

clusion of *Ceryle* we think that Mr. Miller is right and that the three subfamilies recognized represent natural phylogenetic groups.

The latter half of the paper deals with the subdivision of the old genus *Ceryle* and voluminous data are presented to show the necessity for recognizing *Megaceryle* Kaup for the crested blue-gray species, and *Chloroceryle* Kaup for the neotropical bronze-green forms, as distinct from the black and white Afro-Indian birds which constitute true *Ceryle*. Here again Mr. Miller's action appears to be fully justified in so much as these groups are quite as distinct as the other genera of Kingfishers,—certainly more so than some of them, but it is unfortunate that the material was not available for a thorough investigation of the status of the genera in the other two subfamilies some of which we think rest upon very slight characters. Incidentally Mr. Miller calls attention to the necessity, on grounds of priority, of substituting *Choucalcyon* Lesson 1831 for *Sauromarptis* Cab. & Heine, and *Lacedo* Reichenbach 1851 for *Carcineutes* Cab. & Heine.—W. S.

**Reed's 'Birds of Eastern North America.'**<sup>1</sup>—This volume of 456 pages is, as we are told in the preface, 'but an extension of, an enlargement upon and a combining of' the 'Bird Guides for Land and Water Birds' by the same author. We do not think however that the additions in anyway compensate for what has been lost. The 'Bird Guides' held a place of their own in our ornithological literature as they were truly pocket guides whereas the present book, though just as useful as a work of reference, is no longer a pocket edition being both too large and too heavy. As a reference book too it comes directly into competition with numerous other works of similar scope, in some of which the additional information presented here is treated much more satisfactorily.

A curious feature is the use of the bird's name in the plural in almost every instance, the significance of which is not clear. 'Parula Warblers' obviously is intended to cover the two eastern races, while 'Cape May Warblers' must refer merely to several individuals of the species, but the statement that 'Sennett's White-tailed Hawks are southern species' leaves us in doubt as to just what idea the author desires to convey. There is but one form of Sennett's White-tailed Hawk and even that is not a species but a subspecies of *Buteo albicaudatus*! The attempt to explain the significance of binomials and trinomials on page ix moreover is not very happy.

While the colored pictures which appear on every page and which formed the distinctive feature of the 'Bird Guides' will still aid many students in identifying the birds they see, we trust that the handy smaller edition will not be withdrawn.—W. S.

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<sup>1</sup> Birds of Eastern North American. By Chester A. Reed, S. B. With colored Illustrations of every Species common to the United States and Canada from the Atlantic Coast to the Rockies. Garden City, New York, Doubleday, Page & Company. 1912.