

treated will show how intimate is his knowledge of the ways of the birds whose attitudes under various degrees and kinds of excitement his photogravure plates so well depict.— J. A. A.

**Grinnell's 'A Bibliography of California Ornithology.'**—In his 'A Bibliography of California Ornithology,' Mr. Grinnell<sup>1</sup> has contributed a work of very great convenience and value, for which he is entitled to the gratitude of every ornithologist who is seriously interested in North American ornithology. The labor of compiling, from original sources, the 1785 titles this work is stated to contain can be duly appreciated only by those who have attempted to prepare a complete bibliography of any large group of animals of any considerable geographical area. The work of collecting these titles, the author tells us, was begun in 1900, and has been continued at intervals to date. The list of titles here published covers the period from 1797 to the end of the year 1907, hence eleven years more than a full century. The author states that "every title, except two or three," has been copied by him personally, and "with constant regard to preserving precise wording, spelling and punctuation." The titles are annotated where insufficient to indicate the extent or nature of the information covered by them, particularly as regards the locality, and the species included, if new or constitute important records. In case the names used are not now current, their modern equivalents are indicated. In a word, the work is compiled on the lines of the best modern models, and apparently with a completeness that leaves little to be desired. It is not to be presumed, nor is it assumed by the author, that every title that should be included has been found, since it is a recognized impossibility to attain perfection in a work of this nature. It is properly rounded out by a series of indexes — to authors, to local lists by localities, to the serial publications cited, and to the bird names mentioned, both vernacular and systematic. It is safe to say that this is the most important contribution to the bibliography of North American ornithology since the Couesian contributions of 1878–1880 set the high standard here closely followed.— J. A. A.

**Mearns on Philippine Birds.**—Two recent papers by Dr. Mearns deal principally with the birds of the Philippine Islands, the first relating exclusively to them, while the other records species collected by Dr. Paul Bartsch in Borneo, Guam, and Midway Island. The first<sup>2</sup> includes three

<sup>1</sup> Cooper Ornithological Club | of California | Pacific Coast Avifauna | No. 5 | A Bibliography of California Ornithology | By | Joseph Grinnell | A Contribution from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology | of the University of California | [seal] Santa Clara, California | Published by the Club | May 15, 1909 — Large 8vo, pp. 1–166, Price, \$1.50.

<sup>2</sup> Additions to the List of Philippine Birds, with Descriptions of new and rare Species. By Edgar Alexander Mearns, Associate in Biology, U. S. National Museum. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXXVI, No. 1679, pp. 435–447. Published May 22, 1909.

additions — *Sterna longipennis*, *Lobipes lobatus*, *Tanygnathus megalorhynchus* — collected by the author in 1906, and describes five new species and nine new subspecies, also all but three collected by the author during his explorations in the military service in 1904–1907.

The second paper is a report on Dr. Bartsch's collections<sup>1</sup> made chiefly in the Philippine Islands, but which include 7 species taken at Sandakan, Borneo, 5 taken at Guam Island, and 10 taken at Midway Island. The Philippine list includes 122 species and subspecies, two of the latter being described as new, all collected by Dr. Bartsch in 1908. The collection is said to fill many important gaps in the National Museum series of Philippine birds.— J. A. A.

**Brooks on Birds Found in West Virginia.**<sup>2</sup>— According to a note of explanation signed by the author, this 'Report' is a descriptive catalogue of a collection of mounted birds placed in the rooms of the State Board of Agriculture of West Virginia in November, 1908, and is not an attempt to give a complete list of the birds of the State, as the cover title of the 'Report' might seem to imply. This collection contains 331 specimens, representing 193 species, while the total list of West Virginia birds known to the author is 250. The caption of the list is: 'A Descriptive Catalogue of the Birds in the Ornithological Exhibit of the West Virginia Board of Agriculture.' It describes the character, as to age, sex and season, of the birds exhibited, with a brief statement of the range of the species, and of the manner of their occurrence in West Virginia, often with definite records of capture in the case of rare species; also a brief statement of the breeding range, nesting habits and food. While thus prepared with a view to local use, it contains matter of faunistic value. Four excellent colored plates illustrate the Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Jay, Baltimore Oriole, and Purple Finch, all from the National Association of Audubon Societies' series of 'Educational Leaflets,' originally appearing in Vol. IX, 1908, of 'Bird-Lore,' though we here find no reference to the fact of their previous publication.— J. A. A.

**Dearborn on Birds from British East Africa.**<sup>3</sup>— This is an annotated list of the birds collected by Mrs. C. E. Akeley, on the last expedition of the Field Museum of Chicago to East Africa during the years 1905–07, under the direction of Mr. C. E. Akeley. An accompanying map indicates the

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<sup>1</sup> A List of the Birds collected by Dr. Paul Bartsch in the Philippine Islands, Borneo, Guam, and Midway Island, with Descriptions of three new Forms. By Edgar Alexander Mearns, Associate in Biology, U. S. National Museum. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXXVI, No. 1683, pp. 463–468. Published May 27, 1909.

<sup>2</sup> No. 12. Report of the West Virginia State Board of Agriculture, for the Quarter ending December 31, 1908. [Subtitle:] List of Birds Found in West Virginia. Charleston, W. Va., 1909.— 8vo, pp. 1–65, and 4 col. pll.

<sup>3</sup> Catalogue of a Collection of Birds from British East Africa. By Ned Dearborn, Assistant Curator of Ornithology. Field Museum of Natural History, Publication 135 = Orn. Series, Vol. I, No. 4, pp. 141–190. May, 1909.