

each of the classes treated. With its enlarged scope, more extended diagnoses, and improved keys, the 'Manual' must now prove even a more efficient and satisfactory aid to both student and teacher than heretofore, and prove fully worthy of the extended patronage it is sure to have.

*Hygiene of the Nursery.* By LOUIS STARR. Philadelphia, Blakiston. 8°. \$1.50.

OF the many books which have been published on this subject, the one now before us is by far the best. The plan of the author has been to point out a series of hygienic rules, which, if applied to the nursery, can hardly fail to maintain good health, give vigor to the frame, and so lessen susceptibility to disease. He has done his part well, and if he shall receive the co-operation of the mothers and of the physicians, his self-appointed task cannot but result in much good everywhere, and, in many families, in a complete revolution. While Dr. Starr has evidently had especially in mind, in the preparation of this manual, the mother and the nurse, his book is one which every physician should possess. In the opening chapter the author describes the "features of health," by which term he refers to the evidences which healthy children manifest of their well-being. Of these, every mother should have a full knowledge; so that, by appreciating variations, she may anticipate the complete development of disease, and early summon skilled aid at the time when it is of most service. In speaking of the nursery, Dr. Starr says that in every well-regulated house in which there are children there should be two nurseries, — one for occupation by day, the other by night, — and that the best and sunniest rooms should be selected. The size, lighting, furnishing, heating, and ventilating of the nursery are described in detail. The qualifications of the nurse-maid are mentioned, and the author then passes on to the kind of clothing which children should wear at different periods of life. Separate chapters are devoted to exercise and amusements, sleep, bathing, food, dietary, and emergencies. We are glad to see that Dr. Starr condemns the rubber and glass tubing in connection with the nursing-bottle. He speaks of these appurtenances as "not only an abomination, but a fruitful source of sickness and death." His language is none too strong. Physicians and others connected with dispensaries and summer homes for sick children regard these tubes as intimately connected with the production and continuance of bowel-troubles, and begin the treatment of such cases by discarding the tube, and substituting a simple rubber nipple. The reason for this is, that these tubes cannot be cleansed, and the milk which passes through them becomes decomposed, and contaminates all the milk which subsequently is drawn from the bottle by the child. In the chapter on emergencies, the immediate treatment of bruises, sprains, fractures, cuts, burns, scalds, stings of insects, foreign bodies in the ear, eye, nose, and throat, ear-ache, nose-bleed, colic, and convulsions, is described, as is also the method of disinfection after contagious diseases. Taken as a whole, Dr. Starr has given the public an exceedingly practical, and therefore valuable book. His language is simple, and devoid of technicalities, and there is no portion of it which cannot be readily understood by every intelligent person.

*Names and Portraits of Birds which interest Gunners, with Descriptions in Language understood of the People.* By GURDON TRUMBULL. New York, Harper. 12°.

IN some respects Mr. Trumbull's book covers new ground, its two chief objects being to provide gunners with plain, non-technical descriptions and simple black-and-white figures (woodcuts) of the birds in which they are interested, and an elucidation of the vernacular names applied to our game-birds. This latter is perhaps the true *raison d'être* of the work. The labor and time the author must have given to this phase of the subject are evidently very great, and the results are of much interest, as well as of practical utility, not only to gunners and sportsmen, for whom the work is primarily intended, but for ornithologists and philologists as well. The quaint title very fully expresses the scope and purpose of the work. The number of species treated is sixty-one, of which more than half are ducks and geese, five are members of the rail family (*Rallile*), nine are shore-birds, plovers and sandpipers, and five are grouse. Each species, including its various phases of plumage, is

described fully in "language understood of the people." He says, possibly with some truth, "Few, even among our most intelligent college-bred sportsmen, can form a clear idea of a bird's appearance from the 'shop-talk' of scientists, even though provided with a glossary."

About ninety very beautiful woodcuts, drawn by the well-known bird-artist, Edwin Sheppard of Philadelphia, effectually supplement the text; figures of both male and female being given, when, as among the ducks, the sexes greatly differ in plumage. The technical names are those of the American Ornithologists' Union 'Check-List of North American Birds,' and the habitats are usually given from the same source.

The greater part of the text is devoted to the common vernacular names of the various species treated, little being said about habits. While synonymy is such a bane and burden in scientific literature, Mr. Trumbull's book shows that in the case of vernacular names, which our author so delightfully collates, the number and complexity of aliases are far greater, and the unravelling of the tangled skein much more difficult; "so many names being used for more than one species, and so many having been given to one and the same bird." The pintail duck (*Dafila acuta*), for example, rejoices in thirty-one distinct English aliases, not counting numerous simply orthographic variations; while the surf scoter (*Oidemias perspicillata*) and the old squaw (*Clangula hyemalis*) have respectively thirty-three and thirty-four distinct vernacular designations. Half that number is about the rule, while the ruddy duck (*Erisimatura rubida*) heads the list with *sixty-seven*! Many of these names are extremely local, and the author does well to give explicitly the localities where they are in use. "The principal reasons for this multiplication of names are obvious: viz., differences in size, shape, and color between males and females; periodical changes in plumage; mistaking one variety for another; and, more particularly, differences of opinion as to the names most appropriate." In some instances a whole set of names is based on each striking feature of the bird, as of the bill or tail, or on coloration, or on peculiarities of habits. "Many of these names probably appear now for the first time in print, yet few are of recent origin; and, though some may be a little time-worn, they are time-honored, and as familiar in certain localities as 'cow,' 'dog,' and 'cat.' . . . Names which appear to us absurdly grotesque and outlandish are mediums of communication between men as wise as ourselves, though educated in a different school; and the homely nomenclature of those who shoot, not alone for sport, but for their daily bread, should command respect." As already said, Mr. Trumbull's book is especially interesting from the standpoint of philology, as showing how words originate and language grows.

A very full index completes this admirable work; but a table of contents, giving lists of the species treated and of the illustrations, would also have been of great convenience.

*Essays on God and Man, or a Philosophical Inquiry into the Principles of Religion.* By HENRY TRURO BRAY. St. Louis, Nixon-Jones Printing Co. 12°. \$2.

THIS work is written by an Episcopal clergyman of Missouri, and deals with the bearings of evolutionism and other scientific theories of the present day on the accepted doctrines of religion. The author is clearly imbued with both the religious and the scientific spirit, is thoroughly in earnest, and writes for the most part in perfect good temper. Sometimes his repugnance to certain superstitions that have gathered around Christianity leads him to use expressions that are a little rough, and those parts of the book might better, perhaps, have been omitted, as the doctrines thus attacked have already lost their hold upon thinking minds; but on the whole the tone of the work is excellent. The style, also, is simple and clear, and never leaves us in doubt as to the author's meaning. Mr. Bray's religion is based upon scientific doctrines on the one hand, and, on the other, upon all that is best in the religious teachings of the whole world. He maintains that the science of the present day is religious, and gives some quotations from scientific writers in proof of this assertion. He holds strongly to the evolution philosophy, though believing that we can know more of the divine attributes than most evolutionists admit; and he defines God as "universally extended Conscious Force." He re-