

cases, doubtless, easily learn the names of the game birds that fall before his gun. The few outline figures of bills and feet given in the text must be of service in aiding in the determination. In most cases about a page is devoted to each species, consisting of a more or less detailed description, followed by remarks on distribution, habits, and quality of the flesh as food. In all 124 species and subspecies are formally treated, beginning with the Loons and ending with the Passenger Pigeon. The few technical inaccuracies here and there need not necessarily detract from the value of the book for the class for which it is intended. — J. A. A.

Butler on a Century of Changes in the Aspects of Nature in Indiana.¹
—As the title indicates, this paper is not exclusively ornithological, but contains, among much matter of general interest, several passages that depict the changes in the bird fauna of Indiana due to the occupation of the country by the white man, — the marked decrease or practical extirpation of some species, and the increase and changes in habits of others. Among the species “almost, or in great measure, exterminated” are the Wild Turkey, Bobwhite, Ivory-billed Woodpecker, Black Vulture, Carolina Paroquet, and Passenger Pigeon. Of the latter Mr. Butler writes, after detailing the methods of slaughter: “Less and less the numbers grew. Trapping and netting, supplemented by repeating guns, added to the power of destruction, and the Pigeons, whose numbers were once so great that no one could conceive the thought of their extinction, have dwindled until they are rarely found. One Pigeon in a year! Soon they will be but a memory” The destruction of birds to supply the demands of fashion also receives attention as one of the causes that have led to their decrease. — J. A. A.

Elliot's Catalogue of a Collection of Birds from Somali-Land.²—While the main object of Mr. Elliot's expedition into Somali-Land, under the auspices of the Field Columbian Museum, was to procure specimens of the mammals inhabiting that country, quite a collection of birds was also incidentally obtained, a report on which Mr. Elliot has thus promptly published. He states that he was never in a country “where birds were more numerous and tame, and an expedition properly equipped for bird collecting, could procure a very large series of specimens in a very short time.” The collection formed by Mr. Elliot's party numbers 125 species, of which 8 are described as new. The annotations include interesting field notes on the habits and relative abundance of many of the species, together with some technical and other notes. — J. A. A.

¹ Indiana: A Century of Changes in the Aspects of Nature. By A. W. Butler. Proc. Indiana Acad. Sci., No. V, 1895, pp. 31-42.

² Catalogue of a Collection of Birds obtained by the [Field Columbian Museum] Expedition into Somali-Land. By D. G. Elliot, F. R. S. E. Field Columbian Museum Publication 17. Ornith. Series, Vol. I, No. 2, pp. 29-67. Chicago, Feb., 1897.