

British naturalists, however, seem to have paid more attention to the study. W. P. Pycraft devotes a chapter to the subject in "The Story of Bird Life," and most of the prominent natural histories deal briefly with the machinery of flight. Mr. Headley seems to have given the subject careful study, and a large part of an earlier volume by him entitled "Structure and Life of Birds" was devoted to birds' flight. In the present volume the author has his subject well in hand and gives each phase a careful consideration. His theories in regard to the explanation of many phenomena in flight and of flight principles are logical and much observation has been supplied in their support.

A list of chapter headings will indicate the scope of the material dealt with. They are as follows: Chap. I, Gliding; II, Stability; III, Motive Power; IV, Starting; V, Steering; VI, Stopping and Alighting; VII, The Machinery of Flight; VIII, Varieties of Wing and of Flight; IX, Pace and Last; X, Wing and Flight, and XI, Some Accessories. Under each of these headings are many sub-headings and each phenomenon is discussed at some length and a plausible theory advanced in explanation.

There are sixteen plates, fourteen of which are from photographs, and twenty-seven other illustrations.

This book, because of the principles of flight set forth within its pages, should prove interesting to aviators as well as to ornithologists and we trust that it will receive the welcome at the hands of the public which it deserves.

E. W. CALVERT.

CAMROSE, ALBERTA, BIRD NOTES.

On the 13th of September, 1911, a Red-breasted Nuthatch spent over an hour in and around our yard in Camrose. This bird seems to be very rare in the prairie country, as this is only the second one I have seen in twenty years.

The Blue Jay seems to be more plentiful now than formerly. Previous to the last year or two, the only ones I noticed were on the river bottoms in the thick spruce. Twice in September last year I saw two different pairs in the willows on the level prairie many miles from any evergreens.

October 14th, 1911, saw a pair of Magpies about ten miles north of Lacombe. This is the furthest north I have observed this bird. They are not common by any means. I remember seeing one a number of years ago in mid-winter, east of Red Deer.

F. L. FARLEY.