

et son utilité au point de vue de l' Agriculture et de la Sylviculture,' by Fd. Visart de Bocarmé; 'The Sparrow! Is it useful or harmful to Agriculture?' by Igalí Svetozár; 'Étude sur la grosseur des grêlons dangereux pour les Oiseaux,' by Paul Martin; 'Notice sur l'opportunité de protéger la becasse au printemps,' by Louis Ternier; 'The Importance of Aviculture as an Aid to the Study of Ornithology,' by D. Seth-Smith.

In the account of the meeting held at Cambridge is an interesting list of books, letters, papers, and drawings exhibited in the Philosophical Library, with notes thereon by Professor Newton.—J. A. A.

Newton's 'Ootheca Wolleyana.'—The fourth and concluding part¹ of the 'Ootheca' comprises lots 4841–5918, in sequence, with Nos. 5919–6076 in a 'Supplement' of 'Corrections, Omissions, and Additions.' The nature of the work and the admirable manner of treatment having been previously stated,² it remains to record its completion and to note the matter in the 'Appendix,' which consist of a reprint of all the natural history publications of John Wolley, in chronological sequence, except the large amount of ornithological matter given *passim* in the 'Ootheca.' These papers are 56 in number, of which 14 relate to mammals, 26 to birds, 10 to reptiles and amphibians, 9 to insects, and 2 to 'miscellaneous,' and bear dates, 1845–1859.

Says the editor, in a 'Retrospective Note': "Thankful as I am at being able to complete this work, my feeling is rather of regret than satisfaction, for, owing to the length of time which has elapsed since the first part of it appeared, so few of Mr. Wolley's personal friends are left to see its conclusion, and this Catalogue is largely a record of ancient friendships. My only consolation is that the protracted delay has not been my own fault, as I can honestly say that whenever the cessation of more important duties gave me opportunity I resumed my labor of love, but again and again months — not to say, years — passed without such opportunity recurring. Furthermore, I may repeat, as I pointed out in the Introduction (Vol. I, p. iii), that the delay has not been without its advantages, by enabling me to make considerable additions to the Collection of great value and interest — many of them specimens wholly unattainable in

¹ Ootheca Wolleyana: | An illustrated Catalogue | of | the Collection of Birds' Eggs | formed by the late John Wolley, Jun., M. A., F. Z. S. | Edited from the original notes | by | Alfred Newton. | — | Part IV. Alca-Anseres: | with Supplement and Appendix. | — | London: | R. H. Porter, 7 Prince's Street, Cavendish Square. | M. CM. VII. | [Price £1 5s. net.] — 8vo, pp. i–iv, 385–665 + 1–96, i–vi, 3 pll. and map.

Title-page of the completed Volume II: Ootheca Wolleyana: | An illustrated Catalogue | of | the Collection of Birds' Eggs,' | begun by the late | John Wolley, Jun., M. A., F. Z. S., | and continued with additions | by the Editor | Alfred Newton. | — | Vol. II. | — | London: | M. CM. V.–M. CM. VII. | [Sold by R. H. Porter, 7 Prince's Street, Cavendish Square.]

² For notice of Part III, see Auk, XXIII, Jan., 1906, p. 118. •

Mr. Wolley's lifetime and for long after his death. . . . Lastly, I have to state that the Collection of which this is the Catalogue has been given to the University of Cambridge, in whose Museum of Zoölogy I trust it may long continue."

The frontispiece gives a view of Muoniovara, Mr. Wolley's headquarters in Lapland, from a pencil drawing by Mr. Wolley made in the autumn of 1853. A map of part of Lapland illustrates the ornithological journeys of Mr. Wolley in 1853-1857. The 'Catalogue,' it is almost needless to say, is a mine of previously unpublished first-hand information respecting the breeding haunts and habits of many northern-breeding water-fowl and other species; while the extended editorial additions and comment greatly increase the interest and value of the work.¹ — J. A. A.

Mershon's 'The Passenger Pigeon.'²— In compiling his book on the Passenger Pigeon Mr. Mershon has done good service. Its contents is varied and of unequal value, but as a whole it is a convenient and valuable record of the former almost incredible abundance of a now nearly extinct species. Much of the material here brought together has never before been published, and much of the remainder is from such scattered sources that it is a great convenience to have it thus brought together in a single handy volume. The author modestly disclaims any previous literary training, and says: "I am merely a business man who is interested in the Passenger Pigeon because he loves the outdoors and its wild things, and sincerely regrets the cruel extinction of one of the most interesting natural phenomena of his own country. If I have been able to make a compilation that otherwise would not have been available for the interested reader, I need make no further apologies for the imperfect manner of my treatment of this subject." The treatment is, naturally, far from exhaustive, the details relating mainly to southern Michigan, but a wide circle of readers will be grateful for the large amount of new and first-hand information here brought together. The matter follows in logical sequence, and a few errors in personal names, and a little indistinctness here and there in setting off the parts of the narrative derived from different sources, can be easily pardoned. An index, however, would have been of great service.

The work is divided into nineteen chapters, with captions indicative of their contents. The first, entitled 'My Boyhood among the Pigeons,' is delightfully reminiscent of the author's own early experiences with pigeons in southern Michigan. The second and third chapters are reprints

¹ Since these lines were written the sad news has been received of Professor Newton's death. See below, under 'Notes and News.'

² The [Passenger Pigeon] By [W. B. Mershon] [Seal] New York [The Outing Publishing Company] 1907 — 8vo, pp. xii + 225, 3 colored and 6 half-tone plates. (Price, \$3.00 net.)