

tic review of the species, with keys to the higher groups, genera, and species, short descriptions of the latter, and brief indications of their breeding areas and winter ranges, the species treated numbering 144. On the accompanying map the ranges of various genera, and of some of the species, are graphically represented, as well as the boundaries of the three distribution areas briefly outlined in the text. The text illustrations and the five plates furnish characteristic representations of the greater part of the species mentioned in the text.

The second part deals especially, and in much greater detail, with the birds of the South Polar regions, 54 in number. The boundaries of the region considered are given on a map (p. 541), together with the northern limit of the south polar distribution zone, of the pack-ice, and of icebergs. There is also an important bibliography of the subject, with very full bibliographic references under each species, and the distribution of each species is treated in great detail. The work is thus an important contribution to the ornithology of the south polar regions, and a summary of present knowledge of the oceanic distribution of bird life.—J. A. A.

Godman's 'Monograph of the Petrels.' The second installment¹ of this important work concludes the genus *Cymodroma* and includes the genus *Puffinus*,—25 species in all, of which 20 are figured. In general character it of course conforms to Part I, already noticed, the history of each species being given at considerable length, and its relationships and nomenclature duly considered. The plates maintain the same high degree of excellence.

The following technical points may be here mentioned as of some interest. The genus *Cymodroma* Ridgway, 1884, is antedated by *Fregetta* Bonaparte, 1854, both with the same type by original designation. The only objection to *Fregetta* is that there is an earlier *Fregatta* (Lacépède, 1799), based on the Frigate Birds, but the names are too unlike to involve confusion.²

Puffinus borealis Cory is considered as not separable from *P. kuhli*, although American writers (perhaps mistakenly) regard them as specifically distinct. Hartert recognizes (Nov. Zool., II, 1905, 97) the form of *P. kuhli* from the Azores and Madeira as subspecifically different, under the name *Puffinus kuhli flavirostris* (Gould), but Dr. Godman says that after having examined the specimens in the Rothschild and British Museums he is "driven to the conclusion that a perfect gradation exists," and that he follows "Salvin in uniting the two races"; failing to recognize the fact that 'races,' or 'subspecies,' are expected to show intergradation. But it seems that Dr. Godman is one of the few ornithologists who are

¹ Part II, pages 59–152, plates xx–xxxix. March, 1908. For notice of Part I, see *antea*, p. 244.

² Cf. Coues, Auk, XIV, 1897, 315; A. O. U. Committee, Auk, XVI, 1899, 102; Sharpe, Hand-List of Birds, I, 1899, 122; Salvadori, Bull. Brit. Orn. Club, No. CXLII, April, 1908, 79, footnote; Richenow, Vögel des Weltmeeres, 1908.

still unable to see any advantage in the recognition of subspecies; and hence it may be here noted that in the present work the subspecies of modern authors are either wholly ignored in nomenclature or are given the rank of full species. Also that tautonymy is distasteful to the author of the 'Monograph of the Petrels,' and we have *Puffinus anglorum* as a substitute for the now almost universally accepted *Puffinus puffinus*; and, of course, consistently with this mental attitude, the beginning of binomial nomenclature in zoölogy is based on the 12th instead of the 10th edition of Linnæus's 'Systema Naturæ.'

Puffinus auduboni Finsch is preferred as the name of Audubon's Shearwater, on the ground that the earlier name *Puffinus lherminieri* Lesson rests on a diagnosis "too general in character." Yet *Puffinus bailloni* is tentatively accepted for the Madeiran Shearwater, although the original diagnosis is even less satisfactory, and there is also doubt as to whether the species really occurs at the type locality given for it by its author. Although Hartert has employed this name for the Madeiran species (as *P. obscurus bailloni*), he admits that possibly it should have a new designation, an opinion to which Godman unreservedly assents. The case thus seems so clear that we propose for this species the name **Puffinus godmani**, as a slight compliment to the distinguished author of the 'Monograph of the Petrels.'

While vernacular names are not subject to the same rules as technical names, it seems well to avoid their double employ as far as possible, and especially for such nearly related birds as those of the same genus. It was probably through oversight that in the present 'Monograph' the name Pink-footed Shearwater is used for both *Puffinus creatopus* (p. 101) and *P. carneipes* (p. 142).—J. A. A.

Howard's 'The British Warblers,' Parts I and II.¹—This remarkable work is worthy of the highest praise, as regards both conception and execution. The numerous and beautiful plates are a fitting complement to the text, which together will mark an epoch in the history of this most interesting group of British birds. The account of each species is a detailed and elaborate monograph of its life history, with digressions, as expressed in the subtitle, on the "problems of their lives," based evidently on intimate first-hand knowledge of the bird in life. The treatment of these 'problems' is sane and rational in marked contrast with much that has of

¹ The | British Warblers | A History with Problems | of | their Lives. By | H. Eliot Howard, F. Z. S., M. B. O. U. | Illustrated by Henrie Grönvold | London | R. H. Porter | 7 Princes Street, Cavendish Square, W.—Part I, February, 1907. Colored plate of eggs of British Warblers, 6 species, 34 figures; Sedge Warbler, pp. 1-14, 1 colored and 4 photogravure plates; Grasshopper Warbler, pp. 1-24, 2 colored and 6 photogravure plates. Two maps, geographical distribution of Grasshopper and Savi's Warblers. Part II, March, 1908. Chiff-chaff, pp. 1-31, 2 colored and 6 photogravure plates; Yellow-browed Warbler, pp. 1-3, 1 colored plate. Also colored plate each of Sedge Warblers (3 figures) and Grasshopper Warbler; 2 maps, geographical distribution of Sedge and Aquatic Warblers. Price, 21s net per part.