

Pigeon was limited to the mixed hardwood forest region of the eastern United States and Canada, and any that occurred beyond were stragglers, pure and simple."

Subsequent chapters bring down the record to date of stragglers seen, or supposed to have been seen, in various parts of the country, east as well as west; and Mr. Deane's paper on the Passenger Pigeon in confinement is republished from 'The Auk' (XIII, 1896, pp. 234-237, together with letters from Professor C. O. Whitman on the same subject.

The work has as a frontispiece a colored plate of the Passenger Pigeon, drawn by L. A. Fuertes; a reproduction in color of Audubon's plate of this bird; two half-tone plates of the Passenger Pigeon and Mourning Dove, showing both species side by side photographed to the same scale; a colored plate of the Band-tailed Pigeon, by Allan Brooks, for comparison with the Passenger Pigeon; and other pertinent illustrations of interest.

Although Mr. Mershon nowhere gives a summary of the evidence respecting the practical disappearance of the Wild Pigeon, he expresses himself as "satisfied that the destruction of the pigeons was wrought to gratify the avarice and love of gain of a few men who slaughtered them until they were virtually exterminated" (p. 163, footnote).— J. A. A.

Fleming on the Disappearance of the Passenger Pigeon.¹— The capture of single birds from 1887 to 1893 is mentioned, as also the shipment in 1892 and 1893 of several hundred dozen each year from the Indian Territory to New York and Boston, these being "the last records we have of the Passenger Pigeon as anything more than a casual migrant. The records ceased after this till 1898 when three were taken at points widely apart. . . . For all practical purposes the close of the nineteenth century saw the final extinction of the Passenger Pigeon in a wild state." He states that none of the "persistent rumours of the return of pigeons. . . . has borne investigation."— J. A. A.

Report on the Immigration of Birds in England and Wales in the Spring of 1906.— The second Report of the Committee appointed by the British Ornithologists' Club on the spring migration of birds into England and Wales² conforms in plan and general character with the Report for 1905, fully described in a previous number of this Journal.³ Thirty-four species — five additional to those reported upon for the spring of 1905 — are specially treated, a résumé of the dates and manner of arrival for each

¹ The Disappearance of the Passenger Pigeon. By James H. Fleming. Ottawa Naturalist, Vol. XX, pp. 236, 237, March 22, 1907.

² Report on the Immigration of Summer Residents in the Spring of 1906. By the Committee appointed by the British Ornithologists' Club. 8vo, pp. 189, April, 1907. = Bulletin British Orn. Club, Vol. XX.

³ Auk, XXIII, Oct. 1906, p. 472.

being separately given, followed by a chronological summary of the records, and a map on which are plotted the places and dates of arrival. An introduction of 28 pages states the method and purpose of the work, and gives a tabular presentation of the weather conditions and the arrival records. At the end of the Report is a summary of the records of some 40 'unscheduled birds,' or species with too few records to treat formally, and a list of the observers and lighthouses from whom observations were received, and a map showing the points at which the observations were made.

A few of the general statements made in the 'Introductory' are to the effect that the "west of England was in many cases populated before the east and southeast." 'A well-defined route, followed by various streams of immigrants, passes due north from Devon, through Wales and the western counties of Scotland. In the case of some species, which arrived along the whole of the south coast, the direction of flight was due north, but their western flank was invariably in advance of the eastern.' Some other species held a northwesterly course, and a few others a northeasterly course. It is the purpose of the Committee to continue these observations and reports for several years, reserving generalizations till much more information has been gathered. The Committee for 1906 consisted of F. G. Penrose, chairman, C. B. Rickett, C. B. Ticehurst, N. F. Ticehurst, and J. L. Bonhote, secretary.—J. A. A.

Forbes's 'An Ornithological Cross-section of Illinois in Autumn.'—This novel contribution to ecology gives the results of observations made by Messrs. A. O. Gross and H. A. Ray, on a trip across the State of Illinois from Danville to Quincy, August 28 to October 17, 1906, under the direction of Professor Forbes, who here¹ summarizes the results. The strip surveyed was 150 feet in width for the whole distance of 192 miles, or an area of five and a half square miles. The total number of birds observed, and recorded with reference to their mode of occurrence, as whether in corn, wheat, stubble, or plowed fields, meadows, orchards, pasture lands, swamps, etc., was 4804, representing 93 species. Of this total number 1620, or about one third, were English Sparrows; 90 per cent. of the birds seen belonged to 20 species, and 85 per cent. to 15 species. Eliminating the English Sparrow from consideration, the number of individuals seen for 18 species ranged, respectively from 57 for the Blue Jay to 517 for the Crow Blackbird.

Besides the discussion of the observations, the data are conveniently presented in 12 tables, and the paper closes with a tabular list of all the species observed; the route is divided into six sections, thus giving approximately the dates and localities where the birds were seen, as well as the number for each section.

¹ An Ornithological Cross-section of Illinois in Autumn. By S. A. Forbes. Bull. Illinois State Laboratory of Nat. Hist., Vol. VII, April, 1907, pp. 305-335.