

Part III is of course uniform with the preceding parts in execution, showing the same painstaking attention to details of citation in the synonymies, and care and thoroughness in elaboration, and is invaluable as an exponent of our present knowledge of the fifteen families of birds embraced within its scope, as represented in North and Middle America. It brings up the total number of families treated to 20, of genera to 216, and of species and subspecies to 1256, and includes more than three fourths of the Oscines of the region.

Part IV, which is about half completed, will contain the remaining families of the Oscines and the Tyrannidæ, Pipridæ, and Cotingidæ. We trust the author's present change of scene through a long vacation trip to the mountains of Costa Rica will give him renewed energy and zeal for the completion of this great task, already so well advanced.—
J. A. A.

Richmond on Birds described by Pallas in 1764.—In 1764 appeared a sale catalogue of natural history specimens published by A. Vroeg, to which was added a separately paged supplement in which were described 38 species of birds by P. S. Pallas. A transcript of this appendix, by C. Davies Sherborn, has just been republished under the title 'The New Species of Birds in Vroeg's Catalogue, 1764.'¹ This 'Catalogue' is so rare, says Mr. Sherborn, that the only copy he has seen "is preserved among Linnæus' collection of books in the library of the Linnæan Society of London. The new species of birds," says Mr. Sherborn, " (there are no other new species) are collected at the end of the *Catalogue* in a separately-paged 'Adumbratiuncula,' and as these new species are properly diagnosed the Linnæan Society has kindly consented to a reprinting of the pages. The reprint follows the original, line for line, the only addition being the localities, which have been added from the entries in the *Catalogue* to which the numbers prefixed to each item refer." Mr. Sherborn states that there is no clue to the author of these names, but Dr. C. W. Richmond has found that the author was P. S. Pallas, and that Linnæus cited some of these names in the twelfth edition of his 'Systema Naturæ,' 1766, as from "*Pallas. adumbr.*" etc., and says (*l. c.*, p. 342 inedit.) "without doubt Linnæus was indebted to Pallas for his copy of the *Catalogue*."

Following Mr. Sherborn's reprint of the 'Adumbratiuncula,' Dr. Richmond² gives the modern equivalents of Pallas's names. He says: "This separately-paged portion of the *Catalogue* contains descriptions of thirty-

¹The New Species of Birds in Vroeg's Catalogue, 1764. By C. Davies Sherborn. Smithsonian Miscel. Coll. (Quarterly Issue), Vol. XLVII, p. 332-341, Jan. 31, 1905.

²Notes on the Birds described by Pallas in the "Adumbratiuncula" of Vroeg's Catalogue. By Charles W. Richmond. *Ibid.*, pp. 342-347.

eight species, thirty-five of which were supposed to be additional to the tenth edition of the *Systema Naturæ*. Although his name does not appear in connection with it, the 'Adumbratiuncula' was written by Peter Simon Pallas, as he tells us in his *Zoographia Rosso-Asiatica* (II, p. 199), a statement long anticipated by Linnæus in the 1766 edition of the *Systema Naturæ*, when 'Pallas. adumbr.' is quoted in the synonymy of several species." Although anonymous, the authorship of the 'Adumbratiuncula' is thus not in doubt, nor is this the first time it has been cited as Pallas's work.

For 16 of these species Pallas's names appear to have priority, while 4 are not positively identified, and of the remainder 16 have earlier names, and two are synonyms of other species here described. The only North American species affected is the Sanderling, which should apparently be called *Calidris alba* (= *Trynga alba* Pallas, 1764 = *Tringa arenaria* Linnæus, 1766.—J. A. A.

Harvie-Brown and Macpherson's 'A Fauna of the Northwest Highlands and Skye.'¹—This is the ninth volume, in order of publication, of 'The Vertebrate Fauna of Scotland,' by J. A. Harvie-Brown and Thomas E. Buckley, some of which have been noticed in previous volumes of 'The Auk.'² The first hundred pages are chiefly historical and topographical; mammals occupy forty-eight pages, birds something over three hundred, the reptiles and amphibia about three, and there are about ten pages of supplemental matter, and the Index. Like all the volumes of this series, it is beautifully printed and illustrated, the illustrations including a number of maps, many beautiful full-page plates from photographs, principally of scenery and the breeding places of birds, but they include also several portraits of prominent Scotch naturalists, now deceased, and numerous text cuts, of scenic or historic interest. There are biographical sketches of two of Mr. Harvie-Brown's colleagues,—Mr. Thomas E. Buckley and Rev. H. A. Macpherson,—recently deceased, the former having been joint author with Mr. Harvie-Brown of 'The Vertebrate Fauna of Scotland' series, while the latter was co-author of the volume here under notice, and also author of 'A History of Fowling,' noticed in 'The Auk' for January, 1900 (XVII, pp. 85, 86), and of other standard works. Both are well known authorities on the natural history of Scotland and the north of England.

The present volume, like its predecessors, shows exhaustive research and patient, conscientious labor, and cannot fail to be of great local inter-

¹ A Fauna of the Northwest Highlands and Skye. By J. A. Harvie-Brown and Rev. H. A. Macpherson. Edinburgh: David Douglas. 1904. Sm. 4to, pp. i-civ + 1-378, maps, numerous plates and text illustrations from photographs. Price 30s.

² See e. g., 'A Fauna of the Moray Basin, Auk, XIII, 1896, pp. 351, 352.