

Professor Verrill has located, from these early narratives, some of the breeding places—on some of the smaller outlying islands of the group,—but lack of time prevented any very thorough search for their bones, which he thinks may be found on Castle Island, Southampton Island, and Cooper Island, the latter being in his opinion the most favorable site for such discovery. Here then is another ‘ornithological mystery’ worthy of further investigation.—J. A. A.

Palmer and Old’s ‘Digest of Game Laws for 1901.’¹—This important ‘bulletin’ presents in convenient form the provisions of the Federal, State and Provincial laws now in force for the protection of game and birds, including the amendments enacted by the various legislatures in 1901. It consists, first (pp. 11–68) of a ‘general discussion of game laws,’ including restrictions as to time, methods, and purposes of killing game, and the manner of its shipment; and, second (pp. 69–148), abstracts of the laws, with special reference to the shipment and sale of game. “The opening year of the new century has witnessed an unprecedented interest in game protection. Nearly four-fifths of the States and Territories have enacted some amendments to their game laws.... Changes in dates for opening or closing the seasons have been very general, but restrictions on methods of capture, on sale, shipment and storage, have also been numerous. In many instances the laws have necessarily become more complex, but there has been a strong tendency toward extending protection to more kinds of game, shortening seasons, limiting bags, and throwing greater restrictions about the trade in game.” It is therefore of the highest importance to have for handy reference a practically complete digest of all the laws relating to the capture, shipment, and sale of game, in the interest not only of sportsmen, but of the increasing number of persons who take an interest in game protection. The importance of the subject is rapidly becoming more and more recognized by the general public, which in itself gives great encouragement to the promoters of intelligent protection for both game and non-game birds.—J. A. A.

Judd’s ‘The Relation of Sparrows to Agriculture.’²—The results are here given of a very detailed and thoroughly scientific investigation of the food habits of the native sparrows of eastern North America, with

¹ *Digest of Game Laws for 1901.* By T. S. Palmer and H. W. Olds, Assistants, Biological Survey. Prepared under the direction of Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Chief of Biological Survey. Bull. No. 16, U. S. Depart. Agric., Division of Biological Survey, 1901. Pp. 152, and 8 maps and diagrams.

² *The Relation of Sparrows to Agriculture.* By Sylvester D. Judd, Ph. D., Assistant, Biological Survey. Prepared under the direction of Dr. C. Hart Merriam, Chief of Biological Survey. Bull. No. 15, U. S. Dept. Agric., Division of Biological Survey, 1901. 8vo, pp. 98, pl. 4, and 19 text figures.