

Capen's 'Oölogy of New England.*—Under this title Mr. Capen has published a handsome volume, illustrating in color the eggs of our New England birds. It is a work which will, no doubt, be welcomed by many who are interested in egg-collecting, and they will find these colored illustrations of great assistance in the identification of specimens. Short descriptions of the eggs and nests are given, together with notes on the breeding habits of the species.

We wish that the author had given his authority for including among the birds *known* to breed in New England, such species as *Empidonax acadicus*, *Polioptila cærulea*, and *Thryothorus ludovicianus*, while omitting others, such as *Plectrophenax nivalis* and *Lanius borealis*.

The typography and general appearance of the book is excellent, the plates especially being far better than colored lithographs usually are.—C. B. C.

Nests and Eggs of the Birds of Ohio.—We have a double number of this great work, which maintains the high character of which we have often spoken already. It is Parts 21 and 22, pp. 235–286, pll. lxi–lxvi. Of the six plates, three are devoted to various eggs, chiefly of water birds, and birds of prey without nests. Of those with nests, pl. lxi represents *Lanivireo flavifrons* and *Helminthophaga chrysoptera*; pl. lxxv, *Seiurus auricapillus*; pl. lxxvi, *Parus atricapillus*.—E. C.

Mrs. Miller's 'Bird-Ways.'†—Few more delightful bird-books have appeared than Mrs. Miller's 'Bird-Ways,' it being of equal interest to the bird-lover and the specialist. In style it is simply admirable, from the purity and simplicity of its diction. The book is made up largely of articles previously published in the 'Atlantic' and other magazines, but contains several papers not before printed. Mrs. Miller is a genuine bird-lover, intelligent and accurate in her observations, whether of birds in the aviary or in the field. Many of her sketches relate to some of our native birds kept as household pets, and include the Robin, the Wood Thrush, the Catbird, the Red-winged Blackbird, and the Baltimore Oriole. There is also a chapter on the European Song Thrush, while no less than five are devoted to the European House Sparrow, which latter have the following headings: 'A Ruffian in Feathers,' 'A Tragedy in the Maple-tree,' 'Trouble in the Honeysuckles,' 'The Bird of the Street,' and 'These are your Brothers.' In these are well depicted the character and domestic life of this discordant and now unwelcome denizen of our streets and parks. The chapter on the Robin is suggestively headed 'The Bird of the Morning'; the two chapters on the Wood Thrush are entitled respectively 'The Bird of Solitude,' and 'A Gentle Spirit,' while the Red-winged Blackbird is 'The Bird of

*Oölogy of New England; a description of the Eggs, Nests and Breeding Habits of the Birds known to breed in New England, with colored illustrations of their Eggs. By Edwin A. Capen. Boston, 1886, 4to., pp. 116, pll. xxv.

†Bird-Ways. By Olive Thorne Miller. Boston and New York: Houghton, Mifflin & Company, 1885. 16mo., pp. viii, 227.