

summer, or permanent), conspicuous colors or markings, principal food, kind and location of nest. There then follows a larger space in which to enter any notes of special interest in regard to habits, song, nesting, economic value, etc., of the bird observed. The first page of the book contains a brief preface stating its aim and giving a short bibliography on birds of particular value in school work, while the last page contains pertinent suggestions for bird study in schools.

By adhering to these few most important topics, the author has been able to produce a book which is concise and simple, yet of sufficient size to hold at least two years' records, so that interesting and useful comparisons may be made.

The Bird Study Note Book is the outcome of several years' experience on the part of the author, and we are glad to learn that it has been successfully used in one of the Kansas schools for the past four years. We believe, with the author, that the school room is, perhaps, the most important place to disseminate knowledge of the value of bird life, and to arouse interest for the protection necessary to preserve our native birds.

Although this note book is particularly adapted and prepared for the use of pupils of intermediate and grammar grades, it is well worthy of recommendation to any bird student who realizes the value of keeping actual records from day to day.—MARGARET W. WYTHE.

THE BIRDS OF VIRGINIA | by | HAROLD H. BAILEY | [vignette] | with fourteen full page colored plates, | one map, and one hundred and eight | half-tones taken from nature | treating one hundred and eighty-five species and subspecies: | all the birds that breed within the state. | 1913 [our copy received September 1] | J. P. Bell Company, Inc. | Publishers | Lynchburg, Va. | 8vo, pages xxiii + 362; illustrations as above.

Our fellow Cooper Club member, and former Californian, Harold H. Bailey, has "done us proud" in putting out one of the most attractive bird books of the year. The above transcript of the title gives a good idea of the nature of the work as regards illustrations. The text deals in a concise way with those birds which have been found nesting within the borders of Virginia.

Naturally, as being an enthusiastic oologist of the old school, Bailey's chief effort is to present his readers with important facts in regard to the nesting habits and eggs of the birds dealt with. Still, there is much useful information of a more general nature, especially as regards economic status, all of which is selected with a view to securing popular interest in bird study in a state in which field

naturalists are apparently few in number.

Of course the reviewer is able to find points to criticize. Has there ever appeared a bird book entirely above *someone's* criticism? The most serious fault to be found with the book in our minds concerns not its ornithology, but its grammar — which, frankly, is in places atrocious! This fault could have been obviated by recourse to editorial supervision, and it is to be hoped that this will be attended to in future editions.

One other possible criticism is the inclusion of photographs of western subspecies or even species (as the burrowing owls on page 138), with nothing to indicate to the uninitiated that they are not from Virginian subjects.

This western tang is more pleasingly evidenced on page 86, where is presented the reproduction of a photograph by W. Otto Emerson showing a typical collector's camp, with that now long lamented ornithologist, Walter E. Bryant, in characteristic attitude. Many of us "middle-aged" bird people share with Mr. Bailey the fondest of recollections of the days when we gained knowledge and inspiration from W. E. Bryant.

As to the facts set forth in the work under review, Harold H. Bailey is absolute authority in his field. And it is needless to say that no well conducted library of ornithology will long remain without a copy of his "Birds of Virginia".—J. GRINNELL.

CATALOGUE OF A COLLECTION OF BOOKS ON ORNITHOLOGY IN THE LIBRARY OF JOHN E. THAYER; compiled by Evelyn Thayer and Virginia Keyes (Boston, privately printed, 1913; 8vo, 188 pages. Copy received September 8).

Approximately 1200 titles appear in this catalog, this large number suggesting the probability that Mr. Thayer's is the most complete private ornithological library in America today. *Auduboniana* are excellently represented; and there are many other fine things, such as Wilson's *Aves Hawaiiensis*, the almost complete works of Gould, etc., etc.

Bibliographically the Thayer Catalogue is not above criticism. There is lack of uniformity in treatment, and not a few errors are in evidence. In a number of cases the titles of separates are entered as if they were individual works, without indication of their true connection. However, the Catalogue is evidently not at all intended as a technical exposition of its subject.

There is a growing present-day tendency towards the adoption of book-collecting as a mind recreation on the part of men of means who have also a scientific trend of thought. In some cases the attention of the collector is absorbed wholly by books as objects of ac-