

and less to the subspecies, filled with pertinent and well-digested information. The nomenclature and general view-point is well up to date. Marginal headings clearly set off the topical divisions of the subject matter, adding clearness of arrangement without sacrifice of space. The work gives the impression of thoroughness and reliability,—in others words, appears to be an excellent hand-book of European Oölogy, the plates being good, and the typography all that need be desired. The work will comprise ten parts, with 140 colored plates.—J. A. A.

**Hartert's 'Die Vögel der Paläarktischen Fauna,' Heft IV.**<sup>1</sup>—Part IV of this exceedingly useful work completes the Paridæ, includes the families Laniidæ, Ampelidæ, Brachypodidæ, and Campephagidæ, and begins the family "Muscicapidæ," which here includes the current families Sylviidæ, 'Timeliidæ,' and Turdidæ, the author stating that it is impossible to separate the families Muscicapidæ, Sylviidæ and Turdidæ. The Muscicapidæ (sens. strict.) are all included in the present part, and the account of *Phylloscopus* (Sylviidæ auct.) is begun. About half-a-dozen subspecies are characterized as new.

The method of treatment is, of course, the same as in the former parts, and has already been stated in notices of them in this journal.<sup>2</sup> The present part includes species and subspecies Nos. 630–795. The general criticisms made in our notices of previous parts are still applicable here, and need not be repeated. Attention, however, may be called to a few points which go to confirm them, as where (p. 394) it is said that "*Regulus satrapa* muss als Unterart von *Regulus regulus* betrachtet werden"; and where (p. 423) *Lanius borealis* is not only made a subspecies of *L. excubitor* but all the various forms of *L. ludovicianus*, it is also declared, must be regarded as subspecies of *L. excubitor*. In the key on p. 456, *Ampelis cedrorum* is given as a subspecies of *A. garrulus*! Such combinations give the author's point of view in regard to the matter of subspecies, and may well be borne in mind when other parts of the work are under consideration.

He adopts *Bombycilla Vieillot*, 1807, for the Waxwings in place of *Ampelis* Linné, 1766, remarking that through no process of elimination can *Ampelis* be retained for the Waxwings. The reasons for a ruling so contrary to current usage would be welcome, none being here stated.—J. A. A.

**Beebe on the 'Owls of the Nearctic Region.'**—The Eleventh Annual Report of the New York Zoölogical Society contains two ornithological papers, both by the Curator of Birds, Mr. C. William Beebe. The first

<sup>1</sup> Die Vögel | der paläarktischen Fauna. | Systematische Übersicht | der | in Europa, Nord-Asien und der Mittelmeerregion | vorkommenden Vögel. | Von | Dr. Ernst Hartet. | — | Heft IV. | — | Seite 385–512. | Mit 32 Abbildungen. | — | Berlin, | Verlag von R. Friedländer und Sohn. | Ausgegeben im März 1907.— 8vo, pp. 385–512. Preise 4 mark.

<sup>2</sup> Auk, XXI, pp. 95, 505, XXII, p. 428.