

cal work. For instance the Olive-sided Flycatcher, Crossbill, Pine Siskin, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Brown Creeper, etc. are given as breeding birds without any actual records or references to records, while so far as we can judge their nests have not been taken in the state by the author. It is the actual records that the scientific ornithologist requires or at least an indication of where they may be found and an adequate state list should furnish this information. In the case of the Brown Creeper, moreover, one might suppose that it bred throughout the state as there is no mention whatever of its local summer distribution. The author seems not to have a clear conception of the nature of subspecies as he states that the breeding ranges of the two Parulas, the two Maryland Yellow-throats, etc., overlap in Virginia. If such is the fact, from the very nature of the case, they would cease to be subspecies and must be regarded as species. The remarks about winter Juncos must we think apply largely if not entirely to *J. hyemalis hyemalis* not to *J. h. carolinensis* which is the breeding form of the mountains.

One point in which Mr. Bailey's work is especially open to criticism from the 'advanced ornithologist' is the lack of any sort of bibliography and the very meagre reference to the work of others. Prof. Smyth's recent paper in 'The Auk' is freely quoted and there is an occasional reference to Dr. Rives' 'Birds of the Virginias,' but many other important records and papers could have been quoted to advantage. We trust that these may be supplied in another edition, as well as the editorial revision already suggested, which will bring the text up to the high standard attained in the illustrations and general make-up of the volume.— W. S.

Faxon on Brewster's Warbler.¹— In January, 1911, Dr. Faxon published an interesting account of observations on some families of warblers in a swamp at Lexington, Mass. A pair of Golden-wings reared only Golden-wings, a male Golden-wing and female Brewster's Warbler produced only Brewster's Warblers while another similarly mated pair produced Brewster's Warblers and at least one Golden-wing.

Observations on the colony were continued in subsequent seasons by the author and Dr. W. M. Tyler but with no satisfactory results until 1913, when a male Golden-wing was found mated with a female Blue-wing, the combination that was particularly to be desired. The development of the young was followed with great care and all of them eventually assumed the pure plumage of Brewster's Warbler, thus proving positively the nature of this so called species. As Dr. Faxon points out this is in exact accordance with Mendel's law, *chrysoptera* (pure) × *pinus* (pure) should produce only *leucobronchialis*, a Mendelian so called dominant hybrid; *chrysoptera* (pure)

¹ Brewster's Warbler (*Helminthophila leucobronchialis*) a hybrid between the Golden-winged Warbler (*Helminthophila chrysoptera*) and the Blue-winged Warbler (*Helminthophila pinus*). By Walter Faxon. Memoirs Mus. Comp. Zool. Vol. XL. No. 6, pp. 311-316. August, 1913.

X *pinus* (impure) should produce on the average *chrysoptera* and *leucobronchialis* in equal numbers; *chrysoptera* (impure) and *pinus* (pure), *pinus* and *leucobronchialis* in equal numbers, while a union of impure examples of each stock should produce equal numbers of *chrysoptera*, *pinus*, *leucobronchialis* and *lawrencei*. One of the young of this brood has been banded as well as a young Brewster's and Golden-wing, the offspring of a male Brewster's and female Golden-wing which were also under observation.

Should these birds return to the same swamp next year a family pedigree of three generations can be established. Be that as it may Dr. Faxon has finally demonstrated the true nature of Brewster's Warbler and removed from the field of discussion a topic which has for years been a favorite one upon which to build up theories and conjectures.— W. S.

The Natural History of the Toronto Region.¹— This handy volume "has been prepared by the Canadian Institute for the members of the Twelfth Geological Congress and for all who may have an interest in the history and natural history of the city and vicinity." It consists of chapters on the history, geology and life zones of the region, with lists of the various groups of animals and plants contributed by specialists; some merely nominal, others with annotations.

The lists of mammals and birds are by James H. Fleming and are accompanied by brief notes on the relative abundance and time of occurrence of the species, while the former is preceded by a short historical bibliography. Forty-one mammals and 292 birds are listed and the nomenclature is strictly up to date. The book will be of great assistance both to visitors and residents who wish to know something of the natural history of Toronto and to all ornithologists who desire an accurate reference list of Toronto birds. The typography and paper are good, and both publisher and editor are to be congratulated upon their work.— W. S.

Mathews' 'The Birds of Australia.'²— In the continuance of his great work, Mr. Mathews treats of the Limicolæ. We note the following new genera, *Anteleotringa*, p. 274, type *Totanus tenuirostris* Horsf.; *Dilematias*, p. 282, type *Gallinago hardwickii* Gray; *Parascolopax*, p. 290, type *Scolopax saturata* Hodgs.; *Chubbia*, p. 291, type *Gallinago stricklandi* Gray; *Homoscolopax*, p. 291, type *G. imperialis*; *Neospilura*, p. 293, type *Scolopax solitaria*; *Eugallinago*, p. 294, type *G. macrodactyla* Bonap. and *Subspilura*, p. 295, type *G. megala* Swinhoe. New subgenera are: *Nesopisobia*, p. 245, type *Totanus damacensis* Horsf.; *Macrodera*, p. 294, type *G. nobilis*; *Odurella*, p. 294, type *G. brasiliensis* Sw.

¹ The natural History of the Toronto Region | Ontario, Canada | edited by | J. H. Faull, B. A., Ph.D. | Associate Professor of Botany, University of Toronto | Toronto | Published by the Canadian Institute | 1913. Svo. pp. 1-419, seven halftone plates and five maps. William Briggs, publisher, Toronto, Ont. \$2.

² The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Vol. III, part 3, pp. 205-300. August 18, 1913. Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, London, W. C.