

that its tarsi are scutellated while in *Sericornis* they are only obscurely scutellate, yet on account of other characters he considers *keri* only sub-specifically separable from a species of *Sericornis*!

The high standard of both plates and text are well maintained in the present part.—W. S.

Recent Papers by Prof. Stephens.—In the past few years Prof. T. C. Stephens has published a number of papers of interest to ornithologists. In the proceedings of the Iowa Academy (Vol. XXVII, 1920.) is an address on the taxonomic unit, in which the familiar species and subspecies question is taken up, and a protest entered against taking the latter instead of the former as the "taxonomic unit." As in the case of many others who take this stand we fear Prof. Stephens has not had sufficient practise with systematic ornithology or like the rest of us he would find it very difficult to separate the species from the subspecies. What he is really opposed to, we think, is the multiplication of subspecies and in such a protest he will have a large following. Another paper in the same journal records winter bird records in the upper Missouri Valley during 1918-1920. 'Birds and Bird Study' is the title of a series of papers in the 'Iowa Conservationist' which contain many important Iowa records and suggestions for recording data. A paper on the birds of Union County South Dakota also appeared in the Proceedings of the Iowa Academy for 1918.—W. S.

Van Oort's 'Birds of the Netherlands.'¹—The 15th part of Van Oort's Birds of the Netherlands contains the text of Volume I, pp. 153-250, with preface, title page and index, and ten plates of Hawks forming part of Volume II, including the Hobby, Sparrow Hawk, Gerfalcon, Duck Hawk etc. which are excellent representations, showing, as usual, the more important variations in plumage due to sex and age.

Volume I is now complete and covers the Colymbiformes, Procellariiformes, Pelecaniformes Ardeiformes and Anseriformes, illustrated by 87 plates.

Unfortunately for English and American ornithologists the text, which contains a mass of valuable information, is entirely in Dutch, which of course is necessary as the vast majority of readers will come from Holland, and the number from English speaking countries would not be sufficiently great to warrant an English edition. We congratulate both author and publisher upon the high standard of the work.—W. S.

Ribeiro's Vertebrate Fauna of Trinidad Island.²—The fauna of this little Brazilian Island has already been reported by Dr. Robert Cushman Murphy (Auk 1915, pp. 332-348) and the present reports list the vertebrates which he recorded and also those obtained by an expedition from the Museu Nacional at Rio Janeiro which visited the island in 1916.

¹ Ornithologia Neerlandica. De Vogels van Nederland door Dr. E. D. Van Oort. 'sGravenhage, Martinus Nijhof. Aflevering 15. November 1, 1922.

² Arch. do Museu Nacional, XXI, pp. 171-194, 6 pl.