

Chapman on New Colombian Birds.¹— Mr. Chapman in this paper, which is preliminary to a detailed one now in preparation, presents the first report on the results of the ornithological investigations of the American Museum expedition to Colombia, which was planned and directed by him, and with which he was personally associated from March to June, 1911. This contribution consists of a brief outline of the personnel and itinerary of the expedition to date, with a map and diagnoses of 40 new species and subspecies of birds.

While most of these are from the Cauca region, the Paramo of Santa Isabel and other parts of western Colombia others are from Santa Marta, and one, *Synallaxis gularis cinereiventris*, from Merada, Venezuela. The distinctness of these latter forms was brought out by a study of the Cauca material. The interest which attaches to this paper will make all students of the Neotropical avifauna eager for the appearance of Mr. Chapman's detailed report.— W. S.

Chapman on a New Ibis from Mt. Kenia.²— Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Akeley have presented to the American Museum a pair of Ibises with their nest, a portion of an egg-shell, and three young, which they collected on Mt. Kenia, British East Africa, in September, 1910. Mr. Chapman finds that the specimens represent not only a new species but a new generic type, most nearly related to *Hagedashia* but resembling in some respects *Lophotibis* and *Lampribis*. He has named the species *Oreoibis akleyorum*.— W. S.

Richmond on New Birds from the West Coast of Sumatra.³— The collections made by Dr. W. L. Abbott in 1903 and 1904 on islands off the west coast of Sumatra, and presented to the United States National Museum, have yielded the following new forms which are here named and described by Dr. C. W. Richmond. *Muscadivores consobrina babiensis*, Pulo Babi; *Thriponax javensis butikoferi*, Nias Island; *Dicaeum sumatranum batuense*, Batu; *Alcedo meninting proxima*, North Pagi; *Copsychus saularis pagiensis*, North Pagi.— W. S.

Beebe on New Blood Pheasants.⁴— Mr. Beebe's study of the specimens of Pheasants obtained on the Kuser-Beebe Expedition has brought to light the existence of two undescribed forms of Blood Pheasant which are here

¹ Diagnoses of apparently new Colombian Birds. By Frank M. Chapman. Bulletin Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., XXXI, Art. xvi, pp. 139-166. July 23, 1912.

² A New Ibis from Mt. Kenia, British East Africa. By Frank M. Chapman. Bulletin Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist., Vol. XXXI, Art. xxi, pp. 235-238. August 6, 1912.

³ Descriptions of Five New Birds from the West Coast of Sumatra. By Charles W. Richmond. Proc. Biol. Soc. of Washington. Vol. XXV, pp. 103-106. June 15 [= 14], 1912.

⁴ New Blood Pheasants. By C. William Beebe. Zoologica, Scientific Contributions of the New York Zoological Society, Vol. 1, No. 10, pp. 189-193. Aug. 17, 1912.

discussed in detail and named. *Ithaginis kuseri* is from northwestern Yunnan, while *I. cruentus affinis* is proposed for the bird of southern Sikkim, as contrasted with *I. cruentus cruentus* of Nepal and northern Sikkim.— W. S.

Oliver on The Geographic Relationships of the Birds of Lord Howe, Norfolk, and the Kermadec Islands.¹— In this interesting paper Mr. Oliver discusses the relationship of the avifauna of these three islands. His conclusions are that their affinity is clearly with New Zealand rather than with Australia, while the New Caledonian element that is present leads him to endorse the theory of a land bridge between the latter island and New Zealand, of which Lord Howe was a part and Norfolk Island but slightly separated. These two islands he would regard as forming one province of the New Zealand region while the Kermadecs he thinks should form a separate province, whose fauna is derived wholly from transoceanic migration, without any of the wingless Rails or other species of Lord Howe Island which apparently date from the time of the land bridge. Mr. Oliver cites examples outside of the avifauna in support of his views but it would be interesting to see how a detailed study of other groups of animals or plants would agree with them.— W. S.

Gladstone's The Vertebrate Fauna of Dumfriesshire.²— Mr. Gladstone's beautifully printed little book furnishes us with an annotated list of the vertebrates of his native county, which while largely of local interest is also a valuable work of reference for anyone interested in Scottish zoölogy. The birds number 224 species with 39 others reported on unsatisfactory evidence. An introduction dealing with the physical features of the region under consideration and a map, are valuable adjuncts to the Catalogue.— W. S.

Horsbrugh and Davies on The Game-Birds and Water-Fowl of South Africa.³— Part 2 of this attractive work is quite up to the standard of the first number already noticed in 'The Auk.' It includes plates and text of fourteen species of Francolin and three Quail— 2 *Coturnix*, 1. *Excalfactoria*— and one Button Quail, *Turnix*. The account of the breeding of the last species, the male of which incubates the eggs and cares for the young, is especially interesting.— W. S.

¹ Geographic Relationships of the Birds of Lord Howe, Norfolk and the Kermadec Islands. By W. R. B. Oliver. Trans. New Zealand Inst., Vol. XLIV, 1911, pp. 214-221. June 10, 1912.

² A Catalogue of the Vertebrate Fauna of Dumfriesshire by Hugh S. Gladstone | M. A., F. R. S. E., F. Z. S., M. B. O. U. | Author of "The Birds of Dumfriesshire" | J. Maxwell & Son | Dumfries | 1912.

³ The Game-Birds and Water-Fowl of South Africa by Major Boyd Horsbrugh, with coloured plates by Sergeant C. G. Davies. Part 2. London, Witherby & Co. July 2nd, 1912.