

ward. Five females with enlarged ovaries were taken and one contained an egg "that would have been deposited in one or two days."

The two new birds discovered have been described by Mr. Cory in this Journal (Vol. XII, 1895, p. 278). One, *Elainea cherriei*, is related to *E. fallax* of Jamaica, the other, *Hyetornis fieldi*, is a very interesting addition to this genus, which before contained only the Jamaican *Hyetornis pluvialis*.—F. M. C.

Warren's 'Taxidermy' and Bird-Laws.¹—Dr. Warren writes (Introduction, p. 9): "This Bulletin has been prepared to enable earnest students of ornithological science, who have complied with all the requirements of the act of May 14, 1889 (page 55), to learn some facts concerning the collecting and preservation of birds and their eggs." The object is a worthy one in so far as it relates to "earnest students of ornithological science," but we fear that the wholesale distribution of a pamphlet of this nature will awaken an interest in 'bird-stuffing' and result in the needless destruction of large numbers of birds. Birds mounted on "plush-covered panels" or "bamboo screens" are surely not in use for the "strictly scientific purposes" of the state law (p. 56), and suggestions for purely decorative work of this kind seem out of place in a treatise addressed to "students of ornithological science."

We are surprised to see that in spite of Dr. Warren's efforts Hawks and Owls are not protected by the Pennsylvania law.—F. M. C.

Ridgway and Lucas on a New Family of Birds.²—In 'The Auk' for April, 1895, p. 186, Mr. Lucas states that "Mr. Ridgway has found it necessary to establish a new family for the reception of the genus *Procnias* but the diagnosis has only recently appeared, in addition to which Mr. Lucas gives in a separate paper the osteological and pterylographical characters. The group has hitherto held the position of a subfamily of the Tanagridae; and no one familiar with these birds can have failed to notice their aberrant characters, as compared with other Tanagers. Mr. Lucas says, respecting the osteology, that the skull, "in spite of its

¹ Bulletin No. 6. Department of Agriculture. Division of Economic Zoölogy. Taxidermy. How to Collect, Skin, Preserve and Mount Birds. The Game and Fish Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Illustrated. By B. H. Warren, M. D., State Zoölogist, Harrisburg, Pa. Second edition. Clarence M. Busch, State Printer of Pennsylvania, 1896. 8vo. pp. 128, fig. xi.

² Characters of a New American Family of Passerine Birds. By Robert Ridgway, Curator of the Department of Birds. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVIII, No. 1076, pp. 449, 450.

Osteological and Pterylographical Characters of the Procnitidae. By F. A. Lucas, Curator of the Department of Comparative Anatomy. *Ibid.*, No. 1077, pp. 505-507, with 5 cuts.