

family is treated with the customary fullness of detail characteristic of his previous memoirs on various species and groups of North American birds. The beautiful plate gives four views of the skull, two of the sternum, and views of the principal bones of the extremities, all of natural size. The paper is mainly descriptive, but comparisons are made between the species treated and a few allied forms, notably with *Charadrius plumbeus*, from which *Podasocys montanus* presents slight differences in certain bones of the skull.—J. A. A.

**Townsend on the Birds of Westmoreland County, Penn.\***—"The species enumerated represent perhaps not more than two-thirds of the actual birds of Westmoreland County"; the list being based on rather limited opportunities for observation, and restricted to species 'identified with certainty.' The region embraces a portion of Chestnut Ridge, a range of the Alleghanias, extending through the southeastern part of the county; but this interesting portion of the field is very imperfectly reported upon. The list, numbering 136 species, is rather too sparingly annotated, especially in respect to the season of sojourn of many of the species; but we are led to hope that this may be but the forerunner of a fuller report.—J. A. A.

**Bulletin of the Buffalo Naturalists' Field Club.**—This, as its title indicates, is the organ of the Club whose name it bears. It is a large octavo publication, under the editorial management of D. S. Kellicott, Eugene E. Fish, and Mrs. Dr. Mary B. Moody. The paper, typography, and press-work are good, and the general appearance of the magazine is attractive. The first five numbers have been received, and are dated respectively January (double number), March, May, and September, 1883.

The publication is devoted to general natural history, and contains excellent articles upon various branches of zoology, botany, geology, and anthropology. The first paper in the first number is on the 'Nesting Habits of Birds,' by E. E. Fish, and contains much of interest to the oölogist. Mr. Fish calls attention to the fact that "Several species of birds that nest before the leaves are out, choose evergreens for their first brood, and if a second is raised it is generally in a deciduous bush, or tree." He adds: "Last spring the leaves were late in coming out, and of the first hundred nests that I examined, principally of Robins and Chipping-birds, ninety of them were in evergreens; a month later the number was nearly reversed." A few careless statements have crept in. For example, it is said that the Hummingbird covers the outside of its nest "with little patches of moss." The generic and specific names of the Red-headed Woodpecker are transposed.

In an article upon 'Field Club Work in Western New York,' Professor Charles Linden mentions, incidentally, the occurrence of the "Eider Duck, King Duck, Velvet Scoter, Old Wife, Trumpeter Swan, Snow

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\* Notes on the Birds of Westmoreland County, Penna. By Charles H. Townsend. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1883, pp. 59-68.

Goose, Curlews, White Owls, and Egrets," at the foot of Lake Erie and on Niagara River (p. 35).

Each number of the Bulletin has a department of 'Ornithological Notes,' which, with one exception, are from the pen of Mr. Fish. (For further reference to these see 'Minor Ornithological Publications' in this number of 'The Auk,' Nos. 595-607.)

**Minor Ornithological Publications.**—Volume III\* of the 'Canadian Sportsman and Naturalist' contains the following (Nos. 523-543):—

523. [*Birds of Western Ontario.*] By T. McLlwraith. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 198-200, 207.—Remarks on various species, with a comparison of the Hamilton and London lists. In all 260 species have been observed. (See also *anteà*, p. 85).

524. *Ornithological Notes.* By Ernest D. Wintle. *Ibid.*, III, p. 200.—A pair of White-bellied Swallows lay 13 eggs; Catbirds laying spotted eggs; "two species of Crow Blackbird in Canada," but the supposed occurrence of *Quiscalus major* is doubtless erroneous, as stated by Everett Smith (*Ibid.*, III, p. 207). (See below, No. 526.)

525. *The Wood-thrushes (Hylocichla) of New Brunswick.* By M. Chamberlain, St. John, N. B. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 201-203.—(Previously published in the 'Ornithologist and Oölogist,' VII, pp. 185-187.)

526. *Crow Blackbird.* By Everett Smith. *Ibid.*, III, p. 207.—The Boat-tailed Grackle not yet taken in Canada. (See *anteà*, No. 524.) On page 208 W. E. Saunders and W. W. Dunlop, under the same caption, write to the same effect.

527. *List of Birds ascertained to occur within ten miles from Point de Monts, Province of Quebec, Canada; based chiefly upon notes of Napoleon A. Comeau.* By C. Hart Merriam, M. D. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 208-212.—(From Bull. Nutt. Orn. Club, VII, Oct. 1882.)

528. *The Hudsonian Chickadee. (Parus hudsonicus.)* By Montague Chamberlain. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 215-217.—Biography of the species.

529. *Birds of Western Ontario.* By John M. Morden. *Ibid.*, III, p. 216.—On *Lanius borealis*, *Regulus calendula*, and *Circus hudsonius*. Supposed young of former, taken near Hyde Park, doubtless were *L. ludovicianus*.

530. *Notes on the breeding of the Red-headed Duck at Lake St. Clair.* By John M. Morden. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 218, 219.

531. *Notes on the Natural History of Manitoba.* By W. G. A. Brodie. *Ibid.*, III, pp. 221-224.—Contains notes on about 80 species of birds.

532. *New Brunswick Notes. Loon. (Colymbus torquatus.)* By Montague Chamberlain. *Ibid.*, III, p. 231.

533. *The Wild or Passenger Pigeon. Ectopistes migratorius.* By J. M. LeMoine. *Ibid.*, III, p. 231.—Notes on its abundance prior to 1850, about Quebec and Montreal.

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\* Volume III, as here indexed, is incomplete, the number for September, 1883, being the last that has reached us, or that we have heard of as published up to the present writing (March 1, 1884).

[Since writing the foregoing other numbers have come to hand. Respecting this publication see 'Notes and News' in this number of 'The Auk.']