

interested so long as I would tell them about how birds live. . . . It has, therefore, seemed to me that what is needed at first is not the science of ornithology, — however diluted, — but some account of the life and habits, to arouse sympathy and interest in the living bird, neither as a target nor as a producer of eggs, but as a fellow-creature whose acquaintance it would be pleasant to make.”

The book, it is needless to say, is couched in terms easily understood, and written in an attractive and sympathetic vein. It consists of thirty short chapters, grouped under the following four major headings — ‘The Nestling’; ‘The Bird grown up’; ‘How he is made’; ‘His Relations with us.’ Under the first is treated not only the nest and the young bird, but its various changes of plumage, and how it learns to take care of itself, while under the third are given some elementary lessons on the structure of birds, etc. The twelve halftone and eight colored plates are very creditable reproductions of photographs of mounted birds and must add much to the interest and attractiveness of the book. Our only criticism is that they are copied from rather badly stuffed specimens with cheap artificial accessories, the excellence of the reproduction thus only heightening the defects of the tell-tale taxidermy. They hence lack artistic effect, which fact, perhaps, does not seriously detract from their utility as illustrations. — J. A. A.

Stone on Birds from Bogota.¹ — The small collection of birds forming the basis of this paper was made by the late Dr. J. W. Detwiler, in the vicinity of Bogota, in 1888–89. It contained 76 species, and as the exact localities of the specimens are indicated, it is of some importance in throwing light upon the distribution of the species. One, *Speotyto cunicularia tolimæ*, is described as new. Incidentally the South American forms of *Speotyto* and *Troglodytes* are reviewed, Mr. Stone recognizing five of the former and ten of the latter, of which eight belong to the *Troglodytes musculus* group. Mr. Stone has also described a new Cuckoo,² from the island of St. Andrews, West Indies, as *Coccyzus abotti*, nearly allied to *C. minor*, of which species it is apparently an insular form. — J. A. A.

Chapman on New Birds from Venezuela.³ — A small collection of birds received recently at the American Museum of Natural History

¹ On a Collection of Birds from the Vicinity of Bogota, with a Review of the South American species of *Speotyto* and *Troglodytes*. By Witmer Stone. Proc. Acad. Nat. Sci. Philadelphia, 1899, pp. 302–313.

² A New Species of *Coccyzus* from St. Andrews. By Witmer Stone. *Ibid.*, p. 301.

³ Descriptions of Five Apparently New Birds from Venezuela. By Frank M. Chapman. Bull. Am. Mus. Nat. Hist., Vol. XII, 1899, pp. 153–156. August 5, 1899.