

Islands and *T. tecellatus*, from isolated river valleys in southwestern Peru and northwestern Chile. *T. m. carabayae* (p. 296) allied to *audax*, and found in southeastern Peru is described as new. A number of races described by previous authors are relegated to synonymy.—W. S.

Loyd's 'The Protection of Birds.'—This¹ is a curious publication, being a rather disconnected attack upon the British 'Wild Life Protection Act' and the methods of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, by one who is apparently espousing the side of the egg collector. There are always extremists on both sides in discussing bird protective legislation as it affects the collector, but we can see nothing to be gained by such a vehement attack as this and the heat displayed by the author, especially his characterization of a certain statement of the protectionists as "nothing more or less than a — lie" discount to a great extent the weight of his remarks.

Collectors can gain their points better by cool-headed appeals and constructive suggestions than by such vigorous denunciations.—W. S.

Mathews' 'The Birds of Australia.'²—This great work is rapidly approaching completion, and the two additional parts which have appeared since our last notice continue the consideration of the family Melithreptidae. In Part 6 of Volume XI the genera *Ramsayornis*, *Grantiella*, *Lacustroica*, *Conopophila*, *Certhionyx*, *Zanthoniza* and *Glycichaera* are treated, one new form *Conopophila albogularis mimikae* (p. 390) from Mimika River, S. W. New Guinea, being described as new. There are also a number of descriptions of plumages to be added to the accounts of species treated in previous parts.

In Part 7 the genera *Lichmera*, *Ptilotina*, *Microptilotis*, *Paraptilotis*, *Dorothina*, are considered. The method of treatment is the same as in the other recent volumes, the subspecies being all listed in the synonymy whether accepted or not, with an elaborate history of their nomenclature, etc., in the text.—W. S.

Dr. Lowe on the Presence of Broadbills in Africa.—In 'The Ibis' for 1914, Mr. G. L. Bates, the well-known ornithologist resident in Cameroon, made the interesting announcement that the African genus *Smithornis* hitherto regarded as a Flycatcher possessed characters which showed clearly that it could no longer be retained in the Muscicapidae, if indeed it could be regarded as a normal Passerine bird. Although he did not make a definite statement, it was obvious that he considered that the genus might better be grouped with the Oriental Broadbills, Eurylaemidae, a family unknown from Africa.

¹ The Protection of Birds: An Indictment. By Lewis R. W. Loyd. Longmans, and Co., 39 Paternoster Row, London, E. C. 4; New York, Toronto, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras. 1924, pp. i-vi + 1-88. Price \$1.25 net.

² The Birds of Australia. By George M. Mathews. Vol. XI, Part 6, pp. 361-416, pls. 9. June 21, 1924. Part 7, pp. 417-472, pls. 6. July 31, 1924.