

the point before, and we must not be guilty of plagiarizing — no, not even of auto-plagiarism. The faithful readers of 'The Auk' have been given the reference, and can easily turn to what would otherwise be said at the present juncture. We have not a word of that notice to retract or modify. Mr. Nehrling's book has taken, and will doubtless long maintain, the position he himself assigns as fitting, and no author could desire more than this. He has written to good purpose; his work should have a long, prosperous, and useful life. Nehrling will probably awake some day to find his writings ranked with those it becomes customary to call 'classic,' when their respective authors have forgotten alike the pangs and pleasures of delivery, and grown insensible to silence or applause.

As the present Volume I contains 18 plates, and 36 are promised per title, we understand it is to be followed by one more of like proportions. The present volume seems to be entirely Oscinine, and Mr. Nehrling may have to put on his thinking-cap if he is to bring the rest of the Passerines and all the Picarians into the category of "birds of song and beauty." We are not informed regarding any business aspect of the work, and its consequently necessary limitations, but Mr. Nehrling's plan seems to us capable of expansion beyond the advertised limits. All birds do not sing, but all are beautiful to one who understands them and keeps in touch with them as well as Mr. Nehrling does. We imagine that the publication should be immensely popular and that the publisher would be justified in amplifying its scope, until all our birds are brought under the one elastic category, for the like treatment at a Nehrling's hand. To cite an instance, there are the game-birds, in which a very large number of non-ornithological ornithologists are always interested. "Bobwhite" sounds well, one of the Ducks sings well enough to have been named *Anas cantans*, and *Aix sponsa* is certainly a bird of beauty. But we desist, for we are in danger of falling into that easiest and worst of reviewing sins — telling an author what he ought to do, instead of informing the public how well or ill he has done that which he designed to do.

The plates of this work are of an uneven order of merit. If we may be permitted to express an individual preference, without entering into invidious comparisons, we may say that those of the Goldcrest and Gnat-catcher please us most, and it should not be difficult to maintain that degree of excellence.

With hearty welcome, congratulations, and hopes for the speedy completion of a work which departs so widely from the average of its kind in making so near an approach to such as Audubon typifies,—E. C.

Anthony on the Birds of San Pedro Martir, Lower California.¹—This is a liberally annotated list of 121 species, based on the author's personal observations, made chiefly during the month of May, 1893. "The region embraced in the name of San Pedro Martir consists of a high plateau of

¹ Birds of San Pedro Martir, Lower California. By A. W. Anthony. Zoe, Vol. IV, 1893, pp. 228-247.

about sixty-five or seventy miles in length by twenty in width. . . . The northern end rises to a height, in one or two peaks, of 12,500 feet, estimated, and from that point the ridges and peaks drop away by degrees until at the southern end they merge into the low, barren hills, common to the peninsula at this point." A few rather important corrections are made of notes furnished by Mr. Anthony to Mr. Bryant's 'List of the Birds of Lower California,' published a few years since, due mainly, it appears, to their accidental insertion under the wrong species, as in the case of Harris's Hawk and the Red-tailed Hawk, but sometimes to misidentification, as in the case of the Horned Larks, where the form found at San Quintin is the *Otocoris alpestris pallida* instead of *O. a. rubea*. More to the northward *chrysolæma* is the race found in the breeding season. The paper forms a welcome and valuable addition to our knowledge of the distribution of the birds of Lower California, and especially of this previously little known portion of the peninsula.—J. A. A.

Short's Birds of Western New York.¹—This is a briefly annotated list of 207 species, but its exact geographical scope is not defined, "Western New York" being a somewhat indefinite term. While the list is evidently prepared with care, and its statements may doubtless be taken as trustworthy, it is not typographically pleasing, the specific names all beginning with capital letters and the Latin names being printed in the same kind of type as the general text. It is, moreover, liberally sprinkled with printer's errors. The list is certainly worthy of a better presentation. Acknowledgments are made for assistance to Frank H. Lattin, Neil F. Posson and Leslie V. Case. We note that the American Eared Grebe is given in place of Holbøll's Grebe, and the Yellow-bellied Flycatcher as a "rare summer resident and breeder." These are the only records that seem improbable, while the last may not be altogether so in some part of the region covered by the list.—J. A. A.

Ridgway on the Genus *Myiarchus*.²—The genus is divided into four "sections" or subgenera, two of which are new. These are (1) *Myiarchus* Cab., including the greater part of the species usually referred to the genus *Myiarchus*; (2) *Onychopterus* Reich., including *M. tuberculifer* (D'Orb.), *M. lawrencii* (Gir.), and *M. barbirostris* (Sw.); (3) *Eribates* Ridgw., type *Myiobius magnirostris* Gray; (4) *Deltarhynchus* Ridgw., type *M. flammulatus* Lawr. Mr. Ridgway regards *M. yucatanensis* as a typical member of the restricted *Myiarchus*, differing from the *M. lawrencii* and *M. l. olivascens* in its "approximately cylindrical" instead of "distinctly depressed" bill, larger size and rather lighter coloration.—J. A. A.

¹ Birds of Western New York, with Notes. | By | Ernest H. Short. | Chili, N. Y. | August 1st, 1893. 8vo. pp. 13.

² Remarks on the Avian Genus *Myiarchus*, with special reference to *M. yucatanensis* Lawr. By Robert Ridgway. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., XVI, 1893, pp. 605-608.