

though we have said nothing yet about the illustrations, they are also worthy of commendation as really illustrating the matter in hand, and being for the most part of excellent quality. But now we have the less pleasant duty of finding fault. Waterton had a strong prejudice against the use of scientific names. He tells us that the Salempenta is excellent eating; that you hear the voice of the Hannaquoi at early dawn; while such words as Conanacouchi, Labarri, and Karabimiti are continually used without any explanation of their meaning. In pursuance of his duty as editor Mr. Wood undertakes to clear up all these points, and to make the path easy both for the general reader and the scientific naturalist; and he does this by means of an "Explanatory Index," which occupies nearly one-third of the volume, and of which he says in his preface that he believes "there is not a single living creature or tree mentioned by Waterton concerning which more or less information cannot be found in this Index."

The index referred to does undoubtedly contain a great deal of useful and interesting information, but it is also full of the most extraordinary and misleading errors, which seem to show that Mr. Wood participates in his old friend's contempt for scientific names, since he evidently thinks accuracy in these names of little importance. First we have several completely obsolete names given, which the reader would in vain look for in any modern book on natural history; such as *Champsia* for Alligator, and *Arapunga* instead of *Chasmorhynchus* as the name of the bell-bird. Then we find misspelt or misplaced names; as *Derotylus coronatus* instead of *Derotylus accipitrinus* for the name of the sun-parrot, and *Helias eurypyga* instead of *Eurypyga helias* for the sun-bittern. More important are the completely wrong identifications of species, or the mixing together of two quite different animals. The ant-thrushes are said to belong to the genus *Pitta*, which is eastern, whereas they form a peculiar American family, *Formicariidæ*. The feathers of the "wild turkey," a bird which does not exist in South America, are said to be used by the Indians of Demerara. The "hannaquoi," or motmot, is said to be named *Ortalida motmot*, and the description mixes up the real motmot (*Momotus*) and the gallinaceous *Ortalida*, saying that the eggs are blue and that the bird can be easily tamed and feeds with the poultry; which is certainly not true of the motmot, of which a figure is given, and which is a solitary forest bird whose eggs are white and which never walks on the ground. The "kurumanni" wax is said to be produced by a wild bee named *Ceroxylon audicola*, which is the name of the wax-palm of the Andes. The name of the "coral-snake" is given as *Tortrix scytale*, whereas the species belongs to a quite distinct family, being either an *Elaps* or a *Pliocerus*; while the deadly "labarri" snake is named *Elaps lemniscatus*, though, from the description Waterton gives, it is almost certainly a *Craspedocephalus*. The red grosbeak, which Waterton mentions as a rarity he was long in search for and gives a recognisable description of, is called *Cardinalis virginianus*, a bird not found in Demerara; whereas it is almost certainly the *Pitylus erythromelas*. The little tiger-bird is said to be a *Tigrisoma* or tiger-bittern; but Waterton's description shows it to be *Capito cayanensis*, a fruit-eating bird of a totally distinct family.

The "yawaraciris" are said to be manakins of the genus *Pipra*; but the description in the text clearly points to the well-known "blue creepers" of the genus *Cœreba*. The jay of Guiana described by Waterton, and which Mr. Wood could not determine, is the *Cyanocorax cayanus*, while the "grand gobe-mouche," which is omitted from the index, is easily recognisable as the *Querula rubricollis*. Of the plant identifications I am not prepared to speak, except to remark that the cultivated pineapple is certainly not a species of *Pitcairnea*.

It is to be hoped that this delightful work will come to a second edition, and admit of these blemishes being removed. It would also be a great convenience if references were added to the explanatory index, to avoid the trouble of first going to the index proper and then back to the body of the work. These, however, are matters which, though important to the student who keeps the book for reference, will not much affect the enjoyment of the general reader; and I can therefore cordially recommend all who have not made the acquaintance of the "Wanderer" to do so in the pages of the present volume.

A. R. W.

#### OUR BOOK SHELF

*Ueber ehemalige Strandlinien in anstehendem Fels in Norwegen.* Dr. R. Lehmann. (Halle, 1879.)

PROBABLY no feature of Scandinavian geology has been more frequently discussed than the remarkable lines of terrace which have been traced along the slopes of the coast, even up into the far northern fjords. Certainly no stranger, even if ignorant of geology, can visit these regions without being impressed by the freshness and persistence of these "parallel roads," which wind in and out among the intricate navigation of strait and sound, islet and archipelago. From the time of Celsius downwards a continually increasing literature has been devoted to this subject, and now Dr. Lehmann, of the Realschule, in Halle, adds another essay to the pile. He discusses at length and rejects the theories of erosion by glaciers and by floating ice, and adopts that of breaker-action. But probably no exclusive theory is correct. Unquestionably Norway has been overridden by land-ice, scarped and notched by coast-ice, as well as cut into by tides and breakers. That the terraces mark lines of former sea-level seems so self-evident that it hardly deserves more than a simple mention of the fact. But when these lines were cut out of the rock and the land was a hundred feet or more lower than it is now, the coasts were doubtless cumbered with ice, and while the breakers were grinding out a platform from the solid rock, their work was probably expedited by drifting masses of floe-ice. Dr. Lehmann's pamphlet is useful for the collected references it contains to recent literature on the subject. But it is needlessly voluminous.

*Die Lust an der Musik.* Erklärt von H. Berg. B. Behr's Buchhandlung. (Berlin, 1879.)

THIS is a little pamphlet which we have perused with no small amount of disappointment. After a short chapter treating of the origin of music, in which the author merely recapitulates the theory expounded by Darwin long ago, we come to Chapter II., on the development of music, in which the author states very little that has not before been stated by Darwin, and particularly by Helmholtz, in his "Lehre von den Tonempfindungen." The principal chapter, viz., that on the effects of music, in which we expected to find the explanation promised in the title of the pamphlet, or at least the expression of some new ideas on the subject, occupies but four small