

draw himself up perfectly erect with his feathers close to his body, making himself look far taller and thinner than usual. He would then slowly close his eyelids in a funny crooked line and go to sleep. His whole appearance changed in the evening, as, with feathers fluffed out and body bent forward, he would move his head from side to side and peer with an anxious expression into all the nooks and crannies in the room.

I was always conscious of his flight even when not watching him, owing to a slight breeze which his wings made in the room, but even when he flew close to my head I could not distinguish the faintest sound.

Although I supplied him with a box of sand in which was sunk a dish of water, I never saw him either drink or bathe, and the water did not seem to decrease, but got dirty in a few days. His feathers never looked as if they had been near water.

But my pet came to a tragic end at last in the following manner. I paid him a visit one morning, and, unnoticed by me, the cat followed me into the room but did not follow me out again. Shortly after there was a slight tussle, followed by a faint shriek and then all was still. Going into the room I saw the cat with my pet in her mouth. The cat had evidently got the owl in a corner, and I knew how he would back up and show fight, and so the tussle I heard is explained. One of the cat's fangs had penetrated its skull just over the eye and all one side of the head was smashed.

When skinned the bird proved to be a male and was in fairly good condition, though not fat. During the few months I had him, he proved a most interesting pet, and I was sorry indeed to lose him.

CORRECTION.—A most unfortunate error occurred in the Notice of Prof. Bailey's Botany on page 196 of the last number. In line 13 the word "subject" should read pupil.