

Van Oort's Avifauna of the Netherlands.¹—The number of species here recorded for the Netherlands is 335. The specimens taken in the Netherlands contained in the Leyden Museum of Natural History are recorded, the later acquisitions in detail, with notes in many cases on peculiarities of plumage, but rarely is anything said about the status of the species as a bird of the Netherlands, either in reference to the manner or seasons of occurrence, except in the case of the rarer species. There are, however, many important critical notes on the particular subspecies found in the Netherlands.—J. A. A.

Hartert's 'Die Vögel der Paläarktischen Fauna,' Heft V.²—Part V of this great work bears date February, 1909, after an interval of nearly two years since the publication of Part IV, in March, 1907. This part begins with the remaining species of *Phylloscopus* and ends at the beginning of the genus *Turdus*, which he announces will be taken in a broad sense, to include a large number of more or less current genera. The present part thus comprises the families Sylviidæ and Crateropodidæ of authors, and the species and subspecies numbered 796 to 986, practically all 'Palæartic.'—J. A. A.

Count von Berlepsch on the Birds of Cayenne.³—This enumeration of the birds of Cayenne is based primarily on a collection made by George K. Cherrie, assisted by Benjamin T. Gault, during four months (October, 1902–January, 1903), for the Tring Museum. This collection comprised 1300 well-prepared bird-skins, representing 254 species. In order to make the list complete, the author has added in brackets all the species that have been reported as occurring in Cayenne, this being, according to the author, the first attempt to give complete enumeration of the birds of that country. The list comprises 626 species, of which 553 have been satisfactorily determined as birds of Cayenne; the other 73 are hypothetically included, on the basis of doubtful records (23) or their general range (50). The author believes that we may add about 140 more as birds likely to occur there, so that "we are justified in computing the number of species inhabiting that country to be about 766." In footnotes, under each family, are enumerated the additional species that may perhaps occur in Cayenne.

The paper thus consists: (1) of a list of the species collected by Mr.

¹ Contribution to our Knowledge of the Avifauna of the Netherlands, being a List of all the Species of Birds hitherto observed, with special reference to specimens in the Leyden Museum. By Dr. E. D. van Oort. Notes from the Leyden Museum 1908, pp. 129–214, pll. vii, viii.

² Die Vögel der paläarktischen Fauna. Systematische Übersicht der in Europa, Nord-Asien und der Mittelmeerregion vorkommenden Vögel. Von Dr. Ernst Hartert. Heft V.—8vo, pp. 513–640, fig. 93–124. R. Friedländer und Sohn, Berlin. Published February, 1909. Price, 4 mark.

For notices of previous Parts see Auk, XXI, pp. 95, 505; XXII, p. 428; XXIV, p. 362.

³ On the Birds of Cayenne. By Hans Graf von Berlepsch. Novitates Zoologicae Vol. XV, pp. 103–164, 261–324. June and November, 1908.

Cherrie, and an enumeration of the specimens of each obtained, together with the dates, localities and measurements, and the collector's notes on the color of iris, bill, feet, and soft parts, etc.; (2) comment on the general character of the specimens, when necessary; (3) previous records of the species from Cayenne; (4) reference to the place of original description of the species, the citation of synonyms, if any, and a statement of the type locality, which is here sometimes for the first time assigned; (5) occasional comment (in footnotes) on questions of nomenclature. Only three forms (subspecies) are described as new, which may be taken to indicate that the ornithology of Cayenne is now pretty well known.—J. A. A.

'**Cassinia.**' — This always interesting annual¹ contains the usual variety of matter relating to the birds of eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. Besides the abstract of the Proceeding of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, the membership lists of the Club, and a bibliography of contributions to the ornithology of the region, it contains the usual number of short papers, and Mr. Stone's report on the Spring Migration in the vicinity of Philadelphia, based on the combined observations of the members of the Club.

The first paper is a biographical sketch of George Ord, with a portrait, by Samuel N. Rhoads, in which is summarized the little that is at present known of the life and literary work of this pioneer American zoologist. Ord was born March 4, 1781, but whether in Philadelphia or in England Mr. Rhoads is unable to state, and died in Philadelphia in 1866. He is principally known as the biographer and literary executor of Alexander Wilson, he having edited Wilson's eighth volume, and written the text of the ninth, both volumes having been published after Wilson's death. He also contributed the zoological matter to the second American edition of Guthrie's Geography, a work now so rare that only two or three copies are known to exist. This contribution, on account of its rarity and importance, was republished by Mr. Rhoads in 1894. Ord also published two editions of 'Wilson's American Ornithology,' respectively in 1824 and 1828-29, to which he contributed original matter. He also published biographies of Thomas Say and C. A. Lesuer. According to Mr. Rhoads, Ord was a lexicographer as well as a naturalist; his extensive contributions to Noah Webster's Dictionary were unacknowledged; Latham, of London, later "secured from Ord the whole MSS. of nearly forty years' work in philology, and in every instance, where he used it in compiling his new edition of Johnson's Dictionary he makes acknowledgment to the Ord MSS." Ord was an office-bearer for many years in both the American Philosophical Society and Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, of which latter he was President, 1851-1858, and, at different times, Secretary, Treasurer, and Vice-President of the Philosophical Society.

¹ Cassinia, A Bird Annual. Proceedings of the Delaware Valley Ornithological Club of Philadelphia. 1908. Issued March, 1909. Svo, pp. 84, and 3 half-tone plates. Price, 50 cents.