

birds. The "umbrella blind" is illustrated and described as being the most successful as well as convenient contrivance yet devised for the purpose.

Among the "Part" titles, especially indicative of subject matter, may be cited the following:—The Bird-Life of Two Atlantic Coast Islands; Gardiner's Island and Cobb's Island; Florida Bird-Life; Pelican Island, Cuthbert Rookery, etc.; Bahama Bird-Life: The Flamingo, Egg Birds, etc.; Bird-Life in Western Canada: The White Pelican, etc.

Naturally of most interest to us is the Part (VI) entitled "Bird Studies in California", with the following divisions: The Coastal Mountains at Piru; The Coast at Monterey; The Farallones; The San Joaquin Valley at Los Banos; Lower Klamath Lake; The Sierras. Each of these sketches is thoroughly enjoyable and seems to be for the most part beyond any reasonable criticism.

The habit of the Northern Phalarope of securing food particles by whirling about in shallow water and thus stirring up the sediment is interestingly described (page 271) and illustrated by two photos. This significance of the Phalaropes' behavior, however, is not new, as implied, for it had been clearly set forth by D. W. Prentiss, Jr., and William Palmer several years ago. [See *Osprey*, Vol. I (new series), July 1902, p. 100.]

We are informed (page 257) that the Desert Song Sparrow "owes its colors to the direct action of the aridity of its environment, and not to a natural selection which has brought it into a fancied harmony with its immediate surroundings." The finality with which this statement is made is not at all justified by any evidence known to the reviewer. Here seems to be another case of unwarranted deduction from Beebe's meager and altogether (as fully admitted by himself) inconclusive experiments with caged birds.

Whatever of further fault can be found in minor points, it must remain indisputable that Mr. Chapman's "Camps and Cruises of an Ornithologist" is the most entertaining bird book we have read for many a year.—J. G.

CATALOGUE OF A COLLECTION OF BIRDS FROM GUATEMALA by NED DEARBORN, Assistant Curator of Ornithology. [=Field Museum of Natural History. Publication 125. Ornithological Series. Vol. I, No. 3; pp. 69-136. 1 plate, 3 maps.]

Following a brief description of localities visited, and route traversed, is a careful systematic account of the 305 species and subspecies of birds that were taken. The collection comprised 1187 specimens, of which Dr. Dearborn himself, in three months, collected one thousand, while the remainder were secured at different times by Messrs. Edmund

Heller and Charles M. Barber. Carefully detailed information is given as to the place and manner of occurrence of each species, and, in many instances, valuable data regarding the moult is placed on record; while the exact information relating to the color, in life, of the "soft parts" of many species, often so remarkable in tropical birds, and usually so altered in prepared specimens, should be of the greatest value not only to the systematic worker as such, but also to the curator who desires to place mounted specimens of such birds on exhibition, and would wish them to have something of the appearance they bore in life.

*Saucerottea cyanura guatemalæ*, *Diglossa montana*, *Regulus satrapa clarus*, and *Planesticus tristis rubicundus* are described as new, while the known range of several species is considerably extended, noticeably that of *Vireo belli* among United States birds. Maps are given showing the distribution of the races of *Planesticus tristis* and *Calocitta formosa*, there is a plate showing the breast and remarkably developed trachea of the male *Ortalis vetula plumbeiceps*, while a map illustrating the route followed by Dr. Dearborn forms the frontispiece.

The brief notes regarding the life histories of many species are of such interest as to cause one to regret that this phase of the subject was not dwelt on at greater length. As a whole the paper must be regarded as an exceedingly valuable addition to the literature of Central American ornithology, tho several unfortunate typographical errors detract somewhat from the appearance of the publication.

One notes with surprise that this paper is only the third of the first volume of the ornithological publications of the Field Museum, one of the largest institutions in the United States, if not in the world, devoted entirely to natural history.—H. S. S.

PARTS II AND III (March and September, 1908) of GODMAN'S "MONOGRAPH OF THE PETRELS" have been received.\* As remarked of Part I, reviewed on page 96, Volume X, of this magazine, the above-titled brochure is perhaps the most elegantly gotten up bird publication of recent years. The splendid hand-colored plates constitute the feature of the work, altho the care which has evidently been bestowed upon the text both technically and typographically appeals to the student of ornithology with scarcely any less force.

Part II consists of pages 69 to 152, plates 20 to 39. Two genera are treated, *Cymodroma*, with one species, and *Puffinus*, with 24 species. Of the latter genus the following species are ascribed to the west coast of North America:

\* Published by Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, London.

*P. cuneatus*, *P. bulleri* (upon the authority of Loomis), *P. creatopus*, *P. opisthomelas*, *P. auricularis*, *P. griseus*, and *P. tenuirostris*. The extended biographical accounts of some of these Shearwaters are mostly from the published writings of Anthony.

Part III consists of pages 153 to 232, plates 40 to 66. One more species of *Puffinus* is included, and besides, one species of *Priofinus*, one of *Thalasseca*, one of *Priocella*, two of *Majaqueus* and 23 species of *Cestrelata*. Of these latter genera only now and then a straggler visits the shores of North America.

While there was some delay in the appearance of Part III, the remaining two parts are promised subscribers within a reasonably short time.—J. G.

Report on the IMMIGRATION OF SUMMER RESIDENTS IN THE SPRING OF 1907: Also Notes on the Migratory Movements during the Autumn of 1906. By the Committee appointed by the BRITISH ORNITHOLOGISTS' CLUB. October 1908. Pp. 1-202, maps. = Bulletin British Orn. Club, Vol. XXII.

This is the third of a series of annual reports dealing with the migration of birds into the British Isles, issued by the British Ornithologists' Club. In an introduction of thirty-six pages the species treated are divided into four classes, according to the part of the coast on which they arrive, the daily weather conditions from March 14 to May 31 are tabulated, and the details of the chief movements as observed at the various lighthouses are given. In the body of the work thirty-three species are treated in detail, each with a chronological summary of the records, including dates of nesting, all but three with maps showing time and place of arrival, and there is a long list of unscheduled birds treated much more briefly. There are brief notes on the fall movements of 1906, covering twenty-five species, among which we note the House Sparrow (*Passer domesticus*) treated apparently as a migrant, which is rather surprising to those familiar with the species in this country only, where it is resident wherever found.

The report is strictly a tabulation of information received, generalizations being reserved for some future time when a sufficient mass of data shall have been accumulated.—H. S. S.

THE WINTER BIRDS OF COLORADO is the title of an article written by W. L. SCLATER, which appeared in the July (1908) number of *The Ibis*. Mr. Sclater in an easy (tho concise) style which is characteristic of his writings, has succeeded in condensing a great deal of general information concerning the subject mentioned into seven printed pages.

The paper was evidently written to convey a

general idea of the winter bird life of Colorado to English readers, and for a short paper is comprehensive.

It begins with an outline of the topography of the State, and a recapitulation of the total number of species recorded in Cooke's "Birds of Colorado." The body of the article treats of twenty-nine species observed during winter near Colorado Springs, and the paper closes with a list of sixty species of birds resident in El Paso County, and one of eighteen species classed as winter visitors.

Mr. Sclater, who is at present the Curator of the Colorado College Museum at Colorado Springs, was for some years the director of the South African Museum at Capetown, and is the son of Philip Lutley Sclater, the renowned British Ornithologist.—R. B. R.

NOTES ON SOME NORTHERN ARIZONA BIRDS by ALEX. WETMORE. [=Kansas University Science Bulletin, Vol. IV, No. 19; Whole Series, Vol. XIV, No. 19, pp. 377-388; Sept., 1908.]

This is an annotated list of forty species observed from February 24 to April 1, 1907, in the vicinity of Williams, Arizona, and on the lower slopes of Bill Williams Mountain. Examples were secured of all the species observed but one, *Buteo borealis calurus*. Of exceptional interest is the capture of specimens of *Sturnella magna hoopesi*, a species heretofore known only from the extreme southern border of the territory. *Cyanocephalus cyanocephalus* and *Loxia curvirostra stricklandi* were found breeding, or preparing to do so, while no less than five species of Juncos were taken (including the dubious "*Junco annectens*"), tho *J. dorsalis* appeared to be the only breeding species. Identifications of the doubtful species seem to have been made with care, tho the Canyon Wren of the region is referred to the exceedingly unsatisfactory *Catherpes mexicanus polioptilus* Oberholser, on the ground that those taken were "almost identical in coloration with a specimen of *C. mexicanus punctulatus* from Summit, Cal."—H. S. S.

GRINNELL'S BIOTA OF THE SAN BERNARDINO MOUNTAINS.<sup>a</sup>—This paper presents the results of a biological reconnaissance of the San Bernardino mountains of southern California. The summers of 1905, 1906, and 1907 were devoted to field work by the author and assistants from Throop Institute, and a considerable mass of material in the form of facts and specimens was garnered. The report is modeled somewhat on the lines of Merriam's

<sup>a</sup> The Biota of the San Bernardino Mountains. By Joseph Grinnell. (Contribution from the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology of the University of California) University of California Publications in Zoology, V, No. 1, pp. 1-170, pls. 1-24. Dec. 31, 1908.