

should then have Winter Birds, Birds of the Spring Migrations, Breeding Birds, Birds of the Fall Migrations. At first these would run into each other, but as the work grew and experience increased the different groups would separate themselves out, and the records would be of inestimable value in determining distribution. Monthly lists are not only possible but entirely feasible and within the reach of all who work in the field a little. Of course these monthly lists will not be complete, not even for the best of us, and likely not even if we could spend all our time in the field studying, for birds are not stationary structures and man's ability is limited, but they will be not less interesting for that reason. The check-book method of recording briefly field studies ensures annual, seasonal and monthly lists, for the record is a daily record. It is not complete, to be sure, but what is recorded is definite. It is also the easiest sort of record to keep. It can be made to give records of special localities if the observer wishes. Thus the writer's check-book records the birds found at the water-works reservoir, on the college campus, in his yard, at Oak Point, while giving the whole general record, all in one column for each species for one day. Simply transcribing gives each list, or only one, at one's pleasure. At best book-keeping is irksome, but here the labor is small for the results obtained. Furthermore, the records, when there are any, are definite even if meagre. They may be made as full as one pleases. Our plea is for more field study looking toward the exact determination of the birds of your region. Work easily, but carefully.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Bird Life Stories, Book One, by Clarence Moores Weed.

The book contains twenty-four chapters, each chapter treating of one familiar species. The author has taken the text from the writings of one of four of our most famous writers upon bird life, and therefore, the book is designed as a classical reader wholly devoted to birds. The four writers—Alexander Wilson, John James Audubon, Thomas Nuttall, and Charles E. Bendire—are sufficient guaranty of the matter selected for these twenty-four familiar birds. The book is clearly designed on the lines of The Nature Calendar series which the author of this book has begun for the purpose of combining the usually uninteresting part of learning to read with a training of the senses to recognize the pupil's natural surroundings. It is unfortunate that the excellent quality of the text and general makeup of this admirable book should be marred by the quality of the colored pictures. The three color photograph process is responsible for not a little of the trouble, the mechanical process of printing being evidently carelessly done, but the taxidermy is not always satisfactory. We shall await the appearance of the other two numbers of this series with interest. The series is published by the Rand, McNally Company, Chicago. L. J.

Wild Birds in City Parks. By Herbert Eugene Walter and Alice Hall Walter, Third Edition.

The new features of this edition are the addition of forty-five bird—the majority of which are shore and water birds—and a simple field

key.' Following 'General Hints' designed to aid in placing the birds under observation in the proper group, a brief description of each of the 145 species treated is given, with the names of other species with which it might be confused. There is a 'Table of Occurrence' giving the number of mornings out of the 454, during the years from 1898 to 1903 inclusive, when each was recorded. A 'Table of Arrival,' arranged systematically by families shows at a glance the year, month, and day of the first appearance of each species. A chapter of 'General Hints' upon the water and shore birds, where the larger groups are given, is followed by 'Particular Hints' upon each of the water birds given. A 'Migration Chart,' 'Key,' 'Glossary' and 'Supplemental List,' with the index, complete this closely packed little book of 66 pages. Inside the back cover there is a large checked blank for recording the migrations of the species given in the book, with additional spaces for other birds. This little book cannot fail to be of great service to those who, living in large cities, would know the birds which may be found in the parks.

L. J.

Gleanings No. III. The Haunts of the Golden-winged Warbler. By J. Warren Jacobs. Published by the author.

This thirty page brochure contains an admirable account of the summer haunts of the Golden-winged Warbler in the region of Waynesburg, Pa., from studies carried on every summer since 1891. The whole subject of nesting is interspersed with interesting descriptions of the region and with unusually good half-tones of both the region and the nesting places and nests. A color chart prepared by hand, and half-tone of a series of eggs close the work, with descriptions of sets of eggs. Mr. Jacobs is to be congratulated upon this close study of a little known warbler, and its clear presentation in interesting form.

L. J.

Birds of the Huachuca Mountains, Arizona. By Harry S. Swarth. Pacific Coast Avifauna No. 4. Cooper Ornithological Club of California. April 15, 1904.

In two pages of introduction the author acquaints us with the mountain range, its position and physical features. Sixty-three pages are devoted to 195 species and subspecies, most of them being copiously annotated. The paper is a model of faunal literature, treating of a very interesting region.

L. J.

The Metallic Colors of Feathers from the Sides of the Neck of the Domestic Pigeon. By R. M. Strong, Reprinted from the Mark Anniversary Volume, Article XIII, pp. 263-277, plate XX, 1903.

This important contribution is the result of long continued careful study of the phenomena of metallic color reflections, chiefly from the neck of the domestic pigeon. Dr. Strong seems to have well nigh exhausted the lines of investigation and concludes that 'The metallic colors of these feathers are probably thin-plate interference colors or

Newton's rings effects which are produced where spherical pigment granules come in contact with the outer transparent layer. The pigment also has the very important function of absorbing light not reflected to the eye as metallic color. The colors seen without a microscope are mixtures of colors from innumerable small points.' L. J.

Birds from Benguet Province, Luzon, and from the Islands of Lubang, Mindoro, Cuyo, and Cagayancillo. By Richard McGregor. Bulletin of the Philippine Museum, No. 3, January 30, 1904.

This number of the Philippine Museum Bulletin is devoted to Zoographical Notes for Lubang, Mindoro, Verde, Cuyo, Agutaya, Cagayancillo, and Benguet Province, Luzon, to Undescribed Plumages and Notes on the Rarer Species, to New Localities for Known Species, and to a list of Species from Irian, Benguet Province, Luzon. L. J.

Birds of Alleghany and Garrett Counties, Western Maryland. By G. Eifrig. From *The Auk*, Vol. XXI, No. 2, April, 1904.

The author prefaces the list proper with a brief but lucid discussion of the physical features of the region and the intricate life zones as illustrated by birds, mammals, and plants. The list contains mention of 180 species, with brief annotations. We welcome it as a thoroughly reliable local faunal list. L. J.

Wisconsin Arbor and Bird Day Annual, 1904. Compiled by Maud Barnett. Issued by C. P. Cary, State Superintendent.

This hundred page magazine is prepared with special reference to the school children, with pictures, sketches of birds and trees, selections of poetry, and articles written expressly for this Annual, or selected for their fitness. A number of full page photographs of trees from nature by A. W. Mumford, of Chicago, add to the attractiveness of the pages. The compiler has done a good work which will certainly stimulate nature study among the children for whom it was intended. L. J.

Discovery of the Breeding Area of Kirtland's Warbler. By Norman A. Wood. From *Bull. Mich. Ornith. Club*, Vol. V, pp. 3-13, March, 1904.

This interesting account of the uncovering of the last warbler mystery is accompanied by four half-tones of nests and typical conditions of breeding, and a half-tone of the only egg found. Mr. Wood has here given us really more information about this rare bird, whose nesting was unknown until he discovered it, than we have of several other warblers. He has also given us careful and numerous illustrations of the song as heard in the breeding grounds. It is interesting to notice that none of the songs which he has transcribed for us resemble that which the writer listened to for a full half hour in Oberlin (see *Wilson Bulletin*, No. 32, page 2, July, 1900.) We can only hope that collectors will respect the rights of these birds to life, liberty and the pursuit of

happiness instead of rushing in and causing their extermination.

L. J.

The Migration Route of Kirtland's Warbler. By Chas. C. Adams. Bull. Mich. Ornith. Club, Vol. V, pp. 14-21, March, 1904.

This second contribution to the life history of *kirtlandi*, an attempt to determine its route of travel from the Bermudas, its winter home, to its known breeding range in Michigan, is well timed. It is accompanied by a like study of the migration route of the Prothonotary Warbler, both being illustrated by maps. This discussion is necessarily limited to the known occurrences of the bird, and from the data at hand its route of migration seems to be from its winter home westward to the Mississippi river, thence north to the mouth of the Ohio, one branch continuing up the Mississippi to St. Paul, on its course giving off branches at the Illinois river, the birds reaching southern Michigan by skirting the southern end of Lake Michigan, and another branch entering northern Illinois. The Ohio offshoot again divides, one course being up the Ohio to Cincinnati, the other up the Wabash to northern Indiana and northern Ohio and eastern Michigan, there following the course of Lake Huron to Mackinac. The course thus pursued almost exactly corresponds to the post-glacial drainage of the regions covered. No doubt the birds pass further up the Ohio and finally cross to Lake Erie by one of the main tributaries, possibly the Muskingum or Scioto. Now that this bird has been brought so prominently before us there should be additional records of migrating birds.

L. J.

Unpublished Letters of John James Audubon and Spencer F. Baird. By Ruthven Deane. From "The Auk," Vol. XXI, No. 2, April, 1904.

This paper consists of a letter from Baird to Audubon, and Audubon's reply, concerning Audubon's proposed western trip, and a recommendation of Baird to a position in the "National Institute," by Audubon. These letters give us a hint of the esteem in which Audubon, then sixty-two years old, held Baird, then but nineteen. L. J.

Warbler Songs and Notes. By G. Eifrig. Reprinted from the Ottawa Naturalist, Vol. XVIII, 1904.

This paper is given to brief descriptions of the songs of 22 of the warblers which visit the region of Ottawa. L. J.

Amateur Sportsman, The Vol. XXX, Nos. 5, 6, Vol. XXXI, Nos. 1, 2 American Ornithology, Vol. IV, Nos. 4, 5.

Atlantic Slope Naturalist, The, Vol. I, No. 6.

Bird-Lore, Vol. VI, No. 3.

Condor, The, Vol. VI, Nos. 2, 3.

Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society, The, Vol. VI, No. 2.

Maine Sportsman, The, Vol. 11, Nos. 127, 128, 129.

Monthly Bulletin, The, of the Division of Zoology, Pa. State Dept. Agri., Vol. I, Nos. 4, 11-12, Vol. II, No. 1.

Naturaliste Canadien, Le, Vol. XXXI, Nos. 2, 3.

Ohio Naturalist, The, Vol. IV, Nos. 5, 6, 7.