

of treatment found in the two preceding sections. The orders treated in their entirety are the Ardeiformes, Phœnicopteriformes and Anseriformes, while the first few pages are taken up with the last of the text on the Charadriiformes. The account of the habits of the Steamer Duck (*Tachyeres cinereus*), compiled from numerous sources, and the plate of three progressive stages of the downy young of the same peculiar species are of particular interest.

Owing to the death of both of the authors of the third and preceding portions of this report the preparation of the remaining installments has been placed in the hands of Mr. Witmer Stone, who also read the proof-sheets of the present section, although as presented it is entirely the work of the deceased authors.— J. A. G. R.

**Kuser's Birds of Somerset Hills.**<sup>1</sup>— In this dainty little volume Mr. Kuser has presented the results of his studies of the birds of Somerset County, northern New Jersey. The species are arranged according to their haunts, and their habits and plumages briefly described, while there are colored illustrations from paintings by Mr. C. A. Reed. There are special chapters on The Increase and Decrease of Birds, My Best Day's Record — 64 species, Calendar of Bird Migration in Somerset Hills, Terms used to denote the Abundance or Rarity of Birds, List of Birds Observed in the Somerset Hills, and The Horrors of the Taking of Aigrettes. The book is tastefully gotten up and beautifully printed and the subject matter cannot fail to interest its readers in birds and their protection.— W. S.

**Murphy on Birds of Prospect Park, Brooklyn.**<sup>2</sup>— Mr. Murphy contributes a nominal list of 147 species of birds observed in Prospect Park, Brooklyn, by members of the 'Bird Lovers' Club of Brooklyn' during the past six years. Twelve of these have not been recorded from Central Park, New York, while eighteen species seen by observers in the latter locality have not been found in Prospect Park.

The list will be interesting to those engaged in observing birds in other public parks and reservations in or about our large cities.— W. S.

**Bragg's Supplement to the Birds of South Carolina.**<sup>3</sup>— This list is intended as supplementary to Mr. Arthur T. Wayne's 'Birds of South Carolina,' published by the Museum in 1910. It contains notes on ninety-six species, giving additional records, exceptional dates of occurrence and

<sup>1</sup> The Birds of Somerset Hills. By John Dryden Kuser. Published by the Author. 1912. Svo., pp. 1-160, pl. 22 and a map.

<sup>2</sup> The Birds of Prospect Park, Brooklyn. By R. C. M(urphy). The Museum News, published by the Brooklyn Institute of Arts and Sciences, Vol. 7, No. 8, May, 1912.

<sup>3</sup> Birds of South Carolina. Supplement. By L. M. Bragg. Bull. Charleston Museum, Vol. 8, Nos. 2-3, Feb. and March, 1912.

other supplementary data. Notes published elsewhere are included with proper references in order to make the supplement as complete as possible.—W. S.

**Todd on New Neotropical Birds.**<sup>1</sup>—In the course of identifying the South American birds recently acquired by the Carnegie Museum, which by the way amount to some six thousand skins, Mr. Todd has found a number which are apparently undescribed.

Mr. Carriker's Venezuela collection yields the following, *Arremonops tocuyensis*, *Sallator orenocensis rufescens*, *Schistochlamys atra aterrima*, *Compsothlypis pitiayumi elegans*, *Pheugopedius macrurus annectens*, *Troglodytes solitarius*, *Craspedoprion intermedius*, *Myiobius modestus*, *Myiochanes ardosiacus polioptilus*, *Myiodynastes chrysocephalus cinerascens*, *Machetornis rixosa flavigularis* and *Euchlornis aureipectus festiva*. From Trinidad is described *Tangara guttata trinitatis*, from the Santa Marta district, Colombia, *Sporophila haplochroma* and *Penelope colombiana*. There are also described *Tangara guttata eusticta* from Costa Rica and *Piaya rutila panamensis* from Panama, the type of the latter being in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy. Mr. Todd promises full accounts of the Carriker Venezuelan Collection and a collection made in Bolivia by José Steinbach; at an early date.—W. S.

**Coward's 'The Migration of Birds.'**<sup>2</sup>—This little book is intended as a popular treatise on the subject of bird migration and being obviously a compilation one does not look for anything original in its pages. It will undoubtedly give the novice much information on this interesting subject, but it is to be regretted that a little more discrimination was not shown in the weight given to the different sources of information, and that the author could not have shown more personal knowledge of his subject in his handling of it.

Gätke comes in for continual criticism, while statements of more favored authors are quoted as facts, whereas they had, in some cases, much better be regarded as theories still subject to confirmation. The speed of certain species of migrating birds in North America quoted from Prof. Cooke's papers is a case in point. No doubt his theory of the advance of the Robin may prove correct, but in view of the variability of records of arrival of various species at nearby localities, it will require much more data before we can be positive of its speed in the interior of British America.

Mr. Coward gives a bibliography at the close of his volume which is by

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<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of Seventeen new Neotropical Birds. By W. E. Clyde Todd. Ann. Carnegie Mus., VIII, No. 2, 1912, p. 198-214.

<sup>2</sup> The Migration of Birds. By T. A. Coward. Cambridge: at the University Press; New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons; 1912. (The Cambridge Manuals of Science and Literature.) Small 8vo, pp. i-ix + 1-137, with 4 maps. Price, 40 cents.