

weaver-finches in captivity and will like to learn something of their habits in the wild as well as the experience of others in caring for them in their aviaries. Mr. Cayley is especially fitted to furnish this information authoritatively as he is both ornithologist and aviculturist, as well as an accomplished bird artist, and we congratulate him upon producing a valuable book of reference. We admire especially the plate of the Gouldian Finches and note that the peculiar dimorphism exhibited by this species—some being black headed and some red headed—has not yet been explained.—W. S.

**Moody's 'Water-fowl and Game-birds in Captivity.'**—This is another admirable book<sup>1</sup> for the aviculturist as well as for the game-breeder. It relates in detail the experience of the bird-keeper of the grounds of Mr. W. H. St. Quintin, at Scampston Hall, in England, where a remarkable number and variety of birds have lived and thrived in the open. The various chapters treat of Herons, Geese, Swans, Ducks, Sand-Grouse, Pheasants, Turkeys, Megapodes, Partridges, Quail, Grouse, Rails, Cranes, Bustards, Plover, Sandpipers, etc.

Each species is treated separately with accounts of its appearance, habits, disposition, breeding, hardiness, voice, sexual differences etc., etc., the information being given concisely under definite headings so as to be readily accessible. There are also chapters on aviaries, food, handling, shipment, etc.

It is interesting to learn that Flamingos survive the winter in England and do well where broad pools of shallow water are available, and that Mound-builders have bred there successfully and require only the shelter of an open shed in winter. While the latter select only leaves and similar material for their mound when at liberty, a male, confined in a closed shed, finding his supply of available leaves exhausted piled his water pan on the heap as well as a cabbage, a lump of rock salt, some sand, and numerous stones—in fact everything moveable that was within reach. The male bird alone built the mound.

There are many other incidents bearing on the behaviour of birds which will interest the general reader, but it is to the bird keeper with a large estate available that the book will most strongly appeal. A number of half-tones illustrate this excellent work.—W. S.

**Pearson on the Herons.**—The second instalment<sup>2</sup> of the series of articles on North American birds being published in the 'National Geographic Magazine' is by Dr. T. Gilbert Pearson and deals with the herons, ibises, storks, spoonbill, and flamingo—birds upon which he is especially fitted to write through his long experience with them, in the work of pro-

<sup>1</sup> Water-Fowl | and Game-Birds in | Captivity | Some Notes on Habits & Management | By | Arthur F. Moody | Illustrated from Photographs | H. F. & G. Witherby, 326 High Holborn, London, W. C. Pp. 1-240. Price 10 shillings 6 pence net.

<sup>2</sup> The Large Wading Birds. By T. Gilbert Pearson. Nat. Geogr. Magazine, LXII, No. 4, pp. 440-469. October, 1932.