

In another paper<sup>2</sup> in conjunction with Harry S. Swarth the following new races are proposed: *Penthestes gambeli atratus* (p. 164); *Baeolophus inornatus affabilis* (p. 164) *Chamaea fasciata canicauda* (p. 169) all from the San Pedro Martir Mts., Lower California; *Psaltriparus minimus melanurus* (p. 169) from San Jose, Lower California and *Baeolophus inornatus sequestratus* (p. 166) from Eagle Point, Oregon. The relationships of these and allied forms are fully discussed.—W. S.

**Chapman on New Birds from South America.**<sup>2</sup>—Dr. Chapman describes eight additional species and subspecies of Neotropical birds in this paper based upon collections received at the American Museum from its South American collectors.

These belong to the genera *Grallaria*, *Ochthoeca*, *Stigmatura*, *Spizitornis*, *Empidochanes* and *Myiochanes*.—W. S.

**Nelson on New Mexican Birds.**<sup>3</sup>—It is a pleasure to find Dr. Nelson returning once more to Mexican ornithology which some years ago was his principal interest. Of the two birds described as new in the present paper one, *Creciscus ruber tamaulipensis* (p. 105) was collected by his assistant in former Mexican explorations, Major E. A. Goldman, on a recent trip to that country in March, 1926, at Alta Mira, Tamaulipas; while the other, *Craz globicera griscomi* (p. 106) from Cozumal Island, Yucatan, was obtained on one of their early joint explorations in 1901.—W. S.

**Bangs and Peters on a New *Berneria* from Madagascar.**<sup>4</sup>—A small form of *B. madagascariensis* from the eastern part of the island which they name *B. m. inceleber* (p. 43).—W. S.

**Kirke Swann's 'Monograph of the Birds of Prey.'**<sup>5</sup>—Part VI of this notable work,<sup>5</sup> the first since the death of the author, appears with the notice that it will be completed from Mr. Swann's manuscripts under the editorship and part authorship of a leading authority. This number continues the treatment of the genus *Buteo* including our American *B. borealis*, of which all of the described races are recognized, some of them in the face of rather severe objection especially *lucasanus* while *krideri* and *harlani* have been considered by several authors as albinistic and melanistic forms, with no definite geographic range. Three colored

<sup>2</sup> New subspecies of Birds (*Penthestes*, *Baeolophus*, *Psaltriparus*, *Chamaea*) from the Pacific Coast of North America. By Joseph Grinnell and Harry S. Swarth. Univ. of Calif. Publ. in Zool. 30, No. 5, pp. 163-175. September 16, 1926.

<sup>3</sup> Descriptions of New Birds from Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador and Brazil. American Museum Novitates. No. 231. October 16, 1926. pp. 1-7.

<sup>4</sup> Two New Birds from Mexico. By E. W. Nelson, Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington. 39, pp. 105-108. August 25, 1926.

<sup>5</sup> Proc. New Eng. Zool. Club, IX, pp. 43-44, July 21, 1926.

<sup>6</sup> A Monograph of the Birds of Prey. By H. Kirke Swann. Wheldon and Wesley, Ltd. London. Part VI. September, 1926. Price 26 shillings net per Part.

plates represent *Urubitornis solitarius* and *Harpyhaliaetus*; *Aquila rapax raptor* and *A. r. culleni*, *Bussarellus nigricollis* and *Buteogallus aequinoctialis*; another figures the eggs of several of the Eagles and still another presents a photogravure of a nest of Bonelli's Eagle.—W. S.

**Mathew's 'The Birds of Australia.'**—Part 8 of Vol. XII<sup>1</sup> has appeared since our last issue, completing the Bowerbirds, and leaving only the Paradise Birds and the Crows and Crow Shrikes to complete the work.—W. S.

**Dickey and VanRossem on New Pigeons from Salvador.**<sup>2</sup>—A recent expedition to Salvador by Mr. A. J. VanRossem resulted in the collecting of a number of birds among which are two new races of Pigeons here described as *Columba fasciata letonai* (p. 109) from Mt. Cacaguatique and *Leptotila fulviventris bangsi* (p. 110) from Volcan San Miguel. All of the specimens are in the collection of Mr. Dickey.—W. S.

**Barbour on a Remarkable New Bird from Cuba.**—Bird life in the West Indies seem still to hold out possibilities of surprise for the ornithologist. A few years ago we were astonished at Dr. W. L. Abbott's discovery of a Crossbill, allied to the White-winged, in the mountains of San Domingo and now comes Dr. Thomas Barbour with the description of a new Wren from Cuba.<sup>3</sup> It is not only a distinct species but constitutes a new genus, unlike anything hitherto known, with wings so short and weak and feathers so soft as to suggest that its powers of flight are very limited.

The bird is an inhabitant of the dense shrubbery of an almost inaccessible part of the Zapata peninsula on the south coast directly across from Matanzas. Here it is in song only in the summer time when torrential rains make the region almost impassable. Dr. Barbour had heard reports of this unknown song and induced Sen. Fermin Z. Cervera to try to identify its author. Through his perseverance five specimens of the bird were finally secured and it is appropriate that it should bear his name both in the specific and generic appellations which Dr. Barbour has given it—*Ferminia cerverai*.—W. S.

**Recent Papers by Wetmore.**—Pursuing his studies of American fossil birds Dr. Wetmore has recently made a careful examination of *Palaeospiza bella*, the curious unique specimen from the Florissant beds of Colorado,<sup>4</sup> and finds that, as suggested by Dr. J. A. Allen, its describer,

<sup>1</sup> The Birds of Australia.. By Gregory M. Mathews, Vol. XII, Part 8. September 6, 1926.

<sup>2</sup> Two New Pigeons from Salvador. By Donald R. Dickey and A. J. Van Rossem. Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington, 39, pp. 109-110. November 3, 1926.

<sup>3</sup> A Remarkable New Bird from Cuba. By Thomas Barbour. Proc. New England Zoological Club. Vol. IX, pp. 73-75. October 21, 1926.

<sup>4</sup> The Systematic Position of *Palaeospiza bella* Allen, with Observations on Other Fossil Birds. By Alexander Wetmore. Bull. Mus. Comp. Zool., Vol. LXVII, No. 2, pp. 183-193, pl. 1-4. May, 1925.