

interesting accounts of the habits of the species are given, those dealing with the Gentoo Penguin, Upland Goose and Steamer Duck being the most extended. *Halobæna murphyi* (p. 146) is described as new from a skin received from South Georgia Island, while *Anthus phillipsi* and *Phrygilus malvinarum* have already been described by the author and *Cleophaea hybrida malvinarum* by Dr. Phillips from material collected on the Falklands. The plates are some excellent reproductions of photographs of Penguins, Geese and Steamer Ducks.

The introductory paragraph of this interesting paper is unfortunately brief. Neither the personnel of the expedition nor the dates which it covered are given nor is there any mention of the size of the collection nor its disposition, though we infer that it is in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy.—W. S.

**Richmond on New Birds from Haiti.**<sup>1</sup>—Dr. Abbott's recent exploration of the northwestern peninsula of Haiti and the adjacent island of Tortuga has yielded a collection of twenty-three species of birds of which two prove to be new. These Dr. Richmond describes as *Nyctibius griseus abbotti* (p. 1), Port de Pimente, and *Vireo crassirostris tortuga* (p. 2), Tortuga Island. The occurrence of *Nyctibius* is particularly interesting as the genus was hitherto unknown from the island.—W. S.

**Brooks on 'The Food of West Virginia Birds.'**<sup>2</sup>—The aim of this publication is to provide a simple, readable work of reference on the birds of West Virginia with especial reference to their food habits. The author's long acquaintance with birds of the state, and his attention to economic ornithology have enabled him to succeed in his purpose. A few points not given sufficient consideration may be mentioned. In the section on "Birds in Relation to Trees and Forests" (pp. 12-13) the injurious effects of sapsucker work are passed over lightly and the impression even given that the value of lumber is enhanced. This is theoretically possible but practically of no importance, while damage is abundant and severe.

The statement in another place (p. 41) that sapsucker work produces the birds-eye effect in maples is misleading, as the birds-eye resulting from this cause is distinct from that having commercial value, and is invariably accompanied by defects that render it useless. In his section on "Birds and Fruits" (pp. 14-16), Mr. Brooks cites an observation of his that birds did not seem fond of mulberries, and says it seems to disprove the theory that mulberries serve as a protection to cultivated cherries. The protective value of mulberries among small fruits is so well established as to be no longer a theory. In any case, a single observation to the contrary cannot

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<sup>1</sup> Descriptions of Two New Birds from Haiti. By Charles W. Richmond. Smithsonian Misc. Collns. Vol. 68, No. 7. July 12, 1917. pp. 1-3.

<sup>2</sup> Brooks, E. A. Bull. 15, West Va. Dept. of Agriculture, March, 1916, 74 pp., 20 half-tones, 3 col. pl.