specific." This attitude regarding their specific relationship is taken because of the fact that *minima* and *leucopareia* have been found breeding together by Conover (Auk, 1926, 174) and *canadensis* and *hutchinsi* by Soper (1929).

Our author's points seem to be well taken and he is able to base his conclusions upon more definite data than have yet been available on the breeding ranges of the several forms.

As to his changes in the vernacular names of the birds we cannot agree. *Branta canadensis occidentalis* is changed from "White-cheeked Goose" to "Western Goose" because the Latin name *leucopareia* (i.e. white-cheeked) is applied to another form, but this hardly seems necessary since the ornithologists who are also Greek scholars are becoming so few that this inconsistency will hardly be noticed and the Queen Charlotte Goose is known through nearly all of our literature by the name "White-cheeked." The dropping of the name "Hutchins's Goose" may have more justification but in view of the rather indefinite understanding of this form that has always prevailed, it seems better to retain "Hutchins's" [not "Hutchin's" as our author has it] as the English name for the bird called "*hutchinsi*" instead of bringing in a new name "Richardson's Goose." For the other form a new name is of course necessary and "Lesser Canada Goose" is most acceptable.

Mr. Taverner is to be congratulated upon a most valuable contribution to the much vexed question of the Canada Geese and their relationships.—W. S.

Lowe on the Occurrence of Broadbills in Africa.—This notable paper[1] is primarily a detailed study of the anatomy of the curious little bird *Pseudocalyptomena graueri*, described by Lord Rothschild in 1909 from a single specimen secured by Rudolf Grauer in the bamboo forests of the region above Lake Kivu, Africa, and hitherto not rediscovered, although searched for by several explorers.

James P. Chapin has maintained that the true home of the bird was in the canyons above the bamboos and here it was finally obtained by Alan Moses of the Sterling Rockefeller-Charles Murphy Expedition from the American Museum of Natural History, and specimens in spirits were submitted to Dr. Percy R. Lowe for study.

Lord Rothschild struck by the apparently superficial resemblance of the remarkable bird to *Calyptomena* of the Malay region, a member of the Broadbill family (Eurylaemidae), named it as above. This family was supposed at that time to be restricted to the Oriental Region, covering part of India, the Malay countries and the Philippines and the possibility of its extension to Africa was not even suspected until in 1924, when Dr. Lowe proved that the supposed Flycatcher genus, *Smithornis*, of Africa,

[1] On the Anatomy of Pseudocalyptomena and the Occurrence of Broadbills (Eurylaemidae) in Africa. Proc. Zool. Soc. (London), Part II, June 29, 1931.

was really a Eurylaemid. Therefore the importance of an examination of the anatomy of *Pseudocalyptomaena* became at once evident.

Dr. Lowe's exhaustive study of the specimens shows beyond question that this little bird is really another African member of the Broadbill family while his deductions from this fact are even more interesting than his anatomical study. He finds evidence, especially in its skull structure, that this bird is slightly more generalized than the oriental Broadbills and hence probably represented a peripheral colony of Broadbills which was cut off from the center of distribution by severance of land connection or the dying out of possible connecting forms to the north, and has thus preserved for us an earlier type of Broadbill structure than is to be found in the main stronghold of the family today. Most remarkable of all, however, is the preservation of a Broadbill type of coloration. This suggests, as Dr. Lowe puts it, "that if environment in its broadest sense has any thing more than a survival influence then it is strange that such a superficial character as the distinctively Eurylaemid coloration has not ages ago been brought into line with the characteristic coloration of African birds in general." Yet, as he says, during the millions of years that this little bird has been isolated from its Oriental ancestors "not a detail of its anatomical "make up" appears to have been affected in the slightest degree, in so far as its likeness to the Eurylaemid picture is concerned."

In 'The Ibis' for 1925 Dr. Lowe calls attention to the importance of the study of color-pattern in birds as often of almost as much assistance in gaining phylogenetic clues as more deep seated structures, and the present reviewer emphasized the same point in a paper on 'The Phylogenetic Value of Color Characters in Birds' in the Journal Acad. Nat. Sci. Phila., XV, 1912, pp. 313–319.

Dr. Lowe has made a notable contribution to avian anatomy as well as to zoogeography.—W. S.

The Ornithological Journals.

Bird-Lore.—XXXIII, No. 3. May–June, 1931. A Day with the Birds of Glacier National Park. By Winton Weydemeyer.

The Prothonotary Warbler of the Willow Stub. By Lawrence H. Walkinshaw.—Nesting at Battle Creek, Mich., with photograph.

Dwellers of the Marsh Jungle. By Ben East.—At Grand Rapids, Mich., with photographs of the Long-billed Marsh Wren, Florida Gallinule Least Bittern and Black Tern.

In the Audubon Department Dr. A. A. Allen has an excellent life history of the Song Sparrow, while the Vesper Sparrow, from a painting by Allan Brooks, forms the color plate.

Bird-Lore. XXXIII, No. 4. July–August, 1931.

Mrs. Hummer at Home. By A. Margaret Heydweiller.

Sandpiper Town. By William A. Paff.—A study at Beach Haven, N. J. with photographs of the Sanderling, Turnstone and Semipalmated Plover.