

something over an hour on the average, although they frequently made it in less time.

A pair of White-breasted Nuthatches appeared during the summer with their nine offspring. A nest of Migrant Shrikes was successful, but unfortunately data were not secured. On May 31 young Maryland Yellow-throats were seen in three separate localities.

While the nests and notes given above seem to overbalance on the "successful" side, I believe this is because young birds are so much more conspicuous than deserted nests. Certainly the difficulties met by some of the above birds show that it is not an easy matter to raise a family in the wilds. The loss of life between the time of leaving the nest and fall must be appalling. Evidences of Ruffed Grouse, Thrushes, Woodpeckers, and other birds killed by Hawks were common all summer. These notes give only a meager idea of the mortality occurring at nesting time, but to me the following of the histories of nests is a very fascinating pursuit. WALLACE B. GRANGE, *Ladysmith, Wisconsin.*

Scarcity of Arctic Birds in Europe.—Dr. Graham Renshaw, editor of 'Natureland', (published in Manchester, England,) has very recently returned from his trip to the coast of Norway; and in a letter to me, dated the 22d of July last, he says: "My Norway trip was zoologically *most* disappointing! At Hammerfest certainly there were plenty of Ravens; also I saw a few Hooded Crows. On the way to North Cape I saw five seals, but at a great distance; another of the party saw a whale. These however, with a few Skuas, Gulls, and Guillemots (=Loons) made up the lot; it was a regular wash out for me who had hoped to see one or two porpoises, dozens of seals and *hundreds of thousands* of Eider Ducks! What a pity the boat turned back at North Cape instead of continuing to Spitzbergen, where I might have seen the thousands of Little Auk that Professor Newton used to write about!"—R. W. SHUFELDT, *Washington, D. C.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

Stuart Baker's 'Game Birds of India.'¹—There are many ornithologists who combine with their love of birds a love for beautiful books and to these particularly Mr. Stuart Baker's volumes on Indian game birds will make a strong appeal. Beautifully printed on heavy paper, bound most attractively and illustrated by numerous excellent colored plates by Grönvold, Lodge and Keulemans, they seem to combine all that could be asked for in the makeup of a book.

¹ The Game Birds of India, Burma and Ceylon, Vol. I. The Ducks and their Allies, Vol. II. The Snipe, Bustards and Sandgrouse. By E. C. Stuart Baker. Published by the Bombay Natural History Society.