

and that referring to the Magpie

One is sorrow, two mirth,
Three a wedding, four a birth,
Five heaven, six hell,
Seven the de'il's ain sell.

Ancient Swan-worship is referred to and the survival to the present day of the ancient oath, in the form 'I swan' or 'I swanny.'

The only criticism that we would make of this valuable book is the need of fuller cross references. Under 'Swan' we find, "see mute-Swan" (p. 163) while as a matter of fact there is more information regarding Swans under Whooper Swan (p. 253) than under the reference cited, and such general terms as Sandpiper, Gull, Owl, etc. are not to be found at all, though under some one of the species doubtless the origin of the names is explained.—W. S.

Chapman's 'Color Key to North American Birds.'¹—This is a new edition of Mr. Chapman's well known and useful volume. The main text is unchanged but the Systematic Table presents all the species and subspecies of North American Birds with their nomenclature revised to and including the last supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union's 'Check-List,' while an Appendix explains in detail the changes that have taken place since the first edition of the 'Color Key,' and presents descriptions of the forms that have been added to the list.

A second appendix consists of a 'Faunal Bibliography,' of publications dealing with the birds of various localities in North America arranged by states and provinces. This is very complete and is the most important list of the kind since that published by Dr. Elliot Coues as an appendix to his 'Birds of the Colorado Valley' in 1878. It will prove indispensable to those who are forming a collection of works on North American ornithology. With all its good features retained and the valuable additions to which we have alluded the 'Color Key' should continue to hold its deservedly popular place in American bird literature.—W. S.

Hornaday's 'Our Vanishing Wild Life.'²—So numerous are the publications treating of wild-life conservation and so similar are many of them, that the average reader is inclined to pass by any new contribution to the

¹ Color Key to North American Birds. With Bibliographical Appendix. By Frank M. Chapman, Curator of Ornithology in the American Museum of Natural History. With Upward of 800 Drawings by Chester A. Reed, B. S. Revised Edition. New York. D. Appleton & Company. 1912. Svo., pp. i-x, 1-356. Cloth, \$2.50 net. Postpaid, \$2.74.

² Our Vanishing Wild Life. Its Extermination and Preservation. By William T. Hornaday, Sc. D., Director of the New York Zoölogical Park; author of "The American Natural History"; Ex-President of the American Bison Society. With Maps and Illustrations, New York, New York Zoölogical Society, 1913. Svo. pp. i-xvi, 1-411, net \$1.50 (Chas. Scribner's Sons, N. Y. City).