

**Stuart Baker's 'Nidification of Birds of the Indian Empire.'**<sup>1</sup>—Although the author has presented much important information on the nesting of Indian birds in the bird volumes of the 'Fauna of British India' he has in the present work greatly elaborated this branch of the subject, the one in which he has always been especially interested.

While the nests and eggs are described with satisfactory detail there is also a full account of the habitat of the bird as well as its distribution and not infrequently something on its habits, while the works and observations of others are quoted where they supplement the author's own wide experience. The work therefore constitutes not only an indispensable book for the oölogist but an important reference volume for the general ornithologist.

In an interesting and instructive introduction Mr. Baker traces the history of oölogy in India for the past hundred years, from the work of Hume, Oates, Hodgson, etc., to the present day, and also presents a justification of the science and a reply to those who claim (to use his own words) "that all egg collecting is not only cruel but absolutely useless, that it can never be a science, and that all egg collectors should be sentenced to penal servitude for life in a birdless, eggless, country!" The author's present volume is, we think, the best refutation of such claims although we agree with him in endorsing Dr. Hartert's statement that "oölogists may be counted on the fingers of two hands but egg collectors are beyond numbering," and in decrying the taking of eggs merely because of their beauty. That we need more oölogists, in the strict interpretation of the term, goes without saying.

In this well gotten-up volume the author covers the crows, tits, nut-hatches, babbling thrushes, bulbuls, creepers, wrens and dippers. Several excellent photographs of nests *in situ* serve for illustrations. We congratulate him upon another valuable contribution to Indian ornithology and shall look forward with interest to the succeeding parts.—W. S.

**Ticehurst's 'History of the Birds of Suffolk.'**—In a beautifully printed volume<sup>2</sup> of some 500 pages Dr. Ticehurst presents the ornithological history of the British county of Suffolk which lies in southeastern England on the North Sea. It is nearly half a century since the appearance of Babington's 'Catalogue of the Birds of Suffolk' so that it was high time for the publication of the present, far more pretentious, work. The author has been collecting information for upwards of twenty years and the book is the result of his personal observations combined with those of his many correspondents. A standard English name heads each account, with the

<sup>1</sup> The Nidification | of | Birds of the Indian Empire | By E. C. Stuart Baker, [etc.] | Vol. I | Corvidae-Cinclidae. | With eight plates | London: Taylor and Francis, Red Lion Court, Fleet Street, E. C. 4. 30th November, 1932. Pp. i-xiii + 1-470. Price 30 shillings.

<sup>2</sup> A History of the | Birds of Suffolk | By Claud B. Ticehurst [etc.] | Illustrated | Gurney and Jackson | London: 33 Paternoster Row, E. C. | Edinburgh: Tweeddale Court | 1932. Pp. i-xi + 1-502, with map. Price 24 shillings net.