

ing the lake to rest in the sun and Mr. Dixon's photographs show them close to the houses and driveways apparently entirely devoid of fear.

The most abundant species is the Pintail, followed by the Canvas-back, Baldpate and Shoveller. Other species of ducks occur, however, as well as Grebes, Coots, Gulls and Killdeers. The pleasure derived by the thousands of persons who visit the lake to watch the ducks, and the protection of the birds as a factor in the preservation of the species are well worth the comparatively small expense and trouble. Why do not other favorably located communities try the same experiment? — W. S.

**Recent Circulars by Forbush.**<sup>1</sup>—The Massachusetts Department of Agriculture has recently published two excellent educational pamphlets by the State ornithologist, Mr. Edward Howe Forbush. One of these deals with outdoor bird study and is full of practical hints as to where and how to study wild birds. The other describes the building of bird houses and nest boxes. It seems that the demand for such publications is never satisfied, every year sees the additions of thousands of persons to the army of bird students and it is fortunate that there are State governments able and willing to supply the literature that they desire. It would seem, however, that some of the best of these pamphlets might be stereotyped so that an unlimited number of copies could be printed without the expense of resetting the type.—W. S.

**The Birds of the Albatross Expedition of 1899-1900.**<sup>2</sup>—The long delayed report on the birds obtained on the cruise of the "Albatross" to the southern Pacific in 1899 and 1900 has at last appeared, the systematic study of the collection being by Alexander Wetmore, while the introduction and field notes are contributed by Charles H. Townsend one of the naturalists who accompanied the expedition and made the collection. Specimens were obtained from thirty-three islands some of which were visited by naturalists for the first time. Representatives of ninety-three species or subspecies were collected and of these the following fourteen are described as new:—*Ixobrychus sinensis moorei* (p. 173) Middle Caroline Islands; *Globicera oceanica townsendi* (p. 191), Ponapé, Eastern Carolines, *Sauropatis sacra rabulata* (p. 197), Eua, Tonga Islands; *S. c. celada* (p. 198) Vavau, Tonga Group; *Myiagra townsendi* (p. 205), Kambara, Fijis; *Conopodera atypha* (p. 206), Fakarava; *C. a. rava* (p. 208), Whitsunday Isl.; *C. a.*

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<sup>1</sup> Outdoor Bird Study. Hints for Beginners. By Edward Howe Forbush. Department Circular No. 12, Mass. Dept. Agr. pp. 1-51, numerous cuts. May, 1919.

Bird Houses and Nesting Boxes. By Edward Howe Forbush. Circular No. 10, Mass. Dept. Agr. pp. 1-28, 7 plates and numerous cuts. April, 1919.

<sup>2</sup> Reports on the Scientific Results of the Expedition to the Tropical Pacific in charge of Alexander Agassiz, on the U. S. Fish Commission Steamer "Albatross," from August, 1899, to March, 1900, Commander Jefferson F. Moser, U. S. N., commanding. XXI. The Birds. By Charles Haskins Townsend and Alexander Wetmore. Bull. Museum Comp. Zool., Vol. LXIII, No. 4. August, 1919. pp. 151-225.