

Torrey's 'The Foot-Path Way.'<sup>1</sup> — Mr. Torrey's writings always have a charm in their happily worded sentences that never dull the delicate edge of his humor, and that bring us the fragrance of the northern woods without loss of any of its freshness, but each time he gathers together a new volume we realize more and more the weightier reasons for his preëminence in the group of writers with whom one naturally associates him. He is not merely a philosopher and a sayer of happy things. He observes nature keenly as well as sympathetically, and with a spirit of scientific caution that stamps his work with a value which the writings of many a more prominent ornithologist will never possess.

About two thirds of the chapters in the present collection are devoted to birds, and in them he tells much that is interesting besides some facts of real importance—as for instance the record of the Pine Grosbeak as a summer bird on Mt. Lafayette, New Hampshire. Two chapters are given to his experience of the breeding habits of *Trochilus colubris*; there is another upon 'Robin Roosts'; and such titles as 'June in Franconia,' 'The Passing of the Birds,' 'A Great Blue Heron,' and 'December Out-of-doors,' give a fair idea of the other ornithological contents of the volume. Most of the chapters have already appeared in the pages of the 'Atlantic Monthly,' but their reappearance in the present form deserves a cordial welcome. — C. F. B.

**Ornithological Report of the Canadian Institute.**<sup>2</sup>—This publication is a record of the members' observations reported at the meetings from April 15, 1890, to June 9, 1891. It contains among other things a detailed report, of fourteen pages, from a number of observers, on the occurrence of the Evening Grosbeak in Ontario during the winter of 1889-90, and an annotated list, by W. L. Kells, of nearly a hundred and fifty species occurring at Listowel, Ontario. In addition to these there are a multitude of brief notes, some of the highest interest, others less important, relating many of them to habits, but the majority to dates of migration, etc., of various species, rare and common. With hardly an exception the localities referred to are all within the Province of Ontario. It is impossible here to quote any, even the most interesting, of the records, in spite of the importance of many of them, especially of such as bear upon the faunal peculiarities of the region.

The number of persons who have contributed to the report is large, and their work seems, on the whole, to show unusual accuracy as well as

<sup>1</sup> The Foot-Path Way | by | Bradford Torrey | [five lines=quotation] | [vignette] | Boston and New York | Houghton, Mifflin and Company | The Riverside Press, Cambridge | 1892 — 16°, pp. [iv,] 245.

<sup>2</sup> Proceedings | of the | Ornithological Sub-section | of the Biological Section of the | Canadian Institute | for | 1890-91 | edited by the editing committee. | (Extracted from the Proceedings of the Canadian Institute by permission | of the Council.) | — | Price - -25 cents. | — | Toronto: | The Copp, Clark Company, Limited, | 9 Front Street West. | — | Published Nov. 1892. — Proc. Canad. Inst., Vol. III, pp. 27-89.