

author states that "his work has no claims to be called a monograph, but is simply a catalogue of species and specimens, which it is hoped, however, may tend towards the elucidation of a very difficult subject by future laborers." Its utility will certainly prove almost beyond estimate, even to those who may not be prepared to agree fully to all of the conclusions presented. In such obscure and difficult groups as are here treated, opinion must vary on many points, being influenced by the amount of material in hand and the standpoint from which it is viewed.

In comparing the present volume with the 'Nomenclator Avium Neotropicalium' of Selater and Salvin, published in 1874, it is of interest to note that the number of species now recognized for the Tracheophonæ has increased about twenty-five per cent in sixteen years, there being about 120 species added in the present volume that were not included in the 'Nomenclator.' Of these about 75 have been described since the publication of the 'Nomenclator', while nearly 50 then ignored are now given place as probably valid species. The number of genera has proportionately increased, and about in the same ratio as regards the recognition of generic groups formerly ignored. Of the nearly 90 species referred to only in foot-notes, probably one-half to two thirds will prove to be recognizable forms, while many of those now registered as species will doubtless take rank eventually as merely local races or subspecies.

Species described as new or re-named are the following: (1) *Thamnophilus puncticeps*, p. 212; (2) *Myrmotherula inornata* (Berlepsch, MS.), p. 243; (3) *Cercomacra hypoleuca*, p. 268; (4) *Myrmeciza pelzelni*, p. 283; (5) *Grallaria nigro-lineata* (Berlepsch, MS.), p. 321; (6) *Liosceles erithacus*, p. 345. A new genus is *Thamnocharis* (p. 310).

As regards matters of nomenclature, we regret to see that the law of priority is not always respected, as when, in several cases, an earlier name, based on the female sex, is rejected for a later one based on the male; or when, as in the case of *Formicarius cayennensis* Bodd. (p. 302), a much used early name is rejected, because indicating "a wrong locality," for an uncurrent later name.

In conclusion we cannot do less than tender hearty thanks, in behalf of ornithologists at large, to the accomplished author of the volume under notice for the great service he has rendered in marshalling one of the most difficult sub-orders among birds into an orderly array.—J. A. A.

Allen on Birds from Quito.—The collection upon which this paper* is based was "made in the immediate vicinity of Quito by M. L. Söderström," and "numbers 210 specimens, representing 79 species, one of which proved to be new." A list is given of all the species contained in the collection, many of them accompanied by critical remarks having reference to questions of synonymy or relationship, those thus discussed being as follows:—

* Notes on a Collection of Birds from Quito, Ecuador. By J. A. Allen. Bull. American Museum Nat. Hist., Vol. II, No. 2, March, 1889, Art. VI, pp. 69-76.

Diglossa sittoides (Lafr. & D'Orb.), differing in certain respects from a Bogota example.

Dacnis egregia æquatorialis Berl., confirming the differences on which the separation of the Ecuadorian from the Colombian bird was based.

Chlorophanes spiza cærulescens (Cass.), of which *C. s. exsul* Berl. is said to be a synonym.

Chlorophanes spiza guatemalensis (Cass.), the skins so identified being "evidently of a different make from the others, and are no doubt from a different locality."

Cæreba cærulea (Linn.), said to "agree perfectly with Bogota examples."

Procnias viridis Ill., usually called *P. tersa* (Linn.), apparently good reasons being given for changing the specific name, while Mr. Allen states his inability, "with a large series of specimens" before him, to distinguish a "smaller subspecies *occidentalis*."

Habia ludoviciana (Linn.), from the "foot of Pichincha, alt. 10,000 ft.," the date unfortunately not given.

Pipra auricapilla Licht., which differs in several particulars from the typical bird of eastern Brazil, Cayenne, and Trinidad.

Tityra personata Jard. and Selby, reference being made to 'The Auk,' Vol. V, 1888, p. 287.

Tityra nigriceps Allen, first described in 'The Auk,' Vol. V, 1888, p. 287.

Pithys peruvianus (Tacz.), which is easily separable from *P. albifrons* of Cayenne and Brazil.

Gallula albirostris chalconcephala (Deville), "which name may be employed to designate this fairly marked Andean and West Brazilian race" of *G. albirostris*.

In addition to these notes on particular species, two genera are specially considered: *Chromochæris* Cabanis (*et. auct.*), which must be changed to *Manacus* Brisson; and *Tityra*, of which an excellent and very convenient key to the species and subspecies is given on page 73. — R.R.

Allen on Birds collected in Bolivia. — With possibly the exception of Messrs. Selater and Salvin's report on Mr. C. Buckley's collection of Bolivian birds,* Mr. Allen's "List of the Birds collected in Bolivia by Dr. H. H. Rusby,"† is by far the most important publication which has appeared on the birds of that country.

* On new Species of Bolivian Birds. By P. L. Selater, M. A., Ph. D., F. R. S., and Osbert Salvin, M. A., F. R. S. Proc. Zoöl. Soc. Lond. 1876, pp. 352-358, pls. xxx-xxxiii. (Based on a collection of "between 400 and 500 skins of about 194 species," 15 of which, and 1 new genus, are described as new.)

† List of the Birds collected in Bolivia by Dr. H. H. Rusby, with Field Notes by the Collector. By J. A. Allen. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., Vol. II, No. 2, March, 1889, pp. 77-112.