

extant. We are also surprised to see the Common Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax carbo*) given (on the author's own authority) as a rare migrant, this being a strictly maritime species, while *P. dilophus* is not infrequent on the Great Lakes, though not given in the list.

The rather northern character of the fauna is indicated by the breeding of such species as the Winter Wren, the Mourning Warbler, the Canadian Warbler, the Red-bellied Nuthatch, the Hermit Thrush, the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher, and the Slate-colored Junco.

The list is obviously far from complete, and further observations will doubtless prove that many species now given as merely migrants are really more or less common summer residents. It has, however, evidently been prepared with considerable care. The author appeals to ornithologists familiar with the region in question for aid in perfecting it.—J. A. A.

Keyes and Williams's Preliminary Catalogue of the Birds of Iowa.*—

The present brochure is stated to be preliminary to a more extended account of the birds of Iowa already in course of preparation. The authors state that "only such species are inserted as have come under the personal observations of the writers," and that "for the most parts kins or mounted specimens" of the species enumerated are to be found in their collections. The observations have been made mainly "in the vicinities of Charles City, Des Moines, and Iowa City," but are supplemented by notes made at various other points. The dates of arrival and departure are based on studies made chiefly at Des Moines.

The list follows the classification and nomenclature of the A. O. U. Check-List, including the names of the higher groups, from order to subgenus, as well as of the species. The latter are not, however, numbered, but a careful count shows the number recorded to be 260. The list is very fully and carefully annotated. It is evidently highly trustworthy, and exceedingly creditable in respect to typography and general execution.—J. A. A.

Taylor's Catalogue of Nebraska Birds.*—Nebraska, like Kansas and some of the other Central States, includes portions of two quite distinct faunal regions, although mainly within the so-called Middle Province of the continent. The eastern border of the State lies so far eastward as to include nearly all of the species proper to the States east of the Mississippi River, while the western part of the State is fairly within the arid,

* A Preliminary Annotated Catalogue of the Birds of Iowa. By Charles R. Keyes and H. S. Williams, M. D. Extracted from Proceedings Davenport Academy Natural Sciences, Vol. V. Davenport, Iowa. 1888. 8vo, pp. 49.

* A Catalogue of Nebraska Birds arranged according to the Check List of the American Ornithological Union. By W. Edgar Taylor, State Normal, Peru, Nebraska. Ann. Rep. Nebraska State Board of Agriculture, for the year 1887, pp. 111-118. Published, 1888.

treeless 'Middle Province' area. It is thus not surprising that the bird fauna of the State should include a large proportion of the characteristic species of both the East and the West, resulting in an aggregate much above that of any area of similar extent situated either east or west of this equivocal middle district belt. In the present "provisional list," designed as a temporary aid in the further careful study of the birds of the State, 314 species and subspecies are recorded. The author states that the list is based, in addition to his own "comparatively meagre" observations, upon every source of reliable information, published or unpublished, open to him, including records published in Baird's 'Birds of North America,' Dr. Aughey's 'Locust Feeding Birds,' and the records and collections of the Normal Science Society, and of various personal friends. The list is briefly annotated, and is apparently very carefully compiled. It is put forth as merely a temporary, tentative list, to be completed by further study of the birds of the State. A number of western forms of eastern species which are unquestionably common in the western part of the State are omitted. The "*Zonotrichia gambeli*," given on Baird's authority, is of course the *Z. intermedia* of recent authors. With this exception we notice no improbable records. Its appearance is somewhat marred by its being set 'solid' and in small type, and by the use of a capital initial letter for each species and subspecies—matters probably beyond the control of the author.—J. A. A.

Shufeldt's Recent Contributions to the Osteology of North American Birds.—Since our last notice of Dr. Shufeldt's contributions to his favorite subject numerous papers of his have reached us, including Parts II-IV of his 'Contributions to the Comparative Osteology of Arctic and Sub-arctic Water-birds,'* treating of the genera *Uria*, *Synthliborhamphus*, *Brachyrhamphus*, *Cepphus*, *Cerorhinca*, *Ptychorhamphus*, *Cyclorrhynchus*, and *Simorhynchus*. The osteology of the genus *Uria* is compared at length with that of *Alca*, previously treated in Part I, while the accompanying plates give figures of the principal skeletal parts of *Chionis*, *Hæmatopus*, and *Larus*. Parts III and IV are illustrated with 25 figures in the text.

In 'Observations upon the Osteology of the North American Anseres',† the skeletal structure of our Ducks, Geese, and Swans is passed in review, and illustrated by 30 'process' cuts in the text. Another elaborate memoir treats of the osteology of the Tubinares and Steganopodes,‡ with 43 illustrations in the text. The forms treated at greatest length are *Oceanodroma furcata*, *Fulmarus glacialis rogersii*, *Diomedea albatrus*, *Sula bassana*, *Phalacrocorax urile*, and *Pelecanus fuscus*. We have also received Part I of 'Osteological Studies of the Subfamily Ardeinæ'.§ In

* Journ. Anat. & Phys., Vol. XXXIII, pp. 165-186, pl. vii-xi; pp. 400-427; pp. 537-558.

† Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1888, pp. 215-251.

‡ Observations upon the Osteology of the Orders Tubinares and Steganopodes. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1888, pp. 253-315.

§ Journ. Comp. Med. & Surg., July, 1889.