

problems that await investigation, and which may be studied to advantage only through intimate acquaintance with individual birds; and finally expresses his conception of how such work should be conducted.

As already said, Mr. Scott has given us a very attractive narrative of his career as a naturalist; and so many matters of interest are chronicled that we trust a suitable index, rendering them more readily accessible, will be supplied in future editions of the work. — J. A. A.

**Mrs. Bignell's 'My Woodland Intimates.'**—The author of 'Mr. Chupes and Miss Jenny' (see *Auk*, XVIII, 1901, p. 288) here<sup>1</sup> presents us with a series of delightful sketches of out-of-door scenes and incidents, portraying the changing seasons and the attendant mutations in animal and vegetable life as observed in a "quiet, secluded, eastern New Jersey haunt and its immediate neighborhood." The varying aspects of field and woodland are noted under such titles as 'August Moods and Contrasts'; 'En Route' (September); 'Good-by to Summer' (October); 'Gray Days and Merry Ways' (November); 'The Solemn Midnight' (Winter); and so on through the circle of the year. While the birds are her major theme, all nature comes in review. The last chapter, 'In the North Country,' has for its scene "a beloved nook in the Laurentian Mountains of Canada." Intense sympathy with her subject, sincerity of expression, keen and intelligent powers of observation, and a happy faculty of imparting to others what she has seen and felt characterize 'My Woodland Intimates,' and entitle Mrs. Bignell's second book to rank high among popular nature books. — J. A. A.

**Walter's 'Wild Birds in City Parks.'**—The full title<sup>2</sup> of this little brochure sufficiently explains its purpose,—to furnish "a simple letter of introduction to 100 birds, the majority of which are commonly seen during the spring migration" at Chicago. Some 'General Hints' are first given, in the form of a few characteristics of the principal bird families, followed by 'Particular Hints,' giving the leading distinctive features of 100 species, arranged apparently in no particular order. There is also a 'Table of Arrival,' giving the birds in systematic sequence, with dates of arrival for the years 1897-1901, as observed in Lincoln Park, Chicago,

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<sup>1</sup>My Woodland Intimates | By | Effie Bignell | author of | "Mr. Chupes and Miss Jenny" | New York | The Baker & Taylor Company | 33-37 East 17th St., Union Square North | — 12mo, pp. i-xii + 13-241. Price, \$1.00, net.

<sup>2</sup>Wild Birds in City Parks, being hints on identifying 100 birds, prepared primarily for the spring migration in Lincoln Park, Chicago. By Herbert Eugene Walter and Alice Hall Walter. Revised edition. Chicago: A. W. Mumford, Publisher, 378 Wabash Avenue, 1903. 16mo, pp. 45, with chart for Migration Record. Price, 25 cts.

and also other tables and charts relating to bird migration for the same period and locality. The usefulness of this effort to aid beginners in becoming acquainted with wild birds in life seems to be attested by the appearance of the present revised edition.—J. A. A.

**Snow's Catalogue of Kansas Birds.**—Professor Snow has recently issued a fifth edition of his *Catalogue of Kansas Birds*,<sup>1</sup> which first appeared in April, 1872, and was reissued, with additions, in July, and again in October, of the same year, the latter being commonly known as the 'second edition,' though here counted as the third. In 1875 a 'third' ("in reality the fourth") edition was issued, dated on the title-page "November, 1875," and "January, 1876," on the first page of the text, and now stated to have been "complete to Jan. 1, 1876." The history and character of these earlier editions is here given, followed by extended comment on Goss's and Lantz's Catalogues and especially on Prof. D. E. Lantz's 'Review of Kansas Ornithology,' published in 1899 (see *Auk*, XVI, pp. 364, 365). There is considerable criticism of Lantz's 'Review,' but the general tone seems rather hypercritical. The author treats the historic portion of his subject (pp. 1-11) at length, and in minute detail, even to points of trivial importance.

Upon this thorough foundation of criticism and research, such as the bird fauna of few States has received, Professor Snow proceeds to give us a 'Catalogue of the Birds of Kansas,' in which all species attributed to Kansas whose occurrence in the State "cannot be verified by actual captures since the opening of the University of Kansas, in September, 1886," are excluded, including 14 species entered in his earlier editions on the manuscript authority of Dr. T. M. Brewer and Prof. Spencer F. Baird. The list, as now revised and annotated, includes 342 species and subspecies, not one of which is apparently open to question. While doubtless others may be added by future captures within the State, we have here a most thorough and up-to-date exposition of the bird fauna of Kansas.—J. A. A.

**Proceedings of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union.**—The Proceedings of the Third Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union forms a thick pamphlet of 108 pages, well illustrated with sixteen half-tone plates and about one hundred text cuts. The meeting was held at Lincoln, Nebraska, Feb. 1, 1902, with the President, Erwin H. Barbour, in the chair and 19 members present. The officers elected for the ensuing year were: President, J. M. Bates; Vice-President, Mrs. George H.

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<sup>1</sup>A Catalogue of the Birds of Kansas (fifth edition) with Notes upon Preceding Catalogues and Lists. By Francis H. Snow, Ph. D., LL. D., of the University of Kansas. 8vo, pp. 23, May, 1903. Reprinted from Vol. XVIII, Trans. Kansas Acad. Sciences.