

the last five years. To Mr. Scott B. Wilson, who spent eighteen months on the islands in order to study their ornithology, much credit is due for this increase, and it is with great pleasure that we extend our welcome to the work which he is now publishing, and we wish specially to call the attention of our American ornithologists to it, as from the situation of the Hawaiian Archipelago in relation to our own continent we ought to take more interest in its avifauna than has been done hitherto.

The work is uniform in appearance with most of the more ambitious ornithological monographs which have been published in England of late years, and is issued in five parts, two of which have already been published. These two parts treat of 18 species, and are accompanied by 20 plates, some of them representing species now extinct or nearly so. The second part contains a very valuable and interesting treatise by Dr. Hans Gadow 'On the Structure of Certain Hawaiian Birds with Reference to their Systematic Position,' to the illustration of which three of the plates are devoted. Many unexpected conclusions are the result of his investigation, and the ornithological public is under great obligations to Mr. Scott Wilson for not having spared any expense in order to have this side of the ornithology of the group as well taken care of as that devoted to the outside of the birds alone. For details and information we refer the reader to the book itself, and we advise all who can afford it to subscribe for it. The author has had heavy expenses in order to bring it out, and the work is well worth encouragement.

For the present we abstain from any remarks about various points on which we might disagree with the author. We prefer to wait until the work is finished, and then shall be glad to offer such remarks as might have a bearing on any special point.—L. S.

**MacFarlane's Notes on Arctic Birds.\***—From 1861 to 1866 Mr. MacFarlane had exceptional opportunities to study the birds breeding in the region lying between the lower Mackenzie River and Franklin Bay and southward to the sixty-seventh parallel, and especially in the neighborhood of Fort Anderson (lat.  $68^{\circ} 30'$ , long.  $128^{\circ}$ ). The good use he made of his time has been long attested by the generous collections he sent to the Smithsonian Institution.

In the present paper,—a revised edition of one published two years ago in the Transactions of the Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba, based on the author's memoranda made during these years,—he gives the results of his experience of the breeding habits of about a hundred and thirty species, especially of their nests and eggs. It would be difficult to overestimate the interest and importance of these notes, relating, as they do, to a region so remote and so little known. The only regret they inspire is that matter of such value was not given to the public many years ago.—C. F. B.

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\* Notes on and List of Birds and Eggs collected in Arctic America, 1861-1866. By R. MacFarlane, [etc.]. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XIV, 1891, pp. 413-446.