Huachuca Mountains form a well-wooded range, extending for about forty miles in a northeast-southwest direction, in the southeastern corner of Arizona, their southern extremity extending across the boundary into Mexico. The base level is about 4500 feet, and the higher central peaks rise to an altitude of about 10,000 feet. These mountains have often been visited by collectors, but hitherto little has been published on the birds of the region. The results here recorded are based on three trips made by Mr. Swarth, respectively, in 1896 (April 25 to July 20), in 1902 (March 29 to September 5), and in 1903 (February 17 to May 30). On the first expedition he was accompanied by Messrs. W. B. Judson, H. G. Rising, and O. W. Howard, and the season was spent in Ramsey Cañon; in 1902 he was again accompanied by Mr. Howard, but in 1903 he was unaccompanied. "Almost all the collecting was done on the east side of the mountains, in the seven canyons from Tanner to Ash Canyon, by far the best part of the range, ornithologically considered." The basis of the present paper is a collection of about 2500 skins, collected personally by Mr. Swarth, and the field notes made therewith. An introduction of three pages, descriptive of the physical features of the region, is followed by a systematic list of the species, one hundred and ninety-five in number. The annotations range from a few lines to a couple of pages for each species, according to their interest, amounting in some cases to quite full biographies.

Mr. Swarth believes that *Melanerpes formicivorus aculeatus* Mearns is entitled to recognition as a subspecies, and that *Phalænoptilus nuttalli nitidus* is probably only a color phase of *nuttalli*.— J. A. A.

Bartsch on the Herons of the District of Columbia.[1] — Nine species of Herons have been recorded from within the District of Columbia, eight of which are of regular occurrence. The Black-crowned Night Heron is the most abundant, of which there are three breeding colonies within the District and another just outside its borders. A detailed and very interesting account of these colonies occupies the greater part of the paper. Two of them were carefully investigated in 1902, and an estimate made of their population, from which it appears that probably eighty-eight young were raised that season in the smaller colony and very nearly four hundred in the other. The Little Blue Heron is also numerous, in company with which may often be seen the Snowy Heron and the American Egret. Next to the Night Heron, the Little Green Heron is the most abundant breeder. Four of the seven half-tone plates illustrate the nesting haunts, eggs, and young of the Night Heron, one shows different stages of the young of the Green Heron, and one (with six figures) the

[1] Notes on the Herons of the District of Columbia. By Paul Bartsch. Smithsonian Misc. Collections, Vol. XLV, pp. 104–111, pll. xxxiii–xxxviii. (Dated "Dec. 9, 1903," but published two months or more later.)

roosting and feeding places of the Little Blue Heron and American Egret, etc.— J. A. A.

Nelson on New Birds from Mexico.— Ten of the thirteen species and subspecies here described[1] were obtained by Mr. Nelson and his assistant Mr. Goldman during their expedition to southwestern Mexico in the winter of 1902–03, mostly in the States of Guerrero and Michoacan. In most cases the new forms are based on good series of specimens, and several of them seem quite strongly differentiated from their nearest known allies.— J. A. A.

Nelson's 'Revision of the North American Mainland Species of Myiarchus.'[2] — The present paper covers the species of the genus *Myiarchus* occurring north of the Isthmus of Panama, including those of Cozumel Island and the Tres Marias Islands. Nine species are recognized, with ten additional subspecies, of which three of the latter, belonging to the *lawrencei* group, are described as new. In his introductory remarks Mr. Nelson calls attention to the evanescent character of the brighter or more intense colors of the freshly acquired plumage. "This extreme intensity of coloration [of the fresh plumage] quickly passes into a duller condition which continues with but little change through the winter months. In spring the colors gradually fade or become bleached by the sun until in the breeding season the original shades of greenish, olive and gray of the back and the yellow of the under parts are almost lost in the dingy browns and yellows of the frayed plumage." He also calls attention to the wide range of variation in the extent of the dusky pattern of the tail feathers, the non-recognition of which has led to the recording of *M. nuttingi* as a bird of southern Arizona, the supposed Arizona specimens of *nuttingi* proving to be merely females of *M. cinerascens*. Mr. Nelson, however, adds to the United States list *Myiarchus crinitus residuus* Howe, based on Florida specimens, on the ground of a slight average difference in the length of the bill. This separation had previously been made, on exactly the same basis, by Mr. Bangs and rejected by the A. O. U. Committee as too unimportant for recognition in nomenclature.

Mr. Nelson discusses at some length the old case of *Tyrannula mexicana* Kaup vs. *Myiarchus cooperi* Baird, without reaching a positive conclusion, but gives his reasons for believing that *Tyrannula mexicana* = *Tyrannula cinerascens* Lawrence, and that the present *Myiarchus mexi-*

[1] Descriptions of New Birds from Southern Mexico. By E. W. Nelson. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XVI, pp. 151–160, Nov. 30, 1903.

[2] Revision of the North American Mainland Species of *Myiarchus*. By E. W. Nelson. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, Vol. XVII, pp. 21–30, March 10, 1904.