

conservation sentiment but deeds, in other words full courage of convictions. For instance of Tristram's Woodpecker it is said that the bird is a very beautiful large Woodpecker, it is very scarce in Japan and even on the point of becoming extinct. Also that "This bird is a valuable species, from scientific viewpoint, as illustrating how Tsushima Island was connected with the Continent during the geological age."

How many cases are there of such practical recognition of what scientists believe to be truths but which even at this late date are regarded in some quarters as heresies?

Again "Of the islands making a line southward from the southern corner of the Island of Kiushiu, Oshima and Tokunoshima are very important, because they are characteristic in distribution of animals. They are situated facing the Shichito Nada line, the line of demarcation dividing the two great regions of animal distribution, the Oriental Region and Palaearctic Region. Lidth's Jay (*Lalocitta lidthi*) and Amami Hare (*Pentalagus furnessi*) are very significant species, from zoological point of view, only peculiar to these two islands. Great care must be taken for their preservation, as their distribution is so narrowly limited. In view of this fact the Japanese Government has recently decided to regard these two species as protected animals and specify them as natural monuments."

Finally it may be noted that one domesticated bird the Long-tailed Fowl has itself been specified as a natural monument. "Thanks to this step taken by the Government, they have lately begun to increase. There are four races of the long-tailed fowl, the one shown in the plate being Shinowarato, the commonest race of the fowl. This race is of a nature of having its tail grown longer than the other three races, it reaching from three to five meters."

The protection of insectivorous birds in Japan and administration of the game law are in the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry while the preservation of the Natural Monuments is handled by the Ministry of Home Affairs. In the former ministry, there is an Experiment Station for Ornithology and Mammalogy which makes investigations of the relations between these animals and agricultural and forestry undertakings and also studies migration, ecology, propagation of game birds, and attraction and protection of beneficial birds. This station put out more than 18,000 nest boxes in a single year.—W. L. M.

Swann's 'Monograph of the Birds of Prey.'—The ninth part¹ of this notable work which is being edited by Dr. Alexander Wetmore from the late author's manuscript has appeared and consists of the title, contents, index and errata to Volume I which is now completed and two colored plates of the Harpy and Monkey-eating Eagles, *Harpia harpyja* and *Pithecophaga jefferyi*.—W. S.

¹ A Monograph of the Birds of Prey. Part IX, June, 1930. Pp. 1-ixviii and two plates.