

use has been made of it by others, including Dr. Clark in the preparation of his report on the birds of the 'Albatross' cruise of 1906 (reviewed above), but no full report upon it has been published until now. In the meantime some of the birds first obtained in Korea by Jouy have already been recorded by others, and in order to secure to him the proper results of his labors this report is now offered in its present, as the author states, not wholly satisfactory form. It is, however, the most important contribution yet made relating distinctively to Korean ornithology.—J. A. A.

Walter's 'Wild Birds in City Parks.'—The fourth revised and enlarged edition of this "handy pocket guide to the birds"¹ has been greatly extended since our notice of the first revised edition in 1903 (*Auk*, XX, p. 316), the number of species treated having been increased from 100 to 200, the amount of matter more than doubled, and the table of comparative distribution greatly extended, it now covering the northern tier of States from Maine to Illinois and Missouri. The note to the present edition states that the entire subject has been thoroughly revised, "with the end in view of making the book useful in all localities in northeastern United States from the Mississippi to the Atlantic coast." That the book has proved useful is to be inferred from the statement that the present printing is the "eighteenth thousand."—J. A. A.

Collinge on Food Habits of the Rook.²—This investigation, which has been carried on more like similar studies in the United States than any other European work on economic ornithology we can recall, is based on the examination of 830 stomachs of Rooks, collected at all seasons in 41 counties of England and Wales. The bulk of the food taken from these gizzards was grain, chiefly wheat. A comparatively small amount of weed seeds was present, and much acorn mast, some gooseberries, currants, grass roots and potatoes complete the list of vegetable foods. Animal food averaged in the 12 months only 15 per cent. of the total food contents of the gizzards. The proportion varied from 1 per cent. in January to 40 per cent. in July. Beetles, their larvæ, and caterpillars were the principal items. Remains of the following vertebrates were found: long-tailed field mice (*Mus sylvaticus*), rat (?), rabbit, and young birds, including blackbirds. Blackbirds' and pheasants' eggs were taken from 1 and 5 stomachs, respectively. From these details it is evident that the Rook

¹ Wild Birds in City Parks. Being hints on identifying 200 birds, prepared primarily for the spring migration in Lincoln Park, Chicago, but adapted to other localities. By Herbert Eugene Walter and Alice Hall Walter. Fourth enlarged Revision, with Chart and Key, Author's Edition. 1910. 16mo, pp. 92. Single copies, 35 cents; packages of ten, \$2.50.

² Collinge, W. E. The Feeding Habits of the Rook (*Corvus frugilegus*, Linn.). Rep. to the council of the Land Agents' Society, April 1, 1910. Pp. 1 to 23. London.

gets its living in much the same way as the American Crow. The similarity is further evident in a marked preference for scarabæid and carabid beetles. A most remarkable difference in food habits is the almost total absence of orthoptera from the diet of the Rook. Neither grasshoppers nor crickets are mentioned in this paper nor in the two reports mentioned below, while these insects compose a large proportion of the food of the American Crow and are a great favorite with most ground feeding birds of the United States.

The author concludes that "so far as the evidence of this inquiry shows, the rook is not a particularly beneficial bird to the agriculturist, although its usefulness might be considerably increased were it fewer in numbers." This opinion agrees with that of John Gilmour¹ on the Rooks of Fifeshire, which was based on an examination of 355 gizzards. In view of the same conclusion being reached in two extensive investigations, one local, the other general, there is little doubt that it accurately sets forth the economic status of the Rook in Great Britain.

A more favorable opinion of the Rook is held in Germany, Hollrun² stating that the harm done by the birds in April, May and June is considerably outweighed by useful services. The proportion of animal matter in the 131 stomachs collected in these months was 66 percent., almost 2½ times the percentage found in English Rooks during the same period.—W. L. M.

Finn's 'The Waterfowl of India and Asia.'—This is a revised edition,³ under a new name, of "How to Know the Indian Ducks," amplified by the inclusion of all the Asiatic species of the family. Forty-two species, including stragglers, are recorded from India alone, and the heads of half of this number are illustrated by good figures.

The biographies are full and interesting and much attention is given to the differences between the closely related species and also to the characters of the higher groups. As a further aid in identification two synoptical tables are added. The lack of an alphabetical index will be a source of inconvenience to the users of this otherwise handy little work.—W. De W. M.

Publications Received.—Allen, Francis H. Notes on New England Ornithology, by Henry D. Thoreau, arranged and edited by Francis H. Allen. 12mo, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston and New York, May, 1910. \$1.75 net.

¹ Trans. Highland and Agr. Soc. of Scotland, 5th ser., Vol. VIII, pp. 21-113, 1896.

² 7ter Jahresbericht Versuchsstation f. Pflanzenschutz zu Halle, pp. 5-26, 1895.

³ The Water Fowl of India and Asia | By | Frank Finn, B. A. (Oxon), F. Z. S., M. B. O. U., | Late Deputy Superintendent of the Indian Museum, | Author of | "Garden and Aviary Birds of India," [. . . 4 lines of titles of author's previous works] — | Calcutta: Thacker, Spink & Co. | — | 1909 — 12mo, pp. ix + 121, and 11 half-tone plates of heads. Price, Rs. 2-8.