

roosting and feeding places of the Little Blue Heron and American Egret, etc.—J. A. A.

**Nelson on New Birds from Mexico.**—Ten of the thirteen species and subspecies here described<sup>1</sup> were obtained by Mr. Nelson and his assistant Mr. Goldman during their expedition to southwestern Mexico in the winter of 1902-03, mostly in the States of Guerrero and Michoacan. In most cases the new forms are based on good series of specimens, and several of them seem quite strongly differentiated from their nearest known allies.—J. A. A.

**Nelson's 'Revision of the North American Mainland Species of Myiarchus.'**<sup>2</sup>—The present paper covers the species of the genus *Myiarchus* occurring north of the Isthmus of Panama, including those of Cozumel Island and the Tres Marias Islands. Nine species are recognized, with ten additional subspecies, of which three of the latter, belonging to the *lawrencei* group, are described as new. In his introductory remarks Mr. Nelson calls attention to the evanescent character of the brighter or more intense colors of the freshly acquired plumage. "This extreme intensity of coloration [of the fresh plumage] quickly passes into a duller condition which continues with but little change through the winter months. In spring the colors gradually fade or become bleached by the sun until in the breeding season the original shades of greenish, olive and gray of the back and the yellow of the under parts are almost lost in the dingy browns and yellows of the frayed plumage." He also calls attention to the wide range of variation in the extent of the dusky pattern of the tail feathers, the non-recognition of which has led to the recording of *M. nuttingi* as a bird of southern Arizona, the supposed Arizona specimens of *nuttingi* proving to be merely females of *M. cinerascens*. Mr. Nelson, however, adds to the United States list *Myiarchus crinitus residuus* Howe, based on Florida specimens, on the ground of a slight average difference in the length of the bill. This separation had previously been made, on exactly the same basis, by Mr. Bangs and rejected by the A. O. U. Committee as too unimportant for recognition in nomenclature.

Mr. Nelson discusses at some length the old case of *Tyrannula mexicana* Kaup vs. *Myiarchus cooperi* Baird, without reaching a positive conclusion, but gives his reasons for believing that *Tyrannula mexicana* = *Tyrannula cinerascens* Lawrence, and that the present *Myiarchus mexi-*

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<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of New Birds from Southern Mexico. By E. W. Nelson. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XVI, pp. 151-160, Nov. 30, 1903.

<sup>2</sup> Revision of the North American Mainland Species of *Myiarchus*. By E. W. Nelson. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XVII, pp. 21-30, March 10, 1904.