

same nest site have important bearing upon the question of whether birds mate for life, recently agitated in 'The Condor.'

As Mr. Baldwin points out, much valuable data on the age to which birds live, the length of time that migrants remain at a given spot on their line of flight, the return of young birds to the spot where they were raised, etc., may be secured by this method.

The practice of trapping renders bird-banding a much more attractive study with more definite returns, and we trust that Mr. Baldwin's success will lead others to follow his example. In this connection attention might be called to similar work that has been carried on in England, especially with reference to the movements of Starlings, where many records of individual birds have been obtained.—W. S.

Chapman on New South American Birds.¹—Studies of various collections of South American birds received at the American Museum of Natural History have led Dr. Chapman to propose seventeen new species and subspecies and one new genus as follows: *Micropus peruvianus* (p. 253), Ollantaytambo, Peru; *Grallaria watkinsi* (p. 256), Prov. Piura, Peru; *G. boliviana* (p. 257), Cochabamba, Bolivia; *Synallaxis stictothorax piurae* (p. 257), Piura, Peru; *Phacelodomus striaticeps griseipectus* (p. 258), Cuzco, Peru; *Hylocryptus* (p. 258), new genus, *H. erythrocephalus* (p. 259), Alamor, Peru-Ecuador boundary; *Xenops rutilus connectens* (p. 259), Cochabamba, Bolivia; *Xiphorhynchus triangularis bangsi* (p. 260), Cochabamba, Bolivia; *Thripobrotus layardi madeirae* (p. 261), Rio Madeira, Brazil; *T. warscewiczii bolivianus* (p. 262), Incachaca, Bolivia; *Mecocerculus subtropicalis* (p. 262), Urubamba Canyon, Peru; *Anaeretes agraphia* (p. 263), Sta. Anna, Peru; *Mionectes striaticollis columbianus* (p. 264), Sta. Elena, Colombia; *Myioborus bolivianus* (p. 265), Incachaca, Bolivia; *Basileuterus luteoviridis superciliaris* (p. 265), Urubamba Canyon, Peru; *Pheucticus uropygialis terminalis* (p. 266), Urubamba Canyon, Peru; *Catamenia analoides griseiventris* (p. 267), Cuzco, Peru.

As is customary in Dr. Chapman's papers, the descriptions are full and there are numerous critical remarks upon allied forms, while all of the material examined is listed.—W. S.

Cory's 'Catalogue of Birds of the Americas.'²—The second volume of Mr. Cory's comprehensive work,² constituting the second half of the second part, appeared on the last day of 1919. It covers the families, Trogonidae, Cuculidae, Capitonidae, Ramphastidae, Galbulidae, Buc-

¹ Descriptions of Proposed New Birds from Peru, Bolivia, Brazil, and Colombia. By Frank M. Chapman. Proc. Biological Society of Washington, Vol. 32, pp. 253-268. December 31, 1919.

² Catalogue of Birds of the Americas. By Charles B. Cory, Field Museum of Natural History Publication 203, Zoological Series, Vol. XIII. Part II, No. 2, pp. 315-607. Chicago, December 31, 1919.

conidae and Picidae, bringing the catalogue down to the Passerine families. The pagination, it will be noticed, is continuous with the first half of the part and the present instalment has an index to all the genera and species listed, as well as addenda and errata to the first part of the publication.

The general style of the work follows closely that of the first instalment but there are a number of new forms described of which there is no list and they could easily be overlooked in a casual examination of the volume. The propriety of publishing new names in this manner has already been discussed in these columns and we shall only add that where the practice is followed there should be a list of the new forms given somewhere in the publication. A painstaking search through the pages discovers the following, though it is possible that some have been overlooked: *Coccyzus minor caymanensis* (p. 336), Grand Cayman; *Nystalus maculatus nuchalis* (p. 398), *Soroplex campestris cearae* (p. 414), *Chrysoptilus melanochlorus juae* (p. 444), all from Ceara, Brazil; *Celeus elegans approximans* (p. 450), Boa Vista, Amazonia; *Chrysoptilus melanolaemus perplexus* (p. 442), Conchitas, Buenos Aires; *Chrysoptilus punctigula notata* (p. 446), "Colombia" and *Crocomorphus flavus peruvianus* (p. 457), Lagunas, Peru.

The propriety of basing a new name on a specimen with no more detailed locality than "Colombia," in these days of minute accuracy, is certainly open to criticism as it will prove a hindrance to anyone else working upon the genus *Chrysoptilus*. The "provisional" naming of another form (*perplexus*), which is not recognized in the list proper, in case the "differences prove constant," is also against present-day practices. A name that is once published with a description is established for all time, no matter whether it is properly and conspicuously printed or proposed provisionally and buried in a foot-note, and the author who adopts the latter method at once exposes himself to criticism.

Mr. Cory has done an important and tedious piece of work in bringing out this volume and it will be of great use to all who are interested in the avifauna of the New World. We happen to know that he has already made considerable progress on the next part and we trust that it will not be long before it is ready for the press and that the Field Museum will be able to carry on a publication which is of so much importance to all systematic ornithologists.—W. S.

Witherby's Handbook of British Birds.¹—Part 6 of this important work, comprising pages 337–400, was issued January 12, 1920, and covers the warblers and part of the thrushes. One half-tone plate illustrates each group and there are a number of text cuts of wings, tails, etc. The

¹ A Practical Handbook of British Birds. Edited by H. F. Witherby. London, Witherby & Co., 326 High Holborn, W. C. I. Part 6, Jan. 12, 1920. Price 4s, net per part.