

teague Island, Virginia, for their commercial products.¹ More than fifty years ago, he states, Mr. J. W. Whealton secured a pair of wing-tipped Wild Geese, which "were the nucleus of his present flock of 450 birds." New blood has been added at frequent intervals, thus avoiding in-breeding. Mr. Beebe's report of this experiment is detailed and full of interest, particularly his account of the habits of the species in confinement and the manner in which the birds are cared for and controlled. The geese are plucked several times a year for their feathers, and thus yield a small revenue. Other species of geese, and several species of swans, are likewise reared on this island by Mr. Whealton, and various crosses have been made between different species of geese, the hybrids being in some cases fertile, in others not so.— J. A. A.

Shufeldt on the Osteology of *Arachnothera magna*.²— Dr. Shufeldt here describes in detail the osteology of one of the larger species of the family Nectariniidæ, in comparison with that of the Cerebidæ, Meliphagidæ, Certhiidæ, and Trochilidæ. He finds that osteologically the species is distinctly passerine, with faint resemblances in some features to the Trochili, but these "have no bearing whatever upon affinity." The plate is a lateral view of the skeleton, from a photograph by the author.— J. A. A.

Macpherson's 'The Home-Life of a Golden Eagle.'³— This is a most interesting narration of Mr. Macpherson's success in watching and photographing a pair of Golden Eagles and their young in the Grampian Hills of Scotland during the breeding season of 1909. The eyrie was discovered on the 23d of April, when it contained two eggs. It was first visited by the author and the eggs photographed, of course with the eyrie and its surroundings, on May 3, when a shelter of stones was constructed for the concealment of the camera. On the 19th of May there were two eaglets in the nest, apparently about six days old; they were photographed, and arrangements were completed for photographing later the old birds at the nest. How successfully this was carried out is recorded in the thirty-two plates illustrating the present brochure, where not only the young birds are shown at various stages of growth and in many attitudes, but the old birds as well on their visits to feed and care for the young. Only one of the young birds reached maturity, leaving the eyrie about the end of July when about eleven weeks old. The narrative is a record of patience and

¹ Breeding Canada Wild Geese on Chincoteague Island, Va. By C. William Beebe. Zoöl. Soc. Bull., No. 36, October, 1909, pp. 576-579, with half-tone illustrations.

² On the Comparative Osteology of the Passerine Bird *Arachnothera magna*. By R. W. Shufeldt, M. D., C. M. Z. S. Proc. Zoöl. Soc. London, 1909, pp. 527-544, pl. lxviii.

³ The Home-Life of a Golden Eagle Photographed and described by H. B. Macpherson With thirty-two mounted Plates London Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn W. C. MCMIX. Large 8vo, pp. 1-45, pl. 1-32 (mounted photographs).

endurance under adverse and trying weather conditions, of tact and skill in securing results that minutely reveal the home-life of a family of Golden Eagles. The story is simply told and most admirably illustrated, and forms a memorable contribution to the life history of "the King of Birds."—J.A.A.

Whymper's 'Egyptian Birds.'—Mr. Whymper's sumptuously printed and beautifully illustrated volume,¹ he tells us, is "for the wayfaring man who, travelling this ancient Egypt, wishes to learn something of the birds he sees." About three-score species are described and illustrated, being selected from the more common and characteristic birds of the lower Nile Valley. On plate 2 some half-dozen different species are depicted in flight, to assist the reader to identify those most frequently seen by shape and pose in flight. The other fifty plates illustrate as many species in color. Each is described briefly in the text, the description being followed by several pages of biographical matter, relating especially to the Egyptian environment. A briefly annotated list of the birds of Egypt, comprising 356 species, follows the general text of this attractive book, which doubtless will prove of much interest and assistance to the ornithologically inclined Egyptian tourist.—J. A. A.

Job's 'The Sport of Bird Study.'—"Of course there's nothing wrong in shooting lawful game in moderation, but it's simply this, that the new way is so much better than the old that we don't care for shooting. Gunners can hunt only in the fall, but our hunting lasts the whole year. Their game, too, is limited to a few kinds, while *we* have every sort that flies." This is the key-note to Mr. Job's latest book, 'The Sport of Bird-Study.'² The first chapter deals with the general subject of 'hunting with a camera,' its advantages as an outdoor sport, available at all seasons of the year, and as an aid and incentive in bird and mammal study. "It destroys no life, yet yields results far superior to those of gun and flesh-pot in our stage of civilization where we need not shoot to eat."

In the present book the author takes us on numberless excursions camera-hunting, recounting his successes, and some failures, in photographing all sorts of birds, usually in the nesting season, so that the pictures show the old birds on their nests, or feeding their young, or the nests with eggs in situ, or young birds at different stages of development. The pictures are

¹ Egyptian | Birds | for the most part seen in the Nile Valley | By | Charles Whymper | London | Adam and Charles Black | 1909 — 8vo, pp. x + 222, with 51 full-page illustrations in color and 13 line drawings in text. Price, 20 s. net.

² The Sport of | Bird-Study | A Book for young or active People | By | Herbert Keightley Job | Author of "Wild Wings" and "Among the 'Water-Fowl.'" | Member of The American Ornithologists' Union, etc. | Profusely illustrated with Photographs from | Life by the Author | [Vignette] New York | The Outing Publishing Company | MCMVIII — 8vo, pp. xvi + 284 + iv, with 130 half-tone illustrations (= 78 full-page plates). This work is also issued in another edition, which has an appendix containing an annotated list of the birds of Litchfield County, Connecticut (216 species). This edition is designated as the "Connecticut Edition." This we have not seen.