

Method of Recording Bird Music, with a Correction.—In my articles on the expressions of emotion in the Mourning Dove and the Passenger Pigeon ('The Auk,' October, 1911), in the musical notations I used sharps and flats in some cases to indicate a degree of sharpness or flatness less than a semitone. In the Mourning Dove record No. 1, the second note is only a trifle sharp; and the Passenger Pigeon records Nos. 4, 5, 7, and 8 each contain a downward run in which the intervals between successive notes are less than a semitone. I ought to have explained this in the original paper.

To measure the *tempo* of a bird song, the best instrument is a stop-watch. While the bird is singing, count the beats of its song, "Naught, one, two, three, . . ." Start the stop-watch with "Naught" and stop it with "ten." This gives a very accurate result. If the beats be rapid, count twenty instead of ten. In absence of a stop-watch, I think the best one can do is to count the beats for five seconds, or some other definite number of seconds, by an ordinary watch; but this is far less accurate.—WALLACE CRAIG, *Orono, Maine.*

RECENT LITERATURE.

Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds.¹—Under the provisions of the so-called McLean act the U. S. Department of Agriculture has been entrusted with the protection of our migratory birds. A committee was appointed by the Acting Secretary from the staff of the Biological Survey, consisting of Dr. T. S. Palmer, chairman, Dr. A. K. Fisher and Prof. W. W. Cooke, to draw up suitable regulations for the purpose and these together with a circular of explanation were issued late in June, to become effective October 1, 1913, after approval by the President.

The regulations are ten in number:

- I. defines migratory game and insectivorous birds.
- II. provides a closed season at night i. e.—from sunset to sunrise, on all migratory birds.
- III. provides a continuous closed season on migratory insectivorous birds, except an open season on Reedbirds in Delaware, Maryland, District of Columbia, Virginia and South Carolina, September 1–Oct. 31. Scientific collecting permits however are to be granted as at present.

¹ Proposed Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds. Circular 92, Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Dept. Agric. pp. 1–6. June 23, 1913.

Explanation of the Proposed Regulations for the Protection of Migratory Birds. Circular 93, Bureau of Biological Survey, U. S. Dept. Agric. pp. 1–5. June 23, 1913.