

variable rule in all species that the finest old males reach the breeding grounds first, followed soon by the old females, while the young birds close the migration.

He notes the occurrence at Helgoland of fifteen species of North American birds, each, with the exception of two, represented by a single example, as follows:—

Merula migratoria.

Turdus u. swainsoni.

Turdus a. pallasi.

Turdus fuscescens.

Galeoscoptes carolinensis.

Harporhynchus rufus.

Dendroica virens.

Anthus pensilvanicus.

Dolichonyx oryzivorus.

Charadrius dominicus.

Actitis macularia.

Tryngites subruficollis.

Larus philadelphia.

Rhodostethia rosea.

Xema sabinii.

The migration of each of the nearly four hundred species is treated in detail, sometimes several pages being given to a single species. A work on birds possessing more general interest has doubtless not for a long time appeared, it fully warranting the pleasant anticipations its announcement long since awakened.—J. A. A.

Cory's 'Birds of the Bahama Islands'.* —The revised edition of Mr. Cory's 'Birds of the Bahama Islands', issued a few months since, is a 'remainder' from the first edition, issued with uncolored plates, and the addition of nine interpolated unpagged leaves, giving (1) a 'Preface to Revised Edition' (one page); (2) 'Ornithological Bibliography of the Bahama Islands' (2 pages, 16 titles); (3) 'Species and Subspecies described since 1880' (9 pages, 14 species and subspecies); (4) 'Species and subspecies which have been added to the Fauna since 1880' (1 page, 2 species and 1 subspecies); (5) 'Corrections and changes which have been made since 1880, with remarks on several species which should be eliminated' (2 pages, containing remarks on 8 species); and (6) 'Changes in Nomenclature and Classification' (2 pages). *Mimocichla rubripes*, *Loxigilla noctis*, and *Sporadinus bracei* are expunged from the list of Bahama birds, as given in the first edition, and the last named species is considered as identical with *S. ricordii*. The 'changes in nomenclature' consist mainly of a concordance, showing the present equivalents of various names used in the first edition. During the interval of ten years between the publication of the original and the revised edition much has been added to our knowledge of the subject, and the author has "thought it advisable to issue the few remaining copies of the first edition in the form of a revised edi-

* The Birds | of the | Bahama Islands | containing | many birds new to the Islands and a number of undescribed | winter plumages of North American birds. | By Charles B. Cory, | . . . [= 12 lines, honorary titles, etc.] Revised Edition. | Estes & Lauriat, | Boston, U. S. A. | 1890.—4to, pp. 1-250, plus 9 unpagged interpolated leaves, pll. 8, uncolored.

tion, giving the species or races described or eliminated, and whatever changes that have been made during that time." These changes of course greatly increase the value of a work which has proved very serviceable to sojourners in the Bahamas interested in the birds of the Islands, as well as to ornithologists. — J. A. A.

Grant's 'Our Common Birds.'* — The purpose of this little book is to furnish the beginner with useful hints in the study of the bird life about him. The work is unique in plan and execution. Ninety species are treated, selected from the more common and striking birds met with in the vicinity of New York City, the males only of which are described. The illustrations consist of photogravures from stuffed specimens. They serve to show what can be done by means of photography in illustrating from museum specimens. Where the pattern of coloration is distinctive, the birds are readily recognizable from the portraits here presented. In other cases it would be difficult for even the ornithological expert to tell them. In the case of large birds, where the figures are necessarily much less than natural size, the effect is quite satisfactory; with the smaller birds, the figures of many of which are nearly or quite natural size, all the defects of taxidermy (which unfortunately are glaring) are magnified, with most unhappy results. Although in many instances no idea of color, or even the distribution of the different tints, can be given by any known process of photography, yet with specimens mounted in the highest style of the taxidermists' art, and with some attempt at a natural effect in respect to pose and accessories, the results might be more satisfactory.

The text is well written, much care having been taken to secure accuracy of statement, while the spirit of the book is admirable. Much good advice as to where, how, and when to look for birds is given in the first fifty pages, including explanations of many technicalities, and a calendar indicating the seasons when the various species may be looked for. The author is an enthusiastic admirer of nature and strives to impart his enthusiasm to his readers. The book has thus a decidedly literary flavor. It is in the form of an oblong octavo, and in typography and arrangement is an attractive little volume. Doubtless it will touch a popular chord and be widely welcomed as a stimulating companion to many who, without aiming to be scientific, desire a speaking acquaintance with the feathered tenants of wood and field. — J. A. A.

Thompson's 'Birds of Manitoba.'† — In a paper of nearly two hundred pages Mr. Thompson gives his field notes on the birds of Manitoba made during a three years' residence in the Province, covering parts of the

* Our Common Birds | and how to know them | By | John B. Grant | With sixty-four Plates | New York | Charles Scribner's Sons | 1891. | pp. 216, 64 photogravure illustrations.

† The Birds of Manitoba. By Ernest E. Thompson, of Toronto, Canada. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XIII, 1890, pp. 457-643, pl. xxxviii. (Published June, 1891.)



Cory, Charles B. 1891. "Cory's 'Birds of the Bahama Islands'" *The Auk* 8, 300–301. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4067861>.

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