

his Appendix. Whether the grouping of the Orioles and Blackbirds under the family "Sturnidæ," or the uniform substitution of *Chordelies* for *Chordeiles* are to be regarded as typographical accidents, or an expression of the author's preferences, is not evident.—J. A. A.

**Bryant's 'Catalogue of the Birds of Lower California.'**\*—This paper is based primarily on the author's experience during two visits of several months each in 1888 and 1889 to Lower California, where he spent his time on the western coast near Magdalena Bay, and in travelling on horseback through the interior. His own observations are supplemented by notes furnished by Messrs. L. Belding and A. W. Anthony, and he has also availed himself of the literature bearing on the subject in order "to embrace the known avifauna of the entire peninsula and adjacent islands." Mr. Bryant begins his paper with an introduction of a dozen pages chiefly a narrative of his own and others' explorations, but including, too, a bibliographical list of twenty-four previous publications relating to the region. He then gives an annotated list of 320 species and subspecies of which 215 are land birds. The annotations usually are brief, and relate chiefly to the distribution and times of occurrence of each species. Occasionally there are extended biographical notices of much interest, as in the cases of *Phalacrocorax dilophus albociliatus*, *Pelecanus californicus*, and *Fregata aquila*. The paper is accompanied by a sketch map of Lower California, showing the places visited by Mr. Bryant. This map, however, does not appear with the author's extras. Mr. Bryant deserves thanks for having brought together so much valuable information about the ornithology of a region of which we have long had but a shadowy knowledge.—C. F. B.

**Anthony on New Birds from Lower California.** †—The birds here described were collected by Mr. Anthony and Mr. C. H. Townsend, in April and May, 1889, in the San Pedro Mountains in Lower California, situated about one hundred and fifty miles south of the United States, and about midway between the Pacific Ocean and the Gulf of California. The mountains form a series of small ranges having an altitude of 8000 to about 12,000 feet. The birds described as new are the following: (1) *Oreortyx picta confinis*, (2) *Aphelocoma californica obscura*, (3) *Funco townsendi*, (4) *Sitta pygmæa leuconucha*, (5) *Sialia mexicana anabelæ*. The first four, so far as known, are restricted to the region in question; the habitat of the last (*Sialia m. anabelæ*) includes also Mt. Lassen, in Northern California, Genoa, Utah, and Puget Sound. While the first four have

\* A Catalogue of the Birds of Lower California, Mexico. By Walter E. Bryant. Proc. Cal. Acad. Sci., Ser. 2, Vol. II, pp. 237-320. With map.

† New Birds from Lower California, Mexico. By Alfred W. Anthony, Proc. California, Acad., 2d. Ser., Vol. II, 1889, pp. 73-82.

been admitted to the A. O. U. Check-List (see Auk, VII, pp. 60-66), the *Sialia* has been considered by the A. O. U. Committee as an inconstant phase of *S. mexicana*, which latter Mr. Anthony also found in the San Pedro Mountains, but which he believed was represented merely by migrants on their way to more northern breeding grounds.—J. A. A.

**Sennett on Bird Legislation.**—An address on 'Bird Legislation,' by Mr. George B. Sennett, read before the State Board of Agriculture of Pennsylvania at the Annual Meeting of the Board for the year 1889, has been recently published.\* In reviewing the general subject, the importance of knowing our birds thoroughly in respect to their food habits is duly set forth; a succinct history of the work thus far accomplished is given, and the present methods of investigating this important subject are fully explained. This is followed by a discussion of what sort of legal protection is necessary, and the submission of a draft of 'An act for the Protection of Birds, their Nests, and Eggs,' modeled after the New York law devised by the A. O. U. Committee on Bird Protection, of which Mr. Sennett is Chairman. It is a pleasure to know that a statute in substantial agreement with the one here submitted was later enacted by the Pennsylvania Legislature. The various methods of placing a check upon the increase of the European House Sparrow are discussed at length, and important suggestions are given. A State bounty for the destruction of these birds is shown to be impracticable. The appointment of a State ornithologist is urged, a part of whose duties shall be a systematic effort, under an appropriation of money by the State, to exterminate the Sparrow pest.—J. A. A.

**Publications Received.**—**Beddard, Frank E.** (1) Contributions to the Anatomy of Picarian Birds.—Part I. (Proc. Zoöl. Soc., 1889, pp. 587-594.) (2) On the Anatomy of Burmeister's Cariama (*Chunga burmeisteri*). (Ibid., pp. 594-602.)

**Chapman, Frank M.** Notes on the Carolina Paroquet (*Conurus carolinensis*) in Florida. (Abstr. Proc. Linn. Soc., New York, 1889.)

**Nehrling, H.** Die Nord-Amerikanische Vogelwelt, Heft 7.

**Stejneger, L.** Notes on a third Collection of Birds made in Kauai, Hawaiian Islands, by Valdemar Knudsen. (Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XII, pp. 377-386.)

**Stone, Witmer.** Catalogue of the Owls in the Collection of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia. (Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., 1890, pp. 124-131.)

**Tschusi zu Schmidhoffen, V. Ritter von.** Das Steppenbuhn (*Syrhaptes paradoxus* Pall.) in Österreich-Ungarn. Eine ornithologische Studie. (Separat-Abdruck aus den Mittheil. des Naturw. Ver. für Steiermark, Jahrg. 1889, ss. 100, mit einer Karte.)

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\* Bird Legislation. By Hon. George B. Sennett, Erie, Pa. Report of the Board of Agriculture of Pennsylvania, for 1889. Pp. 12 (separates repaged).