

There is also a very full statement of the geographical distribution, prepared especially for use in the present connection by Dr. Bishop, who has contributed the general matter relating to the River Ducks, Sea Ducks, Mergansers, Geese, Swans, the Rail Family, etc., and the notices of the extra-limital species, and some other matter. 'The Water-Fowl Family' is thus a book for sportsmen which may be looked upon as technically correct in all matters of scientific detail, while the biographies of the species are satisfactorily full, and the details especially of interest to the sportsman are not omitted. The attention of ornithologists is directed to this book as containing much matter of permanent value from the standpoint of the naturalist, and especially to Dr. Bishop's carefully prepared summaries of the 'habitats' of the species, which give both the breeding and winter ranges, so far as they are at present known. There is also a note by Dr. Bishop (p. 365) on the intergradation of *Tringa couesi* and *T. ptilocnemis*, and apparently the first descriptions of the downy young of several species of the Ducks and Shore-birds.—J. A. A.

The 'New' Edition of Nuttall.—Two previous editions of the 'New Nuttall' have appeared during the last twelve years, the first in 1891, reviewed at length and somewhat severely in Volume IX of 'The Auk' (pp. 59-61), and the second in 1896, noticed in 'The Auk' for January, 1897 (XIV, p. 109). The present (third) edition¹ is a reprint from the electrotypes of the second edition, with the omission of Mr. Chamberlain's preface, and a reversion to the misleading titlepage of the first edition of the 'New Nuttall.' What we have is not 'A Popular Handbook of the Birds of the United States and Canada,' but, as properly expressed in the title of the second edition, 'A Popular Handbook of the Ornithology of Eastern North America.' Why the publishers should revert to Nuttall's original title when the little of Nuttall's original work that related to "species which occur only to the westward of the Mississippi valley" has been omitted (see preface to first edition), is a question they will doubtless be frequently called upon to answer by unsuspecting purchasers of 'A Popular Handbook of the Birds of the United States and Canada.'

The present edition is printed on thin paper, thus bringing it within convenient compass for binding as a single volume; and the price being reduced from \$7.50 to \$3.00 will doubtless render the work available to a

¹ A Popular Handbook | of the | Birds of the United States | and Canada | By Thomas Nuttall | New Revised and Annotated Edition | By Montague Chamberlain | With Additions, and One Hundred and Ten | Illustrations in Color | Boston | Little, Brown, and Company | 1903 — Crown 8vo, two volumes bound in one, as separately paged 'parts.' Part I, Land Birds, pp. xlv + 473; Part II, Game and Water Birds, pp. ix + 431; pll. col. i—xx, and 172 text cuts. Price, \$3.00.

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,¹ 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

¹The | Story of a Bird Lover | By | William Earl Dodge Scott | [Design]
New York | The Outlook Company | 1903—8vo, pp. xi + 372, and frontis-
piece.



Nuttall, Thomas and Chamberlain, Montague. 1903. "The 'New' Edition of Nuttall." *The Auk* 20, 314–315. <https://doi.org/10.2307/4069807>.

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