

Mathews' 'The Birds of Australia.'¹—Part Eight² of Volume eleven continues with the Honey-eaters of the old genus *Ptilotis* which has been subdivided by the author into many groups. "Corrections" and "additions" to the earlier parts of the volume are interjected here and there in the text in a most confusing manner. Why these could not have been reserved for an appendix it is hard to understand, and the method impresses one with the idea that, as the work grows to a close, less attention is given to editorial detail. We note no new names proposed in this part. Apparently about seventy species remain to be treated which we suppose will be covered in one more volume.

Since our last notice we have also received the final part of the quarto 'Check-List' which accompanies the large work as a uniform "Supplement III". This, besides completing the list of Australian birds on the plan adopted in the preceding parts, includes corrections and a series of miscellaneous notes, the application of some of which it is difficult to understand, especially the statement that "as in all my works the designation of type of genera and the type locality of species and subspecies can be accepted when correct."

One item that Mr. Mathews might well add before his work closes would be a statement as to the individuals after whom many of his new subspecies are named. In many cases one can guess, but there are others where the name is ambiguous and may have been given for one of several persons since usually no clue is given in the original place of publication.

The 'Birds of Australia' is making good progress and we hope soon to be able to announce its completion—W. S.

Life and Bibliography of Salvadori.—Count E. Arrigoni Degli Oddi has prepared an excellent bibliography³ of the publications of the late Tommaso Salvadori which is accompanied by a brief biographical sketch. No less than 338 titles are listed together with a list of 490 species and 27 genera described by Salvadori and 24 species and one genus named in his honor.

We are indebted to Count Arrigoni for this excellent resume of the work of one of the most indefatigable of the European ornithologists of the past generation, and one who throughout his life was a leader in the advancement of ornithological knowledge—W. S.

Murphy on the Cormorants of Peru.—Those familiar with Dr. Murphy's entertaining lectures on the Peruvian Coast will be pleased to find in this well illustrated paper⁴ the best of his photographs of the birds

¹ The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Volume XI, Part 8. October 25, 1924.

² Supplement No. 3. Check List of the Birds of Australia, Part 3. Order Passeriformes (Concluding Part) September 8, 1924. London, H. F. and G. Witherby, 326 High Holburn, W. 1. C.

³ Cenni sulla Vita e sulle Opere di Tommaso Salvadori. Messina. (1924) estratto dalla 'Revista Italiana Ornithologia' VI, pp. 65-105, repaged 1-51.

⁴ The Most Valuable Bird in the World. The National Geographic Magazine, September 1924, pp. 278-302.

of the Guano islands and will read with interest his accounts of the Cormorants or Guanayes and the peculiar industry which their rookeries make possible on these barren islands. Taken in conjunction Dr. R. E. Coker's article in the 'National Geographic Magazine' for January, 1920, it completes an exhaustive monograph on the life history of this interesting bird, which Dr. Murphy regards as the "most valuable bird in the world," and the famous guano industry of Peru.—W. S.

The Nuttall Club's Anniversary Publication.—The proceedings of the fiftieth anniversary meeting of the Nuttall Ornithological Club which occurred on December 7, 1923, have been published for distribution among the members of the Club in a beautifully printed brochure of 27 pages. It contains the list of members present at the afternoon meeting at Mr. Charles F. Batchelder's residence at Cambridge, along with the remarks of the president of the Club, Dr. Glover M. Allen, in opening the meeting and an address delivered by Dr. Witmer Stone.

In conclusion there is an abstract of the informal addresses made at the dinner held in the evening at the Tavern Club in Boston.

The volume makes a fitting memorial of half a century of notable ornithological activity.—W. S.

Note on the Crested Mynah.—Dr. Casey A. Wood's account¹ of "The Starling Family at Home and Abroad" embodies the prevailing pessimistic view of the economic relations of these birds. A ray of sunshine upon the generally gloomy situation should therefore be not unwelcome.

It is furnished by Faustino Q. Otones, a graduate of the University of Illinois, now doing entomological work in his native Philippines, who shows that the Crested Mynah (*Athiospar cristatellus*), now established in British Columbia, and the cause of forebodings to many, not only has its good points but is not at all beyond control.

Mr. Otones, bespeaking the general protection of birds, says that "there is in the Philippines much indiscriminate shooting and trapping of birds and likewise stealing of birds' eggs and young from their nests, in ignorance and thoughtlessness of the role that certain birds play in helping us mitigate the ravages of insects and other pests. Birds, well known for their insectivorous habits, like the "martinez" (*Aethiospar cristatellus* Linn.), which used to be a common sight in many places in the Philippines, have become scarce in those places, partly because they have been reduced in numbers or have been scared from those places, or both, by shooting and trapping. Boys are especially guilty in this respect. Laws against the shooting and catching and caging of birds should be strictly enforced. The necessity of preserving our bird life and our game life in general should be impressed upon the minds of the people, especially in those of boys and girls. Many species of wild life in the Philippines are threatened of extinction as a result of indiscriminate shooting and hunting. This can

¹The Condor, Vol. 26, No. 4, July 1924, pp. 123-136.