

The collection made at the Island of Santa Lucia, West Indies, * numbers 15 species. Of seven specimens of *Careba martinicana*, Mr. Ridgway says four have the superciliary stripe wholly white, and three bright yellow passing into white anteriorly, thus showing that his *Certhiola finschi* is untenable.

The collection from Abrolhos Islands numbers only five species, all water birds. The Straits of Magellan collection numbers 66 species, and includes a number of specimens of special interest. A species of *Geositta* is provisionally described as new (*G. longipennis*), its nearest ally being *G. antarctica* Landb. A specimen of *Upucerthia* forms the basis of a new species (*U. propinqua*), allied to *U. dumetoria*. Two examples of *Nycticorax* lead to the recognition of *N. obscurus* Bon. as a good species, it having before been merged by Mr. Ridgway with *N. nycticorax nævius* under the erroneous supposition that alleged specimens of *N. obscurus* he had examined were the true *N. obscurus*, which now proves not to have been the case.

For the bird usually called *Phalacrocorax brasiliensis* (Gm.), Mr. Ridgway adopts the name *P. vigua* (Vieill.), he considering Gmelin's bird unidentifiable. He finds *P. vigua* to be closely allied to *P. mexicanus*, the latter seeming to be "simply a smaller intertropical race of *P. vigua*, in which case it should be called *P. vigua mexicanus*."

The 'Albatross' collection was made by Prof. Leslie A. Lee, naturalist of the expedition, assisted by Mr. Charles H. Townsend and Mr. Thomas Lee.—J. A. A.

Chapman on the Genus *Xiphorhynchus*.—In a paper of nine pages, recently published in the 'Bulletin' of the American Museum of Natural History, † Mr. Chapman reviews the Dendrocolaptine genus *Xiphorhynchus*, his work being based on the combined material representing this group contained in the museums of Cambridge, Boston, New York, and Washington, including the types of Lafresnaye's species in the Museum of the Boston Society of Natural History. Nine species are recognized, of which two are described as new, namely, *X. dorsoimmaculatus* (habitat "Cayenne?"), and *X. rufodorsalis* (ex Corumba, Brazil). *X. venezuelensis* Lafr. MS. is also for the first time described; *X. falcularius* (Vieill.) is disentangled from *X. procurvus* auct. (*nec* Temminck), with which it has been confounded, and various manuscript names of Lafresnaye's are duly allocated by an examination of Lafresnaye's types.—J. A. A.

* Scientific Results of Explorations by the U. S. Fish Commission Steamer Albatross, No. II. Birds collected on the Island of Santa Lucia, West Indies, the Abrolhos Islands, Brazil, and the Straits of Magellan, in 1887-88. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. VII, 1889, pp. 129-139.

† A Review of the Genus *Xiphorhynchus* Swainson, with Descriptions of two new species. By Frank M. Chapman. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., Vol. II, pp. 153-162. (Published July 5, 1889.)