

migration, etc., and a list of all new species and genera arranged systematically. This publication is invaluable to the working ornithologist and deserves a much larger sale than it has had in the past. Its continuation from year to year is essential to the advance of ornithology and the Zoological Society should be given every support possible in the good work that it is doing.—W. S.

Kuser's 'The Way to Study Birds.'¹—This attractive little book is another of the numerous publications designed to aid the beginner in identifying the familiar birds of the eastern states. Mr. Kuser's plan is the reverse of that usually advocated in such books as he presents concise accounts of a number of the most abundant species to be found in the vicinity of New York City, and then instructs his readers to familiarize themselves with the appearance of the first one and go out into the field and find it before taking up the second, and so on through the series. That he does not discourage the usual plan of finding your bird first and identifying it from the books later is shown by the fact that he presents a field key to be taken into the field or to be used in identifying descriptions made there. While the two sets of instructions are somewhat contradictory good results may be gotten from each, while the additional information on bird protection, winter feeding, note-keeping, bird books and bird societies will answer many questions for the reader. The well printed color plates from paintings by Louis Agassiz Fuertes add much to the attractiveness of the book.—W. S.

The Birds of Australia.²—The fourth part of Volume VI of Mr. Mathews' work treats almost entirely of the genus *Platycercus* of which he recognizes seven species including some of the most brilliantly colored of the Australian parrots. Much interesting information concerning their habits and distribution is furnished by the author's Australian correspondents, while he has traced out the history of their discovery and as usual has considered the nomenclature and synonymy of the species at considerable length. We notice only two new names proposed in this number, *i. e.*, *Platycercus caledonicus flindersi* (p. 328) from Flinders Island, and *P. eximius colei* (p. 360) from Ballarat, Victoria.—W. S.

Brooks on Some Falkland Island Birds.³—Mr. W. Sprague Brooks, who recently spent several months on the Falkland Islands in the interests of Dr. John C. Phillips, presents in the present paper his notes on the forty-three species of birds which came under his observation. Many

✓ ¹The Way to Study Birds. By John Dryden Kuser. With 9 Illustrations in Color. G. P. Putnam's Sons. 1917. pp. 1-85. Price \$1.25 net.

²The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Vol. VI, part IV. June 27, 1917.

³Notes on Some Falkland Island Birds. By W. Sprague Brooks. Bull. Museum Comp. Zool., Vol. LXI, No. 7. June, 1917. pp. 135-160, pls. 1-3.