

all the discussions and publications bearing upon this subject were superfluous as G. R. Gray had settled the generic question definitely and conclusively as long ago as 1841, while Bonaparte in 1855, had settled the former problem with equal finality!

Mr. Todd's studies have been based upon a series of 1920 specimens representing all the known forms while his exhaustive synonymy has been personally verified with the exception of about fifty references and all but a half dozen of these have been checked up by correspondents. Full descriptions and measurements are presented for each form, with a discussion of distribution and nomenclature, while a full list of localities and specimens, and a key to the species and subspecies are added.

Sixteen races of *Chæmepelia passerina* are recognized, two of *minuta*, two of *rufipennis* while *buckleyi* and *talpacoti* remain undivided. The name *passerina* is used for the bird of the southeastern United States, as long ago restricted by Bonaparte; *palescens* for that of the west, while *bahamensis* is used for the Bermuda form, which proves not separable from that of the Bahamas, from which islands it was probably introduced rather than from the mainland. The other races are *neglecta* from Panama to Guatemala; *socorroënsis*, Socorro Island; *parvula* subsp. nov. from Honda, Colombia; *nana* subsp. nov., Jimenez W. Colombia; *quitensis* subsp. nov., Quito, Ecuador; *grisola*, Guiana and Amazonia; *albivitta*, N. Venezuela and Colombia and the Leeward Islands; *antillarum* Grenada to Barbados; *trochila*, Porto Rico to St. Lucia; *afrawida*, Cuba and Haiti; *insularis*, Grand Cayman, Little Cayman and Cayman Brac; *jamaicensis*, Jamaica; *exigua*, Mona and Great Magna.

C. minuta minuta ranges over most of S. America; while *C. m. elzodes* occurs from west central Colombia to southern Mexico. *C. rufipennis rufipennis* occurs from South America to Guatemala and *C. r. eluta* in the 'tierra caliente' of Mexico.

Mr. Todd's paper is a model piece of work and clears up the relationships of a group of birds which was badly in need of revision.— W. S.

Cory on New Neotropical Birds.¹— Mr. Cory here presents some results of his studies of the birds obtained on the recent museum expeditions to Venezuela and Peru undertaken by Mr. W. H. Osgood, Mr. Ned Dearborn and others. The following forms are described without further comment: *Nothocercus julius venezuelensis*, Paramo de Tama, Ven.; *Eupsychortyx cristatus continentis*, El Panorama, Ven.; *Urochroma costaricensis*, Limon, C. R.; *Piaya cayana venezuelensis*, Orope, Ven.; *Momotus osgoodi*, El Guayabal, Col.; *Scytalopus magellanicus grandis*, Tambo Ventija, Peru; *Threnetes frazeri venezuelensis*, Orope, Ven.; *Anthracothorax prevosti viridicordatus*, El Panorama, Ven.; *Glaucis hirsuta fusca*, Orope, Ven.; *Thau-*

¹ Descriptions of Twenty-eight New Species and Subspecies of Neotropical Birds. By Charles B. Cory. Field Museum of Nat. Hist. Publication 167. Ornithological Series, Vol. I. No. 7. May 31, 1913. pp. 283-292.

mastura cora montana, Hda Llagueda, Peru; *Laticauda rubriginosa*, Balsas, Peru; *Galbula ruficauda brevirostris*, Encontrados, Ven.; *Chelidoptera tenebrosa pallida*, Empalado Savannas, Ven.; *Picumnis venezuelensis*, Encontrados, Ven.; *Phathornis anthropilus fuscicapillus*, Orope, Ven.; *Camplostoma pusillum tenuirostris* Rio Aurare, Ven.; *Empidochanes zulienensis*, Orope, Ven.; *Inezia caudata intermedia*, Rio Aurare, Ven.; *Attila rufipectus confinis*, Orope, Ven.; *Thamnophilus doliatus dearborni*, Encontrados, Ven.; *Dendrocicla tyrannura hellmayri*, Paramo de Tama, Colombia; *Furnarius aquatus venezuelensis*, Rio Aurare, Ven.; *Margarornis perlata peruviana*, Tambo Ventija, Peru; *Microrhopias grisea fumosa*, Encontrados, Ven.; *Cæreba luteola obscura*, Encontrados, Ven.; *Diglossa sittoides intermedia*, Cajamarca, Peru; *Synallaxis candei venezuelensis*, Rio Aurare, Ven.; *Atlantes castaneifrons tamae*, Paramo de Tama, Ven. It is unfortunate that in a paper of this kind the species are not arranged in some sort of order either systematic or geographic. Even though it consist of nothing but diagnoses orderly arrangement is an advantage. Ornithologists will await with interest the full report on these interesting collections.— W. S.

Cooke's Distribution and Migration of N. A. Herons.¹— This bulletin follows the plan of other similar reports by Prof. Cooke and presents in concise form the breeding and winter range of each of the thirty-two species of Herons, Ibises etc., found from Panama and the West Indies northward. The migration dates are given for such species as are regularly migrant while maps present graphically the ranges of the various forms. Subspecies are mentioned in most instances as under *Ardea herodias* and *Butorides virescens* where the recent revisions of Oberholser are followed but *Egretta candidissima brewsteri* of Lower California is not recognized, although no reasons are given for such action.

The records quoted through the report are compiled largely from the printed records in ornithological literature and while numerous are by no means complete. In the case of the Great Blue Heron we notice winter records and breeding dates for Pennsylvania and New Jersey published in 'Cassinia' which as well as similar records for other species are omitted. The migration dates are computed solely from the records of the Biological Survey.

This report is a welcome addition to the series being issued by the Department of Agriculture.— W. S.

Trotter on Faunal Divisions in Relation to Vegetation.²— Dr. Trotter discusses in an interesting way the geographic distribution of

¹ Distribution and Migration of North American Herons and their Allies. By Wells W. Cooke. U. S. Dept. of Agriculture, Biological Survey -- Bulletin No. 45. Issued May 24, 1913. 8vo, pp. 1-70, figs. 1-21.

² The Faunal Divisions of Eastern North America in Relation to Vegetation. Jour. Acad. Nat. Sci., Phil. XV, pp. 207-217. March 21, 1912.