

Shufeldt's 'Myology of the Raven.'*—This work, as stated in the title, is intended as 'A Guide to the Study of the Muscular System in Birds, and as such should be a welcome addition to the literature of avian anatomy. The Raven is chosen as the basis of the work on account of its being "a large representative of a very numerous and cosmopolitan family of birds, the Corvidæ," some near ally of which hence becomes readily accessible to students everywhere. It forms also a monograph of the muscular system of one of the leading Oscinine types, copiously illustrated by original drawings by the author from actual dissections. Much of the work appears to have been done under the unfavorable circumstances attendant upon isolation from libraries and museums. Since the work appeared, rather more than a year since, it has been extensively reviewed, by both favorable and unfavorable critics. While not an ideal production, its utility for the purpose for which it was written is beyond question, as it subserves a purpose no other work in English so well meets. The muscular system being to some extent variable in different types of birds, the more prominent departures from the structures met with in the Raven are generally more or less fully noted. The author acknowledges his indebtedness to many of the leading writers on the subject, and closes his volume with a bibliography of "important works and papers treating of the muscles of birds, compiled, abridged, and rearranged from the bibliographical lists of Hans Gadow" and other sources. He gives also in copious footnotes the synonymy of the principal muscles, as given by Gadow in his work on the muscles of birds in Bronn's 'Klassen des Thier-Reichs,' as well as much descriptive matter from the same source, transcribed from the original German without translation, also numerous extracts from the writings of Garrod and Forbes.—J. A. A.

Bolles's 'Land of the Lingering Snow.'†—This little book is a series of delightful sketches of rambles in the vicinity of Cambridge, with excursions to Cape Cod, Wachusett and Chocorua, at various dates from January to June. Several of the essays are distinctively ornithological, as 'The Bittern's Love Song,' 'The Vesper Song of the Woodcock,' 'The Coming of the Birds,' 'A Forest Anthem,' etc., while all have a distinctly ornithological flavor, and record many observations of special interest, woven in with charming allusions to the ever changing face of nature under the varying aspects of winter, spring, and early summer. Everywhere the author gives evidence of the poetic sense, keen sympathy with nature, acute powers of observation, and an ability to portray with unusual skill and realistic effect the scenes noted amid storm and sunshine as winter passed on through spring into summer.—J. A. A.

* The | Myology of the Raven | (*Corvus corax sinuatus*). | A Guide to the Study of the Muscular System | in Birds. | By | R. W. Shufeldt. | London: | Macmillan and Co. | and New York | 1890. 8vo., pp. xix+ 343, with about 90 figures in the text.

†Land of the Lingering | Snow | Chronicles of a Stroller in | New England | from January to June | By | Frank Bolles. | [Vignette] Boston and New York | Houghton, Mifflin and Company | The Riverside Press, Cambridge | 1891. 12mo., pp. 234.