

filled with well-selected matter, and go far toward answering every important inquiry respecting the life-history of this notable species.—J. A. A.

**Nash's 'Check-List of the Birds of Ontario.'**<sup>1</sup>—Mr. Nash's briefly annotated list of the birds of Ontario numbers 302 species, and is based on the author's personal knowledge, except where credit is given to other authority. It cannot fail to be a very useful and convenient summary of the ornithology of the Province, and is very neatly and correctly printed.—J. A. A.

**Macoun's 'Catalogue of Canadian Birds.'**<sup>2</sup>—The scope and character of Mr. Macoun's 'Catalogue of Canadian Birds' is thus succinctly stated in Dr. George M. Dawson's prefatory note, namely: "It is intended to enumerate all of the birds of the Dominion systematically and to bring together the principal known facts in regard to their distribution, migrations and breeding habits." In the author's preface he further states that the 'Catalogue' is to also include "Newfoundland, Greenland and Alaska," or the whole of North America north of the United States. "The nomenclature and the numbers given in the latest edition and supplements of the Check-list published by the American Ornithologists' Union have been made the basis of arrangement of the catalogue." It would have been advisable to have also added a separate and consecutive series of numbers for the species of the 'Catalogue.' Part I includes Nos. 1 to 316 of the A. O. U. Check-List, and takes in rather more than four fifths of all the species.

The first enumeration of the birds of this extensive region is that contained in the second volume of the 'Fauna Boreali-Americana' of Swainson and Richardson, published in 1831, which contained 267 species. In 1878 a second enumeration was made by Mr. Montague Chamberlain, restricted however to Canada, and thus excluding Alaska and Greenland, the number of species being 556.

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<sup>1</sup> Check List | of the | Birds of Ontario | and | Catalogue of Birds in the Biological Section | of the | Museum. | Department of Education | Toronto. | [By C. W. Nash.] Toronto: | Warwick Bro's. & Rutter, Printers, Etc., 68 and 70 Front St. West. | 1900.—8vo, pp. 58.

<sup>2</sup> Geological Survey of Canada. | George M. Dawson, C. M. G., L. L. D., F. R. S., Director. | — | Catalogue | of | Canadian Birds. | — | Part I. | Water Birds, Gallinaceous Birds, | and Pigeons. | Including the following Orders: | Pygopodes, Longipennes, Tubinares, Steganopodes, | Anseres, Herodiones, Paludicolæ, Limi- | colæ, Gallinæ, and Columbæ. | — | By John Macoun, M. A., F. R. S. G., Naturalist to the Geological Survey of Canada. [Seal.] Ottawa: | Printed by S. E. Dawson, Printer to the Queen's Most | Excellent Majesty, | 1900.—8vo, pp. vii+218. Price 10 cts.

The present 'Catalogue' is based largely on the work of the Canadian Geological Survey, Mr. Macoun having been collecting notes and observations for this work since 1879, while Mr. Spreadborough has been similarly engaged since 1889, under Mr. Macoun's supervision. Their journeys have extended to various parts of this wide area, from Newfoundland and Labrador to British Columbia and Vancouver Island. The unpublished notes of many other observers have also been utilized, as well as the literature of the subject. For Alaska, Greenland, Labrador, and Arctic Canada the 'Catalogue' is based almost entirely upon previously published observations, and even for Southern Canada, the published contributions of Downs, Chamberlain, McIlwraith, Dionne, Wintle, Seton-Thompson, Fannin, and others are freely cited. There are thus brought together under each species the principal known facts of its distribution, with usually a paragraph headed 'Breeding Notes,' with a list of the specimens in the Ottawa Museum, collected by the Survey. The 'Catalogue,' containing, as it does, such a large amount of previously unpublished matter, combined with a summary of the more important previously published records, forms a compendium of ornithological information for the northern half of North America of great permanent interest and value. It is proposed to complete Part II the coming winter; and the author invites ornithologists who may receive Part I, to send him any additional facts on the birds contained therein with a view to their publication as a supplement to Part II.—J. A. A.

**Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club.**<sup>1</sup>—Besides the minutes of the meetings, which contain many records of interesting captures and notes of field work, are two papers published in full. These are: (1) 'Migration Data on City Hall Tower,' Philadelphia, by William L. Baily, which concludes with a tabular list of 56 species of birds that were killed by striking the lighted tower from August 27, 1897, to October 31, 1899. The number of individuals was 527, of which 452 were killed from August 23 to October 31, 1899. (2) 'The Summer Birds of the higher parts of Sullivan and Wyoming Counties, Pa.,' by Witmer Stone. This is a briefly annotated list of 98 species. Mr. Stone states: "The boreal element in the avifauna of Pennsylvania has been steadily decreasing for a number of years past as the primitive hemlock and spruce forest disappears before the advance of the lumberman. . . . The cutting of the timber and the fires which so frequently follow totally change the aspect of the country and completely exterminate many boreal plants, while the altered conditions admit of the introduction of a more southern fauna, as evidenced

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<sup>1</sup> Abstract of the Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia. No. III. For the years 1898 and 1899. Published by the Club. 1900. 8vo., pp. 28.