

parison with those which separate *garmani*, in which, in Lake Titicaca specimens, the length of the wing runs up to 9.10 inches, with an average of 8.50,—a difference one-fourth to one-third of the total length of the wing in average *galeata*, combined with much darker coloration and a great reduction in the amount of white. In West Indian and Bogota specimens there is very little reduction in size from average *galeata*, but the frontal shield is larger, the back darker and less olive, and the front of the tarsus more or less strongly tinged with red—the latter a feature sometimes seen in Florida specimens. While we should not deem it advisable to name the West Indian form, the case is very different with the Andean form, although it may grade into *galeata*.

According to the characters given for the separation of the subspecies of the *Aramides cayanae* group, of six Trinidad specimens (all females), collected by Mr. Chapman, two would be referable to *A. cayanae* and four to *A. cayanae chiricote*, in these last the hinder part of the crown and nape being strong rufous brown, instead of gray. This feature is thus shown to be variable in specimens from the same locality, independently of either sex or season. The species and subspecies described apparently for the first time in the present work are: *Rallus aequatorialis* (figured, pl. ii); "*Limnopardalus rytirhynchus*, subsp. β . *Limnopardalus vigilantis*" (figured, pl. iv); *Aramides gutturalis* (figured, pl. v); *Porzana galapagoensis*; "*Corethura elegans*, subsp. α . *Corethura reichenovi*"; *Grus lilfordi*.—J. A. A.

Elliot's Monograph of the Pittidæ.—Part III, dated February, 1894¹, contains the following species: *Eucichla guiana*, *Pitta loriae*, *P. steerii*, *P. concinna*, *P. rubrinucha*, *P. nepalensis*, *P. koeki*, and *P. celebensis*. Figures are given of the young birds in first plumage, as well as of the adult male and female, in two of the species (Blue-tailed Pitta, *Eucichla guiana*, and the Nepal Pitta, *P. nepalensis*), and there is also some account of the habits of these species. While the sexes are alike in coloration when adult, the young in first plumage are almost as different as possible from the adults. The Blue-tailed Pitta's nest is built in bushes six or eight feet above the ground, and is ball-shaped; the Nepal Pitta nests on the ground, while the Celebes Pitta (*P. celebensis*) nests "in a hole dug in the slope of a river bank." The eggs are in each case white, spotted and streaked with dark markings.—J. A. A.

A Bird-Lover in the West.²—A desire to widen the circle of her feathered friends has led Mrs. Miller further afield and in 'A Bird-Lover in the West' she gives us the results of her studies in Ohio, Colorado, and Utah.

¹ For notice of Parts I and II, see Auk, XI, pp. 62 and 173.

² A Bird-Lover in the West. By Olive Thorne Miller. Boston and New York. Houghton, Mifflin & Company. The Riverside Press, Cambridge, 1894. 12mo., pp. i-vii, 1-278.

This volume shows no diminution of the enthusiasm so characteristic of the previous works of this author and, giving evidence of increased descriptive powers, possesses an interest which must appeal not alone to the ornithologist but also to those who cannot claim even a passing acquaintance with birds.

Indeed the reviewer can instance the case of a reader who, though unable to recognize three species of birds in the field, on chancing to pick up this little volume, was so fascinated that he eagerly read to the end.

As accurate records of painstaking, conscientious work, Mrs. Miller's observations have permanent scientific worth, but it is as a voice teaching the beauties of bird-life that her words have their chief value. She does not tell us what she has read or heard of, but what she has seen, and she does this so attractively that it will be strange indeed if among her readers there be not some who will be induced to go afield and find for themselves that nature is one great inexhaustible volume whose charms no writer can adequately portray.

That Mrs. Miller appreciates the necessity of accuracy is evident, and we regret to see, therefore, that her careful work should be marred by obvious errors in identification. Thus the Towhee found breeding at Colorado Springs was probably *Pipilo maculatus megalonyx*, not *P. erythrophthalmus*; the Horned Lark seen there in June was doubtless *Otocoris alpestris arenicola*, not the more boreal *Otocoris alpestris lucolæma*, while the Hummingbird recorded from the same locality as *Trochilus colubris* may have been *Selasphorus platycercus*. Again, the Grackle of Ohio is the Bronzed, not the Purple, variety.—F. M. C.

The Birds of Kentucky.¹—This is an unfortunate addition to the number of faunal lists by compilers who have a very limited knowledge of birds and less of the literature of ornithology. The author states that it is based on observations and collections made in various parts of the State "since July, 1889," and adds that "the original list, as thus prepared, has been extended by including species observed by Audubon [and] by Beckham in Spencer [*lege* Nelson] County." It appears that about one-half of the 253 species given have been included on the authority of these ornithologists.

The author ignores trinomials and thus commits the error of giving such European species as *Certhia familiaris*, *Loxia curvirostra*, *Corvus corax*, etc., a place in the Kentucky fauna, while *Turdus aonalaschkæ*, *T. ustulatus*, *Peucea æstivalis* and others are introduced in the same way. "*Sylvania* (?) *microcephala* Ridgway" and *Dendroica carbonata* Audubon are evidently admitted as species which may have claims to recognition, and *Aphelocoma floridana* is given on the basis of its having "said to have been taken in Kentucky."

¹A Preliminary List of the Vertebrate Animals of Kentucky. By H. Garman, Lexington, Ky. Bull. Essex Inst., XXVI, 1894, pp. 1-63. Birds, pp. 7-33.