

Bryant on the Ornithology of Guadalupe Island.—In December, 1885, Mr. Bryant visited Guadalupe Island, and the results of his three and a half months' work there is given in a paper* of 50 pages, published in the 'Bulletin' of the California Academy of Sciences. The only previous exploration of the island in the interest of ornithology was made by Dr. Edward Palmer, in 1875, who obtained 72 specimens of birds, representing nine species, eight of them being land birds and new to science. To this list Mr. Bryant added 27 species, raising the total number now known from the island to 36. All but four of the species are land birds, and eight of them are peculiar to the island. Mr. Bryant's paper opens with a detailed account of the topography, climate, and vegetation of the island, which is followed by a copiously annotated list of the species, consisting of biographical notes of much interest, including descriptions of the nests and eggs of most of the resident species, of which nothing was previously known. Good series of specimens were obtained of most of the species met with, measurements of which are also included.

Although Dr. Palmer seems to have harvested the 'first fruits' (Mr. Bryant failing to obtain any species new to science), Mr. Bryant's paper admirably supplements Mr. Ridgway's papers on the bird fauna of the island, based on Dr. Palmer's collections, and forms a highly important contribution to the subject, leaving apparently little to be added by future explorers.—J. A. A.

Ralph and Bagg on the Birds of Oneida County, N. Y.—The 'Annotated List of the Birds of Oneida County, N. Y., and its immediate vicinity,' † by Dr. William L. Ralph and Mr. Egbert Bagg, though not "put forth as complete," is based on the observations of several years, and appears to have been compiled in a thoroughly scientific spirit and with due care, the authority being stated for such data as are not given on their personal knowledge. A few species have been included from having been found in neighboring counties, for which there is as yet no positive record for the county in question, but they are duly distinguished in the annotations, and are covered by the title in the phrase "its immediate vicinity." Many valuable observations are accredited to Dr. C. Hart Merriam (now of Washington, D. C.), and Messrs. A. L. Brainard and A. A. Howlet, of Syracuse. The List numbers 224 species.—J. A. A.

Platt on the Birds of Meriden, Conn.—Mr. Platt's List‡ appears to have strict reference to the town limits of Meriden, Conn., and to be based almost wholly on the author's personal observations. It is briefly annotated and numbers 116 species. The list is very attractively printed, and seems thoroughly trustworthy, so far as it goes, but is obviously in-

* Additions to the Ornithology of Guadalupe Island. By Walter E. Bryant. Bull. California Acad. Sciences, No. 6, pp. 269-318. ("Issued Jan. 5, 1887.")

† Trans. of the Oneida Hist. Soc., Vol. III, pp. 101-147, 1886.

‡ A List of the Birds of Meriden, Conn. By Franklin Platt. Trans. of the Meriden Scientific Assoc., Meriden, Conn., Vol. II, 1885-86, (Feb. 1887), pp. 30-53.

complete. The author has wisely, however, confined his list to the species positively known to occur.—J. A. A.

Maynard on 'Five New Species of Birds from the Bahamas.'—In a paper entitled 'Corrected Descriptions of Five New Species of Birds from the Bahamas,' published in an obscure trade journal,* Mr. C. J. Maynard has briefly characterized "provisionally, in advance of my [his] work on illustrations and notes of Birds of the Bahamas," the following species as new: *Pandion ridgwayi*, *Rallus coryi*, *Chamæpelia bahamensis*, *Ammodramus australis*, *Geothlypis restricta*. The *Ammodramus australis* is said to be "Rare in the Bahamas, but constantly resident in Florida." Most of the species are closely allied to well-known continental forms, to which they have been hitherto, and probably will be in future, commonly referred. But whatever their fate, Mr. Maynard most unwisely chose his medium for their publication, and was most unfortunate in the treatment his original article, published in a previous issue of the paper in question, received at the hands of the printer, it being so full of misprints, particularly in the scientific names, as to necessitate its republication in a corrected form; hence the title, as above cited. Mr. Maynard, not feeling sure that *Columba passerina* of Linnæus was not based on Bahama specimens rather than on examples from the main land, has taken the precaution to "propose the name of *Chamæpelia purpurea* for the larger continental dove"!—J. A. A.

Shufeldt's Contributions to Science.†—Dr. Shufeldt has recently published an annotated list of his scientific papers, numbering 123 titles. They embrace a wide range of topics, though mainly ornithological, and indicate great industry and intellectual activity on the part of their author. The list forms an exceptionally neat and well-printed pamphlet of twenty pages.—J. A. A.

Stejneger 'On the Status of *Synthliboramphus wumizusume* as a North American Bird.' Under this title‡ Dr. Stejneger affirms that the only specimens extant of this species from North American localities prove to be immature or winter examples of *S. antiquus*. He therefore believes that "Until authenticated and undoubted American specimens are found, it may be expedient to remove *Synthliboramphus wumizusume* to the 'Hypothetical List' (A. O. U. Check List, p. 347). It is a case in many respects completely parallel to that of *Cephus carbo*."—J. A. A.

* The American Exchange and Mart and Household Journal, Vol. III, No. 6, Feb. 5, 1887, p. 69. (Boston and New York.)

† 1881-1887. | — | Contributions to Science | and | Bibliographical Résumé | of the Writings | of | R. W. Shufeldt, M. D., | Captain; Medical Department, U. S. Army | [= 9 lines, titles]. | — | By their Author. | — | — | Press of L. S. Foster, New York. | 1887. 8vo, pp. 20.

‡ Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., 1886, p. 524.