

## RECENT LITERATURE.

**Proceedings of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union.**—The Proceedings of the Second Annual Meeting of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, held at Omaha, Jan. 12, 1901, makes an octavo pamphlet of about one hundred pages, published at Lincoln, Nebraska, October, 1901, and forms an interesting and valuable contribution to ornithological literature. There is first an 'Abstract of Minutes' of the meeting, followed by the 'Constitution and By-laws' of the Union, and a list of its members, which number: Honorary, 4; Active, 63; Associate, 36; total, 103.

The papers read at the meeting occupy pp. 13-101, and are illustrated by 10 half-tone plates and several cuts in the text. The first paper is the President's address, by G. S. Trostler, on the 'History of Ornithology in Nebraska, and of State Ornithological Societies in General.' Concise statements are given of the founding and present status of seven State ornithological societies, including that of Nebraska, based on authentic information evidently gathered at no little trouble. This is followed by some twenty papers, mostly short, besides several pages of 'Miscellaneous Notes.' The longer papers include 'Birds in their Relation to Agriculture,' by Lawrence Bruner (pp. 18-29); 'A Late Nest of the Ruby-throated Hummingbird,' by Frank H. Shoemaker (pp. 34-38, with 3 plates); 'Young Rose-breasted Grosbeaks,' by Elizabeth Van Sant (pp. 38-42, with 5 plates); 'Birds that nest in Nebraska,' by Lawrence Bruner (pp. 48-61), a briefly annotated list of 203 species and subspecies known to breed, with a list (also annotated) of 40 others that very probably nest in the State, and a nominal list of 60 other "possible breeders." A short but very interesting paper on 'A Peculiar Disease of Birds' Feet observed in Central Nebraska' (pp. 61-63, 1 plate) is by Erwin H. Barbour. The disease especially affects the Blackbirds, and is supposed to be caused by a mite (*Sarcoptes* sp.), akin to that which produces horny excrescences about the lips and nose of wild rabbits of the same part of the State. 'Internal Parasites of Nebraska Birds,' by Henry B. Ward (pp. 63-70), is a brief discussion of the general subject, and a statement of the results of the author's investigations. Several short papers give observations on the birds of particular localities, the results of collecting trips, migration and breeding records, etc. The 'Proceedings' are, in short, made up of excellent material, well presented, and carefully edited, giving ample evidence of ability, earnestness, and enthusiasm on the part of the members of the Nebraska Ornithologists' Union. The absence of an index is the only point that seems open to criticism.—J. A. A.

**Reed's 'American Ornithology.'**—Mr. Chas. K. Reed's 'American Ornithology, for the Home and School—a magazine devoted wholly to Birds'