

cupido and the latter *T. c. americanus*. While it is by no means certain that Reichenbach's name *americanus* applies to the Prairie Chicken and not to the Heath Hen, he thinks it best not to overturn customary usage. In Dr. Gross's bibliography we note the omission of an anonymous account of the bird in the New Jersey Pine Barrens and its wanton destruction there by unscrupulous gunners (Doughty's Cabinet of Natural History, Vol. II, 1832, p. 16, dated January 4, 1832 and signed I.) Also the author listed as "Herbert L. Goggins" in the bibliography should be Herbert L. Coggins, former secretary of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club and former president of the Cooper Club.—W. S.

Collett's "The Heart of a Bird."¹—This little volume consists of a series of twelve sketches of bird life in England, covering the twelve months of the year, and written by Anthony Collett, who has been termed "one of the most sensitive and discerning of out door observers of nature." Most of the sketches have appeared previously in the London "Times" and are now gathered together in book form with an introduction covering the general structure and activities of birds, which for terseness of expression and clearness and originality has seldom been equalled. "Birds," says Mr. Collett, "are flying things full of eagerness and mobility. Their hearts beat more swiftly than those of mammals, their blood is hotter, they overflow with the self expression of song," and again speaking of flight he says: "Of nature's three attempts to make vertebrates fly, birds have been by far the most successful * * * pterodactyls were dreary-looking beasts, unless the naturalists who reconstruct them from their stray bones do them injustice; they flew feebly and it is very unlikely that they sang."

Each of the monthly chapters treats of observations on birds in some part of England with descriptions of characteristic climate and scenery; while there are discussions on migration, song, feeding habits, etc. and the pages teem with original observations giving us some of the most vivid pictures of British bird life that we have read, as well as food for thought on many problems of bird activity—W. S.

Gorges' Life of Ernest Harold Baynes.²—The many who have listened to the lectures of the late Ernest Harold Baynes and especially those who have enjoyed the privilege of his acquaintance will be deeply interested in Mr. Gorges' sympathetic biography. Here is told the story of his early life, his athletic prowess, and his overpowering love of birds and animals which led him to the field of literature and to the lecture platform. Those who knew him only as the champion of bird life and

¹ The Heart of a Bird. By Anthony Collett. London, Nesbit & Co. Ltd., pp. 1-287. Price 10sh. 6p.

² Ernest Harold Baynes. Naturalist and Crusader. By Raymond Gorges. Boston and New York, Houghton Mifflin Co., The Riverside Press. Cambridge, 1928, pp. 1-256. Price \$4.00.

the organizer of the bird sanctuary and the bird masque, will read with interest of his work in behalf of the buffalo, his strenuous opposition to nature faking and his able campaign in behalf of vivisection and his exposures of the deception of its opponents. The book is well written, handsomely gotten up and illustrated with a number of excellent half-tones—W. S.

Baxter and Rintoul on Distribution of Scottish Birds.¹—This handsomely printed work is a sort of glorified faunal list. A full page is devoted to each species or subspecies, headed by a general statement such as: "A rare Visitor," to quote a simple case, or "An abundant Resident in wooded districts. A Winter Visitant from the Continent and a Passage Migrant," in the case of a bird of more complicated occurrence, like the Chaffinch. Then in heavy type come names of the fourteen geographical areas into which the authors have divided Scotland and under each the names of the counties or parts of counties which they include in the area, these being printed exactly alike on every page. Then there are symbols placed after each county from which the bird has been recorded indicating the character of its occurrence: viz. "R." is resident, "O." occasional visitor, etc. The scheme is convenient as it provides a place for entering the future occurrence of any bird in any county or district of Scotland, but rather expensive since it sometimes happens that an entire page is devoted to the fact that a species has once been recorded from Aberdeen.

There are several appendices of additions and corrections, and lists of unaccepted records and introduced species, while a map of Scotland showing the various geographical areas forms a frontispiece.

The book has apparently been compiled with great care and the authors, already well known for their intensive studies of the Scottish avifauna, are to be congratulated upon an excellent and painstaking work placing Scotland ahead, perhaps, of any other country in the matter of a detailed and graphic record of its avifauna.—W. S.

Some Birds of Dar es Salaam.²—This little brochure consists of random notes on birds observed during a residence at Dar es Salaam, on the east coast of Africa, in Tanganyika Territory, by the granddaughter of J. H. Gurney the noted British ornithologist. They vary in length some presenting many items of interest on the life history of the species others mere notes on appearance or dates of observation. A supple-

¹ The Geographical Distribution and Status of Birds in Scotland. By Evelyn V. Baxter and Leonora Jeffrey Rintoul. Oliver and Boyd, Edinburgh: Tweeddale Court, London: 33 Paternoster Row E. C. 4, 1928, pp. i-viii + 1-425. Price 15sh. net.

² Notes on Some Birds of Dar es Salaam. By Cecily J. Ruggles-Brise, M. B. E., F. R. G. S., F. Z. S. With 29 illustrations. Norwich., Jarrold & Sons Ltd., pp. i-xvii, 1-96. Price 4sh. 6 pence, net.