

list, bringing Dr. Stejneger's list, published in 1887 (77 species), down to date, with introductory comment, the number of species now recorded being 99.—J. A. A.

Barrett Hamilton on the Position of the Legs of Birds during Flight.— In a paper¹ of about a dozen pages the author briefly summarizes what had been previously published on the subject and adds his own observations and some others previously unpublished. The paper closes with a list of the species observed, arranged in the two categories: 'Legs carried pointing backward,' and 'Legs carried bent forward.' The latter consists almost wholly of passerine birds, while the former includes birds of all the other orders. The legs of birds, it is noted, often afford great and constant assistance in flight. "It is almost as if, to some birds, the legs are nearly more important as organs of flight than of progression on land."—J. A. A.

Dubois's 'Synopsis Avium.'— Since our last notice of this important work (*Auk*, XIX, Oct., 1902, p. 409) two additional parts (XI and XII) have come to hand, carrying the subject into the Herodiones. Part XI includes the Columbæ, Heteroclitæ, Crypturi, Gallinæ, and part of the Accipitres; Part XII completes the Accipitres and Striges, and includes a large part of the Herodiones.—J. A. A.

North's Nests and Eggs of Australian Birds.— A second edition of Mr. Alfred J. North's *Nests and Eggs of Australian and Tasmanian Birds*² is being issued in parts, of which Part I appeared in June, 1901, Part II in April, 1902, and Part III in April, 1903. The size is full quarto, and it is tastefully printed on heavy paper, with colored plates and many figures of nests, heads, and full-length figures of the birds in the text. Part I contains the Corvidæ, and part of the Paradiseidæ, which occupy the greater portion of Part II. Then follow the Campophagidæ, completed in Part II, and the great family Muscipidæ runs through Part III. Descriptions are first given of the birds, with a few bibliographical references, and a statement of the range. Then follows the biographical matter,

¹ On the Position occupied by the Legs of Birds during Flight. By G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton. *The Zoölogist*, April, 1903, pp. 139-149. Also separate, repaged.

² *Nests and Eggs of Birds found Breeding in Australia and Tasmania.* By Alfred J. North, C. M. Z. S., Ornithologist, Australian Museum. (Second edition of Catalogue No. XII, entirely rewritten, with additions.) Printed by order of the Trustees of the Australian Museum; R. Ethridge, Jr., J. P., Curator (= Australian Museum, Sydney. Special Catalogue, No. I.) Part I, pp. 1-36, pls. A1, B1, June 11, 1901; Part II, pp. 37-120, pls. B2, B3, B4, April 25, 1902; Part III, pp. 121-201, pls. A2, A3, A4, April 27, 1903.