

larger number of readers who would otherwise forego the possession of the 'New Nuttall,' which contains so much of the charming original. —J. A. A.

Scott's 'The Story of a Bird Lover.' — Mr. Scott's autobiography,<sup>1</sup> published under the above title, forms a book of unusual interest. It has a fascination hard to analyze, as probably few ornithologists who open its pages will lay the book aside till the narrative of Mr. Scott's varied experiences as a field naturalist and collector has been perused to the end. That the title chosen is not unwarranted is evident throughout, and his enthusiasm will awaken a responsive throb in the hearts of many readers of kindred spirit. The 'Story' consists of fourteen chapters, each dealing with either a distinct period in the author's history or with some special excursion or field experience. It is written, we are informed, mainly from the recollection of the events chronicled long after they transpired, and thus evinces the author's retentive memory; but there are evidences here and there of slight lapses, or of lack of care in proof-reading, as in the orthography of the names of some of the persons mentioned in the early part of the narrative. The style is for the most part terse, simple, and animated, and has about it a characteristic personality unmistakable to those who have ever known Mr. Scott intimately.

The story begins with an account of the author's 'childhood,' 'youth,' and 'student days,' and follows with a general recital, in chronological order, of his field experiences, beginning with a trip to West Virginia in 1872, to western Missouri in 1874, to Florida in 1876, to Colorado in 1878, and to Florida again in 1878-79; the interval from 1882-1886 was spent mainly in Arizona, and 1886-90 on the Gulf Coast of Florida; Jamaica was visited in the fall of 1890, and two trips were made later to England. The scientific results of these numerous ornithological expeditions having already been published in a long series of special papers, only a list of them, in the form of a bibliographical supplement, being here given; but with the narrative is incorporated a large amount of personal reminiscence, relating to the people met with and the general condition of the country at the various localities visited at dates now so remote that these incidental references add much to the interest of the 'Story.'

The last chapter is entitled 'The Naturalist's Vision,' and deals with his studies of live birds confined in aviaries. From small beginnings he has now "a laboratory for the study of live birds," in which "between four and five hundred individuals are now installed and under constant observation." He outlines in this chapter some of the more obvious

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<sup>1</sup>The | Story of a Bird Lover | By | William Earl Dodge Scott | [Design] New York | The Outlook Company | 1903 — 8vo, pp. xi + 372, and frontispiece.



problems that await investigation, and which may be studied to advantage only through intimate acquaintance with individual birds; and finally expresses his conception of how such work should be conducted.

As already said, Mr. Scott has given us a very attractive narrative of his career as a naturalist; and so many matters of interest are chronicled that we trust a suitable index, rendering them more readily accessible, will be supplied in future editions of the work. — J. A. A.

**Mrs. Bignell's 'My Woodland Intimates.'** — The author of 'Mr. Chupes and Miss Jenny' (see Auk, XVIII, 1901, p. 288) here<sup>1</sup> presents us with a series of delightful sketches of out-of-door scenes and incidents, portraying the changing seasons and the attendant mutations in animal and vegetable life as observed in a "quiet, secluded, eastern New Jersey haunt and its immediate neighborhood." The varying aspects of field and woodland are noted under such titles as 'August Moods and Contrasts'; 'En Route' (September); 'Good-by to Summer' (October); 'Gray Days and Merry Ways' (November); 'The Solemn Midnight' (Winter); and so on through the circle of the year. While the birds are her major theme, all nature comes in review. The last chapter, 'In the North Country,' has for its scene "a beloved nook in the Laurentian Mountains of Canada." Intense sympathy with her subject, sincerity of expression, keen and intelligent powers of observation, and a happy faculty of imparting to others what she has seen and felt characterize 'My Woodland Intimates,' and entitle Mrs. Bignell's second book to rank high among popular nature books. — J. A. A.

**Walter's 'Wild Birds in City Parks.'** — The full title<sup>2</sup> of this little brochure sufficiently explains its purpose, — to furnish "a simple letter of introduction to 100 birds, the majority of which are commonly seen during the spring migration" at Chicago. Some 'General Hints' are first given, in the form of a few characteristics of the principal bird families, followed by 'Particular Hints,' giving the leading distinctive features of 100 species, arranged apparently in no particular order. There is also a 'Table of Arrival,' giving the birds in systematic sequence, with dates of arrival for the years 1897-1901, as observed in Lincoln Park, Chicago,

<sup>1</sup> My Woodland Intimates | By | Effie Bignell | author of | "Mr. Chupes and Miss Jenny" | New York | The Baker & Taylor Company | 33-37 East 17th St., Union Square North | — 12mo, pp. i-xii + 13-241. Price, \$1.00, net.

<sup>2</sup> Wild Birds in City Parks, being hints on identifying 100 birds, prepared primarily for the spring migration in Lincoln Park, Chicago. By Herbert Eugene Walter and Alice Hall Walter. Revised edition. Chicago: A. W. Mumford, Publisher, 378 Wabash Avenue, 1903. 16mo, pp. 45, with chart for Migration Record. Price, 25 cts.



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