

Cherrie, and an enumeration of the specimens of each obtained, together with the dates, localities and measurements, and the collector's notes on the color of iris, bill, feet, and soft parts, etc.; (2) comment on the general character of the specimens, when necessary; (3) previous records of the species from Cayenne; (4) reference to the place of original description of the species, the citation of synonyms, if any, and a statement of the type locality, which is here sometimes for the first time assigned; (5) occasional comment (in footnotes) on questions of nomenclature. Only three forms (subspecies) are described as new, which may be taken to indicate that the ornithology of Cayenne is now pretty well known.—J. A. A.

'**Cassinia.**' — This always interesting annual¹ contains the usual variety of matter relating to the birds of eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. Besides the abstract of the Proceeding of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, the membership lists of the Club, and a bibliography of contributions to the ornithology of the region, it contains the usual number of short papers, and Mr. Stone's report on the Spring Migration in the vicinity of Philadelphia, based on the combined observations of the members of the Club.

The first paper is a biographical sketch of George Ord, with a portrait, by Samuel N. Rhoads, in which is summarized the little that is at present known of the life and literary work of this pioneer American zoologist. Ord was born March 4, 1781, but whether in Philadelphia or in England Mr. Rhoads is unable to state, and died in Philadelphia in 1866. He is principally known as the biographer and literary executor of Alexander Wilson, he having edited Wilson's eighth volume, and written the text of the ninth, both volumes having been published after Wilson's death. He also contributed the zoological matter to the second American edition of Guthrie's Geography, a work now so rare that only two or three copies are known to exist. This contribution, on account of its rarity and importance, was republished by Mr. Rhoads in 1894. Ord also published two editions of 'Wilson's American Ornithology,' respectively in 1824 and 1828-29, to which he contributed original matter. He also published biographies of Thomas Say and C. A. Lesuer. According to Mr. Rhoads, Ord was a lexicographer as well as a naturalist; his extensive contributions to Noah Webster's Dictionary were unacknowledged; Latham, of London, later "secured from Ord the whole MSS. of nearly forty years' work in philology, and in every instance, where he used it in compiling his new edition of Johnson's Dictionary he makes acknowledgment to the Ord MSS." Ord was an office-bearer for many years in both the American Philosophical Society and Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, of which latter he was President, 1851-1858, and, at different times, Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-President of the Philosophical Society.

¹ Cassinia, A Bird Annual. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia. 1908. Issued March, 1909. Svo, pp. 84, and 3 half-tone plates. Price, 50 cents.

The other papers in 'Cassinia' are: 'The Mourning Warbler in Warren County, Pa.,' by Thomas H. Jackson; 'Some Birds of a Maurice River Farm,' by Chreswell J. Hunt; 'Catoxen Cabin on the Ranconcas,' by George Spencer Morris; 'Bird-Life at Catoxen,' by Witmer Stone; 'Three Finds in South Jersey,' by Robert Thomas Moore; 'A List of the Birds observed on the Barnegat Region of the New Jersey Coast in August, 1908,' by Wm. C. Braislin, M. D.

The Club held sixteen meetings during the year 1908, with an average attendance of twenty-two. The officers for 1909 are William A. Shryock, President; Stewardson Brown, Vice-President; Chreswell J. Hunt, Secretary; Samuel Wright, Treasurer; Witmer Stone, Editor of 'Cassinia.' — J. A. A.

Stone's 'A Review of the Genus *Piaya* Lesson.'— Mr. Stone¹ here recognizes three species — *P. melanogastra*, *P. rutilus*, and *P. cayana*, the latter with 10 subspecies, two of which are described as new. This revision is based on 259 specimens, and, of course, is made from the modern viewpoint. He refers to a brief review of the group made by the present writer in 1893, pointing out several errors made, as he kindly says, "largely through lack of material," and notes that "he ignored Cabanis's explanation of the true nature of Gambel's *macroura*," etc. We may here explain that Part IV of the 'Museum Heirnanum,' which contains Cabanis's review of the genus, was not then accessible to us, the copy of the work then available containing only the first three parts; otherwise probably Cabanis's ruling on the type localities of *P. macroura* Gambel and *P. circe* Bonap. would not have been 'ignored,' and the consequent errors would have been avoided. It is of interest that Mr. Stone is able to so emphatically confirm Cabanis's opinions on these two important points.

After reviewing the history of the group, Mr. Stone presents a 'key to the species and subspecies,' followed by the synonymy and a brief description of each form. If the forms to which critical reference is made had all been given in the synonymy of the species it would have added to the convenience of future investigators of the group, and have made clearer the several nomenclatural departures from current usage, all of which seem to be well founded. It may be added that the two new subspecies — *P. cayana cauce* and *P. c. boliviana* — are based on recently acquired material in the American Museum of Natural History. — J. A. A.

Watson's 'The Behavior of Noddy and Sooty Terns.'²— This is the report of observations made by the author at Bird Key, a small island of the Dry

¹ A Review of the Genus *Piaya* Lesson. By Witmer Stone. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, Vol. LX, Pt. 3, July-Dec., 1908, pp. 492-501.

² The Behavior of Noddy and Sooty Terns. By John B. Watson, Professor of Experimental and Comparative Psychology, The Johns Hopkins University. Papers from the Tortugas Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, Vol. II, 1908 (1909), pp. 187-225, pll. i-xi, and 2 text fig. [Separates not dated, but distributed early in March, 1909.]