Cleborne, Prof. E. D. Cope, and many others. It was in 1857 that his first known list of Nova Scotia shells was published.

Willis gave to the museum of King's College, Windsor, a large collection of native shells, consisting of about 123 named and 124 unnamed specimens. To this he added in after years. He presented a similar collection to Acadia College, Wolfville. His gifts, however, were not confined to conchology alone, for we find him repeatedly quoted as a donor of various articles to these and other institutions.

In 1859 he sent a box of Nova Scotian shells to the Smithsonian Institution where they were to be compared by P. P. Carpenter and W. Stimpson with the types in the museum of that Institution, and labelled accordingly. In reference to these shells Stimpson, in a letter to Willis, says: "I have as yet had time only to look them over in a general way, but I assure you even this cursory examination has convinced me that you have done a great service to our noble science, by discovering several shells on our coast which had escaped us all, thereby enriching our fauna and extending the geographical range of North European species." He adds a list containing nine species new to this coast and remarks: "There! If that starts your enthusiasm as it does

*See Bibliography on a later page, No. 2.