

Recent Papers by Hartert.—Dr. Hartert has published the fourth part¹ of the list of types in the general series of the Tring Museum, comprising Nos. 1183-1302 and covering the Bee-eaters, Parrots, Kingfishers, etc. Several forms are described as new, viz., *Lorius roratus goodsoni* (p. 123) Manus, Admiralty Islands; *Tanygnathus megalorhynchos floris* (p. 126) South Flores and *T. m. djampeae* (p. 126) Djampea Island. In another paper² he considers the birds of New Hanover, the northernmost of the larger islands of the Bismarck Archipelago. The collection described was made by A. F. Eichorn and comprised sixty-two species of which *Rhipidura rufiventris albertorum* (p. 207) and *Lalage karu albidior* (p. 208) are described as new. A third paper³ describes the birds obtained on Capt. Buchanan's second Sahara expedition which traversed the Sahara to Algeria between Hausaland and Air. Three new forms are described: *Athene noctua solitudinis* (p. 18) Mt. Todera; *Lybius vieilloti buchanani* (p. 23) Tebeig and *Ammomanes deserti geyri* (p. 41) Farak. His 'Notes on Some Birds from Buru'⁴ is based on a collection made by the Pratt brothers who discovered the curious *Madanga ruficollis* allied to *Zosterops* and previously described by Rothschild and Hartert; eighteen species are discussed and there is a revision of the nomenclature of the races of *Porphyrio melanotus*.—W. S.

Dr. Weeks' Bird Poems.—Ornithology is an exceedingly broad subject and we turn from the technical descriptions of new subspecies and evolutionary problems to character portrayals of the various familiar birds without over-stepping its bounds. In this latter field poetry holds an important position and even the hardened closet ornithologist will find recreation and enjoyment in reading good bird poems.

As a contribution to this subject Dr. Leroy Titus Weeks has issued in a little volume of verse⁵ a number of characterizations of common species,—Bobolink, Wren, Red-winged Blackbird, Chickadee, Robin, etc., in which the songs form the chief motif. The syllabification of bird songs has been tried by many, with greater or less success, but we think that some of Dr. Weeks' attempts are the most satisfactory that we have read. Who would not recognize his Robin singing:

"Pillywink, pollywog, poodle, poodle,
Pollywog, poodle, pillywink, pillywink,
Poodle, poodle, pillywink, pollywog,
Poodle, poodle."

¹Types of Birds in the Tring Museum. By Ernst Hartert. *Novitates Zoologicae*. XXXI, pp. 112-134, March, 1924.

²The Birds of New Hanover. *Ibid.*, pp. 194-213, March, 1924. By Ernst Hartert.

³Ornithological Results of Captain Buchanan's Second Sahara Expedition. By Ernst Hartert. *Ibid.*, pp. 1-48, March, 1924.

⁴Notes on Some Birds from Buru. By Ernst Hartert. *Ibid.*, pp. 104-111, March, 1924.

⁵The Poems of LeRoy Titus Weeks. Published by the Author, Second Edition, 1923. pp. 1-242.