

makes use of such terms as this in giving us a word picture of the bird and its activities that could be accomplished in no other way. Indeed Dr. Grinnell's very use of such terms shows us clearly just what activities he is going to explain in terms of "stern utility."

Bereft of all such terms what would be left of the writings of Audubon and hosts of others which have their place in serious ornithological literature as much as the equally serious studies of animal behavior which latter however have sometimes but little "literary" claims.

All of this however has no bearing on the excellence of Dr. Grinnell's paper.—W. S.

Murphy on the Seacoast and Islands of Peru.¹—The seventh instalment of Dr. Murphy's account of his recent expedition to Peru describes Asia Island and the visit to Callao. The destruction of tens of thousands of Cormorant nests by the Condors is described and the necessity on the part of the Guano industry to kill off these noble birds when pillaging the islands is admitted. A number of interesting pictures of cormorants, penguins, etc., from photographs illustrate the article.—W. S.

Kirke Swann's 'Synopsis of the Accipitres.'²—Part one of a Second Edition of Mr. Swann's 'Synopsis' has appeared, "revised and corrected throughout," and with all new forms described up to 1920. It follows the plan of the first edition, the present instalment covering *Vultur* to *Accipiter*.—W. S.

Sewerzow on the Zoogeography of the Palaearctic Region.³—This pamphlet is a reprint of a communication presented before the Russian Geographic Society in 1877, and which showed an understanding of the subject on the part of the author far in advance of his time. He divides the region into two parts Boreal and Austral, the former containing the Polar; Northern Wooded Zone (including the North-European, Ural-Siberian and East Siberian Provinces) and Intermediate Zone, (including the Middle European, Ural-Arabian and Drurian Provinces). The Austral sub-region contains the South-West Zone (Atlantic and Mediterranean Provinces) and the Desert Zone, (Lybian, North African, West Asian, Middle Asian, Thibetan and Sind Provinces). He has in addition

¹ The Seacoast and Islands of Peru, VII. By Robert Cushman Murphy. Brooklyn Museum Quarterly, October, 1921, pp. 142-155.

² A Synopsis of the Accipitres (Diurnal Birds of Prey). Part I (Vultur to Accipiter). By H. Kirke Swann. Second Edition, revised and corrected throughout. Sept. 28, 1921, pp. 1-63. Price 6s. Wheldon and Wesley Ltd., 38 Great Queen St., Kingsway, W. C. 2., London, England.

³ Über die Zoologische (hauptsächlich ornithologische) Gebiete der ausserhalb der Tropen gelegenen Teile unseres Kontinents. Von Nikolai Sewerzow. Übersetzt und eingeleitet von Hermann Grote. Mit einem Bildnis Sewerzows. Dultz and Co. München. 1921 pp. 1-32.

an East-Asiatic or Chinese-Himalayan Region, which might, he thinks, be as well regarded as a sub-region of the Palaearctic, and which includes the Himalayan, Sifanian, North Chinese and Japanese Provinces. The characteristics of the various provinces are discussed, mainly from an ornithological standpoint and the editor, H. Grote has a short biography of Nikolai Sewerzow with a portrait.—W. S.

Bannerman on First Impressions of Tunisia and Algeria.¹—In the introduction to this admirable little sketch Mr. Bannerman apologizes for the fact that it contains “nothing new” and “is merely the account of a journey through Tunisia and Algeria which some ornithologists have already made and doubtless many others will make in the future.” Many more we might add will never have the opportunity to make the journey and they especially will welcome Mr. Bannerman’s first “impressions.”

Annotated lists, valuable as they may be, give one no idea of the country they treat of, or of its bird life as a whole, and the author who has exhaustively studied a region forgets his first impressions. There is therefore a very definite value to this sort of paper and we commend it to all who would like to know just what they would see as they enter Tunisia and pass on to the edge of the great Sahara.

The electric train from Tunis to Carthage follows the shore of the Lac de Tunis, where one may see from the car windows flocks of Flamingoes stalking about, and a variety of shore birds and some grebes close by, apparently not in the least disturbed by the train. The vicinity of Tunis we learn is notable for its variety of Larks, no less than twenty varieties occurring there.—W. S.

Grote on the Birds of Ukerewe Island.²—This interesting island, lying in the great African lake, Victoria-Nyanza, was visited during 1908-1909 by a German missionary, Peter Conrad, who formed a collection of 750 birds representing 175 species, which Mr. Hermann Grote has listed and discussed in the present paper. The novelties contained in the collection have been previously described.—W. S.

Griscom on ‘The Winter Avifauna of the Camargue’.³—This is a pleasing account of a four days visit to this remote corner of France with an annotated list of eighty species observed, also a list of 53 species observed on a single day, December 31, almost half of which were water birds.—W. S.

¹ First Impressions of Tunisia and Algeria. By David A. Bannerman. *The Ibis*. July, 1921. pp. 387-414.

² Vogel der Ukerewe-Insel des Victoria-Nyanza. von Hermann Grote, *Jour. f. Ornith.*, July, 1921, pp. 406-457.

³ Some Notes on the Winter Avifauna of the Camargue. By Ludlow Griscom. *The Ibis*, October, 1921. pp. 575-609.