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CATALOGUE OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS' EGGS FOR 1884.

As we go to press our patrons will be receiving our new Catalogue of North American Birds' Eggs for 1884. It will be seen that a considerably larger proportion of families are represented in this catalogue than in the previous one, and by a much greater number of species. In fact, no pains have been spared in gathering in material; every part of the continent has been laid under contribution that we might place before our patrons the most complete series ever offered, of North American Eggs. This catalogue includes only such species as were on hand at the time of its issue, and the stock will be steadily enlarged. Correspondence has become so extensive that we are likely to procure anything that is attainable, and we would request from Oölogists lists of their special desiderata.

Of most species enumerated, we can furnish both single eggs and sets; special pains have been taken to secure sets, to keep pace with the steadily increasing demand in this direction; with many we can supply also the nest, and in all cases full and accurate data. It is needless to say that only neatly prepared and carefully identified eggs are offered.

Eggs will be securely packed in tin or wooden boxes, and shipped by mail or express, prepaid.

THE MERMAID AND THE OCTOPUS.

There was a mermaid beneath the sea.
By her papa was kept in a locked abyss—
Yet in spite of the cruel old merman, she
Fell deeply in love with an octopus—
A slimy, grimy octopus!
A green, unrhymy octopus!
The son of a terrible cuttle-fish!
A quivering, shivering octopus.

He'd savage eyes and dreadful strength
In his horrid beak that cocked up was—
And tentacles thirty feet in length
Surrounded this wonderful octopus!
This mighty, bitey octopus!
This snappish, fighty octopus!
The son of a terrible cuttle-fish!
A quivering, shivering octopus!

There wriggled in an electric eel—
On the mermaid's lip he shocked a buss!
Said she: "The magnetic thrill I feel,
But you'd better look out for my octopus!
He's a frightful, spiteful octopus!
Yet a most delightful octopus!
The son of a terrible cuttle-fish!
A quivering, shivering octopus!

Quoth she to her nurse, an old mermaid,
"Although the old man locked up us,
A way I know, and I'm not afraid
To escape to my darling octopus!
My beautiful, dutiful octopus!
And a very suitable octopus!
The son of a terrible cuttle fish!
A quivering, shivering octopus!

She called a cyclone, that in Broadway
I'm certain would surely have knocked a bus,
But it only carried her, sulky, away,
So she might clope with the octopus!
"Audacious, rapacious octopus!"
Cried the nurse. "Oh, good gracious! octopus!
A quivering, shivering octopus!"

And now in their weedy coral bed
They lie in dulcissimis noctibus—
At night she's embraced, and in daytime fed
By the numerous arms of her octopus!
A curious, furious octopus!
A quite injurious octopus!
The son of a terrible cuttle-fish!
A quivering, shivering octopus!



1. Animals from various Geological Periods; Iguanodon, Pterodactyle, Megatherium, Moa, &c. 3. Tropical forms. 4. African animals. 5. Montana mine. 6. Rochester Establishment. 7. Australian animals. 8. American animals. 9. European animals. 10. Asiatic animals.