

published under the above title.¹ It treats of nature as seen in a little valley in the Catskills and of farm life in a rather remote spot. While birds do not figure very largely the chapters will hold the interest of all who love the outdoors.—W. S.

Mailliard's 'Birds of Golden Gate Park.'—This serviceable little booklet² has been prepared by Mr. Mailliard for the benefit of bird lovers and those who might become bird lovers, who frequent Golden Gate Park, San Francisco, and who have expressed a desire for a local guide to the bird life of this area.

The work is, we think, admirably adapted to its purpose and will be of service to all who would know the birds of the San Francisco region. On each left hand page are drawings of several birds with brief descriptions based on field characters—the bird in the bush rather than the bird in the hand—while on the opposite pages are brief accounts of striking habits or characteristics of the species figured, their time of occurrence, relative abundance and habitat. The species are arranged in several sections—birds of the lakes, birds of the high trees, birds of the air, birds of the ground, etc.

The little book is published and sold by the California Academy of Sciences, at the museum in the Park.—W. S.

A Theoretical Discussion of the History of Bird Migration, by Mayr and Meise.³—Recent literature on bird migration has been very largely descriptive, or such theory as has been introduced, so mixed with descriptive matter as to lose clarity or balance. Hence the present paper which confines itself to the theory of migration, using as evidence facts already established and for the most part familiar, is well worth careful study and discussion. It concerns itself with the historical-zoogeographic and evolutionary origins and development of migration, without considering the biological factors which control it in,—or how it is accomplished by, the individual bird.

The paper consists of two parts. First there is a general review of the subject. Migration can only be understood from its historical aspect; each year's migration is an unfolding of habits which have their origin in the history of the respective species, not a new enterprise. Migration is always correlated with seasonal change, which renders regions favorable for avian occupancy at one part of the year unfavorable at another; hence, birds of

¹ The Little Hill Farm or Cruisings in Old Schoharie. By John Van Schaick, Jr. Universalist Publishing House, 176 Newbury Street, Boston, Mass. (1930). Pp. 1-179.

² Handbook of the Birds of Golden Gate Park, San Francisco. By Joseph Mailliard, Curator Emeritus Department of Ornithology, California Academy of Sciences (Special Publication) San Francisco. Published by the Academy. 1930. Pp. 1-84.

³ Theoretisches zur Geschichte des Vogelzuges. Von Ernst Mayr und Wilhelm Meise. Der Vogelzug, I, 1930, Heft. 4, pp. 149 to 172.