

matter are, as he truly says, inseparable from observation in a medium other than air.

We heartily commend this book especially to those who have made contributions to the subject as we feel that a careful correlation of Dr. Dewar's observations with their own may help to reach more definite and consistent results on some of the other problems of the diving bird and its activities.—W. S.

Tait's 'The Birds of Portugal.'¹—This handsomely printed volume treats of the bird life of a country which has been much neglected ornithologically. The author, Mr. Wm. C. Tait, a resident of Oporto and a member of the British Ornithologists' Union, is the leading authority on the subject and has published a previous list of the birds of Portugal in 'The Ibis' for 1887.

The present volume brings the subject up to date. No descriptions are included, as they are readily available in the manuals on the birds of Great Britain and Europe, but details of occurrence and distribution are presented in a readable manner with many interesting bits of folk-lore and history, while there is a very full list of local vernacular names, remarkably large for the size of the country.

The author has had the cooperation of Mr. H. F. Witherby, who has travelled in Portugal and furnished technical data on subspecific identifications, etc., but resident bird students appear to be very scarce, in fact Mr. Tait states that the only living Portuguese field ornithologist known to him is Mr. Joao Alves dos Reis. It would seem a pity that at least an abridged edition of this work could not have been issued in Portuguese as a stimulant to local bird-study.

Introductory chapters deal with the physical features of the country and with migration while two appendices present a bibliography and a list of "ringed" birds recovered in Portugal. A good colored map and a number of half-tone reproductions of photographs of the country complete this excellent publication.—W. S.

Lowe's 'Literature of the Charadriiformes.'²—Bibliographic works are such laborious undertakings that we always feel that a double measure of thanks is due to the author who produces a reliable publication in this field, and such a one undoubtedly is Dr. G. C. Lowe's volume on the literature of the Charadriiformes. He considers the twenty-fourth volume of the British Museum Catalogue of Birds as bringing the subject up to

¹The Birds of Portugal. By William C. Tait, Fellow of the Zoological Society and Member of the British Ornithologists' Union. H. F. & G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, W. C. I. 1924. Pp. i-viii + 1-260. pls. I-X and a map. Price 18 shillings.

²The Literature of [the Charadriiformes] from 1894-1924 [with a classification of the order, and] lists of the genera, species and subspecies [By] George C. Lowe, M. A., M. D., [M. R. C. P., F. Z. S., M. B. O. U.] H. F. & G. Witherby [326 High Holborn, W. C. I. | 1924 | pp. i-xi + 1-220. Price 12 shillings and 6 pence.