

the smaller Woodpeckers are sometimes bewildered when found digging indifferently in one of two or more cavities in the same stub. In fact the antiquated notion that a bird knows exactly what it is about at all times and places is no longer tenable.—FRANK L. BURNS, Berwyn, Penna.

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SOME NEW JERSEY RECORDS.—I am indebted to Dr. W. R. Wharton the past season for some substantial additions to my collection. The following kinds, taken in Salem county, New Jersey, near the Delaware river, on the dates given, and handled in the flesh by the writer, seem worthy of special mention.

Shoveler or Spoon-billed Duck (*Spatula clypeata*). A female, September 23. One or two are said to have been met with every fall. Considered quite rare along the coast.

Florida Gallinule (*Gallinula galeata*). Two immature males, September 2. Local sportsmen shoot an occasional specimen in mistake for one of the larger Rails.

Willet (*Symphemia semipalmata*). A single male, October 8. This was in all probability a transient; although the species was at one time a summer resident.

Duck Hawk (*Falco peregrinus anatum*). An immature female, October 21. Another specimen was secured at the same place some time ago.—FRANK L. BURNS, Berwyn, Penna.

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#### BOOK REVIEWS.

Taylor's Standard American Egg Catalogue, second edition, An Exchanger's Guide and Collector's Handbook. By Henry Reed Taylor. Price 25 cents. Alameda, California.

In eleven pages of preliminaries, some racy, some serious, the author and F. M. Dille discuss several matters of interest, among which the one on "Egg Valuations" will prove of general interest because of the previous varying values, the determining factor seeming to be the abundance of the species in the market, and the possessor's ability to secure prices in exchange. Purchase prices have always been far below exchange prices. It appears from this article that the prices herein quoted are the result of a sort of general agreement among those especially interested. The list proper is, of course, merely a check-list with prices attached where any can be determined. Thus something over 250 of the species and sub-species listed are not accompanied by prices. A careful perusal of the list sets one wondering if .100 for Black Tern and 5.00 for American Woodcock may not really stand for .10 and .50. Other evidences of rather careless work on the part of the printers leaves a degree of disappointment. But one cannot expect a list of this sort, especially at the price quoted, to be perfect. It is beyond question of great value to those who deal in eggs in any way. It suggests the possibility of a revival of the days now two decades

past when Oology was in the forefront. In our opinion Oology as such and such alone will never be able to stagger to its feet again. As a part of Ornithology in the broad sense it has its legitimate and necessary place, but as a distinct science it has and ever will prove a failure, for the very simple reason that it does not possess within itself the elements of a separate science. L. J.

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The Birds of the Rockies. By Leander S. Keyser.

In this large octavo there is a sympathy of the author with his mountain surroundings and of the artist, Louis Agassiz Fuertes, with the conception of the book, that one rarely finds. No three-color-process colored pictures here, but finely executed colored engravings, full-page half-tone and sketchy marginal engravings. A good, clear and clean type makes easy reading of an entertainingly written account of a bird-lover's experiences in the Colorado mountains. If the author possesses any fault of execution it lies in giving himself

too fully to the enamoring influences of the mountain environment. The price of the book, reduced to \$1.50, will make it appeal to every lover of outdoors. L. J.

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Annual Report of the Division of Zoology, p. 159-180, also Reports of the Ornithologist for 1902 and 1903, p. 227-232, and 611-616, by Prof. H. A. Surface, in the Pennsylvania Report of the Department of Agriculture, 1903.

I will quote the following as worthy of special mention: "During the summer the Turkey Vultures (*Cathartes aura*) were unusual in their northern flight. They have been seen as far north as Williamsport, and a few at State College, Center county. \* \* \* During the fall a Cardinal (*Cardinalis cardinalis*) was seen by us in Center county. \* \* \* I have evidence that the American Crossbill (*Loxia curvirostra minor*) nests in the central part of Pennsylvania, in the fact that during the middle of the summer of 1902 a pair of old birds accompanied by four of their young were seen for two days upon the State College campus, in Center county, feeding upon the mites of the cockscomb elm gall. During the winter, which was unusually long and severe, there was a decided immigration of northern birds into our State. Especially remarkable among these were the Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola leucura*), the Crossbills (both species of the genus *Loxia*), the Snowflake (*Passerina nivalis*), and the Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*). The severity of the winter resulted in killing most of the Quail (*Colinus virginianus*) of our State, many of the Wild Turkeys and some of the Ruffed Grouse. \* \* \* During the early portion of this spring (1904) there has been an unusual flight of the aquatic birds. In the vicinity of Harrisburg, gunners have shot several species of Wild Ducks, the Hobbell's Grebe, several specimens of the Whistling Swan (*Olor columbianus*), and one specimen of the Trumpeter Swan (*Olor buccinator*). We have been fortunate in securing specimens of these

very rare birds in this State, and hope to receive funds for having them permanently preserved in a State museum. There was also an unusual flight of Gulls along the Susquehanna river after the breaking up of the ice, and this was doubtless due to the masses of ice filling the bays and covering their feeding grounds near the mouth of the river." Modest quarterly and monthly bulletins with a mailing list of upward of twenty-four thousand names, have taken the place of the costly and highly colored picture books of a few years ago, and earnest efforts are being made to advance the knowledge of economic ornithology. For the first time in a number of years, continuous work is being done in the central part of the State, and while it might be said in criticism that more specific information would in no wise detract from the popular nature of the records of the occurrence of certain of the rarer species secured, an immense amount of work is being done. F. L. B.

## PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

- Amateur Sportsman, Vol. XXXII, No. 3.  
 American Ornithology, Vol. V, Nos. 1, 2.  
 Bird Lore, Vol. VII, No. 1.  
 Boys and Girls, Vol. III, No. 4; Vol. IV, Nos. 1, 2.  
 Bulletin of the Michigan Ornithological Club, Vol. V. No. 4.  
 Bulletin No. 18, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Survey. Distribution and Migration of North American Warblers. By Wells W. Cooke.  
 Bulletin No. 19, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Survey. Hunting Licenses, Their History, Objects and Limitations. By T. S. Palmer.  
 Bulletin 222, Michigan State Agricultural College Experiment Station.  
 Bulletin 150, 156. Ohio Agriculture Experiment Station.  
 Bulletin No. 69. Pennsylvania State College Agriculture Experiment Station.  
 Bulletins of Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Vol. II, Nos. 2, 8, 9.  
 Cassinia, Vol. III.  
 Colorado College Studies, Science Series. Vol. XI, Nos. 30, 31, 32, 36, 37, 38.  
 Condor, The, Vol. VII, No. 1.  
 Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society, The, Vol. VI. No. 4.  
 Maine Sportman, Vol. XII, Nos. 136, 137.  
 Naturalistie Canadien, Le, Vol. XXXI, No. 12; Vol. XXXII. No. 1.  
 Ohio Naturalist, The, Vol. V, Nos. 2, 3.  
 Ornithologische Monatschrift, Vol. XXIX, Nos. 11, 12; Vol. XXX. No. 1.  
 Report of the Michigan State Board of Agriculture, 1904.  
 Summer Resident Birds of Brewster County, Texas. By Thos. H. Montgomery, Jr. From The Auk, Vol. XXII, No. 1.