

this matter is blocked at once by the absence of data or explanation. When we realize that nearly all computations as to the speed and direction of migration depend upon the accuracy of these isochronal lines it is obvious that other students of bird migration will naturally demand the same presentation of detailed data that is customary in other fields of scientific research.— W. S.

Faxon on 'Relics of Peale's Museum.'¹— Dr. Faxon has done a commendable piece of work in publishing an annotated catalogue of the types of Wilson, Bonaparte and Ord formerly in the Philadelphia (= Peale's) Museum and now in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy at Cambridge. The history of the collection which precedes the catalogue is very interesting reading, and when we consider the vicissitudes through which it passed we are inclined to marvel that any of the specimens were fortunate enough to survive!

We entirely agree with Dr. Faxon that the known history of the specimens and the careful comparisons that he has made with figures and descriptions clearly establish them as the types, even though the original labels were lost.

Fifty-three of these ancient types are now safely preserved and catalogued in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy and together with the type of the Cape May Warbler in Vassar College, and those of the Mississippi Kite and Broad-winged Hawk in the Philadelphia Academy, they probably comprise all that are extant of the originals upon which the descriptions of Wilson, Ord and Bonaparte in the 'American Ornithology' and its continuation were based.— W. S.

Mathews' 'Birds of Australia.'²— Mr. Mathews' great work continues to appear regularly and maintains its high standard of excellence. The publishers announce that with the completion of Vol. IV, the subscription list will be absolutely closed. No more than 260 copies will be issued and "should not all of these be taken up the surplus will be destroyed."

The two parts now before us complete the Anseriformes and Pelecaniformes. The discussion of nomenclature is very full and the classification and generic subdivisions of the latter group are gone into in great detail. Many pages are devoted to replies to criticisms as to the treatment of certain groups and recognition of certain subspecies and genera, while the 'British Museum Catalogue,' 'B. O. U. List' and 'A. O. U. Check-List' as well as several individual authors come in for some sharp criticism. In all cases of nomenclatural discussion however, Mr. Mathews seems very fair, abiding rigidly by the International Code, without any quibbling over individual cases.

¹ Relics of Peale's Museum. By Walter Faxon. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zoöl. LIX, No. 3. pp. 119-148. July, 1915.

² The Birds of Australia. Vol. IV, Part 2, February 17, 1915. Part 3, June 23, 1915.