

THE BIRDS OF BRECONSHIRE

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The birds of Breconshire by E. Cambridge Phillips

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E. CAMBRIDGE PHILLIPS

**THE BIRDS OF
BRECONSHIRE**



BLACK GROUSE AND PHEASANT HYBRIDS
KILLED NEAR BULTEH.

590
37 285
birds

THE
BIRDS OF BRECONSHIRE

BY

E. CAMBRIDGE PHILLIPS,

*Fellow of the Linnean Society of London;
Member of the British Ornithologist's Union;
Member of the Permanent International
Ornithological Committee;
Hon. Member of the Woolhope Naturalist's Field
Club, &c., &c.*

Where birds like watchful clocks the noiseless date
And intercourse of times divide.

Henry Vaughan, "Silurist," 1650.

WITH TWO ILLUSTRATIONS.

BRECON:
PRINTED AND PUBLISHED BY EDWIN DAVIES.



TO MY FRIEND AND BROTHER-NATURALIST,
ALFRED THOMPSON CRAWSHAY,
IN SOME ACKNOWLEDGMENT
OF MUCH VALUABLE INFORMATION
OBTAINED FROM HIM,
AND IN MEMORY OF MANY PLEASANT DAYS
TOGETHER WITH ROD AND GUN,
I DEDICATE THIS BOOK



PREFACE TO FORMER ISSUE.

HAVING for many years been in the habit of jotting down the occurrence of the rarer British birds in this county, as the reports have reached me from time to time, and as no list of the birds of this county has hitherto been published, I determined, at the suggestion of a few friends, to bring out the same in a series of papers, which have appeared accordingly in 'The Zoologist.'

Owing to the favourable reception accorded to the above by some of our leading ornithologists, I have thought it desirable to reprint the

viii. PREFACE TO FORMER ISSUE.

same in book - form for private circulation.

It has been suggested that the birds of this county do not differ from those of other counties; but the various books and lists of the birds of nearly all the counties of England and Wales that have been published prove the contrary. Many birds that once were common are now but seldom seen, and if seen are usually shot, and so generally perish, I regret to say, unobserved and unrecorded; for instance, the Kite, *Milvus regalis*, still nests in a few secluded parts of this county, yet in England, in most counties, it is extinct, and probably will be so here in the course of a few years. That careful observer of Nature, the late Mr. John Lloyd, of Dinas, Brecon, in one of his interesting poems, alluding to the gradual