

making such satisfactory progress, the author having thus far well kept his promise to bring out the work in quarterly parts till completed.—
J. A. A.

Shelley's 'Birds of Africa.'¹—This work on the Birds of Africa, by an author so well known as Captain Shelley, promises to be one of the most important of recent faunal publications on ornithology. The work has for its scope all of Africa south of 1° N. lat., and Madagascar. The first volume, published in 1896, consists of a list of the species and higher groups, and may be called, as the author says, a 'Nomenclator Avium Æthiopicarum.' The number of species is 2534, and includes the generic synonymy and references to the authorities for the species names as adopted, to the British Museum 'Catalogue of Birds,' and to works where the species have been figured. The list begins with the Passeres, or Passeriformes, and ends with the Struthioniformes.

Volume II was issued in two parts during the year 1900. In the preface to this volume the author states, after some remarks on the classification adopted, his method of treatment to be as follows: "With regard to the synonymy of the species: I begin with what I consider to be the most correct name: quote the 'Catalogue of the Birds of the British Museum,' where full synonymy is given in detail, and add only such references which have not appeared in that great work. I follow on with a description of the plumage, taken, when possible, from the specimens in the British Museum, . . . and finish with all the details I can find regarding the distribution and habits of the species which I consider to be of interest. The colored plates are intended to illustrate, in the best possible style, . . . all the hitherto unfigured, or incorrectly figured, species" of the Æthiopian Region. The fourteen plates in volume I illustrate 29 species, and are of a high grade of excellence. The heavy paper and clear and pleasing typography of the text leave nothing to be desired in the way of book-making.

Volume II gives descriptions and biographies of 169 species, beginning with the genus *Pitta* and ending with *Anthus*, and includes keys for the higher groups as well as for the species. The biographical matter is naturally variable in amount, being quite extended in the case of well-known species, and necessarily meagre in others.

¹The | Birds of Africa, | comprising all the species which occur | in the | Ethiopian Region. | By | G. E. Shelley, F. Z. S., F. R. G. S., &c. | (late Grenadier Guards), | Author of 'A Handbook to the Birds of Egypt', 'Monograph of the Sun-birds,' etc. | — | Vol. I. | List. | — | London: | Published for the Author by | R. H. Porter, 18 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.—4to, Vol. I, 1896, pp. i-viii + 1-196; Vol. II, Part 1, 1900, pp. 1-160, pll. i-vii; Part 2, 1900, pp. i-vii + 161-348, pll. viii-xiv. Price, Vol. I, 10s 6d net; each part of Vol. II, 21s net.

Just how many volumes this magnificent work is intended to make is not stated, but the remaining parts, we are told, will probably be issued in yearly volumes. We trust nothing will prevent its early completion as planned. — J. A. A.

'Audubon Bird Chart No. 2,' and 'Common Birds, Second Series.' — The prominence given by the press to the efforts of the Audubon Societies to discourage the use of birds for millinery purposes, has so largely confined the knowledge of the public to this side of their work, that we are glad to call attention to its educational influence, well illustrated by the publication under the auspices of the Massachusetts Audubon Society of its 'Audubon Bird Chart No. 2,' and the accompanying letterpress by Mr. Hoffmann, entitled 'Common Birds, Second Series.'¹ Like Bird Chart No. 1,' which was issued in 1898, it contains life size figures of twenty-six common birds, drawn in colors by Mr. Edward Knobe and reproduced by the Prang Educational Company. While somewhat stiff in outline, the birds, in the main, are posed in characteristic attitudes, and have been lithographed with such remarkable success that but few plates published in this country approach them in accuracy of coloring. The birds represented on the Chart are treated biographically by Mr. Ralph Hoffmann in an accompanying pamphlet of twenty pages. The two combined, therefore, furnish an effective means for becoming acquainted with the appearance and habits of twenty-six species of birds, and they may be heartily commended to students, and especially to teachers. — F. M. C.

Transportation and Sale of Game. — As the 'Lacey Act,' approved May 25, 1900, supplements the existing State laws for the protection of birds and game, "by prohibiting the shipment from one State to another of birds killed in violation of local laws, and by subjecting birds brought into a State to the same restrictions as those prescribed for birds produced within the State," it becomes important to know the provisions of all the local laws on the subject of game and bird protection, which vary not only in different States, but often in different parts of the same State. To render such knowledge generally accessible, a Report² on the subject has been issued by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, forming

¹ Audubon Bird Chart No. 2. Prang Educational Co., Boston and New York. Price, \$1.30.

Common Birds: Second Series. By Ralph Hoffmann. Massachusetts Audubon Society, Boston, 12mo, pp. 20.

² Bulletin No. 14, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Biological Survey. Laws Regulating the Transportation and Sale of Game. By T. S. Palmer and H. W. Olds, Assistants, Biological Survey, Prepared under the directions of Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Chief of Biological Survey. Washington: Government Printing office. 1900. — 8vo, pp. 89, pll. i-ix (= maps and dia-