

birds, their modifications and adaptations; the illustrations, based on photographs, show the living birds, their feet, wings, and feathers. It is thus well adapted to its function of a manual of instruction for visitors to this portion of the exhibits at the New York Zoological Park.— J. A. A.

**Beebe's 'Two Bird Lovers in Mexico.'**<sup>1</sup>—'Two Bird-Lovers in Mexico' is a pleasantly written account of a winter trip across Mexico, from Vera Cruz to Manzanillo, made by the author and his wife during 1903-04. As much time was spent 'roughing it,' camping out with a guide and traveling with animals, their opportunities for studying the birds and animals of portions of the States of Colima and Jalisco could hardly have been more favorable, and the pages of this attractive book, as regards both illustrations and text, show the good use made of these unusual advantages. 'Two Bird-Lovers in Mexico' is thus a book for the general reader as well as the nature-lover and the naturalist. Says the author: "The entire trip was so novel, so absolutely devoid of unpleasant features, and on the whole so inexpensive, that it seemed to me that the knowledge of such an outing would tempt many lovers of Nature to this neighboring Republic." Mr. Beebe's book cannot fail to be such an incentive, and the chapter by Mrs. Beebe on 'How we did it' will be of great assistance to those who may wish to follow in their footsteps.

Besides the incidental and many quite extended notices of birds, mammals, reptiles, and insects contained in the three hundred and fifty pages or more of the general narrative, an annotated list of the birds and mammals observed is given in an appendix of twenty-five pages, with cross references to the general text<sup>2</sup> where they are further mentioned or more fully described. As the author is an enthusiastic and well trained observer, his narrative of experiences in the Mexican tropics is full of attractively presented information respecting the region visited and its inhabitants — human as well as animal and vegetable.— J. A. A.

**Hantzsch's Birds of Iceland.**<sup>3</sup>— This detailed summary of present knowledge of the ornithology of Iceland consists of two parts, the first being the generalities of the subject (pp. 1-90), and the second a systematic

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<sup>1</sup>Two Bird-Lovers in Mexico | By | C. William Beebe | Curator of Ornithology of the New York Zoological Park and Life | Member of the New York Zoological Society; Member | of the Ornithologists' Union | Illustrated with Photographs | from Life by the Author. | [Vignette] Boston and New York | Houghton, Mifflin and Company | The Riverside Press, Cambridge | 1905 — 8vo, pp. xii+408, with 15 half-tone plates and 108 text cuts. \$3.00.

<sup>2</sup>Unfortunately the references to the later part of the book are quite often two pages out of the way, as if made from proof-sheets and the pagination later changed by carrying the folios two pages ahead.

<sup>3</sup>Beitrag zur Kenntniss | der | Vogelwelt Islands | Von Bernhard Hantzsch | Mit 26 Abbildungen und 1 Karte | Berlin | Verlag von R. Friedländer & Sohn | 1905 — 8vo, pp. vi+341, with 24 text cuts and 1 map. Price 12 marks.

account of the species (pp. 92-338). Part I consists of seven sections, comprising: (1) a historical résumé; (2) a list of the principal works and papers on Iceland birds; (3) an account of the author's travels in Iceland, and of bird protection; (4) the topography, and the physical and biological features of the island; (5) changes in the bird life of the island within historic times, including an account of the extinction of the Great Auk; (6) derivation of the Icelandic ornithology; (7) the economic value of the birds to the inhabitants. Section 6 contains also a briefly annotated list (59 species) of the birds of the little island of Grimsey, off the north coast, and another (68 species) of those of the islet Vesmannæyjar, off the south coast.

Part II begins with a list of the species authenticated as birds of Iceland, numbering 120, with brief annotations as to their relative abundance and manner of occurrence. The list also includes, but not numbered as a part of the list, 12 species as of casual or probable occurrence, and the extinct Great Auk. Each is treated, generally at some length, in the following 240 pages of the work, including references to previous records of the species as birds of Iceland, their vernacular names in various languages, their distribution, relative abundance, habits, uses, etc., together with, in many cases, measurements of Iceland specimens, and a statement of the color of bill, feet, and naked soft parts, taken from fresh specimens by the author. The work is thus not only the latest but a most comprehensive and useful treatise on the ornithology of Iceland. The illustrations (half-tone reproductions of photographs in the text) include views of the breeding places of a number of species, and the nest and eggs of *Megalestris skua*, etc., but relate mainly to the physiographic features of the island, and are thus, though rather poorly reproduced, of great assistance in giving a clear impression of the prevailing physical conditions in different parts of the island.—J. A. A.

**Csörgey's Ornithological Fragments from the Manuscripts of Johann Salamon von Petényi.**<sup>1</sup>—Johann Salamon von Petényi (born 1799, died 1855) was one of the founders of systematic ornithology in Hungary, for many years custodian of the Hungarian National Museum, and a friend of C. L. Brehm, J. F. Naumann, E. Baldamus, and other eminent ornithologists of his time. He was engaged for many years in gathering material for a comprehensive work on Hungarian birds, but died before it was ready for publication, and discoveries of species new to the Hungarian ornithology first made by him remained unpublished till their rediscovery later by other workers. The fragments of his manuscripts, rescued from oblivion, and here brought together and published half a century after

<sup>1</sup>Ungarische Ornithologische Centrale | — | Ornithologische Fragmente | aus den Handschriften von Johann Salamon Petényi | Deutsch bearbeitet | von | Titus Csörgey | Mit einer Einleitung | von | Otto Herman | [Vignette] Gera-Untermhaus | Druck und Verlag von Fr. Eugen Köhler | 1905 — 8vo, pp. 36+400, frontispiece, 6 colored plates, and 16 text cuts.