

summarizing as it does the avifauna of an out of the way corner of the world with which no one is more familiar than Mr. Mathews.—W. S.

Swann's 'Monograph of the Birds of Prey.'—This notable publication¹ which has been suspended since the death of its author is now resumed under the editorship of Dr. Alexander Wetmore. No change is to be made in regard to the distinctness of the various forms and their relationship to one another and Mr. Swann's manuscript was fortunately left in such shape that no major alterations will be necessary. The present installment completes the genera *Buteo* and *Triorchis* while the illustrations consist of colored plates of species of *Aquila* and *Ictinaetus*, eggs of Eagles as well as plain plates from photographs by George H. Stuart 3rd, of Philadelphia, of the nest and nest site of the Ferruginous Rough-leg in Saskatchewan.

We notice that the name *Buteo platypterus cubanensis* Burns (Wilson Bull. XXIII, No. 76-77, p. 148) has been omitted. It is in all probability a synonym of *platypterus* as considered by Barbour.

It is very gratifying to know that this important work is to be brought to completion, and a better selection of an editor could not have been made.—W. S.

Havre's 'Birds of Belgium'.²—This work is a thoroughly up-to-date list of the birds of Belgium with details of their distribution. It includes 366 species and subspecies and seems to be very carefully compiled and exhaustive.

Under each species is given the more important synonyms and references, followed by detailed consideration of distribution under three heads—General, Belgium, and Neighboring Countries. There are keys to the species in each genus and many text figures of feet, wings and heads, which aid in identification; also a map and an excellent bibliography of local notes and papers relating to Belgian birds.

M. Havre's work will long stand as the authoritative book on the birds of Belgium.—W. S.

Bangs and Peters on Chinese Birds.³—Dr. Joseph F. Rock, during 1925 and 1926, visited western China in the interests of the Arnold Arboretum to secure botanical and horticultural material. Through the gen-

¹ Monograph of the Birds of Prey (Order Accipitres). By H. Kirke Swann and Alexander Wetmore. London: Wheldon and Wesley Ltd., 2, 3 & 4 Arthur St., New Oxford St., W. C. 2. Part VII, Sept. 1928, pp. 397-428, five plates. Price 26 shillings net.

² Les Oiseaux de la Faune Belge Relevé documenté des espèces sauvages observées en Belgique. Par le Chevalier G. C. M. van Havre, Membre du Comité Ornithologique International et Permanent et du Conseil Supérieur de la Chasse. Bruxelles, Maurice Lamertin, Editeur, 56-60 Rue Coudenberg. 1928. pp. 1-497. Price 150 francs.

³ Birds Collected by Dr. Joseph F. Rock in Western Kansu and Eastern Tibet, Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool. LXVIII, No. 7, pp. 313-381, pls. 1-5. August, 1928

erosity of Dr. Thomas Barbour he was enabled to take with him two Chinese bird collectors. The present report is based upon the ornithological material secured on the trip which consists of upwards of 1000 skins.

New forms of the following genera are proposed:—*Athene*, *Ianthocichla*, *Fulvetta*, *Suthora*, *Prunella*, *Lanius*, *Parus*, *Aegithaliscus*, and *Galerida*.

The authors are experienced in working out collections from China and the present report is therefore of particular value.—W. S.

The Heart of Burroughs' Journals.¹—This volume compiled by Clara Barrus, for years the physician and confidante of Burroughs, consists of especially noteworthy passages selected from his earliest notebooks, which he kept in 1854 when but seventeen years of age, and his journals which were continued down to within a few weeks of his death, in 1921.

The complete journal covering some 2000 type-written pages has not yet been published and the compiler says that she has experienced much difficulty in making her selections, as with no complete edition to which to refer her readers, she feels that they are constantly being robbed when she has been able to "bring away so little of the treasure to which she herself has had access."

However, since her readers do not yet know what treasures are contained in the unpublished journals, they do not appreciate any loss, and will thoroughly enjoy the admirable picture of Burroughs which she has been able to present. We see him through his own eyes, as it were, his likes and dislikes, his views on a great variety of subjects, and through it all his abiding love of nature and especially of birds. As Dr. Barrus says, "whatever of interest the journals hold, of self-communings, of opinion on persons, on literature, on life, they prove how completely Nature was Burroughs' guide and liberator from beginning to end."

This is what makes the volume before us of especial interest to bird lovers, most of whom are already familiar with one or more of Burroughs' books and who naturally desire to learn more of the man himself.

A useful chronology of Burroughs' life is included in the volume and there is a good portrait and an excellent index.—W. S.

Pellett's 'Birds of the Wild.'²—There have been many books written on the subject of attracting birds to our homes but this little volume of Mr. Pellett's seems to us one of the best. The author describes his efforts to preserve and increase birds and wild flowers on his two properties, one in Iowa, and the other on the prairies of Nebraska.

Nesting boxes and nesting places, water for drinking and bathing, winter shelters and feeding stations, tree and shrub planting, all receive attention.

¹ *The Heart of Burroughs's Journals*. Edited by Clara Barrus. Houghton Mifflin Company, Boston and New York, Riverside Press, Cambridge. 1928. pp. i-xvii+1-361. Price \$3.00.

² *Birds of the Wild. How to Make Your Home Their Home*. By Frank Chapman Pellett. New York. The A. T. DeLa Mare Company, Inc., 1928. pp. 1-118. Price \$1.75.