

'Along the Labrador Coast' is thus an entertaining and instructive narrative of much literary merit.—J. A. A.

**Clark on New Birds from Eastern Asia and the Aleutian Islands.**<sup>1</sup>— This paper, the author states, is based mainly on a collection of birds made by the late Mr. P. L. Jouy during a residence of over three years in Korea. This collection, containing 554 specimens, was being worked up by Mr. Jouy at the time of his death in 1894, but his report was never completed, and there have been as yet only incidental reference to a few of the species. The new forms here described have come to light through the preparation by Dr. Clark of a report on the ornithological results of the recent cruise of the United States Fisheries steamer 'Albatross,' during which he has been permitted to make use of the Jouy and other pertinent material in the National Museum.

The 18 new species and subspecies here characterized include a new ptarmigan (*Lagopus rupestris chamberlaini*) from Adak Island, Aleutian Islands, collected by Mr. C. H. Townsend in 1893. It is described as "the grayest and one of the lightest" of the local forms of ptarmigan of the Aleutian chain. The new forms are mostly from Korea, but include five or six from Japan. A new genus, *Tisa*, is proposed for *Emberiza variabilis* Temminck, which has heretofore been referred to various genera by different authors.—J. A. A.

**Blackwelder's Notes on Chinese Zoölogy**— In this Report<sup>2</sup> the birds occupy pp. 483–506, and is based on a collection of 64 specimens, representing 49 species, "supplemented by descriptions of 81 additional species, individuals of which were examined in the hand or seen at short range and described at the time of observation. Regarding some of the latter there is necessarily more or less doubt." The identification of the specimens is accredited to Dr. Charles W. Richmond, and the single new form (*Olbiorchilus fumigatus idius* Richmond) rests on his inedited description. Of the 132 species recorded about twenty are entered as doubtfully determined and more than half of the others rest on field determinations of birds seen in life. Colored plates of six species, drawn by Mr. J. L. Ridgway, illustrate the report on the birds. The region traversed includes portions of the Provinces of Chi-li, Shan-tung, Lian-tung, Shan-si and Shen-si.—J. A. A.

**Bangs on Birds from Costa Rica and Chiriqui.**<sup>3</sup>— This paper is based on

<sup>1</sup> Eighteen new Species and one new Genus of Birds from Eastern Asia and the Aleutian Islands. By Austin H. Clark, of the United States Bureau of Fisheries. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXXII, pp. 467–475. Published June 15, 1907.

<sup>2</sup> Research in China. Expedition of 1903–04, under the Direction of Bailey Willis. Report on Zoölogy, by Eliot Blackwelder. Extracted from Carnegie Institution of Washington Publication No. 54, Research in China, Vol. I, Part II, pp. 481–508, pl. col. lviii–lxiii. Published June, 1907.

<sup>3</sup> Notes on Birds from Costa Rica and Chiriqui, with descriptions of new forms and new records for Costa Rica. By Outram Bangs. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XIX, pp. 101–112. Published July 30, 1907.

Mr. C. F. Underwood's collection, consisting "of 3,365 skins, representing about 611 species and subspecies," recently purchased by Mr. John E. Thayer of Lancaster, Mass. The collection contains many specimens identified by the late Osbert Salvin, and is rich in young birds in nestling plumage. "The dates on the labels cover nearly a score of years and the collection is the result of Underwood's laying aside the better things secured by him during this period." It is thus fortunate that this important collection was secured by Mr. Thayer in the interest of American ornithologists.

Besides the new records for Costa Rica and the critical comment on various species, eight species and subspecies are described as new. In his remarks on the various forms of *Stelgidopteryx*, Mr. Bangs emphatically reaffirms his "belief that there is *but one* species of *Stelgidopteryx*."—J. A. A.

**Clarke 'On the Birds of the Weddell and adjacent Seas.'**—In his third paper on the 'Ornithological Results of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition' Mr. Clarke<sup>1</sup> deals with the bird-life of the Antarctic Ocean southward of the 60th parallel of south latitude, or of the Weddell Sea and adjacent waters. Following an itinerary of the 'Scotia' in these high southern waters, is a summary of the leading ornithological observations, in which it is stated that four species of birds were added to the short list of nine previously known to have occurred south of the Arctic Circle, these additions including the Arctic Tern (*Sterna macrura* = *paradisæa*). "A specially important ornithological feature of these voyages of the 'Scotia,' says Mr. Clarke, "was the presence in the Polar Sea of a number of species of Petrels far beyond the southern limits of their breeding areas. This seems to indicate that at the close of the southern summer numbers of Hutton's Sooty Albatroses (*Phæbtria cornicoides*), Cape Petrels (*Daption capensis*), Giant Petrels (*Ossifraga gigantea*), Antarctic Petrels (*Thalassæa antarctica*), Giant Silver Petrels (*Priocella glacialisoides*), Blue Petrels (*Halobæna cerula*), and *Æstrelata brevirostris*) cross the Antarctic Circle and sojourn among the polar ice ere they retreat northwards to pass the winter in more genial oceanic resorts. It is possible, however, that some of these visitors to the far south are non-breeding birds, and, if so, they may have spent the entire summer there. The Tubinares are, as is well known, great wanderers, but these very remarkable southern incursions are, perhaps, to be explained by the extraordinary abundance of food to be found in the waters of the far south in the summer and autumn, which allures some of the birds further and further towards the pole, until the ice-barrier, which almost girdles the Antarctic Continent, arrests further progress, since at its base the food-supply entirely ceases. This, too,

<sup>1</sup> Ornithological Results of the Scottish National Antarctic Expedition.—III. On the Birds of the Weddell and adjacent Seas, Antarctic Ocean. By Wm. Eagle Clarke, F. R. S. E., F. L. S., The Royal Scottish Museum. Ibis, April, 1907, pp. 325-349, and map.