

dealing with the mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians and the life zones of the Yosemite. The last explains very clearly the zonal distribution of life and lists the more conspicuous species of vertebrates found in each zone from the Lower Sonoran in the San Joaquin Valley, near Merced, to the Arctic Alpine of the highest Sierran peaks.

The chapter on birds¹ tells us that the "Yosemite section," about the size of the State of Rhode Island, contains 226 different kinds of birds, about 50 of which are briefly described and their characteristic habits mentioned. The selection is very well made and gives a satisfactory picture of Yosemite bird-life. Several half-tone illustrations and a bibliography complete the sketch.—W. S.

Cherrie and Reichenberger on New Birds from Southern South America.²—The forms here described are mainly from the Roosevelt collection made by Mr. Cherrie in 1913-1916. They are *Strix chacoensis* (p. 1), Ft. Wheeler, Paraguay; *Ortalis canicollis pantanalensis* (p. 2), Matto Grosso, Brazil; *O. c. grisea* (p. 2), Santiago del Estero, Argentina; *Nystactes tamatia interior* (p. 3); *Nonnula ruficapilla pallida* (p. 4); *Chloronerpes flavigula magnus* (p. 4), all from Matto Grosso, Brazil; and *Furnarius rufus paraguayae* (p. 5), Puerto Pinasco, Paraguay.

The descriptions are commendably full with discussions of related forms.—W. S.

Murphy and Harper on the Diving Petrels.³—In this very carefully prepared monograph the authors reach the conclusion that the Diving Petrels represent but one genus *Pelecanoides* divisible into four subgenera *Puffinuria*, *Porthmornis* (p. 503), *Pelagodytes* (p. 503)—these two here described as new, and *Pelecanoides* proper. The first three contain but a single species each with no subspecies, but the last contains two species *urinatrix* and *exsul*, the former divisible into five geographic races. The authors are to be congratulated upon their conservatism in the systematic treatment. The habits of these interesting antarctic birds are discussed as well as their probable evolution. Following the principles laid down by Dr. W. D. Matthew for the distribution of mammals, the authors think it likely that the original center of dispersal of these birds was the vicinity of Cape Horn, where we find today the most distinctive species, *P. magellani*. Those on the extremes of the range of the group have many points of resemblance, which would be interpreted by the authors to be due to the retention of primitive nonadaptive characters rather than to close re-

¹ Some Birds of Yosemite National Park. Ibid, pp. 133-152.

² Descriptions of Proposed New Birds from Brazil, Paraguay, and Argentina. By George K. Cherrie and (Mrs.) Elsie M. B. Reichenberger. Amer. Mus. Novitates, No. 27. December 28, 1921, pp. 1-6.

³ A Revision of the Diving Petrels. By Robert Cushman Murphy and Francis Harper. Bull. Amer. Nat. Hist., Vol. XLIV, Art. XVII. pp. 495-554. New York, December 23, 1921.