In Europe the trend of the *land* and *migration* is *discontinuous*, east and west; and therefore the older, *stronger-flying* birds ascend to higher levels to see over both land and sea, whilst the young birds keep lower down, but by *mutual* powers of vision are still guided by the higherflying old birds above. Reaching land, the young birds sink exhausted it may be, but the 'first wave' of old birds passes on upon their further journey. More could be urged on this aspect of the question, but we refrain in fear of occupying too much valuable space. One more remark : Fogs and mists and haze and darkness, blot out the landmarks by sea from even these high-flying pioneers, and as described by Herr Gätke, ''in the clap of a hand, in a second of time" — or words to that effect, or nearly — the island of Heligoland, off the entrance to the Elbe, is crowded by birds, in *tens* of *thousands*, when the fog lies heavy around.

We have only taken 13 pages of the article by Mr. Cooke as text for our reply, but there are many valuable and interesting points brought out and referred to in subsequent pages, worthy of equal attention. If our notes can be of use, we are happy to contribute even the smallest mite. If it should be considered desirable, further remarks upon pp. 14 et seq. might follow, but what has already been said, we believe, will be suggestive of what might be said again, and reasons and arguments adduced for the formation of what we in Europe call 'rushes' and you in America, the ''arrival of the bulk'—from your own showing.—J. A. HARVIE-BROWN, M. B. O. U., C. M. A. O. U.

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## GENERAL NOTES.

The Florida Gallinule Breeding in Vermont.—Early in June, the present year, I left New York City for a short collecting trip in Vermont, in quest of, among other things, the Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*), in the hope of securing the birds, their nest and eggs, and the proper access-