

species, and 93 synonyms were examined. The remainder of this chapter is devoted to an account of the "Cisticola tour" which Lynes, accompanied by B. B. Osmaston, made between November 1926 and July 1927.

The plates are bound separately and relative to each figure there is a considerable amount of explanatory text; so that this is in fact an abridged review, complete in itself. Each species is figured semi-diagrammatically (i. e., with wings and tail partly spread, and with no attempt to portray life-like attitudes) and considerable ingenuity and originality is displayed in the manner in which each figure is arranged in such a way as to be directly comparable with the others. All are life-size and parallel lines running through each plate indicate differences in proportions of wing, tail, tarsus and toes in the various species in their different plumages. The drawings are the work of Mr. Grönvold, whose careful attention to accuracy and detail is responsible for the important part they play in relation to the whole work.

Students of systematic ornithology owe a debt of gratitude to Admiral Lynes for the able manner in which he has disentangled the knot into which the taxonomy of the Cisticolas has long been involved. Admiral Lynes is, we understand, back in Africa now endeavouring to clear up certain points about these birds which he was unable to solve during his previous trip.—
W. W. BOWEN.

Abel Chapman's 'Memories.'—Active to the end the late Abel Chapman was at work on this volume¹ through his last illness, until his death and had practically finished it, even to the table of contents and the text figures which, as in his previous works, he executed with his own hand.

The chapters of 'Memories' deal with incidents in his long and eventful life not fully covered in his other volumes, mainly occurring in Africa from Khartoum to Cairo. There are also two chapters dealing with Spain and four with his homeland in Northumberland. Bird Life on the White Nile is a fascinating account of a single day's observations and the account of Lake Menzaleh is the story of another bird paradise.

One chapter deals with reviews and reviewers in which Chapman humorously describes his own experience as a reviewer. His reviews were too severe for his chief who gave orders to leave books alone that he could not review favorably and later discharged him because no reviews whatever were forthcoming! In another chapter he takes a final fling at what he terms "dermatology" and many eminent scientific journals and describers of subspecies come in for sarcastic criticism. Always a lover of the outdoors and an exponent of observation of living animals he was quite unable to appreciate the work of the student of museum specimens. It is interesting and suggestive to compare his theories of migration in northern Egypt

¹ *Memories of Fourscore Years less Two 1851-1929*. By Abel Chapman, with a Memoir by George Bolam. Gurney and Jackson, London, 33 Paternoster Row, Edinburgh: Tweeddale Court, 1930, Pp. i-xxvii + 1-257. Price 21 shillings, net.

based only on his personal observations with the carefully prepared account of Col. Meinertzhagen (cf. Nicoll's Birds of Egypt)!

But to all lovers of the outdoors Chapman's books are delightful and instructive reading and in his passing we lose a true lover of nature of a school that is all but gone.—W. S.

Brooks's 'List of the Birds of West Virginia.'—To the 'West Virginia Encyclopedia,' a stout volume¹ containing articles on the prominent citizens, industries, localities, etc., of West Virginia, Rev. Earle A. Brooks has contributed an annotated list of 268 species of birds found in the State with brief notes on the character of their occurrence. A number of halftone illustrations from photographs and drawings are included.—W. S.

Zimmer on 'Birds of the Marshall Field Peruvian Expedition.'—In 1922-23 Mr. Zimmer accompanied the Marshall Field Expedition to Peru as ornithologist and the present paper² is a report on his collection of 1497 skins made for the Field Museum. Landing at Callao he worked up the Rimac valley then down the Huallaga Valley and in the headwaters of the Maranon, Pichis and Perene Rivers.

The annotations under each species are very full and present valuable information not only on the specimens secured but on the relationship of the forms under discussion, nomenclature, type localities and location of type specimens. All in all this paper is one of the most important dealing with the Peruvian avifauna that has appeared in recent years. While a number of new forms have been elsewhere described from this collection new races of *Catamania*, *Colonia*, *Diglossa*, *Jacana*, *Ochthoeca*, *Thlypopsis* and *Todirostrum* are proposed in the present work and a new genus *Aglaiocercus* (p. 290), is established for *Ornismya kingii* Lesson, all of the names used for it and its allies proving unavailable.—W. S.

Oberholser on Birds from Arizona and New Mexico.—The Cleveland Museum has recently acquired through the gift of Mrs. S. Prentiss Baldwin, a collection of 512 birds made by W. W. Brown in the Huachuca Mountains, Arizona, and the Sacramento Mountains, New Mexico, and the present paper³ is a report upon this material.

Several changes in nomenclature are proposed by the author. The genus *Myiochanes* is divided, our Wood Pewee and its western representative being placed in *Horozopus*, while it is considered that those who recognize two forms of Olive-sided Flycatcher must use the name *borealis*

¹ The West Virginia Encyclopedia. Phil Conley Editor in Chief. First Edition. West Virginia Publishing Company, Charleston, West Virginia. 1929. Pp. 60-74 contain bird matter.

² Birds of the Marshall Field Peruvian Expedition, 1922-1923. By John T. Zimmer. Field Museum Nat. Hist. Publ. 282. Zool. Series, XVII, No. 7. December 10, 1930. pp. 233-480.

³ Notes on a Collection of Birds from Arizona and New Mexico. By Harry C. Oberholser. Scientific Publ. Cleveland Mus. Nat. Hist., I, No. 4, pp. 83-124. December 31, 1930.