

exterminate our game without mercy." The author states that on one occasion he picked up 18 swallows which had been killed by a gunner who was returning home from a disappointed duck hunt. Such acts are, of course, "largely the result of thoughtlessness or ignorance, and it is hoped by spreading a knowledge of our native birds, thereby arousing a pride and interest in their welfare, we may overcome a large portion of this wanton destructiveness."

The tables of "Spring Migration: Arrivals," and "New York Birds: Local Lists" will be of much interest to students in Canada, as well as in the United States. 300 pages are devoted to the water birds and game birds. The species are treated of under the sub-headings "Description," "Distinctive marks," "Field marks," "Distribution," "Migrations," "Haunts and habits," "Food," and "Nests and eggs." The Diving Birds are given first attention. These are followed by an account of the Long-winged Swimmers; then, in order, the Tube-nosed Swimmers; the Totipalmate Birds; the Lamellirostral Swimmers; the Herons, etc., the Marsh Birds, the Plover, Snipe, etc.; Gallinaeous Birds, and Pigeons. Altogether 179 species are treated of. Throughout the text many beautiful illustrations from photographs have been incorporated. Those showing nests and eggs are of special merit and interest. At the end of the volume there are 42 full paged magnificent coloured plates, all of which have been drawn by Mr. Louis Agassiz Fuertes, the well known bird artist. For the last ten years Mr. Fuertes has made careful colour notes immediately after the capture of the birds used for illustrations. In this way he has been able to depict, wonderfully well, the different colours of the birds.

This work is a most important addition to the literature of North American ornithology, and will be greatly welcomed by students of birds everywhere. It will be of much interest to Canadian ornithologists on account of so many of the species occurring in our territory. Much credit is due to the author for the preparation of this immensely valuable Memoir, to the artist for his beautiful illustrations, and to the New York State Education Department for the publication of the whole work. Such a Memoir will be a source of authoritative reference for many years to come.

A. G.

CATALOGUE OF NEARCTIC SPIDERS, by Nathan Banks; Smithsonian Institution, United States National Museum, Bulletin 72.

This publication takes the place of the Marx Catalogue, prepared some twenty years ago. The author states that the

catalogue includes a little over 1,300 species. "The largest family is the Theridiidæ with 298 species; the Attidæ is next with 213; two other families, the Lycosidæ and Epeiridæ, have over 100 species in each. Sixteen families have less than 10 species apiece." This work will be a most useful one. Many of the species occur in Canada but comparatively few definite records are available. The publication of this catalogue will undoubtedly lead to more systematic work, and it is to be hoped that entomologists, or others, in Canada, who are interested in spiders, will do their share in working up local species. In the East a fair amount of work has been done in collecting these creatures, but in the West practically all records of captures would be of value.

A. G.

NOTES.

ANOTHER CASE OF NATURAL GRAFTING.—Mr. J. R. Anderson's note in the April number of THE OTTAWA NATURALIST, about an interesting case of natural grafting, prompts me to call attention to a somewhat different case which may be seen by any Ottawa member, when walking down Bank Street to the Glebe. On the west side of the street, between Roseberry and Strathcona Avenues near Patterson's Creek, there is a medium-sized maple, from the base of which a sucker or twin sapling was at one time growing. The "twin" is still there, but no longer as an independent stem. About a foot from the ground it becomes lost in the larger tree, the bark of which has closed completely over it. Several inches higher up, a branch three or four inches in diameter emerges obliquely from the trunk, and is evidently the re-appearance of the lost sapling; though now looking more like a normal branch of the tree. It is several times the diameter of the part below. The latter though making little, if any growth, is still alive; but any contribution which it may make to the life of the branch must be very small in comparison with that derived through the main trunk. Should one of our future naturalists have the good fortune to be present when this tree is cut down, he may be able to extend this note with some interesting information gathered from a study in cross section.

H. GROH.

The Publications Committee beg to announce that the miscellaneous publications, of which mention has been made, (p. 9, April number, 1910), will be available for free distribution to members of the club on June 21st next at 4.30 p.m., in the basement of the Normal School. L. H. NEWMAN, Ch. of Com.





Gibson, Arthur. 1910. "Catalogue of Neararctic Spiders, by Nathan Banks [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 24(3), 63–64.

View This Item Online: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/17527>

Permalink: <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/369355>

Holding Institution

MBLWHOI Library

Sponsored by

MBLWHOI Library

Copyright & Reuse

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.