

by the 'Key to the Species' (pp. 13-29), and then by formal descriptions, in systematic sequence, of the North American species of Limicolæ. Both the 'Key' and the body of the work are profusely illustrated with half-tone and line cuts of heads, feet, tail-markings, etc., with some full-length figures, which, with the key and the descriptive text, must serve to make identification a simple matter. Besides the technical descriptions, a brief account is given of the distribution and life history of each species.—J. A. A.

Chapman's 'Handbook,' 4th Edition.¹—The increasing demand for ornithological text-books is shown by the fact that the publishers of this work have issued a fourth edition of this work within two years of its publication. The present edition differs from the preceding ones through some slight alterations in the text and in the addition of an 'Appendix,' giving a list of the numerous changes in nomenclature, etc., which have occurred since the appearance of the first edition.—J. A. A.

Hartert on the Podargidæ, Caprimulgidæ and Macropterygidæ.—The first part of the division of 'Das Tierreich' devoted to Aves is by Mr. Hartert, and includes the three families Podargidæ, Caprimulgidæ and Macropterygidæ, or the Goatsuckers and Swifts.² For this work Mr. Hartert is especially fitted, being the monographer, five years ago, of these same groups for the British Museum 'Catalogue of Birds.'³ The considerable number of species described since the appearance of the 'Catalogue,' are here duly interpolated, but there are comparatively few changes in nomenclature. *Nanochordeiles* is a new generic division for *Chordeiles pusillus* Gould, while *Cosmetornis* is suppressed. The family name Cypselidæ gives place to Macropterygidæ, and we have *Apus* in place of *Micropus*, and Apodinæ in place of Cypselinæ,—these changes being adopted from Dr. A. Reichenow, but they are apparently not tenable.⁴

The text consists of brief diagnoses of all the groups, from families to subspecies, with analytical tables, and the citation of the synonymy

¹ Handbook of Birds of Eastern North America. . . . By Frank M. Chapman. 12mo, pp. xiv + 431. Fourth Edition. New York. D. Appleton & Co. 1897. \$3.00.

² Podargidæ, Caprimulgidæ und Macropterygidæ bearbeitet von Ernst Hartert, Direktor des Zoologischen Museums in Tring (England). Mit 16 Abbildungen im Texte. Berlin: Verlag von R. Friedländer und Sohn. = Das Tierreich. Eine Zusammenstellung und Kennzeichnung der rezenten Tierformen. Herausgegeben von der Deutschen Zoologischen Gesellschaft. General Redakteur: Franz Eilhard Schulze. — 1. Lieferung. Aves. Redakteur: A. Reichenow. — 8vo, pp. viii + 98. (Subscription price, 4.50 marks.)

³ Cf. Auk, X, 1893, pp. 67, 68.

⁴ Cf. Stejneger, Science, N. S., V, No. 126, p. 847, May 28, 1897.