

Practically all of our familiar birds are represented feeding or nesting, with views of the nest, eggs and young of most of them. Two colored plates by L. A. Fuertes illustrate a number of common land and water birds, also unfortunately crowded, but very skillfully and effectively grouped never-the-less.

Both text and illustrations in this work, contrary to the usual case, are the work of the author and from his own observations, and if the other chapters of 'The Book of Popular Science' measure up to Dr. Allen's standard the book should be well worth while. We heartily commend Dr. Allen's chapters as forming an admirable work of reference for the bird student, and only regret that they are not obtainable as a separate volume such as he has made of his 'separates.'—W. S.

Kirk Swann's 'A Monograph of the Birds of Prey.'—The second part of this beautifully printed work¹ is before us, covering the remainder of the Vultures, the Secretary birds, Caracaras and *Gymnogenes* and most of the Harriers. The treatment follows the plan established in the initial part, especial pains being taken with the synonymy, references, etc.

The three color plates depict (1) two races of *Gymnogenys typicus*; (2) *Circus spilonotus* and *approximans*; and (3) *Climacocercus ruficollis* and *gorilla* all from paintings by Grönvold, while the two photogravures are from photographs of nests of the Hen Harrier and Montague's Harrier.

It seems a little unfortunate that the keys are carried only as far as species, because a bird such as the Marsh Hawk, which is quite generally regarded as a distinct species but which Mr. Swann considers a subspecies of *C. cyaneus*, does not appear in the key at all. As we have frequently maintained, species and subspecies differ only in degree and a monograph should give them similar treatment throughout. This is, however, a minor matter and subspecies are given full consideration in the main text.

We congratulate both author and publisher on what bids fair to be one of the handsomest and most accurate monographs that has appeared in recent years.—W. S.

White's 'Birds of Concord, New Hampshire.'—To the desk of the reviewer, piled high with technical revisions, descriptions of new forms and the usual type of annotated lists, there comes occasionally a work¹ which for carefulness of compilation, perfection of language and literary style, and neatness of typography is a delight to the eye and a relief to the tired brain. Such a work is Mr. F. B. White's little pamphlet on the birds of Concord, New Hampshire.²

¹ A Monograph of the Birds of Prey (Order Accipitres). By H. Kirke Swann, F. Z. S., M. B. O. U. Corresponding Fellow of the Amer. Orn. Union. Illustrated by Plates reproduced in colour from drawings made expressly for this work by H. Grönvold also Coloured Plates of Eggs and Photogravure Plates. London, Wheldon & Wesley, Ltd. 2, 3 and 4, Arthur Street, New Oxford Street, W. C. 2. Part II, January 31, 1925. pp. 53-124, five unnumbered plates. Price 26s. net.

² A Preliminary List of the Birds of Concord, New Hampshire, with notes. By

It is published with the idea of fixing attention on the facts about which additional information is needed to render more complete the knowledge of the birds of the region of which it treats. For this purpose it is printed on one side of the paper so that notes may be kept on the opposite pages. The annotations under each species set forth clearly and concisely the present extent of the knowledge of its occurrence at Concord, while occasionally there are delightful little sketches of some special habit or detail of observation. The closing paragraph of the note on the Bluebird is a good example of this and must appeal to all who have been afield early in November when the last Bluebirds are leaving for the south. "If any are seen about," writes the author, "in the autumnal migration, they are likely to be a flock of four to eight birds clustering in apple trees by a farm house. November 4 is my latest date. Their call note is appropriate to the departing summer, as heard from the sky in the fall of the year from those bound away, for it has a melancholy tinge—"Farewell....farewell."

There is a brief introduction, a list of the works dealing with the local birds, a map, an enumeration of species according to time and character of occurrence and an index, while the nomenclature wisely adheres to the A. O. U. 'Check-List.'

The great charm of Mr. White's admirable little volume however is the care that he has exercised in its preparation and the beauty and clearness of his English both especially noticeable in an age when composition and literary style are so often ignored in the haste to get some observation into print.—W. S.

Arnold's 'British Waders.'—This handsome work consists of a series of fifty-one colored plates representing the shore-birds of England with a short account of each. The author is primarily an artist and he "presents these studies to his brother naturalists as a home reminder of the delights of the mudflat and the marsh," for as he says further "The Waders have such an attraction for most people and can be seen by so few." This latter fact is particularly true of American bird students, only a small proportion of whom have any opportunity to study "water birds" except for the Spotted Sandpiper, Killdeer and Green Heron, and while Mr. Arnold's attractive shore-bird portraits will be a delight both to those who are already familiar with the subjects and those who desire to make their acquaintance; they will likewise interest American as well as British students, since a number of American species are included, being either identical with those on the other side of the water or stragglers to that distant shore.

F. B. White, Member of the Nuttall Ornithological Club, Concord, The Rumford Press, 1924, pp. 1-153, with a map. For sale by E. C. Eastman Co., No. 120 North Main Street, Concord, N. H. Price One dollar.

¹ British Waders Illustrated in Water-Colour with Descriptive Notes. By E. C. Arnold, Cambridge. At the University Press. MCMXXIV. pp. i-vii, 1-102 ppl. 1-51. Price £3, 10s.