

Hawk, a bird selected for study on account of the variety of feather modifications found in its plumage. The down feathers, filoplumes and various contour feathers are considered at length and the obvious adaptations are commented upon, the 'conclusions' are, however, a little disappointing as we find no original results of the investigation. The paper, however, forms a valuable summary of practically all the feather structures found in North American birds and will be a handy reference work on a subject upon which we have but little easily accessible information.— W. S.

**Betts' 'Birds of Boulder County, Colorado.'**<sup>1</sup>— Colorado ornithology has been receiving much attention during the past few years, but in a state of its size there is room for many local lists, especially if prepared as carefully and printed as attractively as the one before us.

Mr. Betts presents an annotated list of 206 species including records of previous observers to whom due credit is given. Unusual stragglers are printed in their proper systematic position but in italic instead of heavy-faced type, which seems to us a desirable practice. Unfortunately the species are not numbered consecutively, which would have helped materially to separate the paragraphs relating to the different forms, especially where the two styles of type occur. The author adds lists of the species breeding in the several zones while an unpagged supplementary insert gives a summary of the Boulder County birds occurring at various times of year contrasted with similar data for St. Louis County, Mo., taken from Mr. Widmann's 'Birds of Missouri.' An outline map of the county with contour lines appears in the introduction along with brief comments on life zones.— W. S.

**Walpole-Bond's 'Field-Studies of Some Rarer British Birds.'**<sup>2</sup>— This volume seems to contain a vast amount of original observation upon a number of the rarer birds of England. It consists of eighteen chapters covering the Dartford Warbler, Pied Flycatcher, Crossbill, Cirl Bunting, Chough, Raven, Wood-Lark, "Woodcock" [Short-eared] Owl, Hen Harrier, "Once Common" Buzzard, Eagles, Red Kite, Peregrines, Hobby, Merlin, Gadwall and Black Guillemot. The information set forth will no doubt prove a noteworthy supplement to any general work on British birds, and will be valued accordingly, but the pleasing style in which it is presented makes the volume interesting reading for anyone with an interest in bird life whether he appreciate the rarity of the species and the true ornithological value of the data or not. In this way it appeals to a much wider circle of readers than might be supposed.— W. S.

<sup>1</sup> Birds of Boulder County, Colorado. By Norman de Witt Betts. The University of Colorado Studies. Vol. X. No. 4, pp. 117-232. December, 1913. Price, 50 cents.

<sup>2</sup> Field Studies of Some Rarer British Birds [By] John Walpole-Bond | Author of | "The Birds of Bromley (Kent) and its Neighborhood" | "Birds Life in Wild Wales" | and part-author of | "The Book of the Open Air." | Witherby & Co. | 326 High Holborn, London | 1914. 8vo pp. i-ix + 1-305. 7s. 6d. net.