

idius, (3) *Dicrurus modestus atactus*, (4) *Fraseria prosphora*. Two new genera, *Horizocerus* and *Stelgidillas*, are also characterized, and a specimen of the rare Hawk, *Dryotriorchis spectabilis* is reported, the ninth specimen of this species thus far known.—J. A. A.

New Birds from the Bahamas.—Mr. C. J. Maynard, in an 'Appendix to Catalogue of the Birds of the West Indies' (which Catalogue we have not yet seen) has published (Nov. 29, 1899) descriptions of four new species of birds from the Bahamas, namely; (1) *Colinus bahamensis*, from the island of New Providence; (2) *Speotyto bahamensis*, from "New Providence and probably Eleuthera"; (3) *Dendroica bahamensis* ("similar to *Dendroica vigorsii*"), from New Providence; (4) *Hæmotopus* (sic) *pratii* (provisional name), from Flemming's Key.—J. A. A.

Kopman on the Bird Fauna of Two Sections of Louisiana.¹—This paper gives a comparison of the representation of 67 species in contiguous but very different portions of southern Louisiana, the fertile alluvial coast district and the pine barrens to the northward. These two areas are separated by the chain of lakes formed by Lake Maurepas, Pontchartrain and Borgne, and mark an abrupt transition from the alluvial fertile district, with its deciduous arboreal vegetation, to the pine districts, or 'pine barrens,' which extend from the eastern border of Louisiana into Mississippi. While scarcely a dozen species are restricted to either of these areas, the relative number of individuals of birds which are common to both varies so greatly as to form a strong contrast in the general ornithological character of the two regions, obviously due to the difference in vegetation and coincident conditions of environment. The birds listed for comparison are mainly the commoner summer residents.—J. A. A.

Faxon and Hoffmann's Birds of Berkshire County, Mass.²—Berkshire County, Massachusetts, differs so much from the rest of the State in altitude and other physical conditions as to form a well-marked region, and one, moreover, until recently ornithologically very imperfectly known. With a general altitude of 1500 to 2000 feet, and with peaks rising from 2400 to 3500 feet, the general character of the fauna and flora is distinctly more boreal than that of that portion of the State to the eastward. For many years ornithologists were left to conjecture as to the birds frequenting the higher parts of 'The Berkshires.' As early as 1884, however, definite

¹ The Bird Fauna of Two Sections. By Henry H. Kopman. The Gulf Fauna and Flora Bulletin, Vol. I, No. 2, pp. 50-57. Dec. 15, 1899.

² The Birds of Berkshire County, Massachusetts. By Walter Faxon and Ralph Hoffmann. Coll. of Berkshire Hist. and Sci. Soc., Vol. III, No. 2, pp. 109-166. Also separate, 8vo, pp. 60. Issued Feb. 23, 1900.

information on the subject began to be a matter record, when Mr. Brewster published his list of 66 summer birds observed in the vicinity of Greylock Mountain (Auk, I, 1884, pp. 5-16); and five years later this was materially supplemented by Mr. Faxon's lists of the birds of Sheffield (76 species) and Greylock (80 species, Auk, VI, 1889, pp. 39-46, 99-107), and by Mr. Hoffmann's still later paper on the summer birds of Central Berkshire (Auk, XII, 1895, pp. 87-89). The present paper presents the the combined results of these and other observations on the birds of Berkshire, the authors having made numerous visits to the region for the purpose of studying its bird fauna, not only in summer, but also in winter, spring and autumn.

While the list is admittedly incomplete, especially as regards the larger migrants and the winter stragglers, it presents all the information at present available on the subject, and is doubtless essentially complete as regards the summer birds of the region. The list, copiously annotated, numbers 197 species, with 4 additional subspecies, or, excluding the House Sparrow, just 200 forms. The first six pages contain a general account of the varied topographic and biologic characteristics of the region. Greylock is described as rising above the surrounding country like "an island of northern vegetation," and on its top have been found birds "whose normal habitat is the edge of the tree line of the loftier northern mountains," while in the Housatonic Valley a few southern or 'Carolinian' species find their way northward from southern Connecticut. A bibliography of several pages shows "the published sources of information available for the purposes of the list." The authors have chosen to impress upon their work a certain stamp of individuality by adopting an order of arrangement inverse to that of the A. O. U. Check-List, and in spelling a few of the technical names according to their particular preferences. The list appears to be a 'hard-and-fast' one, so far as it goes, every doubtful record being rigidly excluded, and, as already said, as complete as present knowledge renders it possible to make it.—J. A. A.

'Birds in Horticulture.'—In an address read before the Illinois State Horticultural Society,¹ Mr. Wm. E. Praeger makes a very good presentation of the facts in the case as regards the utility of birds to the horticulturist. He does not ignore the appropriation by certain birds of more or less fruit, but brings forward in offset the evidence of their extreme utility to the agriculturist at nearly all seasons, based on the investigation by competent experts of the general food habits of the species charged with injury to the crops. His conclusion is that in the case of the great majority of birds the good they do is so great and the harm, if any, so trifling that they should be encouraged and protected at all times.—J. A. A.

¹ Birds in Horticulture. By Wm. E. Praeger. A paper read before the State Horticultural Society at Springfield, Ill., Dec. 26, 1899. 8vo., pp. 12.