

reference to the date of arrival in spring. The purpose of the list, aside from its faunistic value, is to aid local observers in their field studies of birds.— J. A. A.

Cole on Birds from Yucatan.¹— The collections forming the basis of the present paper were made at Chichen-Itza, Yucatan, by Mr. Cole, from February 13 to April 9, 1904, the observation and collection of birds being "rather incidental to the other collecting." The present list is intended "to include every species of bird known to have been definitely reported from Chichen-Itza," and numbers 128 species. The list is based on four sources of information: (1) birds collected by the author; (2) easily recognizable birds (2 in number) added on the authority of Mr. E. H. Thompson, U. S. Consul, owner of a large plantation at Chichen-Itza; (3) a collection of skins (84 specimens, representing 53 species) made by Mr. Thompson in the early nineties; (4) records from other sources, including Mr. F. M. Chapman's list² of 74 species, obtained by him at Chichen-Itza in March, 1896. This is an increase of 54 over Mr. Chapman's list, while 10 of those listed by Mr. Chapman are here given on his authority. A supplemental list of 13 species is given of birds collected or observed elsewhere in Yucatan, not yet reported from Chichen-Itza.

The annotations include, besides the usual field notes, the Maya names, and reports, in the case of a number of species, on the contents of stomachs by Mr. F. S. Millspaw. *Otus choliba thompsoni* is described as new. While *Otus* seems properly to replace *Megascops*, the use of *Asio* in place of *Bubo*, as here and by other writers who are ambitious to be up to date in names, is a little premature, a recent decision on these names by the A. O. U. Nomenclature Committee being to the effect that *Bubo* and *Asio* are entitled to their time-honored associations. Mr. Cole's list is an excellent summary of our present knowledge of the bird-life of Chichen-Itza.— J. A. A.

Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club.— 'Cassinia, a Bird Annual,'³ contains, as usual, much of interest relating to the ornithology of Pennsylvania and New Jersey. The opening paper (pp. 1-9) is a biographical sketch of William Bartram, by George Spencer Morris, illustrated with a portrait of Bartram, and a drawing of 'The Bartram House, Bartram's Garden, Philadelphia,' by the author of the paper.

¹ Vertebrata from Yucatan. Introduction and Aves, by Leon J. Cole; Mammalia, by Glover M. Allen; Reptilia, Amphibia, Pices, by Leon J. Cole and Thomas Barbour. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. at Harvard College, Vol. L, No. 5, pp. 100-159, pl. 1, 2, November, 1906. Birds, pp. 109-146.

² Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., VII, 1896, pp. 271-290.

³ Cassinia, A Bird Annual. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia, 1906. Issued February, 1907. 8vo, pp. 76, frontispiece and 1 half-tone plate.

Other articles are 'A Study of the Solitary Vireo,' by Cornelius Weygandt (pp. 10-15); 'Summer Birds of Western Pike County, Pennsylvania,' by Richard C. Harlow (pp. 16-25); 'The Concordville Robin and Grackle Roost,' by Samuel C. Palmer (pp. 26-29); 'A June Trip to Pocono Lake, Monroe County, Pennsylvania,' by John D. Carter (pp. 30-34); 'Winter Bird Life in the Pocono Mountains, Pennsylvania,' by William L. Baily (pp. 35-39); 'Report of the Spring Migration of 1906,' compiled by Witmer Stone (pp. 40, 57), arranged in tabular form, and followed by several pages of notes on species not included in the tabular matter. An 'Abstract of Proceedings' (pp. 58-64), a bibliography, 'Bird Club Notes,' and list of officers and members complete this very interesting number. The Club held sixteen meetings during the year, with an average attendance of twenty-four, and a maximum attendance of forty. Few ornithological clubs, if any, in this country can present an equal record of activity and sustained interest in its chosen field as is here reported in 'Cassinia.'—J. A. A.

NOTES AND NEWS.

AUGUST KOCH, an Associate of the American Ornithologists' Union, died suddenly at Mohawk, Florida, Feb. 15, 1907, where he was spending the winter. Mr. Koch was born in Stuttgart, Germany, in 1837, and came to this country with his parents in 1850. His home was at Williamsport, Pa., where he had resided for many years. "As a boy," says 'Forest and Stream' (of March 8, 1907, p. 336), "he was very fond of natural history, and before leaving Stuttgart he had taken lessons in taxidermy from the curator of the Stuttgart Museum. He was an ardent collector of birds, mammals, reptiles, fish and insects up to the time of his death, and was in correspondence with biologists in various parts of America and Europe. A close student of nature, combining manual dexterity with an artistic temperament, the natural history specimens which he mounted were life-like to a degree seldom seen in public collections. He leaves probably the largest, and certainly the finest collection of its kind in Pennsylvania.

"Mr. Koch was an ardent sportsman, a splendid wing shot and a man who had worked out his own code of ethics long before game laws were regarded as of much importance or enforced at all. . . . On the morning of Feb. 15 he was apparently in excellent health, and during the forenoon took a stroll through the woods with his gun. At noon he returned, put away his gun and started to walk across the yard when he was stricken