

north to the Transition zone, east of the coast district; *A. h. sanctilucae*, southern Lower California; *A. h. cognata* Galapagos Islands, *A. h. hyperonca* subsp. nov., Pacific coast region of U. S.; *A. h. oligista* subsp. nov., Santa Barbara Islands, California; *A. h. fannini*, Pacific coast of north-western North America; *A. h. lessonii*, Mexico to northern South America.— W. S.

Torrey's 'Field-Days in California.'¹— Our pleasure in turning the pages of this last volume of Bradford Torrey is mingled with sadness at the thought that the pen, which for so many years depicted for us the ever-changing face of nature, is forever stilled.

This little book treats of the experiences of the last few years of his life, which were spent in California; and it is particularly interesting to those bird-lovers who are familiar only with the Atlantic slope as it depicts so vividly the easterner's impressions of the birds of 'the coast.'

There is a frontispiece portrait of the author and eight plates illustrating localities treated in the book, in two of which Mr. Torrey himself appears. The Chapter headings are, A California Beach; In the Estero; An Exciting Forenoon; A Long Procession; A Visitation of Swans; My First Condor; My First Water-Ouzels; An Unsuccessful Hunt; Yellow-billed Magpies; Some Rock-haunting Birds; Under the Redwoods; In the Santa Cruz Mountains; Reading a Check-List; On Foot in the Yosemite; A Bird-Gazer at the Grand Cañon.

The Chapter on the A. O. U. Check-List will be read with much interest and the Committee we feel sure will be gratified with Mr. Torrey's opinion of this volume, that 'there's plenty of good reading in the Check-List,' while they will be surprised to see what inspiration he derives from its pages.

'Field Days in California' will take its place as the fitting completion of a series of nature studies which will continue in the future, as they have in the past, to delight all lovers of the great out doors, to sharpen our powers of observation and to help us the better to appreciate what we see.— W. S.

Nelson on Two New Birds from Panama.²— The specimens here described are from the rich collections made by Mr. E. A. Goldman on the Smithsonian Survey of Panama. Mr. Nelson names them *Capito maculicoronatus pirrensis*, the Mount Pirri Barbet, and *Pseudotriccus pelzelni berlepschi*, the Berlepsch Flycatcher.— W. S.

Bent on a New Crossbill from Newfoundland.³— A series of eleven Crossbills obtained by Dr. L. C. Sanford in Newfoundland prove to be

¹ Field-Days in California | By | Bradford Torrey | With Illustrations from Photographs | [vignette] | Boston and New York | Houghton Mifflin Company | The Riverside Press, Cambridge | 1913. 12mo, pp. 1-235. Frontispiece portrait and eight half-tone plates. \$1.50 net.

² Two New Species of Birds from the Slopes of Mount Pirri, Eastern Panama. *Smithson. Misc. Collec.*, Vol. 60, No. 21, pp. 1-2. February 26, 1913.

³ A New Subspecies of Crossbill from Newfoundland. By A. C. Bent. *Smithson. Misc. Collec.*, Vol. 60, No. 15, pp. 1-3. December 12, 1912.

larger and deeper colored than *Loxia curvirostra minor* with a larger and heavier bill. Mr. Bent proposes to separate them as a distinct race under the name of *Loxia c. percuca*.— W. S.

Mearns on a New African Grass Warbler.¹— To the several new forms of *Cisticola* recently described by Dr. Mearns he now adds another *C. primooides wambugensis* from Wambugu, British East Africa, obtained in 1909 on the Smithsonian Africa Expedition.— W. S.

Ornithology in the Smithsonian Report for 1911.— Among the reprinted articles which form part of the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for 1911 four deal with birds. These are 'A History of Certain Great Horned Owls,' by Charles R. Keyes, from 'The Condor,' 1911; 'The passenger Pigeon,' accounts by Pehr Kalm, from 'The Auk,' 1911 and by J. J. Audubon, (Ornithological Biography, Vol. 1); 'On the Position Assumed by Birds in Flight,' By Bentley Beetham, from 'British Birds,' 1911; and 'Note on the Iridescent Colors of Birds and Insects,' By A. Mallock, 'Proceedings of the Royal Society,' London, 1911.— W. S.

Horsbrugh's Game-Birds and Water-Fowl of South Africa.²— The concluding part of this attractive work is now before us and it fully maintains the high standard of the earlier parts. Fifteen species of Anatidæ and the Hadada Ibis are figured and described. The last Major Horsbrugh tells us is "not really a game bird but is most excellent eating and is always a welcome addition to the bag." The index, preface and title page accompany this installment and it is to be regretted that there is not an abstract of the laws of South Africa defining and protecting gamebirds.— W. S.

Hellmayr on Birds from the Mouth of the Amazon.³— This valuable contribution to Brazilian Ornithology is prepared with the same skill and carefulness that characterizes the work of the author and further illustrates his broad knowledge of the neotropical avifauna.

The paper is divided into six parts.

I. 'A review of the birds collected in the Para district'; a fully annotated list of 179 species, with discussion of ranges and relationship with allied forms.

¹ Description of a New African Grass-Warbler of the Genus *Cisticola*. By Edgar A. Mearns. *Smithson. Misc. Collec.*, Vol. 60, No. 20, pp. 1-2. February 14, 1913.

² *The Game-Birds and Water Fowl of South Africa* by Major Boyd Horsbrugh, with Colored Plates by Sergeant C. G. Davies, Part 4. London. Witherby & Co., 326 High Holburn. December 11, 1912.

³ *Zoologische Ergebnisse einer Reise in das Mündungsgebiet des Amazonas* herausgegeben von Lorenz Müller. II. Vogel von C. E. Hellmayr. *Abh. Königl. Bayern. Akad. Wiss.* XXVI, 2. pp. 1-142. November 15, 1912.