

RECENT LITERATURE.

Chubb's 'Birds of British Guiana.'¹—The second and concluding volume of this notable work has at last appeared, having been long delayed by war conditions. In our notice of Volume I we commented on the invaluable work of the late Frederick Vavasour McConnell, upon whose collection the report is primarily based, and on the generosity of Mrs. McConnell who has provided for the publication of the volumes.

With regard to the present volume we can say that it is fully up to the high standard of its predecessor as regards the work both of the author and publisher. The introduction contains an itinerary of the second journey to Mt. Roraima in August 1898, covering some seventy pages, by Mr. John J. Quelch who accompanied Mr. McConnell; a most interesting and thrilling account of the experiences of the party, with comments on both the fauna and flora of the regions traversed. Half-tone views of the summit of the mountain and portraits of natives serve as illustrations.

The main text covers the passeriform birds, 367 in number with ten colored plates and 204 useful text figures, of heads, bills, tails, and wings, all of which are drawn by Grönvold.

We find only three new forms described in this volume—*Grallaria regulus roraimae* (p. 80); *Vireo roraimae* (p. 393) and *Pachysylvia thoracicus abariensis* (p. 395), but no less than twelve genera and forty-two new species and subspecies have been published elsewhere as the work progressed, all based upon a study of the McConnell collection. The genus *Vavasouria* named in his honor is proposed for the remarkable white Bell-bird formerly known as *Casmorhynchus*.

Mr. Chubb's treatment is very satisfactory, the descriptions are full, the synonymy admirable and the accounts of habits selected from the writings of the best authorities on the ornithology of British Guiana—Quelch, Brown (Canoe and Camp Life), Schomburgk, Beebe, etc. The work is likely to remain the authoritative one on the birds of British Guiana for some time to come and will be an important aid to the many ornithologists whose attention is now being directed to the neotropical avifauna.—W. S.

Bannerman on the Canary Islands.² This interesting book is the out-

¹ The Birds of British Guiana, based on the collection of Frederick Vavasour McConnell, Camfield Place, Hatfield, Herts. By Charles Chubb, F. Z. S., M. B. O. U., Zoological Department, British Museum. Vol. II. London: Bernard Quaritch, II Grafton Street, W. 1921, pp. i-xcvi+1-615 royal 8vo. 8 half-tone plates, ten colored plates and 214 text figures.

² The Canary Islands Their History, Natural History, and Scenery. An account of an Ornithologist's Camping Trips in the Archipelago. By David A. Bannerman, M. B. E., B. A. (Cantab.), M. B. O. U., F. R. G. S., Etc. With Illustrations and Maps. Gurney and Jackson. London: 33 Paternoster Row. Edinburgh: Tweedale Court. 1922, 8vo. pp. i-xv + 1-365, 84 illustrations and maps. Price 30 shillings net.