

An unusual number of cripples were found this year among the waders, a large percentage of which had broken legs more or less healed. None, however, had splints or bandages other than could be accounted for by the usual cementing powers of blood.

At Pearl Beach, St. Clair county, a Coot met an untimely death by flying into a barbed wire fence and getting the strong tendons of the wing twisted about a barb. The bird had evidently hung and struggled severely until death put an end to its misery.

Detroit, Mich.

#### A Fourth Record of the Barn Owl for Seneca Co.

In the January number of the Auk, 1903, Volume XX, page 67, I recorded three specimens of this species for Seneca County. To these I am now able to add a fourth, a female shot two miles north of Tiffin, which I mounted for a farmer. The time of the year, August 12, 1905, makes it appear probable that this species may occasionally breed here.

W. F. HEMINGWAY.

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#### NOTICES OF RECENT LITERATURE.

Birds from Mount Kilimanjaro. By Harry C. Oberholser. From the Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, Vol. XXVIII, pages 823-936. No. 1411. 1905.

This paper is the result of a study of the collection of Dr. W. L. Abbott consisting of 684 specimens which represent 256 species and subspecies belonging to 59 families. Several new genera, species and subspecies are here described, and each species is accompanied with copious notes.

L. J.

I. Birds from the Islands of Romblon, Sibuyan, and Cresta de Gallo.

II. Further Notes on Birds from Ticao, Cuyo, Culion, Calayan, Lubang, and Luzon.

By Richard McGregor. (Bureau of Government Laboratories).

These two papers (bound together) bring the excellent work of Mr. McGregor among our far eastern islands down to date. Four new species are described. Eleven good half-tone plates add to the value of the papers.

L. J.

Birds known to Eat the Boll Weevil. By Vernon Bailey.

This is a report of the Biological Survey, in which it is shown that eleven species of birds are known to eat this destructive insect. It is significantly remarked by the author that the nongame birds, which are protected by the law, are ruthlessly slaughtered, in Texas. Let the campaign of education concerning the birds go steadily on.

L. J.

The Rob-white and Other Quails of the United States in their Economic Relations. By Sylvester D. Judd.

This excellent paper upon the life histories of the quails is accompanied by a colored plate of Bob-white, and an engraving of Gambel Quail, both by Louis Agassiz Fuertes. Dr. Judd makes out a clear case for the whole quail group, and clearly shows that from every standpoint the birds should be encouraged to increase.

L. J.

Special Report on the Decrease of Certain Birds, and its Causes, with Suggestions for Bird Protection. By Edward Howe Forebush. Prepared under the direction of the Massachusetts State Board of Agriculture.

In this excellent paper Mr. Forebush carefully reviews all the possible causes for decrease of birds in Massachusetts, showing that man is the most responsible, and points out ways and means by which the destruction may be checked, if not make an increase possible.

L. J.

Birds of the vicinity of the University of Indiana. By W. L. McAtee. September, 1905. From the Proceedings of the Indiana Academy of Sciences, pages 65 to 202, including half-tones of 32 nests with eggs.

This paper treats of 225 species of birds, which is 70 per cent. of all of the birds found in the state of Indiana. When it is known that the territory over which these 225 species has been found is but ten miles in diameter, with the city of Bloomington as a center, it is a remarkably large list, and speaks well for the careful study given to the bird fauna of this region. Migration tables for each species are given, most of them covering several years. One can not avoid noting the great disparity between the spring and fall records, which seems to be common to most migration records. Future work on the migrations should seek to correct this disparity. Copious notes upon the breeding of the summer birds add materially to the value of the paper. The paper does not pose as one containing only new things, but contains many references to former publications. It is much more than a local faunal list, and should prove valuable to students of birds everywhere, but particularly so to those residing in that part of Indiana.

L. J.

The Horned Larks and their Relation to Agriculture. By W. L. McAtee. Bulletin No. 23, the Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, 37 pages, with two plates and several text cuts.

This paper brings into prominence the fact that this group of birds is wholly beneficial to agriculture. The curious fact is brought out that the California form *Otocoris alpestris actia*, eats 40.0 per cent. of grain, whereas all of the other forms eat but 12.2 of grain. But the California birds are not therefore harmful be-

cause the individuals are few in number and the greater portion of the grain is waste. L. J.

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SPECIAL PAPERS RECEIVED.

Twenty-fourth Annual Report, Cincinnati Museum Association. 1904.

Papers from the Proceedings of the Biological Society of Washington. By Harry C. Oberholser.

Description of a New Vireo. (*Vireo bellii medius*) from Texas.

Description of a New *Telmatodytes*. (*T. palustris thryophilus*).

Description of a New Genus and Species of *Trochilidæ*. (*Aeronympa pocsantis*).

The North American forms of *Astragalinus psaltria* (Say).

Notes on the generic name *Hylophilus*.

Seven new birds from Paraguay.

The Ruff (*Pavoncella pugnax*) in Indiana. By Ruthven Deane. From the *Auk*, XXII, October, 1905, pp. 410-411.

The Postglacial Dispersal of the North American Biota. By C. C. Adams.

Ontario Ornithological Notes. By A. B. Klug. From the *Ottawa Naturalist*.

Notes on the Nomenclature of certain Genera of Birds. By H. C. Oberholser.

A New Subspecies of Ground Dove from Mona Island, Porto Rico. By J. H. Riley. From Proceedings U. S. Nat. Mus. No. 1418.

A Hyper-laken Migration Route. By P. A. Taverner. From *Bulletin Mich. Orn. Club*.

Description of a new *Sylvietta*. By H. C. Oberholser.

The Mammals and Summer Birds of Western North Carolina. By H. C. Oberholser.

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CURRENT PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

*American Ornithology*, Vol. V, Nos. 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11.

*Bird-Lore*, Vol. VII, Nos. , 4, 5.

*Boys and Girls*, Vol. V, Nos. 1, 2.

*Condor*, The, Vol. VII, Nos. 4, 5.

*Journal of the Maine Ornithological Society*, Vol. VII, No. 3.

*Maine Sportsman*, Vol. XII, Nos. 141 to 147.

*Nature-Study Review*, Vol. 1, Nos. 1 to 6.

*Ornithologisches Monatschrift*, Vol. XXX, Nos. 5, 6, 7, 8.

*Monthly Bulletin*, The, Pennsylvania State Department of Agriculture. Vol. III, Nos. 4, 5.

*Oologist*, The, Vol. XII, Nos. 9, 10.

*Warbler*, The, Vol. I (Second series), Nos. 3, 4.