

Mrs. Davenport's 'Birds of Windham and Bennington Counties, Vermont.'¹—These two counties embrace the southern fourth of the State of Vermont, and aggregate an area of about forty miles square, varying in elevation from about 200 feet in the valley of the Connecticut River, which forms its eastern border, to nearly 4000 feet, in the interior. This region has been Mrs. Davenport's home for the greater part of her life, and she has become familiar with its flora and fauna through many years of careful exploration. The character of the country is first described, followed by an annotated list of the birds, numbering 176 species. The annotations contain much definite information about the manner of occurrence of the species. Of the twelve species of *Dendroica* recorded eight are given as more or less common breeding summer residents. Unfortunately the list is badly disfigured by typographical errors, for which the author is doubtless not responsible.—J. A. A.

Herman's The Protection of Birds in Hungary.²—Hungary—greatly to her credit—has ever taken a most active interest in bird protection, and from the first inception of the movement in Europe for the international protection of birds has been one of its strongest supporters. This work, issued in English, by order of the Hungarian Minister of Agriculture, and prepared by Otto Herman, the well-known Hungarian ornithologist and director of the Hungarian Central Bureau for Ornithology, is, in effect, an historical account of the efforts for bird protection in Europe, and of the present state of international bird protection. Preceding the historical part is an introduction (pp. 9–23) treating of the generalities of the subject, under 'Birds and Nature' and 'Birds and Man.' The 'Historical Part' begins with a general statement respecting the changes unfavorable to bird-life due to the spread of agriculture, and the resultant need for systematic bird protection through legal enactments and international coöperation. Then follows a detailed account of the progress of bird protection in Europe, beginning with a meeting of German farmers and foresters in 1868 in advocacy of an international agreement, and of subsequent steps to the same end down to the International Convention for the Protection of Birds held in Paris in 1902, and the adoption, in 1906, of the 'International Convention for the Protection of Birds,' into the "Corpus Juris" of Hungary; which, "being endowed with the force of law, found the rational protection of birds in Hungary a *fait accompli*." The signatories to the Paris Convention (March 19, 1902) include, through their properly appointed representatives, the following countries: Austria, Prussia, Belgium, Spain,

¹ Birds of Windham and Bennington Counties. By Mrs. Elizabeth B. Davenport. Vermont Bird Club, Bulletin No. 2, pp. 5–14, July, 1907.

² Publication of the Royal Hungarian Minister of Agriculture.—[The International Convention for the Protection of Birds concluded in 1902; and Hungary. Historical Sketch. Written by order of his Exc. Ignatius de Darányi, Hungarian Minister of Agriculture.] By Otto Herman [late M. P. Director of the Hung. Centr. Bur. f. Ornithology.] [Seal] Budapest Victor Hornyánszky, Court Printer | 1907 — 8vo, pp. v + 241.

France, Greece, Luxemburg, Monaco, Portugal, Sweden and Norway, and Switzerland. Great Britain is not in the list, but is, independently of the Convention, a strong supporter of bird protection. Italy, however, refused to sign; and not only this, legally sanctions and encourages the wholesale slaughter of the birds, even on their migrations, which all the other countries of Europe so strenuously protect!

The Paris 'Convention' consisting of 16 articles and two schedules (schedule I, useful birds; schedule II, noxious birds), is here published in full. It provides protection for all of the useful birds, their nests and eggs, and prohibits the use of traps, cages, nets, nooses, lime-twigs, and any other kind of instruments used for the purpose of rendering easy the wholesale capture or destruction of birds. Destruction of game by firearms is allowed during prescribed open seasons. During the close season for any kind of game bird it is unlawful to import, sell, or offer to sell, or transport or deliver any such birds. With this we may contrast the position of Italy, which instructed her delegate to sign no "binding schedule," and added that "no agreement refused by Italy could be of any advantage to Hungary or Austria"—a fine dog-in-the-manger spirit, quite in keeping with her approval of the brutal wholesale destruction of the most useful insectivorous birds, as well as all others, that visit this country in winter on migration, "and are therefore alien property as far as Italy is concerned."

'The Protection of Birds in Hungary' occupies pp. 145-175, and includes the bird protection act now in force in that country. Not only is the protection of birds rigidly insured, but the Hungarian Ministry of Commerce issued on June 12, 1906, an order for artificial nesting-boxes to be placed in the State forests, comprising five million acres; and also, at the same time, issued a decree providing for bird-days and tree-days in the scheme of work of elementary schools. As early as 1898-99 the Minister of Agriculture caused to be published (in Hungarian) a large work (in two volumes) by Stephen Chernel on economic ornithology, and in 1900 ordered its translation into French, in order to make it accessible to the people of other nationalities, following this in 1901 with a smaller work, by Otto Herman, with illustrations by T. Csörgey, on 'Useful and Noxious Birds,' prepared with special reference to reaching the lower classes as an appeal in behalf of the birds.—J. A. A.

Williams's 'Game Commissions and Wardens.'¹—This is a digest of provisions for the enforcement of game laws, and comprises three parts. "Part I contains a historical summary of the evolution of the warden service and general discussion of various features connected with warden work; Part II, a summary of the most important provisions of the laws stated in the briefest possible form and arranged in uniform sequence; Part III, extracts

¹ Game Commissions and Wardens, their Appointment, Powers, and Duties. By R. W. Williams, Jr., Game Law Assistant, Biological Survey, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Biological Survey — Bulletin No. 28, 8vo, pp. 1-285, with maps and diagrams. Issued August 1, 1907.