

figured, etc. in the work. An index to the three parts of the Check-List concludes this part (pp. 224-244).

Supplement IV. April 6, 1925. Bibliography of the Birds of Australia.

The introduction (pp. i-viii) consists of biographical notices of C. Davies Sherborn and Charles Wallace Richmond with portraits, forming one unnumbered plate. The Bibliography (pp. 1-96) is arranged alphabetically by authors and general works in one series. This part breaks in the middle of the article on the 'Naturalists' Library.'

Supplement V. June 22, 1925. pp. 97-149. Bibliography (completed).

While the text for each species has the order and family given at the top of the first page the use of order and family headings is very inconsistent and often they are omitted entirely. In Vol. I, they are used throughout often with considerable descriptive matter, before the species are taken up, but from Vol. II to Vol. VI the family (and two orders in Vol. III) headings are omitted. In Vol. IX about half the family headings are omitted and in Vol. XII all but one. The treatment of family names in the "Contents" to each volume is still more irregular.—W. S.

Hellmayr's Catalogue of the Tyrannidae.—Part V of the 'Catalogue of Birds of the Americas'¹ by Dr. Charles E. Hellmayr forms a bulky volume of over 500 pages and is devoted entirely to the Tyrannidae. This is, we believe, the first complete treatment of the Tyrant Flycatchers since Sclater's monograph, forming Vol. XIV of the British Museum 'Catalogue of Birds,' published nearly forty years ago. The vast increase of material and of our knowledge both of the life of the American tropics and of ornithological literature have made this earlier work sadly out of date and every systematic ornithologist will welcome Dr. Hellmayr's timely volume.

This family is probably the most puzzling of all the American Passerine groups and we are most fortunate in having the benefit of Dr. Hellmayr's views on the species and subspecies and their relationships, since he is not only one of the leading authorities on Neotropical birds, but has for the past twenty-five years made a specialty of the Tyrannidae.

His attitude regarding genera is, as in his preceding volume on the Dendrocolaptidae and Formicariidae, commendably conservative nor does he endorse some of the recent suggestions as to the relationship of certain genera. He tells us in the preface that he cannot agree with Mr. Ridgway in his views upon the taxonomic value of the tarsal covering and feels that the transfer of certain genera and species to allied families on this character are not warranted, and that they had better be left in the

¹ Catalogue of Birds of the Americas and the Adjacent Islands, in Field Museum of Natural History, etc. Initiated by Charles B. Cory continued by Charles E. Hellmayr. Part V. Tyrannidae. Field Museum of Natural History Publication 242, Zoological Series, Vol. XIII. Chicago, April 11, 1927. pp. 1-517.

Tyrannidae until their internal anatomical characters are ascertained. Dr. Hellmayr follows pretty closely the scheme of classification proposed by the late Count von Berlepsch and divides the family into seven sub-families with the following number of genera; Fluvicolinae (7), Tyranninae (13), Myiarchinae (20), Platyrinchinae (5), Euscarthminae (25), Serpophaginae (9) and Elaeniinae (16).

The method of treatment of the species follows that adopted in previous parts of the work and the wealth of descriptive foot notes and abundance of localities cited are a great help to the student.

The following new forms and genera are proposed: *Agriornis montana intermedia* (p. 5) Tacna, Chile; *Muscisaxicola rufivertex pallidiceps* (p. 21) San Pedro, Antofagasta, Chile; *Ochthoeca rufipectoralis centralis* (p. 49) Panao Mts., Peru; *Knipolegus lophotes* (p. 67) for *K. comata* preoccupied; *Empidonomus aurantio-atro-cristatus minor* (p. 116) Maranhao, Brazil; *Myiarchus ferox australis* (p. 177) Agua Suja, Brazil; *Myiochanes cinereus pallescens* (p. 194) Bahia, Brazil; *Cnemotriccus poecilurus venezuelanus* (p. 226) Menda, Venezuela; *Terentotriccus erythrurus brunneifrons* (p. 231) Tres Arroyos, Bolivia; *Myiobius atricaudus snethlagei* (p. 240) Maranhao, Brazil; *Todirostrum viridanum* (p. 301) Rio Auraro, Venezuela; *Poecilotriccus ruficeps melanomystax* (p. 325) Salento, Colombia; *Elaenia albiceps chilensis* (p. 413) Curacautin, Chile; *Phyllomyias brevirostris cearae* (p. 465) Ceara, Brazil. New genera: *Neoxolmis* (p. 39) type *Tyrannus refulventris* Vieill., *Cnemotriccus* (p. 221) for *Empidochanes* which is a synonym of *Myiophobus*; *Tolmomyias* (p. 273) type *Platyrhynchus sulphurescens* Spix; *Uromyias* (p. 378) type *Euscarthmus agilis* ScL.—W. S.

Bent's 'Life Histories of North American Marsh Birds.'—Mr. Bent's sixth volume¹ of life histories of North American Birds covers the Flamingo, Herons, Ibises, Rails, etc., and is larger than any of its predecessors. The treatment follows exactly the same plan and the work is fully up to the high standard previously established. There are ninety-eight plates most of them consisting of two views and they contain some very fine examples of bird photography.

We continue to be amazed at the amount of material that Mr. Bent has brought together and the comparatively short time that it has taken him to prepare his volumes for the press as well as the excellent judgment that he has shown in selecting material from the literature. Dr. C. W. Townsend has prepared five of the life histories and Mr. T. E. Penard that of the Scarlet Ibis, while Rev. P. B. Peabody is responsible for much of the account of the Yellow Rail.

We can add but little to what we have already said in previous reviews as to the excellence of Mr. Bent's work. Ornithologists will find it a

¹ Life Histories of North American Marsh Birds. Orders Odontoglossae, Herodiones and Paludicolae. By Arthur Cleveland Bent. Bulletin 135, U. S. National Museum. 1926 [= March 11, 1927 fide C. W. Richmond] pp. i-xii + 1-490, pll. 1-98.