

Over and Thoms on the Birds of South Dakota.¹—This well printed bulletin consists of two parts the first dealing with "Bird Study" and the second consisting of a list of the birds of the state with brief descriptions, while there are numerous excellent illustrations of birds and nests, from photographs from life.

Part I, contains brief and for the most part reliable data on various phases of economic ornithology, protective coloration, molt, and migration covering such questions as are likely to occur to the beginner. The explanation of seasonal changes of plumage on the grounds of protective coloration however does not seem satisfactory and the intimation that the male Goldfinch changes color in spring without a molt is contrary to the evidence furnished us by almost every museum collection. The list includes 322 species and subspecies and seems to have been carefully compiled, while doubtful specimens have been determined by the U. S. Biological Survey. The authors are to be congratulated upon their work which cannot help but fill a widely felt want and will lead many a would-be bird student to a better knowledge of ornithology.

It is regrettable that such an excellent bulletin should be marred by such a carelessly prepared bibliography. There is no uniformity in the citation of the papers and books, and from the information given it would be absolutely impossible to find many of them. "U. S. Geological Survey," and "State Game and Fish Com. Minneapolis" are not very definite references for one seeking certain publications.—W. S.

Dwight and Griscom on *Atlapetes gutturalis*.²—A careful study of much fresh material from Central America shows that five races of *Atlapetes gutturalis* are recognizable, three of which are here named for the first time: *A. g. parvirostris* (p. 3) from the Highlands of Costa Rica; *A. g. fuscipygius* (p. 3) from north central Nicaragua and *A. g. griseipectus* from Central Guatemala. The authors call attention to the fact that in old skins of this species, the color turns brown as in certain others already referred to by Dr. Chapman, so that they are useless for subspecific comparison.—W. S.

Witherby's 'Handbook of British Birds.'³—The eleventh part of Mr. Witherby's book completes the raptores, and covers the storks, ibises, herons, swans and geese. There is an excellent colored plate of the bills

¹ Birds of South Dakota. By William H. Over and Craig S. Thoms. Bulletin 9. South Dakota Geol. and Nat. Hist. Survey. Series XXI, No. 9. March 1921. Bulletin Univ. of South Dakota. pp. 1-142. Many half-tones and colored frontispiece of Meadowlark.

² A Revision of *Atlapetes gutturalis* with Descriptions of Three New Races. By Jonathan Dwight and Ludlow Griscom, American Museum Novitates. No. 16, pp. 1-4, Sept. 9, 1921.

³ A Practical Handbook of British Birds. Edited by H. F. Witherby Part XI. pp. 177-256. July 18, 1921. Price 4s. 6d. net per Part.