

says: "Their flight is much like that of the English Quail but they are so tiny that if fired at close and hit there is nothing left to pick up, whilst if time is allowed for them to get a fair distance they take advantage of it to make one of their disconcerting dives into the grass."

There is much of interest in the accounts of the Pheasants. Speaking of the Peafowl Mr. Baker says: "It is wonderful the way a Peafowl in all the pride of plumage and gorgeous lengthy train will slip through jungles which one would imagine dense enough to stop his movements altogether with such an encumbrance. He seems to be as sinuous as a snake in his movements, as stealthy as a cat, in his tread, and as wary as an old bull bison in watching for foes." Old Peacocks he tells us are not much good as game, the meat being "desperately tough and stringy" but young birds are good eating.

We congratulate Mr. Baker upon another of his attractive volumes which must interest all lovers of sport as well as ornithologists and which makes a notable addition to any library.—W. S.

The Birds of Switzerland.—This comprehensive work¹ which had advanced to the end of the fifteenth livraison at the time of the death of Gustave Burg, its editor, is being continued by Walter Knopfi and the sixteenth livraison is before us, covering the Rails, Herons and Shorebirds.

Each species is treated at length with a discussion of synonymy vernacular names, nesting, migration, winter quarters, biological notes, geographic distribution, economic value, hunting (in the case of game birds), etc.

The work is entirely in French and the nomenclature not always up to date, while the arrangement is rather confusing. Each species is treated independently and its closest associates may or may not follow. Thus the species of Rails and Herons are interpolated between sections of the Charadriidae and yet the pagination is continuous.

The work contains a vast amount of information and should be a standard authority on the birds of Switzerland for many years to come.—W. S.

Hortling's 'Birds of Finland.'—The fourth part of this important work,² which was noticed in the October 'Auk,' is now before us, covering the remainder of the Ducks and the Petrels, Cormorants, Grebes, Loons, Doves and portion of the Shorebirds. Apparently another part is required to complete the work. The present instalment is equal in every way to its predecessors and like them entirely in the Finnish language.—W. S.

¹ Les Oiseaux de la Suisse (Catalogue des Oiseaux de la Suisse de V. Fatio et Th. Studer). Parait par livraisons. XVIIe livraison: Echassiers, Rallidés, Scolopacides, Pluviers, et espèces parentes. Elaboré par ordre du Département fédéral de l'Intérieur (Inspection des forêts, chasse et pêche) Par Gustave von Burg et Walter Knopfi avec le concours de nombreux collaborateurs de tous les cantons. En commission chez Georg & Cie, S. A., librairie, Genève, 5, Corrairie. 1930, pp. 3171-3606. Price Fr. 12.

² Ornitologisk Handbok. By Dr. Ivar Hortling. Part IV, pp. 601-800. Price 75 Fmk. per part.