

forms, in which cases he prefers to follow the works of Mr. Ridgway and other specialists.

Swarth's list is a very acceptable piece of work and one of which he may well feel proud, while students of the ornithology of the southwestern portion of our country will find it a reliable guide to the ornis of one of the most interesting states, zoologically speaking, of the entire Union.— W. S.

Aiken and Warren on the Birds of El Paso County, Colorado.¹—

This is an admirably prepared annotated list of 276 species, with an introductory discussion of topography, life zones, analysis of the bird fauna, workers in the region and a bibliography. The forty-five half-tones are from photographs from nature, all but two by Mr. Warren, and furnish good illustrations of many birds as well as nests and eggs.

We learn from the introduction that Dr. J. A. Allen was the first ornithologist to visit El Paso County, his report published in 1872 being the first list of Colorado birds. Mr. Aiken the senior author of the list came to Colorado Springs in 1871 and his collection begun soon after his arrival, is now in Colorado College. Mr. Warren's residence dates from 1881.

With ample material and long experience in the region of which they treat, the authors were well fitted to turn out an authoritative work and have succeeded admirably.

Why a paper of this sort should be published in two parts both of which were printed and distributed apparently at the same time, and why both parts are numbered, "13" in one series and "74" and "75-76" in another, are problems that only those in charge of the Colorado College publications can explain, while to others they will prove a source of annoyance and complication.— W. S.

Mathews' Birds of Australia.²— With part 6 the third volume of this great work is brought to a close completing the Herons and Bitterns. The high standard of the previous volumes is fully maintained and so thoroughly has the author covered the subject of nomenclature that we find but one new name dating from this part, i. e. *Hemigarzetta* (p. 448) a new generic term for *Herodias eulophotes* Swinhoe.— W. S.

Bannerman on the Ornithology of the Canary Islands.³— In this admirable paper Mr. David A. Bannerman gives us a most interesting account of his visit to this island group and a careful discussion of the birds

¹ The Birds of El Paso County, Colorado. By Charles E. H. Aiken and Edward R. Warren. Colorado College Publication Science Series. Vol. XII, No. 13. Part I (pp. 455-496) published May, 1914. Part II (pp. 497-603) June-September 1914. Price respectively 40 cts. and 75 cts.

² The Birds of Australia. By Gregory M. Mathews. Vol. III, Pt. 6. June 25, 1914.

³ An Ornithological Expedition to the Eastern Canary Islands. Parts I. and II. The Ibis. January and April, 1914.

he found there. The number of 'island races' described from the Canaries is considerable and our author is thoroughly up to date in his recognition of them and in his use of trinomials in their designation.— W. S.

The New Nature Library.¹— It seems but a few years ago that the only popular works on general natural history were those of Rev. J. G. Wood and a few others who wrote from a British standpoint and who had but little to say of American species. The publication of a Nature Library, exclusively American, was therefore an exceedingly happy idea. The volumes constituting the original library are familiar to a large number of nature lovers, and ornithologists who, to be good ornithologists, should know something of the other classes of animals as well as of plants, have found them a valuable series of reference volumes. The new thin paper edition reduces the bulk of the set about one half and makes them handier for consultation. It is to be regretted that in getting out a new edition the groups overlooked in the previous one could not have been included — the salamanders for instance among the vertebrates, and the beetles among the insects, as well as the whole series of lower marine invertebrates. Had the molluscs been restricted to North American species as was done in all other groups these might easily have been added without much increase in bulk. However the volumes will guide many a student and answer many a question for the amateur for years to come.— W. S.

Recent Publications on Economic Ornithology.— Two recent bulletins of the U. S. Department of Agriculture deal with birds. 'Five Important Wild-Duck Foods' by W. L. McAtee² is published in response to a demand for a similar publication which appeared some time ago. In these days of bird refuges and sanctuaries it is important to know what to plant in order to furnish food for birds of all kinds. In this paper the 'Delta Duck Potato' and 'Wapato' both species of *Sagittaria*, the 'Chufa,' *Cyperus esculentus*, 'Wild Millet' *Echinochloa crus-galli* and the 'Banana Water Lily' *Nymphaea mexicana* are discussed. 'Birds in Relation to the Alfalfa Weevil' By E. R. Kalmbach³ will be of value to all growers of forage plants. While at present restricted to northern Utah the pest is spreading and it is well to remember the part birds play in its destruction and also to know that young chickens and turkeys are an excellent check to the weevils if allowed to feed in infested fields.

Mr. H. P. Attwater⁴ has compiled an excellent Bulletin for the Texas Department of Agriculture entitled 'Use and Value of Wild Birds to Texas

¹ The New Nature Library. Vols. I-VIII. Doubleday Page and Co. New York. Cloth, \$31.50.

² Five Important Wild-Duck Foods. By W. L. McAtee. Bulletin 58, U. S. Dept. Agr., pp. 1-19. Feb. 7, 1914. Price, cts.

³ Birds in Relation to the Alfalfa Weevil. By E. R. Kalmbach. 107, Bull. U. S. Dept. Agr., July 27, 1914, pp. 1-64.

⁴ Use and Value of Wild Birds to Texas Farmers and Stockmen and Fruit and Truck Growers. Compiled by H. P. Attwater. 1914. Bull. No. 37, Texas Dept. of Agr., pp. 1-61. Distributed by the Commission of Agriculture, Austin, Tex.