

Dr. Murphy would group these as follows: Palaearctic Element eight; Ethiopian Element seven and Neutral eleven, and he considers that the bird life can be stamped as belonging to neither region, being distinctly transition in character. Wallace regarded it as Palaearctic and Bannerman and Neumann as Ethiopian, and their arguments are fully discussed.

In his interesting discussion of the distribution of the marine species Dr. Murphy states that "In general, the boundaries of the breeding ranges of tropical sea-birds are fixed by water temperatures rather than by atmospheric temperatures." Thus oceanographic conditions are responsible for the presence of breeding Frigate-birds, Boobies and Tropic-birds on the Cape Verdes and their absence on the Canaries, as well as their range far to the northward on the western side of the Atlantic. This publication is an important contribution to island ornithology especially with regard to marine species.—W. S.

Beck's 'Ornithology of Lancaster Co., Pennsylvania.'—Although including within its boundaries a region quite as interesting ornithologically as that of the adjoining county of Chester, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, has received in comparison but very meagre attention from bird students. The only county lists with which we are familiar are those of Judge Libhart, published in 1844 and 1869 and the only other contributions to the ornithology of the county are contained in Warren's 'Birds of Pennsylvania' and Stone's 'Birds of Eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey.' It is therefore a matter for congratulation not only that the county has developed an able local ornithologist in Prof. Beck, of Franklin and Marshall College, but that he has published the results of his studies in the form of a fully up-to-date list of the birds.¹ Like the Libhart lists it forms a chapter in a history of the county, though the author has reprinted the list of birds and mammals in a separate brochure.

The work is carefully compiled and contains much original information. It should serve as a stimulus to bird study in the county and pave the way for a still more exhaustive treatise on the subject. The lower Susquehanna Valley which bounds the western side of Lancaster County is an extremely interesting region and though its flora has been pretty thoroughly studied much remains to be learned of its bird life while the power dam at McCall's Ferry has created a great body of still water which is bound to become a rendezvous for waterfowl, and add materially to the interest of the local bird student.—W. S.

¹ A Chapter on the Ornithology of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, with Supplementary Notes on the Mammals. By Herbert H. Beck, Executive Curator of the Franklin and Marshall College Museum. Reprinted by Permission of the Copyright Holders, The Lewis Historical Publishing Co., Inc., of New York City, from "Lancaster County, Pennsylvania; A History" 1924. Proof-reading by Witmer Stone, President of the American Ornithologists' Union. Map by Courtesy of the Steinman Hardware Company, pp. 1-39.