

In the July-August issue of 'The Condor' (pp. 92, 93) he describes a new Song Sparrow as *Melospiza melodia sanctæcrucis*, with the range: "Along the fresh-water streams heading in the Santa Cruz Mountain region, from San Francisco south to Monterey Bay." He comments at some length on the intricacies of the Song Sparrow problem in California, which he rightly considers is as yet far from settled. — J. A. A.

Babson's Birds of Princeton, New Jersey.¹—The area embraced in the present list is included within "an eight mile radius" of Princeton, and comprises the greater part of Mercer County and the southern portions of Middlesex and Somerset Counties. The introduction defines the boundaries of the region, describes its physical characteristics, and summarizes its principal ornithological features, including a classification of the species in accordance with the nature of their occurrence, they being grouped into the following eight categories: Permanent Residents, Summer Residents, Summer Visitants, Winter Residents, Winter Visitants, Regular Transients, Irregular Transients, and Accidental Visitors. There is in addition a list of the species found breeding, with the earliest dates at which nests containing eggs have been found.

This is followed by the 'Annotated List of Birds,' numbering 230 species. The arrangement and nomenclature is that of the A. O. U. Check-List. The annotations are satisfactorily full and explicit, the list having been evidently compiled with great care and discrimination. The list is based primarily on the author's own observations, which cover four years, but indebtedness is acknowledged to Dr. Marcus Stultz Farr, Dr. Alexander Hamilton Phillips, and Mr. W. E. D. Scott, all of Princeton University, and to whom frequent reference is made in the annotations. The list is exceptionally free from typographical errors, and is tastefully printed, and forms in every way a most creditable initial number of the 'Bulletin' of a 'Bird Club' from which much good work may be confidently expected. — J. A. A.

Selous's 'Bird Watching'²—As the author explains, this work, "with one or two insignificant exceptions," is a record of his own observations; "all that I have seen which I have included in this volume," he says, "was noted down by me either just after it had taken place or whilst it actually was taking place," much of it being transcripts from his note-books.

¹The Birds of Princeton, New Jersey, and Vicinity. By William Arthur Babson, B. S., Princeton University. Bulletin of the Bird Club of Princeton University, Vol. I, No. 1, pp. 7-82, Sept., 1901.

²Bird Watching | By | Edmund Selous | [Vignette] London | J. M. Dent & Co., Aldine House | 29 & 30 Bedford Street, W. C. | 1901 — 8vo, pp. xii + 347, 6 photogravure pll. and several text cuts. Price, \$3.00. (Macmillan Company, 66 Fifth Ave., New York.)

And for this reason, he says, he has called his book 'Bird Watching.' In a certain sense it is unique, and forms a most valuable record of patient and minute observations of wild British birds in a state of nature. The scope of the work may be indicated by the following transcript of the headings of the twelve chapters: I, Watching Great Plovers, etc.; II, Watching Ringed Plovers, Redshanks, Pewits, etc.; III, Watching Stock-Doves, Wood-Pigeons, Snipe, etc.; IV, Watching Wheatears, Dabchicks, Oyster-catchers, etc.; V, Watching Gulls and Skuas; VI, Watching Ravens, Curlews, Eider-Ducks, etc.; VII, Watching Shags and Guillemots; VIII, Watching Birds at a Straw-stack; IX, Watching Birds in the Greenwoods; X and XI, Watching Rooks; XII, Watching Blackbirds, Nightingales, Sand-Martins, etc.

The amount of original and interesting information here brought together renders the book noteworthy and important, but it is perhaps marred a little, and certainly greatly swelled in volume, by the author's propensity to theorize and philosophize on what he has seen, especially where the observations do not furnish proper basis for speculative digressions.

In the first place the author is a strong believer in the efficacy of 'sexual selection,' and it is consequently from this point of view that he interprets the behavior of the birds he has so carefully watched. His arguments, he seems himself willing to admit, are here and there a little far-fetched and inconclusive, and to this extent they had better have been wholly omitted from an otherwise excellent book. Lack of space forbids a detailed reference to particular instances, and also prevents the transcription here of many passages in illustration of the author's admirable descriptions of what he has seen amid the wild crags of the sea-coast, on the moorlands, or in the 'greenwoods.' His felicity of description often makes readable, and even gives special interest, to what might easily become a dull recital if rendered by a less gifted narrator. But in general, to the bird lover, the incidents possess in themselves an interest that gives a charm to the pages of 'Bird Watching.'

The photogravure and text illustrations are from drawings by the well-known bird artist J. Smit, and, having been doubtless made under the author's careful supervision, are probably as good substitutes for the truthful pictures of the camera as could be well devised.

A very full index renders the contents of the book readily available.

'Bird Watching,' it may be added, forms a volume of the 'Haddon Hall Library' series, edited by the Marquess of Granby and Mr. George A. B. Dewar.—J. A. A.

Publications Received.—Bangs, Outram. (1) On a Collection of Birds from the Liu Kiu Islands. (Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl., XXXVI, No. 8, July, 1901.) (2) A New Honey Creeper from San Miguel Island, Panama. (Proc. N. Engl. Zoöl. Club, II, pp. 51-52, Feb. 8, 1901.) (3) Notes on the American Rough-winged Swallows, with Description of a new Sub-