

HAMPSHIRE BIRDS.

A NOTE AND AN APPEAL BY REV. J. E. KELSALL,
MILTON RECTORY.

With the help of numerous other observers I compiled a briefly annotated list of Hampshire Birds for the 1890 Volume of these Proceedings, with a short postscript in the Third Volume (1898).

In conjunction with my friend Mr. Philip W. Munn, of Laverstoke, I am collecting further information on the subject with a view to publishing a separate volume upon it, and I take this opportunity of asking all Hampshire people who know "a hawk from a handsaw" to send us any observations which they consider of sufficient interest.

One of our difficulties is the abundance of printed material, and yet we should be sorry to overlook any accurate observations of bird life within our borders.

Our correspondents may assume that we know our Gilbert White by heart, and that we are not unacquainted with Wise's New Forest, Col. Hawker's Diary, Venables' Isle of Wight, Kingsley's Prose Idylls, and the Lists published by Mr. Corbin, Dr. Sclater, Dr. Cowper and Mr. Mead-Waldo.

The following notes and queries may be suggestive to my readers:—Date and locality of nests of Ring Ousel, Marsh Warbler, White Wagtail, Golden Oriole, Woodchat, Pied Flycatcher, Hooded Crow, Raven (inland), Hoopoe, Short-eared Owl, the rarer Hawks, Bittern, Shroveler, Teal, Garganey, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Sand Grouse, Spotted

Crake, Common Sandpiper, Green Sandpiper, Curlew, and Black-headed Gull. I need not say that we shall not publish any information likely to injure a rare species.

Col. H. C. Aslett wrote to the Field in 1874 to record a Dipper's nest in the county. Can anybody throw light on the subject?

Was the Kite ever common in Hants, and, if so, when and why did it become extinct?

Were any heronries overlooked in the list of 1890?

Are any duck decoys now in use?

When and where was the French Partridge introduced?

Do any Hampshire specimens of the Great Bustard survive in our collections, besides the specimen obtained in 1891?

Can anybody add the Roseate Tern to the list? Mr. Hart's specimen was killed in Dorset.