

The reductions from the list of 1881 number only two, namely: *Chen albatus* of the 'Nomenclature' is now made a synonym of *Chen hyperboreus*, and *Brachyrhamphus brachypterus* is similarly referred to *Synthliboramphus antiquus*.—J. A. A.

**Coues and Prentiss's Avifauna Columbiana.**—The title\* of this interesting brochure, although explicit, fails to fully imply the scope of the work, 4 pages of which are devoted to the 'Literature of the Subject,' 17 to the 'Location and Topography of the District,' 5 to the 'General Character of the Avifauna,' 78 to the 'Annotated List of the Birds,' 8 to a 'Summary and Recapitulation,' and 3 to the 'Game Laws of the District,' following which is a full index. The 100 woodcuts, illustrating structural characters of the birds, are mainly from previous publications by the senior author. Three of the maps—colored, and drawn to the scale of 3 5/9 inches to the mile—illustrate minutely the topography of the three regions into which the District is divided, while the fourth is a general map of the District and immediately contiguous country.

The original 'List of the Birds of the District of Columbia,' etc., published in 1862, contained 226 species, only one of which proves to have been included erroneously. The additions made in the twenty-two years which have intervened number 23, making the total number of the present list 248. In rewriting the list the authors, besides incorporating the additional species, have expanded their annotations about four-fold, through fuller notices of the habits of the species, and in noting the changes in the bird-fauna resulting from the growth of a large city. The subject in general is treated not only with great fulness, but is very attractively set forth, and in general plan forms an excellent model of what a faunal list should be. The preliminary matter includes an account of 'Rail Shooting on the Anacostia River Marshes,' illustrated with two plates. In the 'Recapitulation,' the species are arranged in five categories, from which it appears that 47 are permanent residents, 46 winter residents, and 66 summer visitors, while 49 occur only as spring and autumn migrants, and 40 as very rare or accidental visitors.—J. A. A.

**Ridgway on Rare Neotropical Birds.**†—The species considered are *Harporhynchus ocellatus* Scl., *Pyrranga erythrocephalus* (Sw.), *Zonotrichia quinquestrata* Scl. & Salv., *Contopus ochraceus* Scl. & Salv., and *Panyptila cayennensis* (Gm.), about which there are brief remarks respecting their affinities. Mr. Ridgway is inclined to restrict the genus

\* Bulletin of the United States National Museum, No. 26. Avifauna Columbiana: being a list of Birds ascertained to inhabit the District of Columbia, with the times of arrival and departure of such as are non-residents, and brief notices of habits, etc. The Second Edition, revised to date and entirely rewritten. By Elliott Coues, M. D., Ph. D., Professor of Anatomy in the National Medical College, etc., and D. Webster Prentiss, A. M., M. D., Professor of Materia Medica and Therapeutics in the National Medical College, etc. Washington: Government Printing Office, 1883. 8vo., pp. 133, 100 woodcuts, frontispiece, and 4 folded maps.

† Notes upon some Rare Species of Neotropical Birds. By Robert Ridgway, Curator Department of Birds, United States National Museum. Ibis, Oct. 1883, pp. 399-401.

*Zonotrichia* to a "very well circumscribed group of purely Nearctic species," and to exclude various Neotropical forms which have been referred to it.—J. A. A.

**Ridgway on the Pied Wagtails of Eastern Asia.\***—Mr. Ridgway believes that Dr. Stejneger's series of five skins collected at Bering Island and in Kamtchatka prove conclusively that it is either only the adult male in summer of *Motacilla amurensis* which has the "back black, while the fully adult female is indistinguishable from *M. ocularis*, or else that these two birds are identical;" *M. amurensis* being the adult male and *M. ocularis* the adult female, or perhaps the winter plumage of both sexes. Mr. Ridgway further suggests that Mr. Seeböhm's *M. blakistoni* may be merely the adult male of '*M. amurensis*.'—J. A. A.

**Lawrence on New Species of American Birds.†**—The species here described are 1. *Chrysotis canifrons*, from the Island of Aruba, West Indies; 2. *Formicivora griseigula*, from British Guiana; and 3. *Spermophila parva*, from Tehuantepec City, Mexico.—J. A. A.

**Jouy on Birds collected in Japan.‡**—Mr. Jouy, in a paper of nearly fifty pages, presents his observations made partly at Subashiri, twenty-five miles due west from Yokohama, on the eastern slope of Fuji-Yama, the highest mountain in Japan, and partly near Omachi, at the base of the Tate-Yama Mountains, about one hundred and thirty miles northwest from Yokohama. July and part of June were spent at Fuji-Yama; a short time was passed at Chiusenji Lake, about the beginning of September; while the latter part of this month, October, November, and part of December were devoted to the Tate-Yama. Very full and interesting field-notes are given on about one hundred species, with bibliographical references, and often descriptions of nests and eggs, and previously undescribed immature phases of plumage. Mr. Jouy has evidently made good use of his excellent opportunities, and the results of his work are well presented. As already noted (*antea*, p. 108), his collections were made for the National Museum.—J. A. A.

**Publications Received.**—**Abbott**, Charles C. A Naturalists' Rambles about Home. Svo., pp. 485. New York, D. Appleton & Co., 1884.

**Ballard**, H. H. Hand-book of the St. Nicholas Agassiz Association. Svo., pp. 116, iv. Lenox, Mass., 1884.

\* On the Probable Identity of *Motacilla ocularis* Swinhoe and *M. amurensis* Seeböhm, with Remarks on an Allied supposed Species, *M. blakistoni* Seeböhm. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1883, pp. 144-147. Oct. 5, 1883.

† Descriptions of New Species of Birds of the Genera *Chrysotis*, *Formicivora*, and *Spermophila*. By George N. Lawrence. Ann. New York Acad. Sci., Vol. II, No. 12, pp. 381-383, 1883.

‡ Ornithological Notes on Collections made in Japan from June to December, 1882. By Pierre Louis Jouy. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1883, pp. 273-318. Dec. 27, 1883.