

Oberholser on Birds from Central Asia.¹—Dr. W. L. Abbott, formerly of Philadelphia, has earned an enviable reputation as a scientific and enthusiastic collector, who for a number of years past has devoted himself to natural history exploration, visiting successively parts of East Africa, the Seychelles, Madagascar, the Indian Archipelago, and southern and Central Asia in the prosecution of his work. The United States National Museum has been the recipient of his generous and extensive contributions of excellent material to various departments of zoölogy, but especially to mammalogy and ornithology, thus opening a new field of research to American naturalists, whose opportunities heretofore have largely been restricted to American material.

Mr. Oberholser's paper relates to a small collection of birds from Cashmere and Ladak, numbering 142 specimens and representing 62 species. *Totanus totanus curhinus* is described as new. *Saxicola montana* Gould (not Koch) is renamed *Saxicola oreophila*, and *Perisso-spiza* (nom. nov.) replaces *Pycnorhamphus* Hume, the latter being preoccupied. Several pages are given to a description of a series of 18 specimens of *Buteo ferox*, which seems to illustrate all the principal phases of plumage of this exceedingly variable species. The collector's notes from the fresh specimens, including measurements, are a valuable feature of the paper.—J. A. A.

Oberholser on a Collection of Birds from Madagascar.²—A small collection of birds made by the Rev. James Wills, chiefly near Imerina, in the east central part of the island, numbering 57 species, represented by 110 specimens, and purchased by the United States National Museum, forms the basis of the present paper. All are referred to previously described species, but the exact data respecting time and place of collection of the specimens, and Mr. Oberholser's critical annotations on many of them, and on various points of nomenclature, render the paper of much value.—J. A. A.

Oberholser on Birds from Santa Barbara Islands, California.³—This is a list of the birds collected by Mr. Clark P. Streater under the auspices of the Biological Survey of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, April

¹ Notes on Birds collected by Doctor W. L. Abbott in Central Asia. By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXII, No. 1195, pp. 205-228. April, 1900.

² Catalogue of Collection of Birds from Madagascar. By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXII, No. 1197, pp. 235-248. April, 1900.

³ Notes on some Birds from Santa Barbara Islands, California. By Harry C. Oberholser. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus., Vol. XXII, No. 1196, pp. 229-234. April, 1900.

9-29 and June 24-July 20, 1892. The new forms obtained by Mr. Streater had been already described. The list numbers 26 species, of which about one third are confined to this group of islands. The annotations are mainly technical.

Respecting *Sturnella magna neglecta*, which Mr. Oberholser would recognize "as a full species," he says: "It seems remarkable that any one who has ever heard the striking vocal performances of the western meadowlark should consider it a subspecies of the eastern bird."

If Mr. Oberholser should hear the Meadowlarks sing in certain parts of the Mississippi Valley, as eastern Iowa, Illinois, western Missouri, etc., or even in Florida, he would doubtless place less stress upon the value of the song character of the Western Meadowlark. — J. A. A.

Van Denburg's Notes on Birds of Santa Clara County, California.¹ — Mr. Van Denburg's observations were made mainly at two points in the western range of mountains that traverses Santa Clara County, namely, Los Gatos and Palo Alto, and are "based upon more or less casual observations extending over a period of fourteen years." The list relates only to the land birds, and for these "makes no pretence to completeness in any way." The list is nevertheless an important contribution to Californian ornithology, including 110 species with somewhat extended and very interesting field notes on many of them. — J. A. A.

Bonhote's List of the Birds of New Providence, Bahamas.² — The present paper is based on observations made by Mr. Bonhote during a year's residence on the island, and includes welcome notes on the manner of occurrence of the 59 species taken by him. A few others are referred to as seen but not positively identified. Four are recorded for the first time from the island of New Providence, namely, *Prothonotaria citrea*, *Oporornis agilis*, *Piranga rubra* (also mentioned in the introductory remarks as "*Pyrranga aestiva*"), and *Totanus solitarius*. — J. A. A.

Richmond on New Species of Birds. — Dr. Richmond has described a new species of *Dendroornis* from Alta Mira, Tamaulipas, Mexico, as *D. striatigularis*,³ and three new birds from the Province of Trong, Lower Siam, collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott⁴. These are *Æthopyga anomala*, *Criniger sordidus*, and *Turdinulus granti*. — J. A. A.

¹ Notes on some Birds of Santa Clara County, California. By John Van Denberg. Proc. Amer. Philos. Soc., Vol. XXXVIII, 1899, pp. 157-180.

² List of Birds collected on the Island of New Providence, Bahamas. By J. Lewis Bonhote. Ibis, Oct. 1889, pp. 506-520.

³ Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. XXII, No. 1200, pp. 317, 318.

⁴ Descriptions of Three New Birds from Lower Siam. By Charles W. Richmond, Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. Vol. XXII, No. 1201, pp. 319-321.