

Bonhote's 'Birds of Britain.'—This book gives colored illustrations of 108 species of British birds, forming 100 plates, reproduced, generally satisfactorily, from Mr. Keuleman's originals, selected for this work by H. E. Dresser from the illustrations of his well-known 'Birds of Europe.' The author tells us that the work includes "every species which has been known to occur in Great Britain, with a description of their leading characteristics and true habitat . . . ; and the plates have been carefully selected so as to give examples of the most typical species." The "notes on their ways and habits," we are also informed, have "been taken at first hand straight from Nature." The biographies are for the most part pleasantly written, and though generally short, serve, with the colored plates, to make an attractive book for the general reader interested in British birds.—J. A. A.

'British Birds.'—'British Birds'² is the name of a new illustrated monthly magazine devoted entirely to the study of the birds of the British Isles. The first number bears date June 1, 1907, and it has already shown abundant *raison d'être*. It is edited by H. F. Witherby, assisted by W. P. Pycraft, and evidently has the earnest support of many of the leading British ornithologists. "It shall be one of our chief aims," say the editors, "but not by any means our only aim, to provide in these pages, month by month, a current history of British birds. Much will come, we trust, by first-hand contributions, but we shall also glean, from every published source available, whatever is likely to prove of permanent value . . . Besides reviews and notices of books dealing with British birds, we intend to publish each month a list as complete as possible of all the books on the subject which have appeared during the month."

The opening article of the first number is a paper by the late Howard Saunders on 'Additions to the List of British Birds since 1899,' or since the appearance of the second edition of this author's 'Illustrated Manual of British Birds,' since which date "twenty additional species have established more or less claim to inclusion." The records are given in detail for each. "A Study of the Home Life of the Osprey," by P. H. Bahr, is based on the observations of a colony, in July, 1903, "on an island not a hundred miles from New York City," and is illustrated with several half-tone plates and text cuts. The first number also contains a paper by P. L. Sclater 'On a supposed new British Tit of the genus *Parus*,' *P. atricristatus kleinschmidti* (Hellm.) Hartert, in which he suggests that further explanations are desirable respecting its real status. These are furnished

¹ Birds of Britain | By | J. Lewis Bonhote | M. A., F. L. S., F. Z. S. | Member of the British Ornithologists' Union | With | 100 Illustrations in Colour | selected by | H. E. Dresser | from his 'Birds of Europe' | [Monogram] London | Adam and Charles Black | 1907 — 8vo, pp. i-xii + 1-405, 100 col. pl. Price, 20s. (post free, 20/6).

² British Birds, an Illustrated Magazine devoted to the Birds on the British List. 326 High Holborn, London: Witherby & Co.—8vo, about 32 pp. to the number, with half-tone plates and text illustrations. Monthly. Price one shilling net.

by Dr. Hartert in a later number (No. 7, December, pp. 208-222) in a paper entitled 'On Birds represented in the British Isles by peculiar forms,' twenty-two in number, the history and the characters of each of which are presented.

There are also continued papers running through several numbers each, as 'Nesting Habits observed abroad of some Rare British Birds,' by F. C. Selous; 'On the More Important Additions to our Knowledge of British Birds since 1899,' by H. F. Witherby and N. F. Ticehurst; 'Nesting Birds and Some of the Problems they present,' by W. P. Pycraft; 'Wind and Flight,' by F. W. Headley, etc. Each number contains also several pages of 'Notes,' and a number of reviews of new books and papers. There are also memoirs of Professor Alfred Newton, by Dr. Sharpe, and of Howard Saunders, by Abel Chapman, each with a portrait.

As shown by the foregoing, there was evidently a field for a magazine like 'British Birds,' and, furthermore, that the field is now excellently filled by this new Journal.—J. A. A.

Godman's Monograph of the Petrels.¹—Part I of this beautiful monograph treats of 24 species, of which 20 are figured, belonging to the genera *Procellaria*, *Halocyptena*, *Oceanodroma*, *Garodia*, *Pelagodroma*, *Pealea*, and *Cymodroma*. The synonymy and bibliographical references are followed by a Latin diagnosis, a fairly full biography, and by an account of the various plumages of the species. The subject seems to be brought well up to date, both as to the technical and biographical details.

It may be noted that *Oceanodroma socorroensis* Townsend, 1890, is referred to *O. monorhis* Swinhoe, 1867, and that *O. monorhis chapmani* Berlepsch, 1906, is not considered as separable from *O. monorhis* after an examination of the types, kindly submitted to the author of the 'Monograph' for study. On p. 9, *O. beldingi* is evidently a lapsus for *O. beali*.

This useful work is a most welcome and important contribution to the literature of these little-known birds. As we have already announced (*antea*, p. 105), the 'Monograph' is to be issued in five quarterly parts, and will contain over 100 hand-colored plates.—J. A. A.

Mathews's 'Handlist of the Birds of Australasia.'²—This is stated by the author to be preliminary to his proposed work 'The Coloured Figures

¹ A | Monograph | of the | Petrels | (order Tubinares) | By F. Du Cane Godman | D. C. L. F. R. S. President of the British | Ornithologists' Union etc, etc. | With hand-coloured Plates | by J. G. Keulemans | In Five Parts | Part I. | Witherby & Co. | 326 High Holborn London | December 1907 — Large roy. 4to, pp. 1-68, pll. i-v, va, vi-xix. Subscription price, £2 5s. per part.

² Handlist | of the | Birds of Australia | By Gregory M. Mathews | F. L. S., F. Z. S., M. B. O. U., &c. | With an Introductory Letter | by R. Bowdler Sharpe, L.L. D. | Assistant Keeper, Department of Zoology, British Museum. | Melbourne: | Walker, May & Co., Printers, Mackillop Street | (off 390 Little Collins Street) | 1908.—Supplement to 'The Emu,' Vol. VII, January, 1908, pp.1-108.