

which have arisen as the result of our latter-day knowledge, especially on the philosophic rather than the technical side of ornithology. It undoubtedly contains in concise form much information which the general reader would not come across in the bird books to which he has access, while the author presents his subject in an attractive and interesting manner, with many a note and comment which indicate a life devoted to nature and in sympathy with the creatures of which he writes.

In part one we have the following chapter headings which will give one an idea of the scope of the book,—Structure of Birds; Nests; Eggs; Movement in Birds; Altitude and Speed of Flight; Migration; Occult Senses; Property in Bird-life; Language of Birds; Marriage; Childhood; the Bird and the Tree; The Artist and the Birds; Birds of the Poets; Birds of the Bible; Fabulous Birds. Part two consists of 'Some Celebrated Haunts' which the author has visited—Shetland, The Hebrides, Norway, Switzerland and Canada.

While the volume lives up to its object in presenting the conclusions reached in some of the more recent English bird books, it does not indicate any close familiarity with the recent literature of the ornithological journals; while the great mass of American ornithological literature is almost totally ignored. No mention is made of Dr. Watson's famous experiments which throw so much light on the subject of bird migration; nor of bird banding and its bearing on the subject, nor of the late Professor Cooke's numerous publications. Nor is there anything on the coloration of birds, a problem upon which there has been endless philosophic discussion of late years. While Mr. Horsfield and his publishers have prepared an attractive little volume which will interest the lay reader, it will not entirely meet the needs of the average American bird student who desires a full resumé of more recent ornithological knowledge.—W. S.

Witherby's 'Handbook of British Birds.'—Part XVI of this excellent work covers the remainder of the shore-birds and the terns and carries two plates of the downy young, that of the shore birds being in colors.

Two races of the Redshank are admitted, the Greenland bird being *Tringa totanus robusta* (Schiöler). The genus *Capella* Frenzel is used in place of *Gallinago* having "unfortunate" priority and thus another familiar name sinks into synonymy. Similarly *Chlidonias* replaces *Hydrochelidon*.

The Caspian Tern is separated generically (*Hydroprogne*) but the Sandwich Tern is retained in *Sterna* and in the shore-birds not only are the "Solitary Sandpipers" and Yellow-legs all included in *Tringa* but also the representative of the Wandering Tattler, illustrating how difficult it is to effect any uniformity in generic subdivision, so long as the matter is left to personal opinion.

¹ A Practical Handbook of British Birds. Edited by H. F. Witherby. Part XVI, March 7, 1923, (Part XII, October 5, 1921). 4s 6d per part.

Part XII of this work, which was not received at the time of issue and hence not noticed in these columns, is entirely devoted to ducks with an excellent colored plate of the wings of the surface feeding species. Of these the Mallard, Teal, Widgeon and Pintail are included in *Anas* and the Pochard, Scaup, Ringneck etc., which one or two recent authors have so hopelessly separated, are kept together in *Nyroca*.—W. S.

Lönnberg on Palaearctic Goshawks.—In this paper¹ the author comments on the great variability of these birds and the difficulty of determining what differences are due to age and season and what to geographic variation. He confirms Schiöler in finding a difference between the Goshawks of middle Europe and the Scandinavian peninsula but shows that the name for the former should be *dubius* not *gallinarum*. A new race *Astur gentilis poecilopterus* (p. 215) is described from northern Russia and a specimen from Kansu, China, identified with *A. g. khamensis* Buturlin.—W. S.

Todd on the Genus Arremonops. Mr. Todd as a result of a careful study of a large series² of specimens recognizes seven species of this genus. *A. conirostris* (3 subspecies), *striaticeps* (4 subspecies), *chloronotus tocuyensis*, *verticalis*, *superciliosus* (3 subspecies) and *rufivirgatus*, (2 subspecies). *A. conirostris umbrinus* (p. 38) Merida, Venezuela, is described as new.—W. S.

Reports of the Roosevelt Wild Life Station.—The March Bulletin³ of the Roosevelt Wild Life Forest Experiment Station contains two major papers. 'The Summer Birds of the Alleghany State Park' by Aretas A. Saunders and 'The Ruffed Grouse with Special Reference to its Drumming' by Edmund J. Sawyer.

The former is an admirable account of the breeding birds of the Park, arranged in strictly ecological groups; birds of the orchards and shade trees; the open fields; the upland thickets; the forest floor and undergrowth; the upper branches and forest crown; the marshes, the water margins and lowland thickets. There are plates in colors of four of these groups from paintings by E. J. Sawyer and numerous half-tones of characteristic habitats, which unfortunately do not do justice to the photographs from which they are taken on account of being printed on ordinary text paper.

There is a chapter on field identification and a key based on field characters, while the author has much to say on songs and call notes, a subject to which he has given much thought and study. His attempts at syllabic representation of songs are the best we have seen and he wisely refrains

¹ Some Remarks on Palaearctic Goshawks. By Einar Lönnberg, *Ibis*, April, 1923, pp. 211-217.

² A Synopsis of the Genus Arremonops. By W. E. Clyde Todd. *Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash.*, Vol. 35., pp. 35-44, March 28, 1923.

³ Roosevelt Wild Life Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 3, March, 1923. Published Quarterly by the University, Syracuse, N. Y., pp. 229-386, pls. 25-29, figs. 71-122. Map 4