

America' then being published, and purchasers for the remaining copies of the large work. While of great interest historically as throwing additional light upon the financial side of these publications it does not present the enthusiasm of the ornithologist exploring new fields which is characteristic of the earlier diary.

A reproduction of an outline sketch of a bird which was pasted in one of the journals forms a frontispiece to the second volume and an excellent reproduction of the portrait that Audubon painted of himself appears in the first.

Since the appearance of the original volumes, which were limited to an edition of 225 copies, another edition from the same type but with different paper, title page and binding, and lacking the illustrations, has been gotten out in Cambridge<sup>1</sup> for which we are indebted to Dr. Barbour.

There is a foreword to the first volume by Ruthven Deane and to the second by Francis H. Herrick.—W. S.

**Allen's 'Book of Bird Life.'**—All readers of 'Bird Lore' have profited by the admirable articles that have been appearing in the educational department for the past ten years from the pen of Dr. Arthur A. Allen, Professor of Ornithology in Cornell University, and it will be a matter of general satisfaction to learn that these have been woven into a volume under the above title<sup>2</sup> in which the original illustrations and others mainly from the camera of the author appear.

Dr. Allen's wide experience with living birds admirably fits him for preparing such a volume as he has produced. As he says in his preface: "Nearly everyone has enjoyed some unusual experience with birds which he may have been at a loss to explain," such as the pecking of a Robin on the window, the Killdeer that trails a broken wing, etc., and he continues "it is the purpose of this book not only to explain such behavior but so to equip the reader that all his past experiences with birds will arrange themselves naturally in an orderly way." Dr. Allen has, we think, fully realized his ideal in the work that he has produced and it should find a place on the book shelf of every student of the live bird.

The first part of the work deals with the birds themselves and the second part with methods for studying them. History, Classification, Distribution, Communities, Birds of Fields and Orchards, of Marshes and Shores, Migration, Courtship, Home Life, Adaptation, Coloration and Economics are the chapter headings for the first part and show how thoroughly the field is covered. In the second part we find, Bird Walks, Calendars and Banding, Birds' Nests, Attracting Birds, Observation Blinds, Bird Pho-

<sup>1</sup> Cambridge. The Business Historical Society. The second journal in this printing has an introduction condensed from that in the first volume, which is lacking in the original.

<sup>2</sup> The Book of Bird Life. A Study of Birds in their Native Haunts; with Photographs by the Author. By Arthur A. Allen, Ph.D., Professor of Ornithology at Cornell University; Editor, "School Department, Bird Lore." D. Van Nostrand Company, Inc., 250 Fourth Avenue, New York, pp. i-xix + 1-426. Price \$3.50.

tography, Bird Song and Bird Pets. What a contrast to the introduction to Dr. Coues' famous 'Key' in which guns and ammunition, skinning implements and methods take the leading place. Not a change in sentiment, for ornithologists loved birds just as much then as now, but a change in the necessities of the study. We are now in possession of most of the facts to be learned from the dead bird so far as our home fauna is concerned and have advanced beyond that stage to the wide spread study of the live bird which has developed knowledge and methods never dreamed of a generation ago.

Dr. Allen's ability to transmit clearly to others his knowledge of birds through the medium of pen and camera make his book particularly valuable both as a text book and as a reference work in the home.—W. S.

**Stuart Baker's 'Synonymy of the Birds of British India.'**—It was the intention, in bringing out a second edition of the Birds of British India, to cover the entire subject in five volumes by omitting all synonymy, but even so a sixth volume proved necessary, and now in answer to a general demand a synonymy in two volumes has been added, of which the first volume is before us.<sup>1</sup>

Beginning with the Corvidae it runs through the orders of land birds and the Rails and their allies, presenting a thoroughly up-to-date nomenclature with full references to the names adopted and to the synonyms as well, being thus doubly welcome to the working ornithologist.

The volume is essentially a "check-list" without the ranges and will prove indispensable alike to the student of Indian birds and to the curator of a general ornithological collection.—W. S.

**Uchida's 'Photographs of Bird Life in Japan.'**—This attractive book<sup>2</sup> consists of fifty-six plates of Japanese birds artistically reproduced from photographs by K. Shimomura under the direction of Dr. Uchida. A short description of the photograph with a brief account of the habits of the bird is printed in Japanese and English with each plate. The flocks of Cranes, the numerous shore-bird pictures and the Heron photographs, are particularly noteworthy.—W. S.

**'The Bird Lovers' Anthology.'**—Birds have ever been the inspiration of poets and more than one volume of "bird poems" has appeared, of which the present<sup>3</sup> is, we think, one of the best. The poems here presented

<sup>1</sup> The Fauna of British India including Ceylon and Burma. Published under the authority of the Secretary of State for India in Council. Edited by E. C. Stuart Baker. O. B. E., F. Z. S., Etc. Birds—Vol. VII (Second Edition). By E. C. Stuart Baker. London, Taylor and Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, March, 1930, pp. i-viii + 1-484.

<sup>2</sup> Photographs of Bird-Life in Japan Directed by Dr. Seinosuke Uchida, Photographed by Kenji Shimomura Vol. I, 1930. Sansendo Co. Ltd., Tokyo, Osaka. Price 3.50 Yen.

<sup>3</sup> The Bird-Lovers' Anthology. Compiled by Clinton Scollard and Jessie B. Rittenhouse, Boston and New York. Houghton Mifflin Company. The Riverside Press, Cambridge. 1930, pp. i-xviii + 1-299. Price \$2.00.