

Holmer's 'Indian Bird-Life.'—The little book¹ before us is another evidence of the spread of popular interest in birds—a brief treatise on the common birds of India, which the author tells us aims “to link the popular knowledge of a few birds . . . with the scientific knowledge which can cheerfully attack large classical volumes on ornithology.” “It is a book” he adds “to work with, a laboratory book where the laboratory is the open air.”

There are two parts treating respectively of the birds of the Plains and the birds of the Hills, the several chapters dealing with special groups or birds of special regions; while one explains the principles of classification. Appendices give a list of the commoner species of Indian passerine birds with page references to the ‘Birds of India’ by Oates and Blanford and tables of the characters of the families and orders.

To those who associate popular ornithology with America and England it seems strange to see a colored plate of a house and grounds with “Blue Jays” (= Rollers), Mynahs, Jungle Babblers, etc., as the common lawn birds, while in the trees rest Honey-suckers and Green Bee-Eaters.

This little book with its popular accounts of the birds will prove of much value in interesting English residents of India, and English speaking visitors, in the avifauna, and in giving the beginner what he desires by leading him to the more serious study of ornithology.—W. S.

Dr. Fox's 'Disease in Captive Wild Mammals and Birds.'—The work² of the pathological laboratory of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia for the past twenty years is well known. During this period no less than 1860 mammals and 3505 birds which died in the garden have had autopsies performed upon them and the results recorded while many pathological specimens have been prepared and preserved in the museum.

This work has been carried on by Dr. Herbert Fox, pathologist of the Society and his assistants, Drs. F. D. Weidmann and E. P. Corson-White. The portly volume which is now before us presents the materials thus obtained, systematically arranged and ably discussed by Dr. Fox, together with extracts from similar work by others and other matter calculated to make the volume more complete.

This important contribution to medical and zoological science not only shows just what diseases occur in captive animals but presents data, the application of which will undoubtedly help to explain some of the patho-

¹ Indian Bird-Life. By M. R. N. Holmer. Humphrey Milford. Oxford University Press, London, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras. 1923. Pp. 1-ix + 1-100. Price, \$1.20. Oxford University Press, America Branch, New York.

² Disease in Captive Wild Mammals and Birds. By Herbert Fox, M. D., Pathologist to the Zoological Society of Philadelphia, Director of the William Pepper Laboratory Clinical University of Pennsylvania. With a foreword by Charles B. Penrose, President of the Zoological Society of Philadelphia. Philadelphia, London and Chicago. J. B. Lippincott Company. Pp. i-vii, 1-665 (3). 1923. Price \$12.00.